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O F I N D I A



Delhi Capitals parts ways with head coach Ricky Ponting. Australia's two-time ODI WC-winning captain, after seven unsuccessful years in their quest for an elusive IPL silverware, the franchise announces, P24

An Israeli airstrike killed 90 Palestinians in a humanitarian zone in Gaza on Saturday, enclave's health ministry says. Israel said it targeted Hamas military chief Mohd Deif, P 23

A Pak court acquits ex-PM Imran Khan and wife in the un-Islamic marriage case, but their hope of getting freed from jail is short-lived as they are arrested in another case of graft, P 23

Elon Musk donates to a super political action panel working to elect Trump to the White House, a major gambit by the world's richest person to make his imprint on the US political landscape, P 23



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INDIA bloc wins 10/13 bypolls in 7 states, TMC gains 3 & Cong 3

BJP Wins Two Seats In MP And Himachal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Opposition INDIA bloc parties secured 10 assembly seats, while BJP won two and an independent candidate clinched one as votes were counted Saturday for 13 constituencies in seven states—four in Bengal, three in Himachal Pradesh, two in Uttarakhand, and one each in Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Tamil Nadu. Trinamool Congress won all four seats in Bengal with huge margins, wresting Bagda, Ranaghat South and Raiganj from BJP and retaining Maniktala, taking its tally to 222 in the 294-seat assembly. In Himachal, with two wins, Congress returned to 40 seats in the 68-member House—its tally before it was hit by

DMK, AAP RETAIN SEATS

State	INDIA	NDA	Others
West Bengal (4)	TMC 4 (+3)	BJP 0 (-3)	0 (0)
Himachal (3)	Cong 2 (+2)	BJP 1 (+1)	0 (-3)
Uttarakhand (2)	Cong 2 (+1)	BJP 0 (0)	0 (-1)
MP (1)	Cong 0 (-1)	BJP 1 (+1)	0 (0)
Tamil Nadu (1)	DMK 1 (0)	PMK 0 (0)	0 (0)
Punjab (1)	AAP 1 (0)	BJP 0 (0)	0 (0)
Bihar (1)	RJD 0 (0)	JD-U 0 (-1)	1 (+1)
Total (13)	10 (+5)	2 (-2)	1 (-3)



rebellion in Feb when six MLAs joined BJP. It also made a strong comeback in Uttarakhand with two wins, after a crushing defeat in LS polls. In MP, BJP won Amarwa-

Web of fear woven by BJP broken: Rahul

Congress's Rahul Gandhi said the "web of fear and confusion" woven by BJP has been broken. He said farmers, youth, labourers, businessmen and employed people want to destroy dictatorship and stand with INDIA bloc. Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee said TMC's bypoll sweep was a "mandate against NDA". P 15

BJP: WB polls rigged, status quo elsewhere

BJP took a dig at INDIA bloc's "euphoria" over its bypoll victory, saying out of the 13 seats that went to the polls in seven states, nine were not held by BJP. "...Except Bengal, where elections were not free and fair, the results reflect status quo. But the I.N.D.I alliance can claim moral victory," BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya posted on X. P 15

K'taka ex-mantri remanded in ED custody till July 18

Former Congress minister B Nagendra orchestrated the scam in the Karnataka Maharsi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited, where funds up to Rs 94 crore were embezzled, Enforcement Directorate said in its remand application. Arrested late Friday night, Nagendra was produced before a special judge for elected representatives on Saturday, and remanded in six-day custody. P 18

Nepal foreign policy set to be 'neutral'

Nepal under K P Sharma Oli will follow a "neutral" foreign policy focussed on securing national interests and territorial integrity, while not allowing anyone to use its territory to target any third country, according to Oli's party CPN (UML). However, Oli will likely press India to address key issues like the border row. P 13

24 years on, Cronje case charge-framing

Delhi court has ordered framing of charges of criminal conspiracy and cheating against four people in connection with fixing of cricket matches between India and South Africa in 2000. Evidence pointed to deals struck with the late Hansie Cronje, the court said. An FIR was lodged against them at Chanakya Puri. P 8

Vistara CEO headed back to SIA?

Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan could be headed back to Singapore Airlines as the Tata Group is all set to merge Vistara into Air India before the year end, said sources. SIA will have 25.1% stake in the merged AI. The merged Vistara-AI Air India is likely to see AI current management team in most key positions, sources said. P 17

FORENSICS BRACES FOR BNSS

The new BNSS puts welcome emphasis on forensic investigation, but that is bad news for forensic labs in the country that are groaning under staff shortages and backlogs. Can the existing infra handle the load? P 19

ONE FOR THE WEDDING ALBUM



PM Narendra Modi with newly-weds Anant Ambani and Radhika and industrialist Mukesh Ambani and his wife, Nita, during the 'Shubh Aashirwad' ceremony at Jio World Centre in Mumbai on Saturday

PM: 8cr jobs created in last 3-4 yrs; it has silenced those spreading fake narratives

Mumbai: PM Modi, who was in Mumbai on Saturday for the groundbreaking of infrastructure works worth Rs 29,400 crore, said that in the last 3-4 years, around 8 crore new jobs had been generated in India and this had silenced those spreading false narratives about the country's employment situation. This was his first visit to the city after the Lok Sabha polls. "The country's people are clever, and the public is recognising this. As soon as the new govt took oath, we took a step towards giving poor proper pucca homes and these included homes to several adivasis and Dalits too. Every infrastructure project leads to job creation, and with increase in its pace, employment generation is also increasing," said Modi. RBI's KLEMS database released on Monday had said that the growth in employment in the country doubled to

Direct tax collections till July 11 up 23%

Direct tax collections have increased over 23% to Rs 6,45,239 crore during this financial year up to July 11, driven by a faster rise in personal income tax, CBDT said on Saturday. Net collections were 19.5% higher at over Rs 5.7 lakh crore as refunds soared almost 65% to Rs 70,902 crore during the period. P 12

6% (provisional) in FY2024, compared to a 3.2% rise seen in FY2023. In absolute terms, the number of jobs increased by approximately 4.7 crore to 64.3 crore in FY2024. In FY2023, the total workforce stood at 59.7 crore. The data also showed that since FY2021, the country added 7.8 crore jobs. TNN

► Fintech hub, P 17

Khedkar used non-creamy layer cert for med seat too

Swati.Shinde2 @timesofindia.com

Pune: Probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar, who is at the centre of a controversy over the legitimacy of her certificates, secured MBBS admission into Shrimati Kashibai Navale Medical College in 2007 under the reserved nomadic tribe-3 category furnishing a non-creamy layer certificate, college director Arvind Bhore said Saturday. Khedkar gained admission through the Association of Management of Unaided Private Medical and Dental Colleges of Maharashtra entrance test, scoring 146 out of 200, said Bhore. AMUPMDC no longer exists after NEET's

- Ahmednagar district civil hospital issued disability certificate to IAS probationer twice, says civil surgeon
- Cops issue notice to her mother asking why gun licence shouldn't be cancelled
- Police launch probe into dad's LS campaign video with Govt of India plate on SUV P 17

introduction. Khedkar's non-creamy layer certificate was issued by Pathardi sub-divisional office in Ahmednagar in 2007. Her caste and validity certificates were also issued by the same office, according to college records. Bhore mentioned she did not submit any disability certificate at the time of admission. ► 'Checked docus', P 17

Govt gives J&K LG more powers, oppn protests

Ahead of impending J&K elections, the Centre has defined more unambiguously the powers of LG of J&K with regard to matters like police, postings and transfers of officers of all-India services, including the IAS and IPS, anti-corruption bureau and grant or denial of prosecution sanction. The opposition, including Congress, PDP and NC, slammed the Centre's move and termed it a step towards "disempowering" the people of J&K. P 12

11 Uttarakhand border villages 'totally empty'

Uttarakhand's rural development and migration prevention commission submitted a report to the CM on Friday in which it stated that 11 villages near the China

border in the districts of Uttarakashi, Chamoli and Pithoragarh were "completely empty". The report was submitted following a survey of 137 border villages. P 18

Italy police sets free 33 Indians from 'slavery'

Italian police said on Saturday they had freed 33 Indian farm labourers from slave-like working conditions in the northern Verona province and seized almost half a million euros (\$545,300) from their two alleged abusers. Police said the alleged gang-masters, also from India, brought fellow nationals to Italy on seasonal work permits, asking them to pay 17,000 euros each. P 23



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Barapullah Phase-III Corridor A Step Closer To Completion

Govt Announces Compensation For Acquiring 2 Land Parcels

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Clearing one more hurdle, Delhi gov't's revenue department has announced compensation amount for the acquisition of 1,169 square metres of land in Nangli Razapur village to pave the way for construction of the east Delhi section of the Barapullah elevated corridor.

According to an order issued by Southeast Delhi's district magistrate, the landowners will be paid Rs 11.18 lakh as compensation.

Officials said in the third phase, two small land parcels of 709.9 and 459.2 square metres were the only pieces of land that had yet to be acquired to allow 690 metres of missing link over the Yamuna to connect the Barapullah elevated road with Mayur Vihar in the east and Sarai Kale Khan in the west. With that done, officials said they just need to get the permission to fell and transplant 274 trees to complete the construction.

"From the day of receiving the permission to cut trees, we will need six months to complete the construction



The corridor will ensure a faster commute between Noida, east Delhi and south Delhi, and over two lakh vehicles are expected to use it

of the bridge and open it for commuters," said an official. The construction of the road has been temporarily suspended due to the monsoon as the level of the Yamuna is expected to rise, and the floodplain may also get submerged with more water released from Haryana and subsequently from the Wazirabad barrage.

The work on the 3.5 km long road, which promised to bring the driving time between east and south Delhi to just 20 minutes, started in 2015. Though the deadline to open the road is Oct, officials say that it will have to be extended. The corridor will ensure a faster commute between Noida, east Delhi and south

Delhi, and more than two lakh vehicles are expected to use the road every day. The road will make reaching AIIMS from east Delhi easier and quicker. While it will reduce traffic on NH-24, accessing the transport hub from east Delhi and Noida will become more convenient.

According to officials, the approval to acquire the two land parcels was given by LG VK Saxena in Nov last year. Interestingly, it was only after the work began over eight years ago that PWD realised it did not have the ownership of about 8.5 acres of land, which was crucial for the construction of the elevated corridor. While 6 acres of land were acquired over the years, without the remaining patch of around 2.5 acres, PWD could not have built five piers and nearly 690 metres of spans over them.

The requirement for the exact measurement of land was also not certain, and after several field inspections and deliberations, the engineers finalised that they required two land parcels measuring 1,169 sqm for the project.

Water from Munak Canal reaches capital

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi water minister Atishi on Saturday said the breach in Munak Canal, which led to flooding in northwest Delhi's Bawana area and impacted water supply in various parts of the city, had been fixed.

In a post on X, Atishi said the Dwarka water treatment plant, which draws water from the Canal, would be operational from Saturday evening and that water supply in Dwarka would also resume from night.

According to officials, a breach of about 15 metres was noticed in the left bank of the carrier lined channel (CLC) of Munak Canal in Bawana around 2am on July 11. The Haryana irrigation department, which is in charge of maintenance of the entire ca-



A breach in Munak Canal led to flooding of Bawana on Thursday

nal including in the Delhi territory, was notified of the breach immediately.

Since CLC supplies around 500 cusecs of water every day to Delhi, the breach affected the operations at Dwarka water treatment plant.

Officials said the Haryana irrigation department, in coordination with engineers

from Delhi gov't, took prompt action and immediately mobilised manpower, machines and technical support system at the breach site. Various Delhi gov't departments, National Disaster Response Force and DDA provided assistance to the affected people by rehabilitating them and draining out of water.

While the repair started in the morning of July 11, teams worked round the clock and completed the work (reinforcement and concreting) by midnight of July 12.

"Since a minimum of eight hours were required for curing, the Haryana irrigation department conducted a fitness test at the site on Saturday morning and thereafter released water from Kakroi regulator (40 km upstream from Delhi border) at 11am today (Saturday) in the

canal. The water released has since reached Delhi," said an official.

"While the operation of Dwarka water treatment plant will start functioning from today evening, the scheduled water supply in the command areas of the plant will commence from Sunday morning smoothly," the official said.

Officials added that the pending work of shifting of a 200 mm air valve along the Dwarka raw water line was also started on July 12 by National Highway Authority of India for the construction of Urban Extension Road -II. "Pumps were deployed to empty the twin 1,500 mm diameter water pipeline. The work of shifting of the air valves was also completed by the NHA team on Saturday morning," the official added.



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9:30 am - 10:30 am Study in Australia: Your Pathway to Global Recognition

In presence of **Vik Singh**, Consul (Commercial) and Trade and Investment Commissioner, Australian Trade and Investment Commission
Babak Abedin, Head of Department, Actuarial Studies & Business Analytics - Macquarie Business School, Macquarie University
Mayank Jhington, Regional Director - India & South Asia, The University of New South Wales

Moderated by:

Pratibha Sen,
Destination Director - Australia
and New Zealand (South Asia)

11:00 am - 12:00 pm The Canadian Education Advantage: Quality, Affordability, and Future Prospects

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Opportunities for International Students in New Zealand Speaker: **Ms. Mel Cross**, Associate Director of Student Services, The University of Auckland

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'CM Has Lost 8.5kg Since March 21' Sonipat encounter under cloud, NHRC may step in

Kejriwal Suffering From Serious Ailment, Claims AAP; BJP Dismisses 'Rhetoric'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: AAP on Saturday alleged that CM Arvind Kejriwal has lost 8.5kg of weight since his arrest on March 21, indicating that he is suffering from a "serious ailment".

Addressing a press conference, AAP's Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Singh claimed that Kejriwal's blood sugar level dropped to below 50 mg/dl at least five times in jail. "The aim of BJP and its govt at Centre is to keep him in jail and play with his life. They are hatching a conspiracy so that he faces some serious health issues," Singh alleged. "His health condition is such that if he is not brought out of jail

soon and provided medical care, any serious incident may happen with him," he added.

Delhi BJP, however, termed Singh's claims as "old rhetoric".

Lodged in Tihar Jail under judicial custody, Kejriwal was arrested by ED on March 21 in a money laundering case linked to the now-rescinded excise policy. He was out on interim bail for 21 days in May to campaign for AAP in general elections. While SC granted him interim bail again on July 12 in the money laundering case, Kejriwal, however, remains in jail since he was arrested by CBI, probing alleged irregularities in formulation and implementation of same



Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal

excise police, on June 25. Singh claimed Kejriwal weighed 70 kg when he was arrested and his weight had now reduced to 61.5 kg. He added that the reason for Delhi CM's constant weight loss was unknown as no tests could have been conducted. Singh said Kejriwal's family, AAP and his well-wishers were

Lodged in Tihar Jail under judicial custody, Arvind Kejriwal was arrested by Enforcement Directorate on March 21 in a money laundering case linked to the now-rescinded excise policy.

concerned about his health condition in jail. Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva, however, said Singh's statement on CM's "jail, bail, and health is nothing but a repeat of rhetoric". "Every time AAP functionaries see any hope of Kejriwal getting bail, they start their old rhetoric that BJP

wants to keep him in jail and that his health is steadily deteriorating. After getting bail, instead of going for treatment, he indulges in political diatribes. People of Delhi have no trust left in Kejriwal and AAP," Sachdeva claimed. BJP's South Delhi MP Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said Singh should stop sensationalising Kejriwal's health condition. "A panel of AIIMS doctors is taking care of Kejriwal's health. If he has any issues, doctors should be informed about it. Kejriwal was healthy and actively campaigning when he was out on interim bail. The accusations made by Sanjay Singh are just political," Bidhuri claimed.

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Mystery shrouds the killing of three alleged henchmen of gangster Himanshu Bhu in a reported faceoff with cops in Sonipat on Friday night. With the previous encounter death of Bhu's alleged aide Ajay already under the scanner, the National Human Rights Commission is likely to look into the circumstances of the latest encounter.

The kin of the deceased are learnt to have described the encounter as 'fake' and are likely to iterate this before a magistrate.

The cops claimed that 43 bullets were exchanged in the 13-minute-long 'encounter' and one bullet grazed the leg of a policeman from Delhi Police's Crime Branch. The DCP Amit Goel and ACP Umesh Barthwal of Crime Branch also claimed they were each shot but were hit on their bulletproof vests. None of the three alleged gunmen survived and were hit several times by police shooters.

What has made the encounter more suspicious is that in his Instagram post last Saturday, Bhu had mentioned the exact names of his henchmen — Vicky, Ashish and Sunny — claiming they had been detained for "encounter for medals".

In a similar case in May, a



The alleged henchmen — Sunny, Ashish and Vicky — were hit several times by police shooters

man named Ajay was killed by Delhi Police during a shootout in a Fusion car showroom in west Delhi's Tilak Nagar. Bhu had claimed at the time on Instagram that police had picked Ajay up from Mount Abu and killed him in cold blood. NHRC is looking

into the encounter as well.

In a statement, the Crime Branch said, "We have been continuously working on Himanshu Bhu and his associates to curb their unlawful activity in Delhi-NCR region. On July 12, credible information was received that both the absconding shooters — Ashish and Vicky — would be going to Kharkhoda with another associate in a Kia Seltos car to commit some heinous crime. Immediately, the team swung into action and shared the information with STF, Sonipat. A joint team was formed to track the two accused. The team intercepted the said Kia Seltos on Rohtak-Chinaulti road around 8.40pm."

The cops claimed the men started firing on the police party from "inside the car and simultaneously coming out of the vehicle". In self-defence, the police personnel retaliated and fired from their service weapons. Around 19 rounds were fired by the policemen against 24 fired by the said criminals during the exchange of fire. Five automatic pistols belonging to the alleged criminals were recovered from the spot. The Sonipat police control room was informed around 8.53pm about the need for an ambulance to take the injured to hospital, where the men brought were declared dead.

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DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0124/24-25

Gangster linked to Rajouri Garden shootout arrested

Bagish.Jha@timesofindia.com

Gurgaon: The Haryana STF arrested notorious gangster Rakesh alias Kala Khairampuriya from the IGI airport on Saturday.

Carrying a bounty of Rs 2 lakh on his arrest, Khairampuriya was named in connection with the twin murders and shootouts at a Burger King outlet in Delhi and Gulshan Dhaba in Murthal.

The arrest came a day after three henchmen of US-based gangster Himanshu Bhu were killed in an 'encounter' with Haryana STF in Sonipat late on Friday evening. The three, according to cops, were directly involved in the two shootouts.

DIG Simardeep Singh, who heads the STF in the state, said Khairampuriya's criminal history dated back to 2014, with several cases of robbery, murder and illegal possession of farms registered against him.

In 2018, Khairampuriya was convicted for a murder he committed in Rajasthan's Hunumangarh three years earlier and sentenced for life. He was, however, released on parole in 2020. The gangster never reported back.

After jumping parole, Khairampuriya changed his location at regular intervals and evaded arrest. "In 2021, he committed another murder in Fatehabad district of Haryana. Since investigating agencies could not arrest him, they declared him a proclaimed offender in 2023," said Singh.

The same year, Khairampuriya managed to get a passport done on a fake identity and fled the country — first going to the UAE, then to Armenia and finally Thailand.

He forged alliances with gangs run by Bhu and Neejraj Faridpuria from abroad, completing a syndicate jig-



BUSTED: Rakesh in STF's custody on Saturday

AN OFFICER SAYS

In 2021, he (Rakesh) committed another murder in Fatehabad district of Haryana. Since investigating agencies could not arrest him, he was declared a proclaimed offender in 2023

saw responsible for carrying out high-profile crimes like killings and extortion across Delhi-NCR.

In Dec 2023, Khairampuriya and the others allegedly orchestrated the murder of a sarpanch of a Sonipat village. On March 10 this year, the three shooters killed in the Friday encounter gunned down Sunder Malik, a liquor trader from Gohana, after dragging him out of his vehicle.

On June 19, the trio shot dead Aman Joon at the Rajouri Garden outlet of Burger King and fired some 40-50 rounds, causing 45-50 customers to run for cover.

Both attacks are believed to have been carried out by the Bhu gang, of which Khairampuriya was a part.

This June 24, three masked assailants linked to Khairampuriya opened fire outside a Mahindra car showroom in Hisar. Investigation revealed that Khairampuriya had arranged for the guns and coordinated with the shooters in planning the attack. In fact, the gangster claimed responsibility for the shootout on his Instagram account.

"The series of attacks underscored his continued influence on local gangs from abroad," Singh said.

According to sources, the STF recently unearthed the identity that Khairampuriya had used on his passport to flee the country. After it was confirmed that he was in Thailand, the STF coordinated with the home ministry and got an Interpol notice issued against him. His actual IDs were shared with security agencies in Thailand.

"The arrest of Kala Khairampuriya sends a resolute message regarding Haryana Police's commitment in controlling crime and maintaining law and order in the state. We have been resolute in pursuing individuals involved in organised crime, anywhere in the world," said Singh.

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₹1,000-Crore Prime Land In Civil Lines Freed By L&DO

Central Agency Removes Encroachers Following HC Order

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: In a major eviction drive against encroachment of public land, the Land and Development Office (L&DO) under the Union housing and urban affairs ministry cleared almost 15 acres of prime land in Khyber Pass in Civil Lines area on Saturday.

Sources said the current market value of the large patch of around 32 acres, including the cleared portion, in the area is estimated at over Rs 2,000 crore. The Nazul land (govt land) is owned by the L&DO and it was given to the defence ministry in 1935. There were hutments, known as Khyber Pass Hostel, for accommodation of the support staff of defence personnel. The cleared portion is worth around Rs 1,000 crore.

Officials said though the eviction was to begin from March 4, it was stopped at the direction of Delhi High Court. After the matter was examined at length by HC and a judgment was passed on July 9 upholding the eviction order, the L&DO carried out the eviction on Saturday.

They added that such valuable land cannot be allowed to be occupied by few individuals for the benefit of few at loss to the govt. The eviction was carried out with support of Delhi Police, Delhi administration, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Central Public Works Department, sources said.

Some of the occupants had earlier taken the matter to the Delhi High Court seeking relief after the L&DO had issued a public notice to the occupants on March 1, 2024 to vacate. The occupants had claimed that the hostels were allotted to their fathers and grand-fathers about 70 years back and hence they were entitled to resettlement. Challenging the eviction notice, petitioners had pleaded before the HC that they could not be evicted by following the due process of law as they were inducted by the "Officers of the Armed Forces"



Some of the occupants in Civil Lines' Khyber Pass had earlier taken the matter to Delhi High Court seeking relief after L&DO had issued a public notice to all occupants on March 1, 2024 to vacate

to cater to their needs and they were paying rents.

The high court, in its order, took note that the petitioners did not show any document as to who inducted them and said since this issue requires leading of evidence, the petitioners needed to file suit and lead evidence

to show that they were inducted lawfully by persons who were competent to do so.

Relying on the affidavit of the petitioners, which mentioned that no rent has been paid by them after 2001 and, the HC observed that the "petitioners cannot be called as legal occupants of the land in

question and are rank trespassers". It also rejected the argument that the petitioners were inducted lawfully and that they are authorised occupants.

Dismissing the petition, the court said it "does not find any reason" to quash the notice dated March 1, 2024.

Principal takes rape survivor back after told about assault

Continued from P1

The govt school principal, who was unaware of the girl's reason for absence, told her father on Thursday to get her married if he wasn't interested in sending her to class. She later realised her mistake. But word had spread by then. The principal drew heavy criticism on social media as the sexual assault on the girl, the removal of her name from school and her comments to her father conflated into one narrative.

Education department officials stepped in on Friday after they learnt about the police case that the teen's parents had filed after the June 26 sexual assault. The school had reopened on July 1 after the summer vacations, but she hadn't shown up. Three other girls hadn't either. It was seen as unexplained absence, and on July 10, the principal decided to scratch their names from the rolls. According to officials, in all cases of absence from school, a student must write a note to the class teacher or principal with specific reasons for absence. The girl's father told TOI on Saturday she had not stepped out of home since the June 26 incident because of shock. He also spoke of being worried for her safety because the assailant - a married man - lives in the same colony.

The accused, who had allegedly met her at Swarn Jayanti park several times, is in judicial custody; police said, after being charged with rape and criminal intimidation under sections of BNS and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act. He had on June 16 invited her to meet him at a hotel, where he took her to a room and allegedly raped her. "She left for tuition, which generally gets over by 2pm," the father said. Usually, she is back by 3.30pm but that day, wasn't home till 6pm. "She looked pale when she returned and did not talk. Next day, I asked her about it and that's when she told me about the incident," he said. The episode derailed the family. The girl isolated herself as she tried to cope. The parents wept and worried. Amid this despair, the school de-registered her. On Friday night, however, the principal was at their door, her manner and demeanor nothing like the voice on the phone that had chided the father.

The principal told TOI she re-enrolled the girl after the district inspector of schools informed her about the sexual assault case and decided to go speak to the girl herself to convince her to continue with her education. "The girls whose names were withdrawn did not inform the school about their absence. We have come across several instances of girls dropping out because their families got them married. I thought she wasn't coming to school for the same reason," she said. "It was meant as a warning... Once I knew, I personally met the family. We spoke for around three hours," she added.

The girl's father confirmed the principal had met them, underlined the need for her to return to school and extended her support.

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Punjab to NGT: Will manage 19.5MT crop residue this year

Neel.Kamal@timesofindia.com

Bathinda: Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB), in its updated action plan submitted before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to tackle crop residue burning, has reiterated it will tackle 19.52 million tonne (MT) of stubble in 2024-25 season after paddy harvesting in Oct-Nov.

PPCB has stated that 15.86 million tonnes of straw was utilised in 2023-24 through various modes under in-situ (in the natural or original position or place) and ex-situ management. With about 32 lakh hectares of area under paddy and basmati in Punjab, over 20 million tonne crop residue is generated in the state.

PPCB member secretary submitted the revised action plan ahead of the hearing on July 12 in a suo moto cognisance by NGT in sustaining crop residue burning in Punjab. NGT, in its order

on April 3, directed PPCB to clarify aspects pertaining to its claims of using crop residue under in-situ and ex-situ management in 2023-24 and its targets in 2024-25 by July 12. The tribunal is yet to upload its order over the action plan.

As per the revised action plan for 2024-25, out of the target of using 19.52 MT straw, 12.7 million tonne will be used through in-situ and 5.96 million tonne through ex-situ (which include 3.1 MT in industrial boilers, 1.17 MT in biomass power plant, 0.54 MT in compressed bio gas plant, 0.20 MT in bio ethanol plant, 0.77 MT in thermal power plant, 0.18 MT in brick kilns). Out of 3.1 MT in industrial boilers, 2.9 MT will be in the form of bales/ chopped form and 0.2 MT in the form of palette/briquette. In thermal plants and brick kilns too, palette/briquette will be consumed. Apart from it, 0.86 MT will be used as fodder.

Guru Purnima talk on

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JAYA ROW

Woman touches live wire in waterlogged street, dies

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 34-year-old woman was electrocuted in north-east Delhi's Bhajanpura on Saturday. Police suspect that a live wire was lying in the waterlogged street in the area and victim Poonam, unable to see it, came in its contact and died.

Police received information about the electrocution incident, which took place at 7.39 am near a hospital in C Block Yamuna Vihar. "Due to rain, there was waterlogging in the area. A live wire from an electricity pole near the footpath caused her to be electrocuted and fall into the water. She was rushed to the hospital, where the doctors declared her dead on arrival. A case of death by negligence has been registered," said a senior police officer.

After seeing the woman getting electrocuted, the guard rushed inside the hospital and donned rubber boots.

AN OFFICER SAYS

After seeing the woman getting electrocuted, the guard rushed inside the hospital and donned rubber boots. He then returned to the scene, but it was too late

He then returned to the scene and pulled her out from the waterlogged street, but it was too late, the officer said.

The deceased woman, a homemaker, lived with her family in northeast Delhi and her husband runs a general store in the area.

The news of Poonam's death sent shockwaves through her family. Her relatives recounted that she was on her way to a clinic in Yamuna Vihar for a routine check-up when

the tragedy struck.

The incident further compounded the family's woes, as Poonam's 14-year-old son, a child with special needs, had already been hospitalized in north Delhi for the past 15 days. "His condition significantly worsened upon learning about his mother's sudden demise," a grief-stricken relative said, adding, "He was immediately taken to another hospital, where he remains in critical condition."

Last year, a 35-year-old architect was killed after being electrocuted at New Delhi Railway Station when she touched a pole in a waterlogged area. Sakshi Ahuja, a resident of east Delhi's Preet Vihar, had come to the station with her family to catch the Bhopal Shatabdi train. There was waterlogging outside the railway station. An initial probe suggests that she grabbed the pole to avoid going into the water and got electrocuted.

26-yr-old killed after he objects to insult of wife by neighbour

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 26-year-old man in Rohini was murdered on Friday allegedly by his neighbour.

The deceased, Prashant, lived in Aman Vihar and was allegedly stabbed after he objected to his neighbour's abusive language towards his wife.

Police received information about the incident on Friday. A team from the local police station rushed to the spot in Ramesh Enclave. "Prashant succumbed to his stab injuries during treatment at a hospital," an officer said.

A senior officer said that a case under Section 103 (murder) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita was registered at Aman Vihar police station.

During the probe, police found that Prashant had an argument with his neighbours after Dev made objectionable remarks towards his wife. Dev has been arrested.

Rain brings relief in parts of city, may improve air quality further

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Parts of Delhi recorded short spells of intense rain on Saturday afternoon. However, the intensity of the rain is likely to reduce from Sunday for the next six days. There are chances of very light to light rain over the next few days, Met officials said.

Delhiites experienced a sultry day on Saturday, but an intense spell of rain in some parts of the city brought respite. The maximum temperature was 35.6 degrees Celsius, which is near normal, and 1.3 degrees higher than Friday's temperature. The relative humidity oscillated between 56% and 94%. The minimum temperature was 25 degrees Celsius, two notches below normal.

India Meteorological Department's data shows that the city received uneven rain on Saturday. Safdarjung, which is the city's base station, along with Palam and Lodhi Road,



MONSOON GREEN: Light rain is likely on Sunday and Monday

witnessed light rain activity, while Ayanagar saw moderate showers. Stations like Ridge, Delhi University, Pitampura, SPS Mayur Vihar, Jafarpur and Najafgarh did not witness any rain till 8.30 pm.

Safdarjung, Palam and Lodhi logged 13.6, 7.8 and 12.4 mm rainfall, respectively, during the period from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm, while Ayanagar received 34.8 mm rainfall.

Rain activity is likely to be subdued from Sunday onwards. "The monsoon trough is north of its normal position at mean sea level. The monsoon activity is currently weak over Haryana, Chan-

digarh and Delhi," said IMD in its bulletin.

"There are chances of very light rain on Sunday and Monday. However, there is a possibility of very light to light rain from Tuesday to July 19. There has been no colour-coded warning for rain over Delhi for the next few days. Heavy rain is unlikely over the next few days," said a Met official.

Safdarjung has received 72.8 mm rainfall in July so far as against the normal of 209.7 mm. While Ayanagar and Palam had recorded 54.3 and 51.7 mm rainfall in July till now.

The air quality index of the national capital was recorded in the "moderate" category with a reading of 101 at 8 pm. A day earlier, AQI was 107. According to Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, which is the forecasting body under the union ministry of earth sciences, the air quality is likely to remain in the "satisfactory" category on Sunday.

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cbc 19101/13/0001/2425

Delhi govt distributed 7.7 lakh free saplings this year: Rai

New Delhi: Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai organised a 'Vikas Sabha' in southwest Delhi's Bijwasan assembly constituency on Saturday and distributed free saplings among the local people. Rai said more

than 7.7 lakh free plants had been distributed by AAP govt this year. Govt has decided to distribute more than 64 lakh saplings this year. "Pollution always poses a big challenge in Delhi. Under the leadership of CM Arvind Kejriwal, we

have worked continuously to reduce the pollution level in the city. While the green area in Delhi was 20% in 2013, it increased to 23% in 2021," Rai said. **TNN**

Skin Getting Darker? Cause May Be Worse Than Natural Tanning

Study Links It To Possible Reaction To Chemicals In Dyes & Creams

Anuja.Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: If you notice some darkening of your skin, particularly on your face or forehead, after using hair dye, vermilion, or fairness cream, you should consult a dermatologist. This alteration in skin colour, which many attribute to sun exposure, may be a sign of pigmented contact dermatitis (PCD), a condition that arises due to an adverse reaction to the chemicals present in these products.

PCD, a variant of allergic contact dermatitis that does not present with eczema, is commonly caused by exposure to various allergens. In India, the most frequent culprits are hair dyes, vermilion and facial cosmetic products. Doctors who conducted a study to see the outcome of immunosuppressive in patients with PCD said that people who face such an issue often mistakenly believe that their skin has become "tanned". However, this is not the case. PCD is a distinct condition that differs from the natural tanning process.

Dr Surabhi Sinha, assistant professor at Lady Hardinge Medical College, and author of the study said that it is crucial to recognise that this pigmentation is not a result of sun exposure or the body's natural tanning mechanism. Instead, it is a manifestation of the skin's sensitivity or allergic response to particular components present in the products being used.

WHAT MAY HARM YOU

Allergens that cause PCD or hyperpigmentation



Hair dye Paraphenylenediamine (PPD), toluene diamine, 3-aminophenol, 4-aminophenol

Fairness cream Fragrances (musk mix, lavender absolute, jasmine absolute, benzyl salicylate), preservatives (thiomersal, gallate mix)

Kumkum/sindoor Dyes (brilliant lake red R, Sudan I), fragrances

Others Lipstick (dyes & pigments - brilliant lake red R, pigment orange 3, pigment red 3), fragrances, preservatives

Consumers should be aware that the term 'herbal' does not necessarily guarantee a product's safety or purity, the author said

She said the research revealed that one of the immunosuppressants — azathioprine — demonstrated a reliable and notable effectiveness in treating hyperpigmentation in PCD patients.

The azathioprine group achieved the highest reduction in hyperpigmentation, reaching "55.5% at 48 weeks." In contrast, the other two groups in the study only managed to attain a maximum improvement of around 30%. These findings suggest that azat-

hioprine may be a more potent treatment option for people seeking to address hyperpigmentation issues compared to the alternatives investigated in this study. However, it is crucial to note that the precise length of immunosuppressant therapy cannot be determined with absolute accuracy. These medications are intended to expedite the resolution of the allergic response and function as a complement to allergen avoidance measures. Additionally, immunosuppressants "may cause some initial reduction in the pigmentation." However, it is essential to recognise that they are not a definitive solution and should be used in conjunction with other treatment strategies for optimal results.

Dr Sinha said that studies con-

ducted both in India and abroad have identified hair dye as the primary cause of PCD. The main ingredient responsible for this condition is a compound called paraphenylenediamine (PPD), which is a well-known allergen. However, the development of PCD is not immediate; it occurs after prolonged use of hair dyes containing PPD.

"Even products marketed as 'herbal henna' may not be entirely natural. Many of these products now contain fragrances, preservatives and PPD, which is derived from hair dye and used to enhance the colour. As a result, even henna-based products can potentially cause PCD if they contain these additional ingredients. Consumers should be aware that the term 'herbal' does not necessarily guarantee a product's safety or purity when it comes to hair dyes and henna products," she told TOI.

Prof Kabir Sardana from RML Hospital, co-author of the study, said that pigmented contact dermatitis, a frequently encountered yet often misdiagnosed skin condition, is characterised by a gradual darkening of facial skin. "In addition to hair dyes and cosmetics, various preservatives and chemicals commonly used in the formulation of daily-use products, such as creams and moisturisers, have also been implicated in the development of this condition. These substances can trigger an adverse reaction in the skin, leading to the progressive pigmentation observed in affected individuals," he said.

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Dr. C. R. Prasad
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IN MEMORIAM

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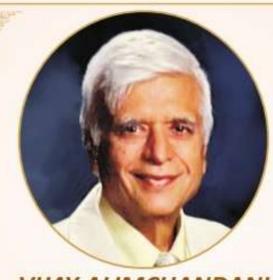
PARAMJIT SINGH THAKRAL

We bid farewell to our beloved Father, a true beacon of light, who left us on July 11th, 2024. His legacy of warmth and kindness will forever remain in our hearts. As a devoted husband, loving father, and dotting grandfather, he touched the lives of everyone around him.

A talented hotelier and gifted singer, Papa was known for his creative spirit, gentle demeanor, immaculate dress sense, and playful nature. He was a cherished presence, especially among his grandkids. He will be deeply missed, but his spirit will continue to shine brightly in our memories and hearts forever.

With Love,
Amarjeet Thakral (Amit)
Tarun Thakral
Jagdeep Thakral
Isheetha Thakral
Samidha Thakral
Manavjit Mohil

Condolence on 9811263428



VIJAY ALIMCHANDANI
September 1945 - July 2024

Vijay Alimchandani, born in Karachi and raised in Mumbai, passed away in July 2024. He earned engineering degrees from BITS Pilani and the University of Michigan, and spent 48 years in Los Angeles with his family. A visionary entrepreneur, Vijay's charisma and warmth touched countless lives. His fun-loving spirit, brilliant mind, and generosity will live on in his wife Manu, daughter Natasha, son Rahul, son-in-law Suneel, grandchildren Zaden and Daxon, sister Pravina, and all his dear family and friends. Vijay's life was filled with love, excitement, travel, and lifelong learning. He will be deeply missed.

In Loving Memory of



From the day you left for your holy abode we have missed you.

Smt. Sudesh Khurana
(22.05.1945 - 14.07.2012)
W/o CA S.R. KHURANA
Kavita, Sandeep, Sahil, Nikita, Akshay, Dr. Roshni, Arti, Rajiv, Raahat, Noor, Muskaan, Ranya

DDA and MCD intensify tree plantation drives

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: With the commencement of the monsoon season, Delhi Development Authority has intensified its tree planting initiatives, aiming to achieve a significant portion of its target within this month.

According to a DDA official, "Till this week, 50,000 trees and 5.5 lakh shrubs have already been planted at various locations across the city. The authority is also taking all possible steps to ensure that the saplings being planted are nurtured sufficiently, so as to achieve optimal survival."

DDA conducted plantation activities in Dwarka on Saturday, while simultaneously carrying out a drive along the Yamuna floodplains.

For the financial year 2024-25, the authority has set a target of growing 11 lakh plants, which includes approximately 94,000 trees and 10 lakh shrubs. As of now, DDA has already achieved nearly 55% of this target, having planted 605,109 trees and shrubs.

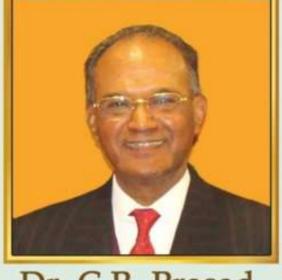
An official stated, "Apart from plantations in public places, we are even spreading awareness among the general public, school children, public representatives etc. to ensure and contribute to their survival. This weekend we did a plantation at sector 19 B Dwarka housing complex. Plantation drives in District Park and Lake, G17, Paschim Vihar were also undertaken."

The authority also organised 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign at District Park Vikasपुरi and a similar programme at Jahanpanah City Forest. Additionally, a plantation programme was held at Baan-dera to foster the connection between people and the Yamuna river. Of the 21,552 acres of green cover in Delhi, 10,490 acres belong to DDA.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi's horticulture department has also taken up the task of greening open areas, gardens, municipal buildings, and areas underneath flyovers.

REMEMBRANCE SHARING MEMORIES

MEMORIAM



Dr. C.R. Prasad
14th January, 1941 - 13th July, 2024

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform that our beloved and respected **Dr. C.R. Prasad** passed away on 13/07/2024 at 05:35 AM. Our immortal leader who engrained his values, principles, motivations and positive approaches for generations to go on.

FONDLY REMEMBERED BY HIS ATHENA GROUP FAMILY
Cremation is on 14/07/2024 at 11 AM at Mokshdham Sector 32 Gurgaon

To place an Obituary announcement or Remembrance

Call- Vinod : 9958992088
Pankaj : 8130604727



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Maj Gen Ajit Singh (Retd)
(11.07.1938 - 12.07.2024)

DGAFMS and all ranks of AFMS family deeply mourn the sad demise of Maj Gen Ajit Singh (Retd) erstwhile Addl DGAFMS (MR)

May God grant peace to the departed soul and give strength to the bereaved family.

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HONOUR. COURAGE. BRAVERY. Three words that you taught us. Three words that help us cope with your loss.

The silent joy of remembering a loved one. The moments you shared together. Little moments that make life beautiful. Share them. With Friends. Relatives. Neighbours. Colleagues. With all those whose lives the departed Soul has touched. Because while life goes on, when you share memories, they stay on forever.

Publications	Total Outlay
The Times of India Delhi/NCR	5,600
TOI-NBT (Delhi/NCR)	8,800
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Maximum 30 lines

REMEMBRANCE SHARING MEMORIES

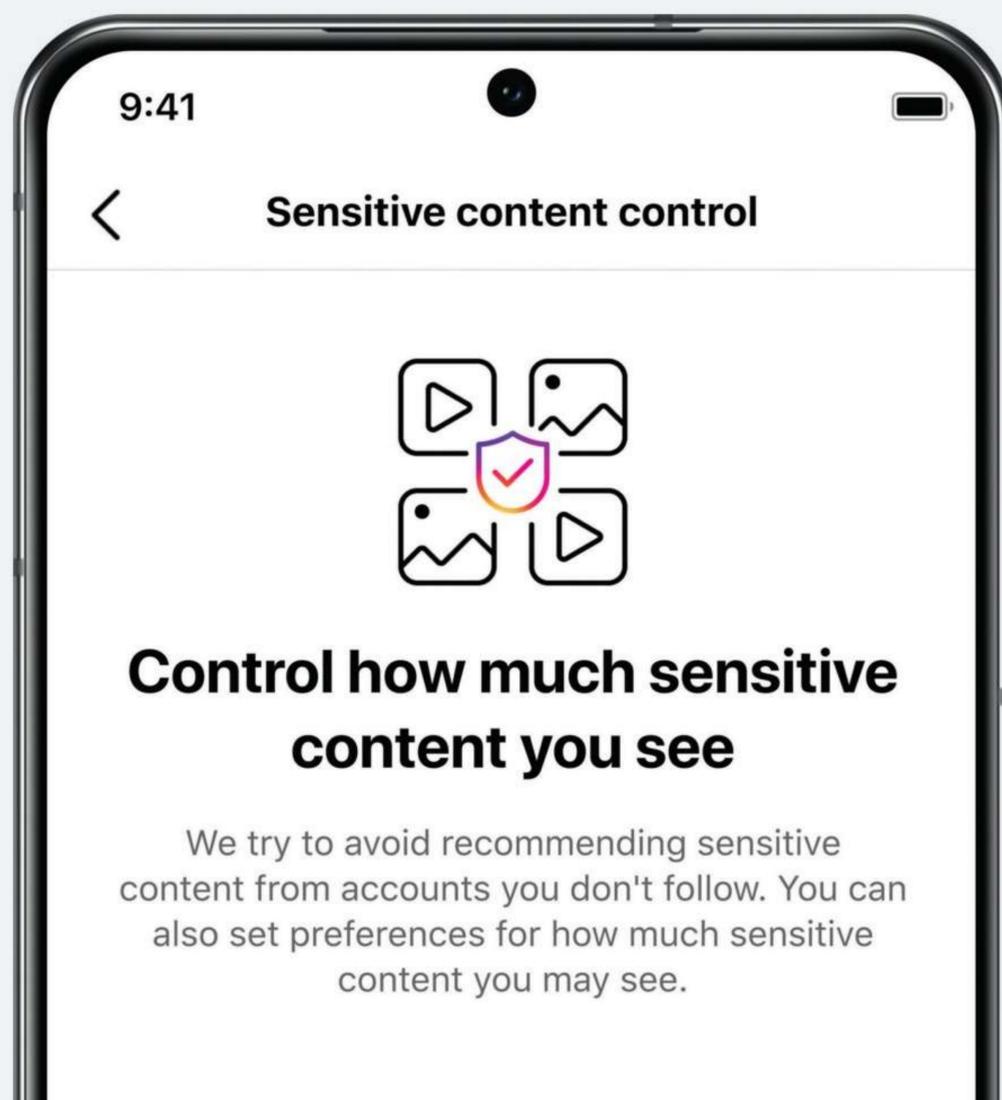
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Excise In Lead, Benl Secs 13% Growth In Revenue In 3 Mths

Trend Indicates Collection May Cross Budget Projection: Official

Atul Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Riding on robust economic activities, Delhi's revenue collection registered an increase of nearly 16% in the first quarter of 2024-25 financial year over the corresponding period in 2023-24.

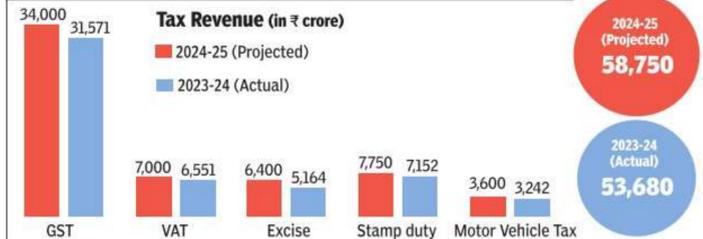
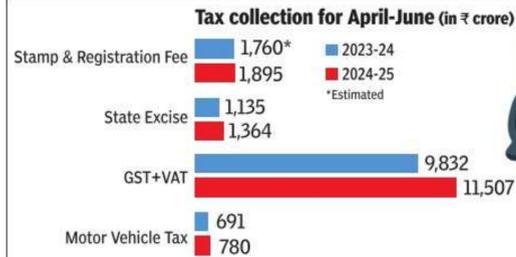
Delhi govt mopped up Rs 15,546 crore between April and June this year through goods and service tax (GST), value-added tax (VAT), stamp and registration fee, state excise, and motor vehicle tax. During the same period in the last fiscal, Delhi govt's tax revenue collection was recorded at Rs 13,418 crore.

A senior govt official said that going by the current trend, the tax collection in the ongoing financial year was likely to exceed the projection of Rs 58,750 crore made in the budget. In 2023-24, the tax collection was estimated at Rs 53,680 crore, which was an increase of 13% over the 2022-23 earnings.

While GST and VAT are Delhi govt's mainstay of tax revenue and contribute nearly 70% of the total collection, it is followed by stamp duty on registration of property and other documents, excise on the sale of liquor, and taxes on motor vehicles.

According to officials, the highest increase in the first three months of the current financial year was seen in excise collection, which grew by nearly 20% over last year. While the department earned Rs 1,365 crore through excise duty on liquor — sold through a network of about 670 liquor stores

GST, VAT KEY SOURCES



and over 900 hotels, clubs and restaurants — an additional Rs 595 crore was earned through VAT. VAT, however, is combined and calculated with GST for record purposes. The excise revenue in April was recorded at Rs 460 crore, which increased to Rs 462 crore in May but came down marginally to Rs 443 crore in June.

The GST and VAT collection in three months recorded a hike of about 17% over the same period last year, while the registration tax on vehicles went up by 13%. According

to officials, the transport department collected Rs 276 crore in April, which came down to Rs 229 crore in May and Rs 227 crore in June. In 2023, govt earned Rs 227 crore in April, Rs 237 crore in May, and Rs 228 crore in June.

Apart from the motor vehicle tax, the main component of revenue that govt earns through the sale of vehicles and their registration, parking fees, addition and deletion of hypothecation from registration certificates, and fitness tax and inspection of commercial

vehicles also make significant contributions to revenue under this head.

A senior govt official said the capital provided a conducive atmosphere for trading activities and ease of doing business, which got reflected in the ever-increasing GST and VAT collection. "Also, Delhi's per capita income and gross state domestic product are among the highest in the country. That's why the registration of new vehicles and sale of properties witness a decent increase," said an official.

21 companies register under motor vehicle aggregator scheme: Govt

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi transport minister Kailash Gahlot on Saturday said more than 1 lakh vehicles had been onboarded while 21 organisations had applied for the licence as aggregators or delivery service providers

since the notification of Delhi Motor Vehicle Aggregator and Delivery Service Provider Scheme in Nov last year.

"The response to the scheme is a testament to the confidence that businesses have in our vision for sustainable and efficient urban mobility. By en-

suring the transition to electric vehicles, we are taking a significant step towards reducing pollution and improving the quality of life for Delhi's residents," Gahlot said in a statement.

"This initiative will not only promote green mobility but also set high standards for service

quality and public safety in the transport sector," he added. The scheme applies to aggregators, delivery service providers, and e-commerce entities operating within the NCT of Delhi. It covers those with 25 or more motor vehicles (2W, 3W, and 4W, excluding buses) in their fleet.

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Nearly 24 years after being accused of fixing international cricket matches between India and South Africa in 2000, a Delhi court has ordered the framing of charges of criminal conspiracy and cheating against four people.

Additional chief judicial magistrate Neha Priya gave the order against Rajesh Kalra, Krishan Kumar (of T-Series company), Sunil Dara and Sanjeev Chawla. An FIR was lodged against them at the Chanakya Puri police station.

Noting the evidence before it, the court said that the "chain of events, record of conversations, conduct and surrounding circumstances" showed the complicity of Kalra, Kumar and Dara in the deals struck by Chawla with Hansie Cronje (deceased and also an accused) and led to the "inference that they were acting in connivance and were co-participants in the main

object of fixing cricket matches for monetary gain."

The court, in its 68-page order passed on July 11, concluded there was sufficient material on record to frame charges against the four under Indian Penal Code sections 420 (cheating) read with 120B (criminal conspiracy) and for the offence under section 120B of the IPC.

Examining the transcripts of call intercepts, it said that these "reveal that during this time, they discussed the team composition for the next upcoming match in a series of matches between South Africa and India (based on the information received by accused Chawla from Cronje); the fixed team scores/ individual scores agreed with accused Hansie Cronje; amount of money to be placed on bets; pooling of money; their odds if the players don't perform as per agreed plan; money transactions during betting/ match fixing, etc."

The court observed that the maxim that truth is stranger than fiction was more true in the case of cricket than any other sport and the only thing predictable about the game was its unpredictability. "In fact, one of the reasons for such astounding popularity of cricket is the element of uncertainty and the lack of predictability of results, even by the experts. If this aspect of the game is taken out of the equation, and if the spectators know that the result is pre-decided, there would be zero interest in watching the match," it said.

Regarding the argument of the counsel for the accused that match-fixing was not an offence in the country, the court said, "If the alleged acts of match-fixing satisfy the ingredients of the offence under section 420 of the IPC, such acts cannot escape the clutches of the said law only for want of a special law."

Power bills up with heat, least no. of people get subsidy in June in 2 years

Atul Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The record-breaking temperatures in June sent the electricity bills of domestic consumers spiraling this year. Of nearly 60 lakh domestic consumers, only 34.3 lakh could benefit from the power subsidy—16.5 lakh received zero bills, and 17.8 lakh received half bills—in June, which was the lowest in the past two years.

Peak summer, from April to June, is the time of the year when power demand goes up due to the continuous running of air-conditioners, coolers, and fans in households as well as industrial and commercial establishments. The months of May and June were exceptionally hot, with power demand breaking all previous records. While the power department had estimated the peak demand to reach 8,200 megawatts this year, it reached 8,656 MW on June 19, the highest requirement ever in the city. In May-June, Delhi witnessed a long streak of over 30 days when the city's power demand crossed 7,000 MW every single day. During this period, the demand crossed 8,000 MW on at least 10 occasions.

While this May was the seventh hottest since 1951, with an average maximum temperature of 42 degrees Celsius, this was only the eighth time since 1951 that the mean maximum temperature had stayed above 41 degrees.

Not just the rich, but people with humble backgrounds too were forced to run coolers and ACs continuously, which reflected in their power bills. While there are

60 lakh domestic consumers in Delhi who can avail of power subsidy if the consumption remains less than 400 units a month, nearly 53 lakh were eligible for it in April this year. The number went down to 45.4 lakh in May and further dropped to 34.3 lakh in June. A comparison with the data of domestic consumers eligible for the subsidy in 2022 and 2023 revealed how the electricity bills shot up due to higher consumption this year. In April 2022, 45.1 lakh people got the subsidy—either a full waiver due to less than 200 units of consumption or a 50% discount on burning 201-400 units—which came

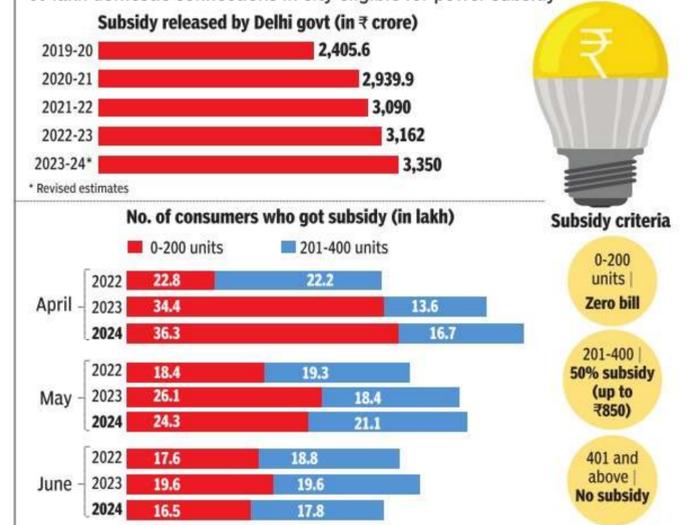
down to 37.3 lakh in May 2022 and 36.4 lakh in June. In 2023, 48.1 lakh domestic consumers were eligible for subsidy, while the number came down to 44.5 lakh in May and 39.3 lakh in June.

According to the data, more people get zero bills than those getting a 50% waiver in the months of winter as power consumption falls drastically due to less usage of high-powered electrical equipment. The consumption starts increasing from April and peaks in June. In comparison to 2022, when the number of people in both subsidy categories reduced in May and June in comparison to the preceding months, the data paints a different picture this year. While the number of customers eligible for a full waiver reduced in April, May, and June in comparison to the preceding months, the consumers eligible for a 50% waiver increased in April and May but suddenly fell drastically in June.

"This means that many of those who were getting full waivers for consuming less than 200 units shifted to the second category by burning a few units extra in April and May. But due to high temperatures in June, the consumption increased suddenly in all households," said an official.

HELP FOR 34.3L DELHIITES, 39.2L GOT IT LAST JUNE

60 lakh domestic connections in city eligible for power subsidy



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, e-Tender/Tenders are invited by the CMOH, Dakshin Dinajpur for following e-tender: 1. E-Tender No. DHFWS/Vehicle/1915 dated 08.07.2024 for hiring of vehicles under DH&PW Samiti, D/Dinajpur from resourceful, eligible agency having experience in similar nature of works. Bid Submission Closing Date: 25.07.2024 at 02.00 PM. For Detail (e-tender), Please visit the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in For other tenders: www.wbhealth.gov.in and Office of the Undersigned, Sd/- CMOH, D/Dinajpur. ICA-T11345(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
NIT No. 03/A.E./HAB dt.04.07.2024
Vide Memo No.642/HAB dt.04.07.2024
e-Tender from Habra Sub-Division, under Barasat Division, P.H.E. Dte. is invited from bonafide, resourceful agencies having sufficient working experience on similar nature of Govt. works. Tender ID: 2024.PHE.D.705989.1 to 2024.PHE.D.705989.3. Last date for submission of tender (online): 22.07.24 upto 5.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from website: http://www.wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Assistant Engineer, Habra Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte. ICA-T11363(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
W.B.S.F.P.&H.D.C.L.
(A Government of West Bengal Enterprise under the control of the Department of P.H.E., Govt. of West Bengal)
RE-TENDER NOTICE
1. 21 dt. 11.07.2024 (3rd call)
2. 22 dt. 11.07.2024 (2nd call)
Re-Tenders are invited for Supply of cashewnut to the different block of West Bengal & Security Guarding & housekeeping arrangement in the office campus of the Department of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, and in other offices, under administrative control of the department located in almost all the districts Government of West Bengal. The intending Tenderers are to apply through http://www.wbtenders.gov.in Details are also available in the Website: www.wb.p.s.f.p.&h.d.c.l.com & housekeeping arrangement in the office campus of the Department of Food Processing Industries & Horticulture, and in other offices, under administrative control of the department located in almost all the districts Government of West Bengal. 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'Feeling isolated by your mother and sister? Don't let family define you'

To help readers cope with their anxieties in these stressful times, TOI has launched *Talk it Out*, a series in which expert counsellors answer your mental health queries. This week's advice is from counselling psychologist Megha Nad

I am a middle-aged homemaker living away from my hometown. My mother and elder sister, who is single, live in a different city in a house built by my late father decades ago. My sister holds a senior position with a govt department and takes every decision regarding my mother's finances or familial issues. My mother always has been emotionally protective about her because she is devoid of marital life. I never objected to their lifestyle, though my mother has always looked down upon me, never holding me or my husband in due place of respect. Every now and then, they abuse me for not leaving my husband and moving to be my mother's caregiver. Even if I visit them for two to three months a year, they criticise me in front of other relatives and domestic help. I am kept in total darkness about my mother's pension, savings and jewellery, and treated as an outsider. All this disturbs my husband and daughter. In agony, I sent my daughter abroad to avoid such toxicities. Last time I went, my sister instigated the domestic help to speak derogatorily against me. The incident left me shattered. When I complained, she labelled me insane and manipulative. Since then, I have stopped communicating with them but am unsure whether to visit any further. Please help.

— Anonymous

I'm so sorry that you've been experiencing this. I'm sure these times have been tough for you, and I can only imagine the impact they have had on your emotional well-being. It is difficult to navigate complex family relationships, especially when it's your immediate family. But the first thing that takes precedence here is your well-being and doing things that can help you alleviate the stress. Building a sup-



port system is essential to processing these events, and that support could be from your husband, daughter, friends, or even a therapist. Engage in activities that can help you regain your sense of agency and reinforce your strengths and passions. Remember that your value is not defined by your family's perceptions or treatment of you. Having said that, boundary setting is important for self-preservation, and I'm sure it must have taken a lot of courage on your end to stop all communication. If you feel safe doing so, consider having an open and honest conversation with your sister and mother about how their actions have affected you. Sometimes, bringing issues into the open can pave the way for understanding and change. However, be prepared for the possibility that they may not respond positively. If you do decide to go and visit them, weigh the potential emotional impact against your need for connection. Keeping a record of incidents and communications can be helpful if you need to explain your situation to a third party or seek further assistance.

I'm 20 years old and live with my mother. She is too strict, and doesn't allow me to talk to boys from my college or go outside except for college or computer class. She drops me daily to class or college and also restricts me from wearing clothes of my choice. She checks my phone too. All these things affect my mental health badly. I am becoming irritable, lonely and helpless. I think too much and cry without reason. I can't focus on studies properly. Please help.

— Anonymous

It sounds like you are experiencing a great deal of emotional pain due to the restrictions placed on you by your mother: Feeling controlled and unable to express yourself can be incredibly difficult, especially during a time in your life when you are seeking more independence and personal growth. Allow yourself to feel any emotions that are coming up for you without any judgment, try and see if there are

any physical sensations that you also experience when actively thinking about this situation and consequently coming up with some soothing techniques that help with the distress. Try to have an open and honest conversation with your mother about how these restrictions are affecting your well-being. Use "I" statements to express your feelings without sounding accusatory. For example, "I feel very isolated and sad because I can't talk to my friends or go out. It's affecting my ability to focus on my studies." Try to find a middle ground that could help you feel more independent while still respecting your mother's concerns. For e.g. supervised outings with friends or limited phone privacy that gradually increases as trust is built. When it comes to your studies try setting small and achievable goals. This can help build your confidence and give you a sense of accomplishment. You can also consider seeking professional support from your campus counselor in college if there is one. Talking to a counselor on a regular basis could enable you to regulate your emotions and create a safe space for yourself. Remember, your feelings and needs are important. It's okay to seek help and advocate for yourself.

I'm a student, currently preparing for bank exams. My exams are about to start but I don't know how and when I became the patient of procrastination. I know my exams are about to come, yet I think all day that I've enough time and at night when I go to bed I realise I didn't give my best. Please help me.

— Anonymous

It's natural to feel the pressure that comes with these competitive exams. It's important to understand that procrastination is generally a response to stress or fear of failure. It's not about being lazy; it's a way your mind copes with anxiety and the perceived difficulty of tasks. Large tasks can seem daunting, leading to avoidance. Break your study sessions into smaller, manageable tasks. You can use the Pomodoro technique, wherein you aim for focused study periods of 25-30 minutes at a time with short breaks in between. Set achievable goals for each study session. This could be completing a certain number of practice questions or reviewing a specific topic. You could also add small rewards for yourself every time you're actually able to sit through four to five of these focused study periods. It's also important to identify and minimise distractions in your study environment.

Hiring of experts at FSL gets LG nod

New Delhi: LG VK Saxena has given his approval to hire 165 junior scientific assistants on a contract basis to strengthen Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL). These officials will be sent to crime scenes to gather crucial evidence and carry out forensic analysis. LG directed FSL to finalise recruitment rules for the various vacant posts at the earliest and maintain transparency in the hiring process.

He also asked the agency to purchase and install the necessary equipment required by scientific officers during investigations. Officials said the role of FSL under the new criminal laws has become crucial, with scientific probe and analysis of evidence becoming mandatory in all crimes under which the convicts can receive a punishment of seven years or more. TNN

Man from China arrested for illegal stay: A Chinese national has been arrested for illegally residing in India for four years after his visa expired. The arrest was made in Shakarpur. Police sources received information about the accused on July 9. TNN

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Group-C: Post Doctoral Fellowships in Paediatric CT Surgery-02, Paed. Cardiology (Interventional)-01, Paed. Cardiology (Clinical)-02, Paed. Cardiac Anaesthesia-02 at SPCHC, TTD. **Last Date : 26-07-2024.**

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BAJAJ	1.05 Lacs	FLOOR PLATE	7.00 Lacs
RENESOLA	2.09 Lacs	UNO MINDA	8.00 Lacs
JFE STILL	2.60 Lacs	IND. BLDG.	20.00 Lacs
COMPASS	3.25 Lacs		

Rajeev Saluja | 99100-72803
98104-92803

FARM HOUSE

78-2727-6161

BUY SELL Rent Dera Mandi Ansal Villa Asola Chtrpur DLF Bhati MTD Vjun Janapur Sainik Farm Sultanpur RMD etc.

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

RESALE - GK 300 SF/TF Saket 300yd FF N/E facing Sarvpriya 300y SF N/E Facing Sarvodaya Encl. 300yds SF Def. Col. 325 Bmt+GF+Stilt.

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

SARVAPRIYA VIHAR 240 Yds. Ready & U/Const. Bmt+GF/FF/SF/3rd+Terr each 3 BHK, SQ, Stilt Car Parking, Best Location

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
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KAILASH COLONY 4 BHK (311 Syds) First Floor, Newly Built, Lift, 2 Car Parking, SQ Also, Other Floor Available

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

CONTACT OWNER 9082254698

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

DEF COL 217, 325 & 400y crrn P/ facing TF+T. Vastu perfect. Stilt pkg, Sept. Lift. Top notch specs. Reputed Bldr. Many ready options.

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

CONTACT 7508624557

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

150 ACRES for Industrial project Punjab on N Highway, LUDHIANA 6000 s.yds. commercial Pakhowal Rd.

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

12 Bigha Agriculture Land avil, prft locatn for Farm house at Pinjore, Panchkula (HR) nr Chandigarh, in the Shivalki Foothills: 9872016377

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

GREEN PARK Main, C-Bik, Livable Bungalow 321 Yds, fully renovated, clean title, Good Location. Only genuine buyers 9313740765

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

NEETHI BAGH DDA SFS First Floor Extended Done-up Flat 3 Bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

BHIKAJI C A M A PLACE/BHAWAN PROPERTY for Sale/Area 572 Sq Ft Fully Furnished/Free-hold/ Vaastu Perfect/ Near Metro/ Pantry/ WRoom/ Parking/ facing Ring Road 9810025243/ 9810325243

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

VASANT KUNJ Best House of 4 BHK Ground Floor Corner Renovated @.60cr. & 2 BHK@2.40cr. Broker Excuse. 9310051666

AMBICA PROP (Regd)
98101-20612
98206-30362

RENTAL PROPERTY FOR SALE - DELHI NCR

Tenant	Rent	Price
Full Building (Gurgaon)	5500000/-	85.0 Cr
Full Building (S. Delhi)	1600000/-	32.0 Cr
Full Building (Noida)	1100000/-	24.0 Cr
Bikanervala (Delhi)	800000/-	20.0 Cr
Max Fashions	1080000/-	16.4 Cr
Haldiram	825000/-	12.4 Cr
Jumpy Jumpy	530000/-	12.3 Cr
ICICI Bank	416000/-	11.1 Cr
Max Fashions	460000/-	10.0 Cr
McDonald's	625000/-	9.4 Cr
Mamagata	450000/-	9.0 Cr
Reliance Smart	530000/-	8.0 Cr
Monte Carlo	530000/-	8.0 Cr
Jockey	530000/-	8.0 Cr
California Burrititos	495000/-	7.4 Cr
Brand Unlimited	350000/-	7.0 Cr
South Indian Brand	265000/-	6.4 Cr
BIBA Store	370000/-	5.5 Cr
Hush Puppies	340000/-	5.2 Cr
Dominio's	205000/-	4.5 Cr
Choi's Kitchen	216500/-	4.3 Cr
Jumpy Jumpy	177000/-	4.1 Cr
Reliance Trends	265000/-	4.0 Cr
Dominio's	200000/-	3.1 Cr
Looks Salon	200000/-	3.0 Cr
Regus	110000/-	2.3 Cr
MNC	55000/-	1.0 Cr

RITY PROP MART | 9818780022
9810407739

SOUTH DELHI

CONTACT
85272-72111

COMMERCIAL SDA CB Hauz Khas G blk Market Total 3800 Sq. Ft. 1st & 2nd floors with lift avil for rent. # 8527272111

CONTACT
9871098146

GURGAON OFFICE Warehouse/ Factory for Lease in IDC Tower Gurgaon, Prime Loc. close to NH8, near IFCCO Chowk in HSIIDC Sect-16. New Construction with Lift, Fire NOC, Building Completion, Huge Prkg 4 Flrs each of 3200 Sq.Ft. Crvd area (Total 14000 Sq.Ft)

CONTACT OWNER
9971852053

RESIDENTIAL BUILDER floor for rent New Friends Colony 500 sq yds 4 beds Stilt New Excellent loc. Owner 9971852053

CONTACT OWNER
9082254698

DDA CORNER Duplex Flat. Ground & 1st floor / society front side, top floor. Gated society. Broker excuses. Call on 986817693

CONTACT OWNER
9082254698

2BHK DDA flat for sales in Mayur Vihar Phase 3, Road side / society front side, top floor. Gated society. Broker excuses. Call on 986817693

CONTACT
7508624557

THREE SIDE Open Shop cum Residential plot measuring 150 sq. yds. in a Local Shopping Complex in South Delhi. For Sale, Contact: 8700845655

CONTACT
7508624557

150 ACRES for Industrial project Punjab on N Highway, LUDHIANA 6000 s.yds. commercial Pakhowal Rd.

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VASANT KUNJ Best House of 4 BHK Ground Floor Corner Renovated @.60cr. & 2 BHK@2.40cr. Broker Excuse. 9310051666

CONTACT
7508624557

TOILET UDYOG VIHAR - 5 Independent Building, Main Road 275 m² Plot Granite Flooring, Built Up 7000 ft² Approx. Rent 2.75 L (Owner) Mobile: 9873304949

CONTACT
7508624557

TOILET UDYOG VIHAR - 5 Independent Building, Main Road 275 m² Plot Granite Flooring, Built Up 7000 ft² Approx. Rent 2.75 L (Owner) Mobile: 9873304949

CONTACT
7508624557

jobs

G D GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL

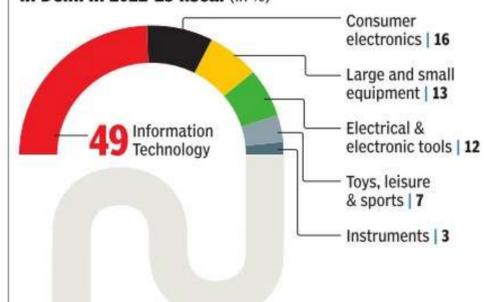
How City Plans To Formally Tackle Menace Of E-Waste

First E-Waste Eco Park Planned In Narela, Permission Awaited

5K INFORMAL UNITS AT WORK
E-waste generated in Delhi in 2023 **2,30,000MT**
Delhi is fifth largest e-waste generator in the country
95% of e-waste is recycled by informal sector



Category-wise e-waste generated in Delhi in 2022-23 fiscal (in %)



How e-waste eco park will help

- Proper infrastructure to manage e-waste
- Promotion of environmentally sound practice in e-waste management
- Promotion of circular economy
- Integration of informal sector

Priyangi Agarwal @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi contributes 9.5% to India's e-waste, or around 2.3 lakh tonnes. Given that 95% of the e-waste in the city is handled in the informal sector, with repercussions for health and the environment, the country's first official e-waste eco park has been proposed at Holambi Kalan in Narela. A detailed project report with two possible models has been submitted to govt for approval.

In the first integrated model, all activities like collection, processing and refurbishing will be conducted in one place. In the second, the smelting of e-waste is done outside Delhi since the process falls under the 'red' category industry, which is not allowed in the city under the Master Plan for Delhi.

"The detailed project report is pending approval," said a govt official. Once a model is adopted and the scheme

approved, work to set up the e-waste eco park will start, with the completion likely to be around 18 months after the award of a contract.

This focus of the eco park will be to manage e-waste in Delhi by ensuring that all electronic and electrical waste equipment was collected, stored, dismantled and recycled in a scientific and environmentally safe manner. "At the moment, there is a stronghold of the informal sector in this activity. So, the plan is to

TIMES Special

engage them," said an environmental department official. "It has been proposed that the selected operators in the informal sector be provided infrastructure, training and tools and they should be groomed to become formal recyclers and to reduce the adverse impact on the environment and health due to the polluting technologies

used in the unorganised sector for recycling e-waste."

A study by Toxics Link in 2018, which studies environmental poisoning, estimated that 5,000 units were functioning in the city with over 50,000 workers involved in collection, international and regional trading, dismantling, segregation of components, repairing, refurbishing and metal recovery of e-waste.

"Most of the practices of dismantling are rudimentary and manual. Generally, these processes show low recovery efficiency and do not abate environmental emissions," the study said. "Furthermore, when it comes to recycling of precious metals, the efficiency of recycling and extraction of metals in the informal sector lags completely. Recycling efficiency of gold, silver, platinum, palladium and lead in the informal sector is 20%-30%. Also, none of these units have health and environment protection measures."

The e-waste categories to be handled in the proposed site at Holambi Kalan, spread over 10.5 acres, are IT and telecom equipment, consumer electrical and electronics, large and small electrical and electronic equipment, electrical and electronic tools, toys and sports equipment, medical devices and laboratory equipment.

The collection channels include the informal sector, large aggregators, bulk consumers like the central and state govt departments, and original producers like industrial companies.

According to the proposal, there will be end-to-end processing of e-waste and zero landfill use will be ensured. The collected e-waste will be segregated and recycled. Rare earth metals and precious metals like copper, silver, gold, aluminium and reusable plastic extracted in the park will be transferred to the mainstream production line.

Skeleton found in canal, cops plan DNA test

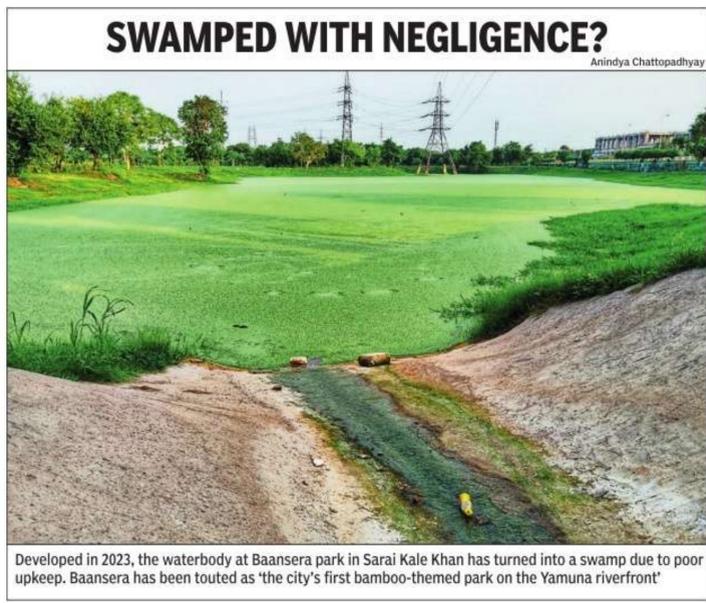
New Delhi: Delhi Police has recovered a damaged car with a human skeleton in it after water decreased from the Munak Canal on Friday, officials said on Saturday.

The matter came to the fore when a sub-branch of Munak Canal, which supplies water from Haryana to Delhi, breached, and the water level decreased, they said.

The car was recovered on a stretch of the canal falling under the jurisdiction of Samai Pur Badali, a police officer said.

The skeleton is suspected to be belonging to a taxi driver identified as Vinod, who was missing from Budh Vihar in Vijay Vihar since Sept 2020.

Police said they had preserved a sample from the body for the DNA test. **PTI**



Developed in 2023, the waterbody at Baansera park in Sarai Kale Khan has turned into a swamp due to poor upkeep. Baansera has been touted as 'the city's first bamboo-themed park on the Yamuna riverfront'

Badminton, cricket and more: Sports activities resume at Roshanara Club

Vibha.Sharma@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has restarted various sports activities at Roshanara Club in north Delhi, allowing the general public to participate on a pay-and-play basis. The authority has deployed its staff to oversee and manage the facilities, according to officials.

The sports complex offers a wide range of activities, including tennis, basketball, table tennis, cricket, swimming, badminton, squash, futsal and yoga. "These games can be accessed from 6 am to 9pm, except on Monday. While certain activities such as cricket and mini football are more in demand during weekends, recently introduced activities like yoga are also in demand despite the limited sessions called in the morning between 7am and 8:30am. In May, we added the swimming pool facility and charged only Rs 100 per dip," said a DDA official.

DDA intends to introduce additional disciplines and coaching sessions in the near future. In the previous month, the authority invited online tenders for the maintenance of its club, which included provisions for game attendants and supervisors. "Only those agencies having successfully completed similar works during the last seven years in any govt department

or public sector undertaking were asked to apply so that the quality of services is not compromised," said the official.

However, due to an ongoing dispute over the club's operation, which is currently being heard in Delhi High Court, no provision for permanent membership has been initiated yet.

The club, which has been embroiled in a legal dispute,

was sealed last year. DDA claimed that the club's management continued to operate the premises despite the expiration of the lease period. However, the former club management maintained that the sealing was carried out despite a stay order from the court. The developments had affected sports activities at the club.

Founded in 1922, Roshanara Club is situated in the heart of north Delhi and is regarded as one of the oldest clubs in India. The club, which spans 22 acres, has served as a lush retreat for its members for over 90 years. It is also considered the birthplace of Board of Control for Cricket in India. Sir Sobha Singh (1890-1978), a civil contractor and prominent builder of Lutyens' Delhi, was among its founding members. He was the father of renowned Indian writer Khushwant Singh. Another founding member was Rai Bahadur Amba Prasad, an eminent businessman born around 1860.



Roshanara Club is regarded as one of the oldest clubs in India

Man loses ₹14L to cyberscam, gets it back

Advitya.Bahl@timesofindia.com

Noida: A 31-year-old man lost Rs 14 lakh to cyber fraudsters who lured him to invest in share trading. Police, however, managed to recover the entire money by tracing the bank accounts where the amount had been transferred and freezing them promptly.

In March this year, Ankit Kumar of Rabupura received a WhatsApp message from an unknown number that offered him tips on share trading. The message also invited him to join a WhatsApp group by

clicking on a link. Once he joined, Kumar found around 150 participants in the group, whose administrator promoted a mobile application that promised lucrative returns from investments in shares.

For almost a month, Kumar observed other participants talk highly of the mobile app — how it had helped them garner profits. He then decided to download it, hoping to make money from investments in share trading.

The app, he alleged, instructed him to transfer money to a specific bank account.

Through April, Kumar transferred the money in three installments — Rs 5 lakh twice and then Rs 4 lakh — totalling Rs 14 lakh. At one point, the app showed he had made some Rs 50 lakh. But when he tried to withdraw the money, the app asked him to invest Rs 10 lakh again.

"This made me suspicious. I searched the internet, and found that many people had reported the investment scheme that the app promised," said Kumar, who runs a business in Greater Noida.

Kumar was prompt enough to file a complaint with

the home ministry's portal. He then approached cops at Rabupura police station on May 16. The case was transferred to the cyber cell.

Ashok Kumar, additional DCP, said an FIR was registered under relevant provisions of the IT Act and police teams were deployed to carry out an investigation.

Police secured a court order to freeze the accounts with immediate effect. "We also secured the order to get the money back. On Friday, the full amount of Rs 14 lakh was returned to the complainant," the ADCP said.

22-yr-old held for attempt to extort ₹1cr from jeweller

New Delhi: A 22-year-old man has been arrested from north Delhi's Chandni Chowk for allegedly trying to extort Rs 1 crore from a jeweller, claiming to represent well-known gangsters. Suspect Vineet Pandey, who earlier resided in the area, confessed that he was desperate for money and had procured the jeweller's phone numbers for extortion, police said.

In his complaint on July 10, a Karol Bagh-based jeweller claimed that his son had received threatening phone calls from two SIM cards and the caller had demanded Rs 1 crore, a senior police officer said.

"The caller had threatened to kill him and his family if the extortion demand was not fulfilled," the officer said, adding that the display pictures on both SIM cards showed jailed gangsters.

"We learned that at the time of making threats, the locations of both mobile phones were in Punjab, and we traced the caller," the officer said, that Pandey, working as an agricultural labourer near Ludhiana, was nabbed. **TNN**

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
CORRIGENDUM
No. - 75243753 Dated: - 10/07/2024.
Sub.: Change of Tender's closing date.
Ref.: - COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/
19/0162 dated 06/07/2024. Tender No-
75243753 for procurement of "Distance
Bolt for WAG-9HC" scheduled to be
opened on 25/07/2024 instead of
18/07/2024.
PR3-523 SMM/M/CLW/Chittaranjan
Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
CORRIGENDUM
No. PCMM/CLW/HW/E-Procurement/
CORRIGENDUM/2417 Dated: 10/07/2024.
The following Corrigendum of E-Tender's is for
supply of materials for manufacture of
Electric Locomotive. The Prospective likely
suppliers are requested to look up the website
www.reps.gov.in for detailed instructions.
These are E-Tenders; manual offers bid for
these tenders will not be accepted under any
circumstances, only electronic offer bids
shall be accepted. Sl.No. [01], Tender Notice
no. Sl. No.199 of PCMM/CLW/HW/E-
Procurement/24/37 Dated: 19/06/24. Tender
No.: 31242688. Tender Opening Date: Tender
Opening Date is to be read as "17/07/2024"
instead of existing entry.
PR2/522 PCMM/CLW/Howrah
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COEP TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
Shivajinagar, Pune-411005
(A Unitary Technological Public University of Govt. of Maharashtra)
Tel: 020-2550 7000/09 | website: www.coep.org.in

Admission for PhD programmes 2024-25 (Summer)
COEP Technological University invites online applications for admission to the PhD programmes from motivated aspirants to pursue their research at COEP Tech. The University fellowships are available under various research projects for full time research scholars.

For further detail information regarding the rules, regulations, syllabus of the entrance test, criteria for exemptions in the entrance test, schedules, timeline, payment gateway and online application format please visit the University's website. The last date of applications is 30th July 2024.
<https://www.coep.org.in/admissions> For any query please write to us on phdadmission@coeptech.ac.in
Date: 14th July 2024 Registrar

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एम्स), कल्याणी
ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), KALYANI
(स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के तत्वावधान में एक संघीय चिकित्सा निकाय)
(A Statutory Body under the Aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI)
राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-34, बरनपुर, समुदाय, कल्याणी, झिजा-मिर्जा, पश्चिम बंगाल-741244
NH-34 Connector, Basantapur, Saguna, Kalyani, District Nadia, West Bengal-741244
No. 678/E-12011/12/24-(FAC) Date: 10.07.2024

VACANCY NOTICE FOR FACULTY POSTS IN AIIMS, KALYANI

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Kalyani, an Institute of National Importance, invites applications from Indian citizens/persons registered as Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholder under Section 7A of the Citizenship Act, 1955 as permissible under the applicable Act/Rules for various faculty posts on DIRECT RECRUITMENT/DEPUTATION/CONTRACT BASIS AND RETIRED FACULTY ON CONTRACT BASIS under SRESTA scheme.

Vacancy details, general terms & conditions and prescribed recruitment rules etc. for the aforementioned posts will be available at <https://www.aiimskalyani.edu.in> and <https://recruitments.aiimskalyani.edu.in>.

The last date of online submission of applications will be 30 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the Employment News and hardcopy of online application should reach Recruitment Cell, AIIMS, Kalyani within 15 days from the last date of receipt of online application. Sd/-
Executive Director
AIIMS Kalyani

G20 कार्यालय छावनी परिषद्, चकराता
जिला देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड फोन : 01360-272220
फैक्स : 01360-272502 ई-मेल : ceochak-stats@nic.in

फाइल संख्या - 12/3/PW/ARCH/2023 दिनांक : 12.07.2024

छावनी परिषद् चकराता देहरादून-248123, दूरभाष क्रमांक - 01360-272220 छावनी परिषद् चकराता द्वारा GEM (भारत सरकार ई-बाजार) पोर्टल पर ऑनलाइन निविदा "छावनी परिषद् चकराता में छावनी निधि भवन (Cantt Fund Building) के लिए विस्तृत परियोजना रिपोर्ट (डीपीआर) तैयार किए जाने, डिजाइन और इंजीनियरिंग सेवा प्रदान किए जाने के परामर्शदाता की नियुक्ति हेतु, वास्तुकार सह इंजीनियरिंग परामर्श कार्य फर्मा" GEM (भारत सरकार ई-बाजार निविदा क्रमांक GEM/2024/B/5155556) BID No. GEM/2024/B/5155556) पर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

अधिक जानकारी और ऑनलाइन निविदा, विवरण और शुद्धिपत्र जमा करने के लिए कृपया <https://gem.gov.in> पर जाएं। निविदा जमा करना, शुद्धिपत्र और अनुबंध देने जैसी सभी गतिविधियां जेम पोर्टल यानि <https://gem.gov.in> के माध्यम से की जाएंगी।

मुख्य अधिशासी अधिकारी, चकराता छावनी

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सीएसआईआर-केंद्रीय विद्युतरसायन अनुसंधान संस्थान
CSIR-CENTRAL ELECTROCHEMICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (CECRI),
करिकुली, KARAIKUDI - 630 003, TAMIL NADU

B.Tech (Chemical & Electrochemical Engineering)
[Approved By AICTE and Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai]- NBA Accredited
ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR OTHER STATE QUOTA 2024 - 25

Online Applications are invited from the eligible Other State candidates for admission to the first year B.Tech programme at CSIR-CECRI for the academic year 2024 - 2025 based on valid JEE (Main) 2024 All India Rank.

Commencement of Online submission of Application	16-07-2024 (Tue)
Last date for Online submission of Application	06-08-2024 (Tue)
Online Counselling date	21-08-2024 (Wed)

For details please visit www.cecri.res.in

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR COOPERATIVE TRAINING (NCCT)
(An Autonomous Society under Ministry of Cooperation, Govt. of India)
3, Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg,
Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016

National Council for Training invites application for filling up of one post of Director, Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of Cooperative Management at Pune, a training unit of NCCT, on contract basis, initially for a period of 3 years in Pay Scale of Level-14 (Rs.144200-218200) as per 7th CPC (Pre-revised PB-4 of Rs.37400-67000 with Grade Pay of Rs.10000) with usual allowances, as admissible to Central Government employees. For details of the vacancy and application format, please visit NCCT website: www.ncct.ac.in. The last date of submission of application is 12th August 2024.
Deputy Director (Pers.) NCCT

MASTER OF APPLIED EPIDEMIOLOGY (MAE)
[INDIA EPIDEMIC INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (EIS) PROGRAMME]

National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi
and
H.N.B. Medical Education University, Uttarakhand
In Collaboration with
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta

INVITING APPLICATIONS

The India EIS programme is a competency-based two-year field epidemiology training. The programme is modeled after the EIS programme of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The EIS Programme leads to a Master's in Applied Epidemiology (MAE) degree from H.N.B. Medical Education University, Uttarakhand.

Eligibility Criteria

- MD (Public Health/Preventive and Social Medicine/Community Medicine) OR MD/MS (Clinical or Para-Clinical) OR MBBS with Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical, Para-clinical, or Public Health from any recognized institution with 3 years of public health experience/working in National or State Health Programs OR BDS/BVSc with Master in Public Health (MPH) from any recognized institution with 3 years of public health experience/working in National or State Health Programs OR MBBS from any recognized institution with minimum 5 (five) years work experience in public health experience/working in National or State Health Programs.
- Age: Not exceeding 45 years as of the last date of application

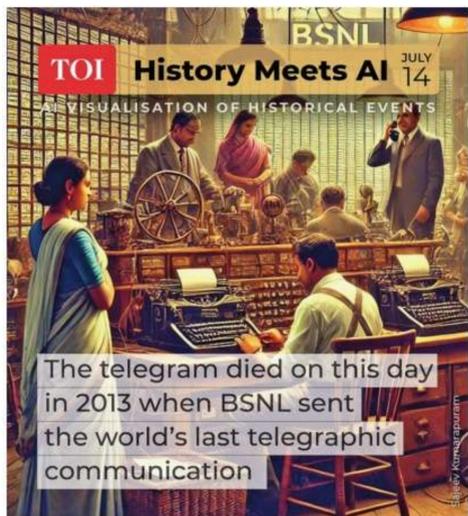
State-sponsored candidates
Government sponsored candidates should be regular employee working in central or state government/autonomous bodies/medical colleges/PSUs and nominated by the state/organization.

Self-sponsored candidates
Self-sponsored candidates do not require nominations. They can apply directly if fulfilling the eligibility criteria.

For more information and prescribed application form, please visit <http://www.ncdc.gov.in>
Last Date for receiving applications - 15th August 2024.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL
(DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES)
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, GOVT. OF INDIA
22-Sham Nath Marg, Delhi- 110054. Tel: 011-23990213

cbc17129/11/0001/2425



TOI History Meets AI JULY 14
VISUALISATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS

The telegram died on this day in 2013 when BSNL sent the world's last telegraphic communication

Girl, 4, raped near shaadi venue, dies

A 4-year-old girl attending a wedding with her mother in UP's Farrukhabad was raped by an unknown person on Friday. The incident took place near the wedding venue, where the girl was found unconscious, bleeding, and with scratches on her body. Due to the severity of injuries, the minor was referred to RML Hospital, where she was pronounced dead. Three teams have been deployed to nab the accused, a policeman said. **TNN**

Conman held for ₹170cr ponzi scam

A 44-year-old Mumbai resident was arrested for cheating 500 investors of Rs 170 crore in a Ponzi scheme, reports **Mateen Hafeez**. The man claimed he was a SEBI-registered agent and had assured people of investing their money in share market, a police officer said. The investors filed a criminal offence after the man stopped paying them the profit that he had promised. He later fled without even repaying the principal amount to them.

Groom's 2 kin shot dead over dance tiff

A groom's cousin and his brother-in-law were shot dead by some members of the wedding party from Bihar's Jamui after a fight during a dance turned violent in Patna's Danapur Saturday around 1.30am. "Vicky Yadav, Shubham, and Rishabh had an argument over something. They left the function only to return and open fire," said Vijay Shekhar, a relative of the groom Amit Singh. Amit's cousin Golden Singh sustained bullet wounds to the head, while Amit's brother-in-law Sarvendra Kumar Singh received two bullets in the chest. Both men were declared dead at a local hospital. **TNN**

STATISTICS

Animals killed per second (worldwide 2022)

Chicken	2,384
Ducks	97
Pigs	47
Sheep	18
Cattle	12

Source: faunalytics.org

CBDT Data Shows Faster Rise In Personal Income Tax Boosting Mop-Up

Direct tax collection till July 11 surges 23% to ₹6.5 lakh crore

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Direct tax collections have increased over 23% to Rs 6,45,239 crore during this financial year up to July 11, driven by a faster rise in personal income tax, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said on Saturday.

Net collections were 19.5% higher at over Rs 5.7 lakh crore as refunds soared almost 65% to Rs 70,902 crore during the period. On a gross basis, corporate tax collections were 20.4% higher at Rs 2,65,336 crore, while personal income, including securities transaction tax, rose 25.3% to a little under Rs 3.8 lakh crore. "Corporate profits contin-



ROBUST GROWTH

ue to surge significantly, and these are clearly reflected in the first quarter advance tax collections. A booming stock market has also contributed to higher STT [securities trans-

NET UP 19.5%

- Net direct tax collection of ₹5.74L cr includes personal income tax of ₹3.5L cr and corporate tax of ₹2.1L cr
- During the same period last year, net direct tax collection was ₹4.8L cr
- Refunds of ₹70K cr issued till July 11, 64.4% higher than same period last year
- For full fiscal, direct tax collection pegged at ₹21.9L cr

action tax] collections. Strong collections being the backdrop of the upcoming budget indicate the possibility of the govt reigning in the fiscal deficit," said Rohinton Sidhwa, partner at Deloitte India.

So far this year, tax collections have remained on track, on both direct and indirect tax fronts, with a bumper dividend from Reserve Bank of India bolstering govt's receipts. Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman is expected to stick to her projections on the tax front given that the Indian economy is widely projected to grow over 7% during the current financial year.

A higher than budgeted collections will come handy for the Centre which is under pressure to increase spending in crucial areas such as agriculture, health and education as well as maintain the capex for infrastructure sectors.

Sat images signal architectural wealth under Bodh Gaya shrine

Patna: A geospatial analysis utilising satellite images and ground surveys has found evidence of the presence of "huge architectural wealth" buried in the Mahabodhi temple complex and its surroundings in Bihar's Bodh Gaya, officials said on Saturday.

The study has been carried out by Bihar Heritage Development Society, a wing of Art, Culture and Youth Department, in collaboration with Cardiff University in UK.

The Mahabodhi temple complex, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is one of the four holy areas related to the life of Lord Gautam Buddha. Bodh Gaya is a place where Lord Buddha is believed to have attained enlightenment.

"The study has unearthed evidence of the presence of archaeological treasure beneath the soil of the UNESCO World Heritage site and its surrounding areas...It's a huge architectural wealth that needs further excavation," the Art, Culture and Youth department's additional chief secretary Harjot Kaur Bamrah told a news agency.

The UK-based varsity and BHDS are cooperating in the project, "Archaeology on the footsteps of the Chinese traveller Xuanzang".



Mahabodhi temple in Bodh Gaya. The study aims to correlate the findings with the description of Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang, also known as Xuanzang

the temple, buried underground," said Bamrah.

Significantly, the images show the shift of the river Niranjana from east to west.

"Let us remember that the Mahabodhi temple is west of the river, and the Sujata Stupa and several other archaeological remains are located east of the river. The monuments and other archaeological remains in the east of the river are now regarded to be independent of the Mahabodhi temple. But the latest findings which both the temple and the Sujata stupa along with other archaeological remains stood on the same river bank in the past," she said.

Bamrah said this is really "very significant". "Thus, there is a strong possibility that the monuments and other archaeological remains, now east of the river, were a part of the Mahabodhi complex," the official said.

BHDS plans to start "research to delimit the boundaries of the Mahabodhi complex in the light of these findings", Bamrah said. "Fresh ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey, followed by excavations, will be undertaken to unravel the buried archaeological features shown by satellite images," she added.

Another BRS MLA joins Cong in T'gana, 9th to leave KCR camp

Roushan.Ali@timesofindia.com

Hyderabad: In a major boost to Congress's political and electoral prospects in Greater Hyderabad, BRS MLA from Serilingampally, **Arekapudi Gandhi**, joined the grand old party along with four corporators Saturday.

He was welcomed into the party by CM A Revanth Reddy. Gandhi is the ninth MLA to leave BRS and third from Greater Hyderabad to join Congress.

Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender was the first BRS MLA from the city to join Congress, followed by Rajendranagar legislator T Prakash Goud.

Both Goud and Gandhi were with TDP before switching to BRS. The buzz in Congress circles is that Revanth Reddy, who was earlier with TDP, is using his old contacts to rope in BRS MLAs who crossed over from TDP into Congress.

Gandhi said he joined Congress for development of his constituency as the CM had assured him of support. "Former CM KCR treated me with respect and I don't have any complaints against him," he added.

Centre grants J&K LG more powers

Given More Say In Matters Of Police, Postings

Bharti.Jain@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Ahead of assembly elections in J&K, the Centre has defined more unambiguously the powers of LG of J&K with regard to matters like police, postings and transfers of officers of all-India services including the IAS and IPS, Anti-Corruption Bureau and grant or denial of prosecution sanction.

A notification issued Friday to amend the Transaction of Business of Govt of UT of J&K Rules, 2019, states that no proposal which requires previous concurrence of finance dept with regard to 'police', 'public order', 'All India Service' and 'Anti-Corruption Bureau' to exercise the discretion of LG under J&K Reorganisation Act, 2019, shall be concurred or rejected unless it has been placed before LG through the chief secretary. This sub-rule gets added to Section 5(2) of 2019 Transaction of Business Rules, which simply stated that no proposal with which finance dept has not concurred, may be proceeded with, unless a decision to that effect has been taken by the council of ministers and approved by the LG.

Sources said with a state govt and legislative assembly set to be installed after assembly polls, the sub-rule was added to rule out any ambiguity with respect to Section 32 of the Act that allows

Cong slams move with 'Samvidhaan hatya diwas' jibe

Congress termed Modi govt's decision to vest more powers in LG of J&K as "Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas" as it accused governing BJP of continuing with the betrayal of the state-turned-UT, where the SC has mandated that assembly polls be held by Sept 30. AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge said the changes made imply two meanings — either Modi govt wants to delay restoration of statehood to J&K or "even if statehood is restored, it wants to keep the newly elected state govt at the mercy of the LG, by clamping down its executive power". **TNN**

the J&K legislative assembly to make laws with respect to any of the matters in the State list except 'police' and 'public order' or the concurrent list. Also Section 53 of the Act empowers LG to exercise his functions in his discretion in matters falling outside the purview of powers conferred on the legislative assembly, related to the all-India Services and ACB, etc.

"In view of the aforementioned provisions, powers of legislative assembly and functions of LG have been clearly defined and delineated in the Act and same is now reflected in Transaction of Business rules...the notification is to provide better clarity on the processes so as to enable smooth administration of UT of J&K," a home ministry official told **TOI** Saturday.

out the timeline for restoration of full, undiluted statehood for J&K is a prerequisite for these elections...," he said.

Former CM and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said Centre wants to further disempower people of J&K by way of this new order. "Govt wants to convert J-K's assembly, which was once very powerful, into a municipality so that any govt in J-K tomorrow doesn't have any power to even transfer its own employee or take action against anyone," Mufti said on X. **PH**

Attempt to 'disempower' people of J&K: PDP, NC

Srinagar: Political parties in J&K Saturday voiced their strong opposition to Centre's move to vest more powers to the LG for taking decisions on matters related to police and all-India service officers.

National Conference and PDP said the decision would "disempower" people of J&K.

NC vice-pres Omar Abdullah said the people of J&K deserve better than a "powerless, rubber stamp" CM, who will have to beg the LG to get a peon appointed. "This is why a firm commitment laying

the timeline for restoration of full, undiluted statehood for J&K is a prerequisite for these elections...," he said.

Former CM and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti said Centre wants to further disempower people of J&K by way of this new order. "Govt wants to convert J-K's assembly, which was once very powerful, into a municipality so that any govt in J-K tomorrow doesn't have any power to even transfer its own employee or take action against anyone," Mufti said on X. **PH**

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Oli's party pledges 'neutral' foreign policy

'Won't Allow Anyone To Use Nepal's Territory To Target Any 3rd Country'

Sachin.Parashar@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Nepal under veteran communist leader K P Sharma Oli will follow a "neutral" foreign policy focused on securing national interests and territorial integrity, while not allowing anyone to use its territory to target any third country, according to Oli's party CPN (UML). However, Oli will likely press India to address outstanding issues like the border dispute and trade imbalance, a top party functionary told TOI.

While the latest round of what has come to be known as Nepal's own Game of Thrones has again thrown up Oli as the head of govt, India may not necessarily be disquieted by the return of the "pro-China" functionary.

For one, Oli will form a govt with support from India-leaning Nepali Congress (NC), the largest party in House of Representatives with 89 seats. NC and Oli's party, which has 78 seats, struck a power-sharing agreement that will see the three-time PM assuming office again for 21 months, followed by Congress' Sher Bahadur Deuba for the remaining period.

Oli's previous term is remembered for the political row with India over Nepal's new map that claims territory in Uttarakhand. However, while India's ties with NC help hedge against unexpected developments in a political environment fraught with rent-seeking and individual interests, Oli himself worked as PM to ramp up economic ties with India, by



PM Oli will focus on securing Nepal's interests and territorial integrity, according to his party CPN (UML)

launching largest hydropower project in the country with Indian PM Modi. Modi, too, visited Nepal twice with Oli as his counterpart. Not having good relations with India is not an option for Nepal, CPN (UML) head of foreign policy dept Rajan Bhattarai told TOI. "We have multi-dimensional ties with India that has an important role to play in realising (Oli's) 'Prosperous Nepal, Happy Nepali' goal," he said, while ruling out any dramatic shift in Nepal's approach to India or China.

According to Bhattarai, however, pending issues related to border, trade deficit, water and transit must be addressed. Nepal's position on dispute over Kalapani area, which is of strategic significance because of its location at India-China-Nepal tri-junction, will remain the same as he said that while Nepal is ready to listen to Indian side and have "open-minded" talks, it's important to heed "historical facts". Bhattarai reiterated Nepal's position that as per the 1816 Treaty of Sugauli, all territories east of the Kali river, including Limpiyadhura, Kalapani and Lipulekh, belong to Nepal.

On the row over Nepal's decision to issue a new map showing disputed areas in Nepal, the official said that Oli govt's action was in response to India's new map, issued after reorganisation of J&K, that included Nepal's territory.

Kamala didn't speak to Rahul: US veep's office

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A day after a news agency reported that US vice-president Kamala Harris had spoken to Rahul Gandhi, the US politician's office reportedly denied any such communication.

The news about the telephonic conversation was filed by PTI on Friday, which set the political social media abuzz. The report was also published by all major news outlets. But on Saturday, the agency correspondent in the US tweeted that the office of Harris had dubbed the news as incorrect and asserted that the vice-president did not speak to Rahul Gandhi.



Win on weaker turfs in bypolls gives Congress reason to smile

Subodh.Ghildiyal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: After defying doomsday predictions in LS polls, Congress Saturday notched major victories in the assembly bypolls in hill states of Himachal and Uttarakhand which reinforced its rising graph after a decade of slide.

In the 2024 contest, BJP made a clean sweep of the nine seats in the two states in a direct fight with Congress. But within a month, Congress came back to win Badrinath (Lakshpat Singh Butola) and Manglaur (Qazi Nizamuddin) in Uttarakhand, and cornered two of the three seats in Himachal. The significance of the victories is attested to by the fact that Congress suffered a big defeat in the 2022 Uttarakhand polls despite a groundswell in its favour, allowing BJP to buck the state's "revolving door politics". Since then, Congress failed to win anything there. Crucially, Badrinath poll was necessitated by the defection of Congress MLA Rajendra Bhandari to BJP during the LS polls.

The HP wins are even sweeter for the Sukhvinder Sukhu-led Congress, which survived a major jolt after six MLAs cross-voted to defeat the party's RS candidate Abhishek Singhvi in Feb, raising questions about the survival of the state govt. Congress managed to win four of the six assembly bypolls held along with LS polls. The three bypolls on Saturday resulted from the decision of independents to join BJP. The resilience shown by Congress in Himachal is sure to hurt BJP which sensed that bypoll victories could pave the way for another attempt at the Sukhu govt.

Govt targeting my phone with spyware: Cong neta

Congress general secretary KC Venugopal Saturday accused the Modi govt of targeting his phone with "malicious spyware", as he shared a screenshot of a message reportedly sent by Apple warning him of mercenary spyware attack.



"Thank you PM Modi for sending your favourite malicious spyware on my phone also. Apple has been kind enough to intimate me about this special present of yours. Let's be clear, Modi govt is acting in a criminal and unconstitutional manner, going after political opponents and invading their privacy in this manner," he said.

In all, Congress is enthused by the fact that it has won on weaker turfs, coupled with the realisation that voters finally appear to be reacting to day-to-day realities instead of being taken in by the rhetoric and personality politics of BJP under Modi. Congress has also won a major bragging point with the victory in the temple town of Badrinath, after SP's win in Ayodhya (Faizabad) in the LS contest. Observers said voters are chafing at the massive redevelopment project undertaken in Badrinath, which has left locals worried about their livelihoods because of demolition and displacement. Bhandari's "anti-Brahmin rant" is also said to have alienated BJP's core voters.

Trainee SI held over Raj paper leak, 2 flee

Another probationer SI undergoing training at Rajasthan Police Academy was arrested by state police's Special Operations Group for allegedly clearing recruitment exam through unfair means. When an SOG team visited RPA to question three SI probationers - Govind Kumar, Shankar Lal and Dinesh Kumar - a few days ago, Govind and Shankar had fled.

Dinesh, who had secured 119th rank in RPSC SI exam held in 2021, was arrested on Friday, the agency said.

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL, AUTONOMOUS STATE MEDICAL COLLEGE, MANJHANPUR, KAUSHAMBI-212207

Letter No. ASMC/KAUSHAMBI/A 2024-25/491 Date 13.7.2024

ADVERTISEMENT

Applications were invited on the prescribed form vide letter no. ASMC/Kaushambi/2024-25/358 dated: 17.06.2024 for appointment to the vacant posts of Professor, Associate Professor, and Assistant Professor in various departments in the Autonomous State Medical College, Manjhanpur Kaushambi. The last date is extended upto 20.07.2024 till 05:00 PM. Details of the advertisement regarding post are available on the website of Autonomous State Medical College, Kaushambi WWW.ASMCKAUSHAMBLIN and DGME website WWW.DGME.UP.GOV.IN.

Principal, Autonomous State Medical College, Kaushambi

BRIDCUL (ब्रिडकुल) - Construction of 50 Bedded Critical Care Block at Govt. Medical College Distt. Pithoragarh (Civil Work)

On behalf of Hon'ble, Governor of Uttarakhand, E-Tenders are invited by Managing Director BRIDCUL, from the Contractors registered with any Govt./Semi Govt./PSU/Nigam in suitable Class & Category for the works given as below:-

S. No.	Ref No.	Name of Project	Estimated cost (In Lac Including GST)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.)	Time Period
1	BRIDCUL/HQ Pith/27/2024-25	Construction of 50 Bedded Critical Care Block at Govt. Medical College Distt. Pithoragarh (Civil Work)	1300.45	26.00	5000+ 18% GST	18 Month

For above tenders, document download start date is 15.07.2024 and Bid submission end date is 29.07.2024 at 1500 Hrs. The details of e-tender of above work can be obtained directly from website <https://uktenders.gov.in>

Changes, if any will be intimated only through website <https://uktenders.gov.in>

Audio clip of Gehlot's 'phone tap' talks with ex-aide surfaces

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jaipur: An audio clip of a conversation purportedly between former Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot and his ex-OSD Lokesh Sharma resurfaced on Saturday, stoking the 2020 phone-tapping controversy that had followed a Sachin Pilot-led rebellion in the state's then Congress govt.

In the recordings, a voice purported to be former chief minister is heard asking whether the devices used to share the phone-tapping clips have been destroyed, and whether all incriminating evidence of transfers from laptop to mobile and on to social media groups has been erased. To each question, a voice purported to be Sharma's is heard replying in the affirmative.

Sharma had claimed publicly earlier this year that Gehlot had given him audio clips related to the phone-tapping case. The clips were allegedly used to implicate Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in Pilot's rebellion. Sharma also claimed Gehlot directed him to release the clips on social media to "expose" Shekhawat for attempting to destabilise his govt. Some clips were alleged to contain conversations between Shekhawat and former Cong MLA Bhanwarlal Sharma pertaining to horse-trading of MLAs. Another one allegedly featured former minister Vishendra Singh. After the clips were circulated, Shekhawat had lodged a case against Sharma with Delhi Police and the matter remains under investigation.

Sharma, meanwhile, claimed the clip was authentic and was the same audio played during his presser in April.

In one of the conversations a voice, allegedly Gehlot's, asks a person whether he "still has the phone with him". A voice purportedly Sharma's replies, "It has been damaged." The question is asked again: "Pakka kiya na?" The answer: "Yes, I damaged the device itself, Saab." The voice alleged to be Gehlot's asks for reconfirmation: "200%?". The reply is: "200%, pura."

On the occasion of World Plastic Surgery Day All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi presents PUBLIC LECTURE & PANEL DISCUSSION ON Myths about Cosmetic Surgery and Hair Transplantation Welcome Dr. (Prof.) M. Srinivas, Director, AIIMS, New Delhi Introduction Dr. (Prof.) K.K. Verma, Dean (Acad.) AIIMS, New Delhi Speakers & Panelists Dr. (Prof.) Maneesh Singhal Dr. Raja Tiwari, Dr. Shivangi Saha, Dr. Aparna Sinha, Dr. Neha Taneja • Aesthetic Surgery • Hair Transplantation Management • Scar Management • Nose / Face Surgery Date : 15.07.2024 (Monday) Time : 04:00 to 5:00 PM Venue : J.L. Auditorium, New Delhi Scan QR code for live telecast All are cordially invited (Please take your seat by 3:45 PM) Programme will also be live streamed on YouTube AIIMS Channel https://youtube.com/live/rNiSWSz_N48?feature=share Please join for tea after the lecture Parking available at Multi Level Underground Parking (Near Masjid Moth Campus, AIIMS) For more information please contact: Media & Protocol Division, AIIMS, New Delhi Ph: 011- 26593400, 26593514, 26549131 ENTRY FREE

Office of The Chief Engineer M.P.P.W.D Bridge Construction Zone Bhopal (M.P.) Tender Notice NIT No- 05/C.E.(Bridge Zone)/2024-25 Date 05.07.2024 Online Tender for mentioned below are being invited. The Tender have been uploaded on the mptenders. system of Public Works Department on the Portal www.mptenders.gov.in Tender details are as below:-

S. No.	Tender No.	District	Nature of work	Name of work	Call No.	Cost of Project (Rs. In lack)	(EMD Fee / Tender Fee) All Tender Document & Other Document Submission
1	2024_PWDRB_355546_1	Bhopal/Gwalior	Consultancy Service	Consultancy services for Design Review and Construction Supervision of 1- Construction of Four Lane Elevated Corridor/ Flyover from Maharanai Laxmibai Pratima to A.B. Road (N.H. 46) Near Girwai Police Chouki on Swarn Rekha River in Gwalior City (2 n d P h a s e) 2- Construction of Fly Over Bridge From Lakhedi Sewage Pump House to Nagar Nigam Visarjan Ghat, Sant Hirdaram Nagar (Bairagarh) in Bhopal City	Second	931.83	Online Only
Total						931.83	

Document can only be purchased online from the above website after making online payment. The last date & time for purchase of Document on line is Dated 26/07/2024 up to (17:30) Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

Sd/- Chief Engineer P.W.D. Bridge Construction Zone Bhopal

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PWD (R&B) CIRCLE SOUTH JAMMU TENDER NOTICE INVITING e-NIT No. SESJ/05 of 2024-25 dated 10-07-2024. For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders are invited on percentage rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K/PWD /BRO/ Railways/MES and other State/ Central Government for the work mentioned below:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Advertised Cost (In Rs.)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit in the form of CDR/PDR/ BG	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of rigid pavement including RCC drain at Miran Sahib Main Market.	Rs. 310.00 lacs	6000/-	2% of the advertised cost Rs. 620000/-	06 Months	On or after 1400 hrs on 02.08.2024	'A' Class

Position of AAA = Accredited Position of Tech. sanction = Accredited

The Bidding documents consist of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q.), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <http://tenders.gov.in> as per below schedule:-

No.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	From 11.07.2024 to 01.08.2024, 1800 Hrs
1.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 11.07.2024 to 01.08.2024, 1800 Hrs
2.	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	20.07.2024 at 1400 hours in the office of the Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle South, Jammu
3.	Bid submission Start Date	11.07.2024 From 1800 Hrs
4.	Bid submission End Date	01.08.2024 up to 1800 Hrs
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	02.08.2024 at 1400 hours in the office of the Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle South, Jammu
6.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of challan through Treasury indicating the name of work and e-NIT No. favouring Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle South, Jammu by crediting to 0959-PWD (Revenue) issued after issuance of e-NIT No. & Date uploading a copy of treasury challan/receipt issued after the advertisement of e-NIT. The date on challan should be between date of start of bid submission and bid submission end date.

Sd/- (Er. Ashwani Kumar) Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle South Jammu

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम (श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार) EMPLOYEE'S STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India) क.स.बी.नि. चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय एवं अस्पताल ESIC Medical College & Hospital देसूला, एमआइए, अलवर (राज.) - 301030 Desula, MIA, Alwar (Raj.) - 301030 E-mail:- dean-alwar.rj@esic.nic.in ms-alwar.rj@esic.nic.in Website:- www.esic.nic.in/www.esic.in

Advertisement No. 04 & 05/2024 Dated: 13.07.2024 RECRUITMENT OF TEACHING FACULTY (Minimum for 1 Yr upto 05 year) SUPER SPECIALISTS (1 Yr) SENIOR RESIDENTS (3 Years), JUNIOR RESIDENT (01 Year) ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS AND ADJUNCT FACULTY FOR ESIC MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, ALWAR, RAJASTHAN THROUGH WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Date of Interview:-23.07.2024 & 24.07.2024* Mode of Walk in Interview:- OFFLINE VENUE FOR WALK IN INTERVIEW : CONFERENCE HALL Ground FLOOR, ESIC MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL, MIA, DESOOLA, ALWAR (RAJ.)-301030

ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Alwar, Rajasthan proposes to fill up the posts of medical teaching faculty - Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Super Specialists, Senior Residents and Junior Resident in the disciplines mentioned below on contractual basis through walk in interview. The details of vacancies and reservation position is as under:-

Speciality	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Senior Resident 3 Yrs	Senior Resident against GDMO (3Yrs)	Junior Resident for 01 year (Advt. No. 05/2024*)
Anaesthesia	-	02(1-JR, 1-OBC)	02(1-JR, 1-SC)	01-EWS	04(1-JR, 1-OBC, 1-ST, 1-SC)	-
Anatomy	-	01-JR	01-JR	02(1-JR, 1-SC)	-	-
Biochemistry	-	-	02(1-JR, 1-OBC)	01-JR	-	-
Community Medicine	01-OBC	1-JR	02(1-JR, 1-ST)	03(1-JR, 1-SC, 1-OBC)	-	-
Dentistry	-	1-SC	-	-	-	-
Dermatology	-	1-JR	01-JR	01-OBC	-	-
Emergency Medicine	01-OBC	1-OBC	01-OBC	08(01-JR, 03-OBC, 2-SC, 1-ST, 1-EWS)	-	-
ENT	01-OBC	1-ST	01-OBC	-	01-JR	-
Forensic Medicine	-	1-EWS	01-SC	02(1-JR, 1-SC)	-	13 POST (07-JR, 03-OBC, 02-SC)
General Medicine	01-JR	03(2-JR, 1-OBC)	04(1-JR, 1-OBC, 1-SC, 1-ST)	03(1-JR, 1-OBC, 1-ST)	01-JR	01- EWS)
General Surgery	01-OBC	02(1-JR, 1-OBC)	03(1-JR, 1-SC, 1-EWS)	02(1-JR, 1-EWS)	01-OBC	-
Microbiology	-	01-JR	02(01-OBC, 1-SC)	02(1-OBC, 1-SC)	-	-
OBS & GYN.	-	01-JR	01-EWS	01-JR	01-JR	-
Ophthalmology	01-JR	01-OBC	-	-	01-JR	-
Orthopaedics	-	-	01-EWS	01-OBC	01-OBC	-
Paediatrics	01-EWS	01 -JR	01-OBC	01-SC	-	-
Pathology	-	01-OBC	02(1-JR, 1-OBC)	-	-	-
Pharmacology	-	-	02(1-JR, 1-OBC)	02(1-OBC, 1-ST)	-	-
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation	01-ST	01-OBC	-	01-SC	-	-
Physiology	-	-	02(1-JR, 1-OBC)	01-OBC	-	-
Psychiatry	-	01-JR	-	-	-	-
Radio-diagnosis	01-OBC	01-EWS	01-OBC	01-OBC	01-JR	-
Respiratory Medicine	-	-	-	-	02(1-OBC, 1-EWS)	-

Tenure and Remuneration:

- For Teaching faculty
 - Consolidate Remuneration Professor Rs. 2,18,700/-, Associate Professor Rs. 1,47,240/-, Assistant Professor Rs. 1,27,260/- will be paid. Emolument of Professors may be given to Associate Professor provided eligible to become Professor.
 - Consolidate Remuneration Senior Resident Rs 1,27,260/-
 - Super Specialist Full Time (upto Rs. 2.4 lakh/-) and for Part Time (upto Rs. 1.5 lakh/-).
 - Consolidate Remuneration Junior Resident: Rs. 106380/-
- For Adjunct Faculty (Professor/Dir. Professor)
 - Rs. 6000/03 Hr, minimum 03 days in a month Post MD 08 years of experience.
- For Adjunct Faculty (Associate Professor)
 - Rs. 4000/03 Hr, minimum 03 days in a month Post MD 06 years of experience.
- In case of non-availability of candidates in the category advertised, the post may be filled for less than 45 days through UR candidates.
- Reservation Roster for PH Category is applicable as per Govt. of India rules.
- The engagement of contractual faculty on consolidated remuneration will be initially for a period of One year or joining of regular incumbent whichever is earlier. However, the contract would be terminable on one-month notice or on joining of regular faculty or attaining the age of 70 years whichever is earlier.
- For more details visit website: www.esic.gov.in → Recruitment

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GAUR Bc. 33/6'11" B.Tech. In tele. comm. c. ready to settle canada. Seeks b'ful girl from same caste & equivalent. 9811836789, 9811597989

1993/5'10" B.Tech IIT.M.S. (Eng). Google Wrkg. ICF+Father IAS Off. Aff. Family. caste no bar, no dowry. 91729 98637 / satndr@gmail.com

NI Brahmin Boy Reputed family 26/175. Athletic BS/MS Top US Univ Wkg. Top IC Co USA Green Card. Seeks PG B'ride. Send BHP mriduland@yahoo.com. All Brahmins welcome

H'SOME boy, 33, 5'11", IIT KGP CS B.Tech+M.Tech. Successful entrepreneur with 5+ year US exp. BEO Indian Tech Co.M. 9131267139 / 9993873300

SM4 Feb 1992, 6'2" B.Tech MBA, Kashmir Brahmin, ML Engr & Sr. Analyst in Accurate Gurugram. 8750010004. Em: prabhat.koul@gmail.com

BEAUTIFUL, educated girl for London business.M. Engr & Sr. Analyst in Accurate. Never married. 59/78. Parents doctors. Veg, Teetotaler. doctoramr7@gmail.com

GAUR Bc. Oct/93/ 5'9" Mglk IIT Delhi Sr Manager (Finance Mktg). Affluent middle class. 15LPA+ Farm income. Father ret'd Govt. Off. seeks qld b'ful girl. M. 701121570, 971936667

SM4 1995 born fair 5'8" Brahmin boy B. Tech (CS) working with MNC 20 LPA. Jaipur based renowned family 941076979, 9829501155

BRAHMIN, 6'1", 94 B. Tech, software Engineer Ggn. 50LPA. Upper caste no bar. Non veg. W/C. 9828958533, 9899710966

SM4 KKB 28/5'5" B.Tech. (IIT) Smart, Fair, Veg. Soft. Eng. Manager Wkg in MNC Bangalore (I Crore Package). Cont: 8307953211, 8004906261

EXECUTIVE Match from Delhi. NCR for Post Graduate Working Executive saraswat Brahmin Girl Age 35 year / Height 5'4", Mobile: 8439452399

H'SOME 32/5'10" B.Tech. well settled Own B'ness. rtyd fmly in Moradabad seeks wkg no wkg girl No Dowry Caste No bar # 9339711966

SM4 Punjabi brahmin non manglik boy 1989/5'10" graduate Big 4 CGN. 75 LPA. Caste no bar Well settled DLI fmly. Wapp/Call: 9818238348

B.Tech MBA handsome Boy 27/5'11" wkg MNC Bangalore Respectable family. Preferably professional educated girl angrishm9@gmail.com

28/5'10" B.Tech IIT, MBA (IIM). Soft Developer MNC.81 LK Abv Father Indist Affwry Family, caste no bar, no dowry 9307349193 n4kh@gmail.com

SM4 DG Jain fair & h'some 34yrs/183cm, B.Tech, PGDM (Data Sci). Sr. Tech. Mgr. in Dubai. Pure veg, teetotaler preferred. Contact: 9888108991

SM4 B.Tech NIT 31 yrs 5'9" working SBI Manager scale 3, 21 LPA Seeks Beautiful B.Tech working Girl. Mob: 8765305120

LEAD S'fwr Engr (MNC Noida), B.Tech DEL/30Yr/FA/5'6"/36Lpa, Seeks Fair Smrt, Working bride 960207533

SRIVASTAVA 32/5'7" Analytical, AVP-Data Analytics in NIFEC Mumbai/30LPA. Seeks B'ful Wkg girl in Mumbai. WAp: 9869481060.

PQSM 4 NM SAXENA boy. BE-MBA, 87/59", working in P a r i s , F r a n c e neelmasaxena24@gmail.com / 9871703407

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SM4 Jaipur bsd Shwtr Jain Iussula Divorcee 42, 5'7" CA own business 36LPA+. Upper Caste No Bar M 9899315625.

WANTED B'ful Jain/Agrw/Eng/Dr.girl for Jain h'sm US bsd 29/5'11", S/w Engr in microsoft. Father jaipur bsd Former Sr. IAS # 9950566759

SM 4 Dig. Jain h'some boy 45/165 B.Com PG Cert. Mgr Big Corp. Rs.11-LPA. Nvr Married Hindu Spkg. Belongs to Delhi now in Mumbai. Prof'l Veg. non wkg Jain Girl. WhatsApp: 09967652201 Call 022-46037186.

B.TECH NIT 31 yrs 5'9" working SBI Manager scale 3, 21 LPA Seeks Beautiful B.Tech working Girl. Mob: 8765305120

LEAD S'fwr Engr (MNC Noida), B.Tech DEL/30Yr/FA/5'6"/36Lpa, Seeks Fair Smrt, Working bride 960207533

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28/5'10" B.Tech IIT, MBA (IIM). Soft Developer MNC.81 LK Abv Father Indist Affwry Family, caste no bar, no dowry 9307349193 n4kh@gmail.com

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SM for Delhi based H'some Divorced 30/59"/ B.Com/ Own B'ness + Salary income 3/6 LPA. Seeks B'ful. Girl. Call / W App: 9899578204

PQM4 B.Tech Kurmi boy Mar/97/5'6" Wkg MNC Gurgaon, Father Cen. Govt. Gr.A Offl. Seeks b'ful girl belongs to Bihar/Delhi & NCR. Mob/Wa. 9815248135

MATCH for smart Srivastava boy, non manglik, August 93, 5'10", B.Tech, emp IT org. Noida, from fair qualified Srivastava girl #9953325719

PQM4 37/5'8" H'some B.Tech MBA Canada wkg TORONTO Reputed - Mar/ur Family Amer. Civil Willing To Settle Canada. Mob. No. 7014160491

KAYASTHA, handsome, B.Tech. MBA(UK) boy, 1995 born, 5'10", working in London, seeks beautiful suitable working girl in UK. Father Bhopal based senior class 1 officer. Send biodata on WhatsApp no: 7897999584

PQM4 Kayastha smart Nov 90, 5'11" B.E.C.S./M.S. (USA) Sen Manager US Company work As canada. Upper caste no bar 9425522149

SRIVASTAVA 32/5'7" Analytical, AVP-Data Analytics in NIFEC Mumbai/30LPA. Seeks B'ful Wkg girl in Mumbai. WAp: 9869481060.

PQSM 4 NM SAXENA boy. BE-MBA, 87/59", working in P a r i s , F r a n c e neelmasaxena24@gmail.com / 9871703407

SM for Delhi based H'some Divorced 30/59"/ B.Com/ Own B'ness + Salary income 3/6 LPA. Seeks B'ful. Girl. Call / W App: 9899578204

BBA Dec 1996 born Sriv boy Wkg MNC Noida 8LPA. Seeks Wkg girl. 9389037997 kshitzranjan9611@gmail.com

SAXENA Aug. 92/5'11" M.Tech. B.Tech Wkg tall fair B.Tech/MBA/MCA wkg girl cont: 9425563051, 708954764

SM4 Saxena Boy V.Fair, 1985/6' M.Tech, IIT Delhi Wkg NCR 25LPA, Seeks Working Girl. Mob : 9650578877, Em : pnsaxena7@gmail.com

LOOKING for our son 95 born, 5'11" working as Software engineer earning 30LPA. Call at 9860713236, 8931952259

PQM4 hsmc, umrd smart delhi sxna boy btech/snr doc, software ce, 30L+/5'11", 40+ dowryless marriage/upr caste open, wapp: 7638306690

KAYASTHA Career oriented girl for boy 27/5'6", B.Tech (IIT)MBA (L.S.M Hyd), wkg in MNC at Gurgaon Caste no bar # 9415360709, 7985862606

ALLIANCE INVITED FOR KAYASTHA HANDSOME DIVORCEE BOY 35 YRS B.TECH WORKING WITH MNC IN NCR. PACKAGE 16 LPA. FATHER RETD. GOVT. SERVANT. MOB: 9810357399, 9810705958

AM - Finance (CA) boy Dec 96/5'10 wkg at Delhi 12 LPA. Father financial firm owner & educationist mother living in Noida. Seeks Qual girl. Contact on 98711401550, 931135550

PQM for Smart Fair H'some kayastha B.E (Civil) PGDM (NICMAR) 31/5'5" MNC in NCR as Png Mgr/Upper Caste No Bar Mob: 8957793020

SAXENA 49/5'5", MSc.24LPA. Bachelor, fair, smart, Officer Central Govt/Delhi seeks B'ful educated girl. Mob.8920726038 Email:saxns5@gmail.com

LONDON Bsd Kayastha 29/5'8"/M.Fin/AVP in Bank/1 Lac- Gbp h'sm boy. Lko fmly seek b'ful, cultured & prof qld girl. Caste no bar # 9415104743

MUMBAI based B.Tech. 31 yrs 5'11" Software Engr. wkg MNC 31 LPA. Seeks B'ful & Qld. Girl. Contact: 9938003650 /7900142631

BTECH MBA SAXENA Boy 32/5'8 36LPA Wkg ICICI PRUDENTIAL as Channel Head of Del-NCR Seeks Prof. Qual girl 9156044019/858841079

PQM4 MBBS H'some well settled boy 37/6'1, MD JRI Em. Med. Father Dr. Seeks medico girl willing to settle in Lko. Wap/Ph: 9335903842

EDU, Cultured, B'ful, Non Manglik, Reputed family agrawal girl for h'some, B.Tech, 26, 55.5", boy, emp in top Pvt com. 9930134856

PQM4 Agarwal h'some Boy June 93/5'10" B.Tech, MS working in USA on B' Visa. Affluent Family of Lucknow. # 9415048815, 9415506515 W.A.

GUPTA 5'7", Sept. 1992, well qualified (Financial Auditor) in New Zealand. Parents settled in Noida (8871824334) only willing to settle abroad should contact.

KURMI **PQM4**, B.Tech Kurmi boy Mar/97/5'6" Wkg MNC Gurgaon, Father Cen. Govt. Gr.A Offl. Seeks b'ful girl belongs to Bihar/Delhi & NCR. Mob/Wa. 9815248135

NORTH INDIAN **CANADIAN** PR ghumar engineer 1995 5'11" looking for prof. qual. girl. (Canada/US also preferred) whatsapp +16475622000

VAISH **RAJPUT** Remarriage suitable match for fair, 1982 born 5'4" advocate Patna High Court from reputed Rajput Family of Bihar. Seeks beautiful well qualified girl. 9431262789

RAJPUT boy 29/6'2" fair, h'some, MBA, wkg at MNC IT Company, B'lore Seeks PQ, Tall B'ful girl. Cont: 9415609429

RAJPUT Remarriage suitable match for fair, 1982 born 5'4" advocate Patna High Court from reputed Rajput Family of Bihar. Seeks beautiful well qualified girl. 9431262789

PATHANIA Rajput H'some Boy, 5'7"/1992, B.Tech IT Engr, settled in Gurgaon, Looking for edu. fair working Rajput girl. Contact: 986857012, 971706618

SUITABLE match for Rajput (solanki Nathawat) boy 27 tall 6 feet (schilling from Mayo College ajeer and graduate from England) please contact -9928979550

RAJPUT boy 33yr/6'ft well cultured Australian PR Civil eng. own house in Melbourne yr. tall cultured educated homely girl # 8368158719

SM4 Bansal Boy T.T. veg B.Tech/MBA 21.08.85 5'4" pqr Delhi 5'10", 25 LPA MNC GGN Seeks Wkg girl from HR/ NCR 9873352555

ALLIANCE invited for handsome, fair, PQ boy of South Delhi based Agrawal financially well off family with progressive & creative outlook/ Kansal/29/5'11"/145pqr/1.20PM, Faridabad/ Manglik/MS Chem Engr US-2012, Worked US 3 yrs, returned India 2021 to join family owned Professional ESG and Envnt Consulting firm with worldwide reputation, Annual family income in 8 digits. Looking for PQ/well educated/ DII/bitya with progressive outlook & belief in family values and comfortable to be part of our small joint family. Family originally from Western UP. Request families/bitya comfortable with above may all respond. WA 9810907940

GOYAL boy 5'11"/1989 born, PG Law. Practicing & Wkg as consultant in Delhi. Rptd. Adv. & Judges fmly. settled in Gurugram. # 9999575983, 9953904040

AGARWAL 1996/5'10" Corporate Law/IT Sector. Firm of Delhi (from reputed family of Lucknow)/seeks Prof Qld match. M: 9793700111

SM4 36/5.10 B.Tech. MBA, LLB S m a r t A v o c a t e Varshney(Baniya) Mangalik Boy(Veg), Rishikesh based High Status Family 9412146931

SM4 Single Boy B. Tech CS, Ser in Google Bangalore, 29/5'11, 1995, High Package, meenas194@gmail.com, 9466909496

PQM4 Industrialist, Noida based boy, Income 40 LPA. Goel, Bachelor, B.Tech, MBA, 37/167.5 cm, Slim, Fair, Own house, only child. Mail Father at: vinodgoel5@gmail.com

SM4 B.Tech Agarwal Jain, fair boy Oct 96/5'11 working in Microsoft, 31LPA, Lucknow family. Seeks good looking, edu from working girl. 9450020587

KANPUR Based Mglk Gupta boy 36/5'8" B.Tech own Printing Industry seeks Edu. Mglk Girl M: 9648211155, rachnap19@gmail.com

WANTED Edu girl 4 B.Tech, MBA (Symb) wrkd with Big4 in India/Doha. Now in IIT Bank as VP in Canada (PR) seek wkg prof of rptd/edu fmly. Panwar, Kadyan, Delhi. 9810280462.

SM for tall, handsome dat boy Sept 95/5'11" commercial pilot. Belongs to reputed, well settled family of Delhi/NCR. Ph:9871693440

LLB yr handsome Delhi boy Apr 94/6' wrking as Advocate 15LPA seeks well educated girl. Pfr. Wkg. No Datal, Vijayan, Puna, Dfkr. 9171518454

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JAAT Boy 28/5'9", MBBS, MD Medicine, Own 100 Bedded Hospital in Saharanpur. Seeks MD/MS/ M.D. FNB. Cont: 941220952/9711493010

NORTH INDIAN **CANADIAN** PR ghumar engineer 1995 5'11" looking for prof. qual. girl. (Canada/US also preferred) whatsapp +16475622000

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SM for tall, handsome dat boy Sept 95/5'

After big LS loss in U'khand, Congress wins big in bypolls

Bags Badrinath, Manglaur Seats; HP CM's Wife Takes Dehra

Continued from P1

Key wins for Trinamool in Bengal included Supti Pandey in Manikata and Madhuparna Thakur in Bagda — Bengal's youngest legislator at 25 years and one month. Madhuparna defeated BJP's Binay Kumar Biswas by 33,455 votes, while 66-year-old Supti outdid her husband and former minister Sadhan Pandey of BJP by 62,312 votes.

tated after three former independent MLAs — Hoshiyar Singh, Ashish Sharma, and KL Thakur — resigned in March and joined BJP.

With these two victories, Congress has increased its tally from 38 to 40 in the 68-seat Vidhan Sabha, while BJP's total seats have risen from 27 to 28. Before the Feb rebellion, when six of its MLAs left to join BJP, Congress held 40 seats. On June 4, by winning four of the six seats in the bypolls, Congress had bolstered its position from 34 to 38 seats.

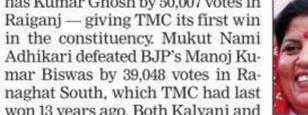
In Uttarakhand, after suffering a crushing defeat in the LS polls, where it lost all five seats to BJP, Congress made a strong comeback by winning two assembly bypolls, with its candidates Lakhapat Singh Butola and Qazi Mohammad Nizamuddin taking the Badrinath and Manglaur seats, respectively. Butola won by 5,095 votes, defeating Rajendra Singh Bhandari, who had switched from Congress to BJP just before LS polls. Nizamuddin's victory was by a slender margin of 422 votes over BJP's Kartar Singh Bhandana.

In Madhya Pradesh, BJP's Kamlesh Pratap Shah won the Amarwara seat by 3,027 votes against Congress's Dheeran Sah Inavti. Congress led until the 17th round, but BJP clawed back in the 20th and 21st rounds. BJP was elated as it succeeded in dismantling another strong-

hold of Congress stalwart Kamal Nath. In both the 2018 and 2023 assembly elections, Congress won all seven assembly segments in Chhindwara, which the former CM represented in LS for nine terms. For the first time in 44 years, BJP defeated Congress in Chhindwara in an LS election, with Vivek Bunty Sahu defeating Kamal Nath's son Nakul by over 1.1 lakh votes this year.

DMK retained the Vikravandi assembly constituency in Tamil Nadu, with candidate Anniyur Siva winning by a margin of 67,169 votes. Siva secured 1.2 lakh votes against PMK's C Anbumani, who polled 56,026 votes. The bypolls, held after the death of DMK MLA N. Pugazhenti, saw 82.4% voter turnout. CM MK Stalin attributed the win to overcoming "slandorous campaigns and lies" from BJP-led alliance over gov't handling of illicit arrack sales, which claimed 66 lives in Kallakurichi recently.

In Punjab, AAP's Mohinder Bhagat won the Jalandhar West seat by defeating BJP's Sheetal Angural by 37,325 votes. The seat fell vacant after Angural resigned as the AAP legislator and joined BJP in March along with AAP MP Sushil Rinku. Bhagat was with BJP before he switched to AAP during LS bypolls of 2023. His father Chummi Lal was a BJP minister and had won the constituency thrice, including when it was Jalandhar South, before delimitation.



Krishna Kalyani defeated BJP's Manas Kumar Ghosh by 50,007 votes in Raiganj — giving TMC its first win in the constituency. Mukut Nami Adhikari defeated BJP's Manoj Kumar Biswas by 39,048 votes in Ranaghat South, which TMC had last won 13 years ago. Both Kalyani and Adhikari had joined TMC after their 2021 assembly wins, but had lost Lok Sabha polls as Trinamool candidates.

In Himachal, Congress candidate and CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's wife Kamlesh Thakur defeated BJP's Hoshiyar Singh by 9,399 votes in Dehra. Kamlesh polled 32,737 votes (57.9%), while Singh got 23,338 votes (41.3%). Congress's Hardeep Singh Bawa won Nalagarh against BJP's KL Thakur by 25,618 votes. BJP won the Hamirpur seat by a narrow margin of 1,571 votes with Ashish Sharma polling 27,041 votes against Congress's Pushpinder Verma's 25,470 votes.

Wednesday's bypolls were necessi-

Web of fear, confusion woven by BJP has now broken: Rahul

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Congress member Rahul Gandhi said the by-election results have made it clear that "the web of fear and confusion" woven by BJP has been broken. He said farmers, youth, labourers, businessmen and employed people want to completely destroy dictatorship and stand with the INDIA bloc "for the betterment of their lives and protection of the Constitution. Hail India, Hail Constitution."
Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge dubbed the by-poll results as evidence of "the falling political credibility of PM Modi and Amit Shah."
Calling the outcome a "tight slap" on the face of BJP, AICC general secretary K C Venugopal said the defeat of defectors is a rejection of opportunism, "showcasing the public's strong disapproval of BJP's pro-rich, dictatorial politics." Especially thanking

A mandate against NDA, says Mamata

West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee described Trinamool's bypoll sweep in Bengal on Saturday as a "mandate against NDA", reports Debashis Konar.

Banerjee said: "The trend is very clear. The mandate of the people is not in favour of NDA but in favour of INDIA."
Lashing out at BJP's "agency raj", Banerjee urged the Centre to review the new criminal laws by using "a provision that allows the new govt to review decisions taken by the previous govt in the last six months of its tenure".

"devbhoomi" Uttarakhand and HP, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said the people have realised that politics which "misleads about 100 years in the past and 100 years in the future will not help the country".

WB aside, results reflect status quo: BJP dig at 'euphoric' INDIA bloc

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: BJP took a dig at INDIA bloc's "euphoria" over its victory in 10 out of the 13 assembly seats for which bypolls were held, saying "except Bengal, where elections were not free and fair, the results reflect the status quo".

BJP IT cell head Amit Malviya pointed out that out of the 13 seats contested on July 10, nine were not previously held by BJP. But the opposition bloc can claim 'moral victory', he said

Malviya wrote in a post on X: "Let me kill the opposition's euphoria on the bypoll results. Of the 13 seats that went to poll, nine were not held by BJP! Himachal Pradesh — independents held all three seats. Uttara-

hand — Congress held both seats. Madhya Pradesh — BJP won the seat earlier held by Congress. Bengal — TMC held one. But the elections were rigged, so makes no sense to deliberate. Punjab — AAP retained their seat. Tamil Nadu — DMK held the seat. Therefore, except Bengal, where elections were not free and fair, the results reflect the status quo. But the I.N.D.I Alliance can claim moral victory!" Malviya wrote in a post on X.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM
EXTENSION OF LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION
With reference to notice inviting open tender No. NMRT/02/2024 published on 24.06.2024, in ireps portal, all prospective Bidders are hereby informed that the last date of bid submission has been extended as follows.

Particulars	Original Date	Revised date
Bid submission closing date	15.07.2024	22.07.2024

Deputy Chief Commercial Manager/Passenger Services
E-mail: dycmps@sr.railnet.gov.in
Mobile No: 90031 60980

GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY

(A State University Established by Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
SECTOR-10 C, DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110078
Ph: 011-26102145-149 Email: purchasebranch@ipu.ac.in
Website: www.ipu.ac.in

Notice Inviting Tender

The university invites online tender from reputed firms through e-procurement portal of GNCTD-www.govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in for **Supply & Installation of Lab Equipments for Electronics Lab at USAR, East Delhi campus.** Cost of the work is **Rs 50.09 lakh (approx.)**. Last date of submission of complete tender is **19th July 2024 upto 01.00 p.m.** Further details are available on the university website www.ipu.ac.in Registrar

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

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

E-Tender No.: JHS-ENGG-E-2024-143

Description of work: Khairar - Bhimsen Section:- Construction of Limited Height Substation in lieu of LC No. S-55, S-58 & S-66 under jurisdiction of ADE/NB/DA.

Approx. Cost: ₹ 171019722.14 **Earnest Money:** 1005100.00

Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter: 12 Months

Date of closing Tender: 05.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Tender on line can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs on 05.08.2024. For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in 1218/24(ADM)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) N.C. Railway, Agra on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on line only (E-Tendering) for the following work.

Tender No.: AGC-ELG-T-09R2-2024-25

Name of work with its location & Completion Period: Agra Cantt.- Augmentation of 33/11KV substation at agra Cantt. **Completion period 08 months**

Approx. Cost of the work: Rs. 5572897.33

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. Tenders can only be submitted through web portal www.ireps.gov.in up to 15:00 hrs on 09.08.2024. 1218/24 (ADM)

Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd

Shankarsheth road, swargate, Pune - 411037

EXTENSION - 1

Regarding the extension for tender purchase & submission dates published in RFP for Tender No. 12-CE-2024 = Selection of Eligible Bus Manufacturer to Design, Manufacture, Supply, Commission and Support of 12 Meter 100 CNG Non AC BRT buses for 12 years. Interested bidders can participate as per following dates:

Duration: 12/07/2024 To 23/07/2024 till 03:00 pm
Acceptance Details: 12/07/2024 To 23/07/2024 till 03:00 pm
Technical tender opening date: 24/07/2024 till 03:00 pm

All relevant details of the procurement are available in Request For Proposal (RFP) document. The RFP document is available & can be purchased online from www.mahatenders.gov.in. All subsequent notification, announcement, changes, extension & amendments would be posted on website.

Sd/-
(Nitin Narvekar)
Joint Managing Director
Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Ltd.

Adv. No.: CE/13
Date: 12/07/2024.

भारत के शत्रु संपत्ति अभिरक्षक का कार्यालय

Office of the Custodian of Enemy Property for India
प्रथम तल, पूर्वी विंग, शिवाजी स्टेडियम, कनॉट प्लेस, नई दिल्ली-110001
First Floor, East Wing, Shivaji Stadium, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001

NOTICE FOR DISPOSAL OF ENEMY PROPERTIES THROUGH E-AUCTION

The office of the Custodian of Enemy Property for India (CEPI) is a Statutory Authority under the provisions of the Enemy Property Act, 1968. The Head Office is at Delhi with Branch Offices at Mumbai, Kolkata and Lucknow.

12th E-AUCTION

The O/ CEPI is undertaking E-Auction of 40 Enemy Properties located in Shamli, Pilibhit, Ghaziabad, Fatehpur, District of Uttar Pradesh.

Date and Time of E-Auction: 24.07.2024 11:00 Hrs. to 16:00 Hrs.
Custodian of Enemy Property for India

भारत सरकार / Government of India
अंतरिक्ष विभाग / Department of Space
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान
Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology
[वि. अ. आरंभ अधिनियम 1956 की धारा 3 के अंतर्गत यानि विज्ञानविद्यालय घोषित।]
[Declared as Deemed to be University under Sec.3 of the UGC Act 1956]
वलिग्रामा पोस्ट वालिमाला पो, तिरुवनन्तपुरम थिरुवानन्तपुरम - 695 547
वलिग्रामा / Phone:0471-2568603, ई-मेल ई-मेल ई-मेल: recruitment@iist.ac.in

जुलाई 19, 2024 को सविदा पदों के लिए प्रवेश साक्षात्कार

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR CONTRACT POSITIONS

ON July 19, 2024

भारतीय अंतरिक्ष विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईएसटी) सविदा के आधार पर चिकित्सा अधिकारी एवं स्वचालित सहायक होस्टल प्रबंधक की पदों के लिए 19.07.2024 (शुक्रवार) को 09:30 बजे आईआईएसटी, वलिग्रामा, तिरुवनन्तपुरम में प्रवेश साक्षात्कार का आयोजन करता है। Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST) conducts Walk in Interview on 19.07.2024 (Friday) at 09:30 hrs at IIST Valiamala, Thiruvananthapuram for contract positions viz., Medical Officer and Resident Assistant Hostel Manager.

शैक्षिक योग्यता, उम्र, अनुभव आदि से संबंधित अधिक जानकारी के लिए तथा आवेदन पत्र डाउनलोड करने के लिए कृपया हमारी वेबसाइट <https://www.iist.ac.in/career2> देखें। For more details such as educational qualification, age limit, experience etc., and for downloading application form, please visit our website <https://www.iist.ac.in/career2>.

विज्ञान स. Advt. No: IIST/ Admn/RMT/07/01/2024 dated 14/07/2024

NORTHERN RAILWAY

e-OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
No.- 128-W/280/Tender Notice/24-25/W-1 (NIT-22-27) Dated: 12.07.2024

Name of work with location, cost of work and Earnest Money	Description
1. Annual Bridge zone work for Repairs & Maintenance of Bridges etc on DUK & NK section under ADE/NKUN.	Approx. Cost: ₹. 7281467.35/- Earnest Money: ₹. 145600/- Completion Period: 12 Months
2. Annual Bridge zone work for Repairs & Maintenance of Bridges etc on DUK under ADE/PNP.	Approx. Cost: ₹. 7015796.16/- Earnest Money: ₹. 140300/-, Completion Period: 12 Months
3. Dewatering of LHS, Desilting of sump wells, cleaning or waterways and other Maintenance works of bridges and LHS in the section of ADE/PNP.	Approx. Cost: ₹. 9317116.70/- Earnest Money: ₹. 186400/-, Completion Period: 12 Months
4. Major repairs of staff Qtrs by replacing jack arch roof to RCC roof of T-96(A) unit, T-71 (B unit) at PNP & Conversion of Type-I Qtrs into Type-II Qtrs E-6 (6 unit) at PNP in the section of SSE(w)/PNP under ADE/PNP.	Approx. Cost: ₹. 9284192.74/- Earnest Money: ₹. 185700/- Completion Period: 12 Months
5. Provision of Safety fencing/precast/RCC/Sleeper/anticrash barrier type boundary wall on DUK section under ADE/PNP.	Approx. Cost: ₹. 97991895.84/- Earnest Money: ₹. 640000/- Completion Period: 12 Months
6. Provision of Safety fencing/precast/RCC/Sleeper/anticrash barrier type boundary wall on DUK section under ADE/NKUN.	Approx. Cost: ₹. 97991895.84/- Earnest Money: ₹. 640000/- Completion Period: 12 Months

Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15.00 hrs on 06.08.2024 opening of e-tender at 15.00 hrs on 06.08.2024

Website particulars, published-tender, notice location etc complete details of tender can be seen and web site where the tender form can be downloaded: Above tender available on IREPS site i.e www.ireps.gov.in

Similar nature of work: For S. No. 1 to 6 : Any Civil work other than track work.

NOTE : (i) All attachments must be self attested by the tenderers and the affidavit should be submitted in the new format attached with tender conditions as per Annexure-XXIII is compulsory. 2138/24

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Supreme Court Monitored Projects Executed through NBCC (India) Ltd.

(A Navratna PSU of Govt of India)

THROUGH E-AUCTION

Sale of Tech park project, Knowledge Park-V, Greater Noida west, UP of Erstwhile Amrapali Group through NBCC. Interested parties may register themselves on RAITEL (The agency engaged by NBCC (INDIA) LTD. for holding e-auction) or on website: <https://nbccauction.envida.com>. Last date for submission of application is 25.07.2024. E-Auction will be held on 31.07.2024. For Details, Please call:-9910775203 Sd/- NBCC

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Shiv @Raj, S/o: Vinod, R/o: Jhuggi Indra Camp Vikas Colony, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case, FIR No. 579/2016, U/s 324/341/34 IPC, registered at P.S.: Hari Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Shiv @Raj cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Shiv @Raj has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said Shiv @Raj accused of FIR No. 579/2016, U/s 324/341/34 IPC, registered at P.S.: Hari Nagar, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 29.08.2024.

By Order
Ms. Swati Bhardwaj, Ld.
Judicial Magistrate First Class
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/9100/WD/2024 (Court Matter)

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Age:** 32 years, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Height:** 5'5", **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Thin, was wearing Blue colour T-Shirt and Blue colour Short, was found dead Opposite Sai Baba Mandir, Shivaji Marg, Najafgarh, New Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 69A, dated 07.07.2024, has been lodged at P.S. Najafgarh, New Delhi. His dead body has been preserved in RTRM Hospital mortuary, Jaffarpur Kalan, New Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

SHO
P.S. Najafgarh, New Delhi
Ph.: 8595730297, 8750871027

DP/9124/DWI/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a male person namely Sahil Choudhary S/o Paramjeet Choudhary R/o Village & P.O. Bahadurwas, Distt. Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan has been missing/kidnapped from Nehru Place Market, Kalkaji, Delhi since 03.07.2024 at 12:00 noon. In this regard, a DD No. 108A, Dt. 05.07.2024 has been registered at P.S.: Kalkaji, Delhi. The description of the missing male person as under.

Age: 20 years, **Height:** 5'7" **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Black Colour Pants & Black Colour T-shirt. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out his but no clue has come to light so far. Any person is having information or clue about this missing male person may kindly inform to the following.

Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in S.H.O
Fax No. 011-24368639 PS: Kalkaji, Delhi
DP/8866/SE/2024 Ph.No. 011-26439165, 9868749622

UP PURVA SAINIK KALYAN NIGAM LTD.

Canal Ring Road, Devi Kheda (Near National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources), Post - Dilkusha, Lucknow-226002
Email : agmhr@upsainiknigam.com, Mob. : 7860030103

VACANCY FOR THE POST OF AGM (OPERATIONS)

BAREILLY AND KANPUR

1. Applications are invited from retired / due to retire Regular Commissioned Officers of the rank of Lieutenant Colonel / Colonel or their equivalent from Indian Air Force and Indian Navy (minimum 20 years of service as commissioned officer) for the post of AGM (Operations) at Bareilly and Kanpur on contractual basis. Last date for receiving applications is 29 July, 2024.

2. Please visit our website- www.upsainiknigam.com for other details and criteria for submission of applications.

Assistant General Manager (HR & Adm)

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.

(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Viduyt Bhawan" Near ISBT, Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002
Corporate ID U40101UR20045G028675, Tel. No. 0135-2642711

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-11

The last date of submission of E-Tender for "Procurement of 315 MVA 400/220 KV Transformer along with NIPFES and Construction of 400 KV and 220 KV (AIS) Bays along with transformer plinth for erection, testing and commissioning of 315 MVA 400/220 KV Transformer and its associates work at 400 KV Substation Kashipur" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/E-tender/(C&P)15-09/2023-24 is hereby extended upto 25.07.2024 15:30 Hrs. For more details please visit e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in (Tender id no. 2023_PTCUA_66529_1) and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same. For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8989890000.

RO No. 1223/HQP/PTCUL Dated: 12.07.2024 Superintending Engineer (C&P-II)
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. CEN00AGC1224 Date: 11.07.2024

E-Tender Notice

Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), North Central Railway, Agra Cantt for and on behalf of the President of India invites in **Two Packet (E-RA)** open tender on prescribed forms on line (E-Tendering). Tender offer can be submitted online up to 15.00 hours of 14.08.2024, on website <http://ireps.gov.in>. The details of the tenders are as under:-

Description of work: Construction Earthwork formation Blanking major Bridges Road Under Bridges, ROR & other ancillary work in Bhandari Flyover Etawah Bound Down Train.

Approx Cost: ₹ 117.40 Crore (App.) **Earnest Money in ₹:** ₹ 60,20,100/-

Validity: 90 days, **Date of opening:** 14.08.2024, **Completion Period:** 18 Months including harvest & monsoon period **Note:** For complete details and submission of tender please see Indian Railway's website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 1214/24(DG)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tendering Notice No.: DYCE/SG-AGC/2024-07 Dated: 11.07.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

Deputy Chief Engineer (Gati Shakti), N. C. Rly Agra for and on behalf of the President of India invites "Open Tender" through online mode only (E-Tendering) for the following work. The details of the tender are as under:-

Tender No.: DYCE-GS-AGC-2024-13 **Approx Cost Rs.:** ₹ 47.50 Lacs

Description of work: P-way work in connection with provision of full length Goods siding by extending A&D siding at Kitham station of Agra Division of North Central Railway.

Bid security: ₹ 95000.00 **Completion Period:** 06 Months.

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in. Tender can be submitted through web portal www.ireps.gov.in upto 16.00 hrs on 02.08.2024. 1215/24(A)

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.:"UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006,
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax- 0135- 2763508,
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

पत्र सं. 600 दिनांक: 12/07/2024

Tender Notice

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil), MB-II, Chinyalisaur (Uttarkashi) invites sealed tender from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No.: 10/EE(Civil)/MB-II/Chinyalisaur/2024-25
Name of work: Miscellaneous Civil Work in BP Type Quarters at Shaktipuram colony, Chinyalisaur, Uttarkashi.
Estimated Cost: Rs. 9.91,655.46 (excluding GST)
Date of availability of bid document on website: 16.07.2024 from 5:00PM
Last date for submission of tender: 09.08.2024 upto 11:00 AM
For fuller & further detail, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be download from the Nigam's website "www.ujvn.com"
Executive Engineer (Civil), MB-II, Chinyalisaur
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

UJVN Limited

HO "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808 Fax- 0135- 2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website: www.ujvn.com

पत्र सं. 586 दिनांक: 12/07/2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

Office of Executive Engineer (Maintenance), Khodri Power Station, Dakpathar (Dehradun), invites online tenders for following supply works:

E-Tender No. 02/EE(Maint)/Khodri/2024-25 — Hiring of 2 Nos. school bus for wards of UJVNL employees located at Dakpathar. Estimated Cost: Rs. 32.51,680/- (GST Extra)
Date of availability of bid documents: 15.07.2024 (18:00 Hrs)
Last date for submission of Tender: 05.08.2024 (upto 16:00 Hrs.).
For further details and downloading of the tender documents kindly visit website "https://uktenders.gov.in"

Executive Engineer (Maintenance) Khodri Power Station
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

Office of the Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagara Division, BBMP Office Building, Robertson Road, Frazer Town, Bengaluru.

No:EE/PN/TEND/05/2024-25 Dated: 12.07.2024

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (Two Cover)

(Through GOK KPP Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> only)

The Executive Engineer (Pulikeshinagara Division) BBMP Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike or Equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD/Railways/MES/ National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below. (Standard Tender Document KW-4)

Name of the Works

Comprehensive development of Roads and Drains in Kushal Nagara, H.B. Layout, P & T Colony, Muslim Colony Water Tank in Ward No-70 Kushalnagara Basappa Lane, Cross Road, A.K Colony Cross Road, Modi Road 1 to 5th Cross Road, Modi Road 6 to 10th Cross Road, Goa Garden Cross Road and in Ward No-78 S.K Garden Bilal Nagara Main Road, Ramabai Colony, Davis Road and Kandaswami Main Road, 12th, 13th, 14th Giddappa Block and Surrounding area in Ward No-79 Sagayapuram and Additional Works to Construction of Multipurpose Building in Ward Office Premises in Ward No-74, Kavalabyrasandra Package No-01 (Govt Sl No:1,2,6,4 Annexure-4) **Approx Value of Work (Rs in Lakhs): 1500.00, EMD (In Rs): 1500000.00**

Comprehensive development of Roads and Drains in Kariyamma Lane, Panjappa Lane, Aeroplane Road, Edga Main Road Cross Road, Muninagappa Layout, Bangaragiri Cross Road in Ward No-77 D.J Halli Karim Sab Lane, Anthony Church, Ayodha Das, Johnybai Lane Compound, Muneshwaranagara Cross Road and Surrounding area in Ward No-76 Muneshwaranagara Package No.02 (Govt Sl No: 5,3 Annexure-4) **Approx Value of Work: (Rs in Lakhs): 1000.00, EMD (In Rs): 1500000.00**

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPPP portal of the GOK from 19.07.2024 at 4:00 pm. (2) Tenders must be submitted online through KPPP portal on or before 08.08.2024 upto 4:00 pm. (3) Pre-bid meeting will be held on 24.07.2024 at 4:00 pm. (4) Date of Opening of Technical bids is on 09.08.2024 at 4:30 pm if Possible or Next Working Day. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pulikeshinagara Division

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

(An Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)

ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT (2024-25)

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT (PGDM) (Recognized by the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) and Approved by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)

Through Distance Learning mode, following Courses are announced:

1) Hospital Management	300 Seats
2) Health & Family Welfare Management	100 Seats
3) Health Promotion	150 Seats
4) Public Health Nutrition	150 Seats
5) Health Communication	150 Seats
6) Applied Epidemiology	150 Seats

The above courses are open for All Medical and Non-Medical Graduates.

For more details, Prospectus and Application Form, please contact Distance Learning Cell, Room No.417, The NIHF, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi-110067
Tel. +91-11-2618 3416, 26165959/26166441 or visit website www.nihf.org

Last date of submitting applications: 14th August, 2024. (Extendable to 31st August, 2024 with Late Fee)

CBC 17153/12/0001/2425 Director, NIHF



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NOW IN STORE

DEC1989; Mglk; Divorced; MCA; Wrking Grmm; Father Retd (Gaz Off); Caste No Bar- 981045223

GOOD looking, decent 5'7"/34 yr. M.Com, CA Inter, Girl Working in CA Firm, Well settled reputed Family. Wap / PH: 970098363, 8800555653

SAXENA Manglik Girl 33/51/ Wheatish/ MBA (F&M) & M.Sc. (Home Sci)/ Wrkg & expert in house hold. Caste No Bar. M: 9760118048 (W)

FAIR, Slim, 5'5" NM PG girl, 02/96, St. Stephens' college, wkg in Research & Consulting, Father Gaz. Offer. C.Govt. seeks Govt. Offer well settled Pvt job boy. Ph: 9415517090

SM for beautiful fair Srivastava Girl 91 born CA (Inter) Husband expired in Corona. Intell. working in MNC. Pune. Well reputed Srivastava family. #9936805555

SM4 5'4"/30 BA LLB practicing supreme court. Parents are doctors, seeks IAS, IPS, IRS, IES or practising Lawyer at Delhi. # 9425114882

SMART, Prof. qld, well settled match for MATHUR girl, B.Arch, Jan 95, 5'6", working in Gurgaon. Delhi family based in Gurgaon. Call/ WA: 817899223

SM4 MP based Beautiful girl Khare anshik mangli Btech CS girl 95/53/ Team Lead in MNC Mumbai #7440443333, 9425103252

SEEKING match ConvKedu B.Tech MBA wkg in MNC Noida high pkg vfar 5'3" never married Dec84 NM Mob- 9871560645

MA Ph.D. Thakur Rajput Kangra (HP) born 2.30/05/55 AM 5'3" B.Tal girl wkg as TGT in KV Kottayam (KR). Delhi Bsd fmly. # 9868105728

SM for Vats Rajput fair slim girl, 5'3, 10/8/90, 3pm, Kanpur, UP. MBA wrking in MNC ngpr. Contact 956078096

PQM for Himachal Rajput Girl, Fair, 5'3", 09.10.1992, M.Phil. pursuing Ph.D. Engg. in well educ. settled Delhi/Chandigarh based boy Hima chali Rajput Prfd. 8960608817

SM4 fair, b'val, conv. 5'2", 02/12/1993, BALB(NLU) LL.M(UK), working, well educated family, upper caste acceptable. Mob: 9450354930

Reputedly Affluent Noida based Rajput Family Running Chain of Schools, looking for successful Businessman/ IIM/ IIT/ IAS/ IPS/ Doctor Match for their 92 born, 5'3" very Beautiful, Fair, Cultured Daughter, Psychologist (PhD) in esteemed Hospital in NCR having incredibly positive outlook towards life.

Seeking match for a beautiful Bengali Kayastha girl, 40 years old, 5 feet 4 inches tall, medical doctor practicing in New York City. Girl was born and brought up in USA. Looking for an Indian Hindu, well educated professional, never married, between 38 and 44 years and MUST BE BROUGHT UP IN USA OR LIVING IN USA. Only serious enquiries. Please correspond BY EMAIL FIRST with recent photo, biodata, and WhatsApp number.

anjalighosh727@gmail.com
WhatsApp +2017397427
Please text before calling.

MUSLIM girl, 1994, 5'1", Regular Govt employee. Chandigarh. Father retired gazetted officer. Contact: 700982727

SUNNI Sheikh very well-off family Looking 4 Prof. stud boy 40 -45 yrs. 5'8", MBA, wkg in Patna based, 5'1" well settled Wkg Girl. Sub caste no bar. # 870957868. E: toide2024@gmail.com

MUSLIM boy 1993 Born / 5'10" MBBS / MD/ doctor / UK / is looking for a match for early marriage (Neha 736384551)

SUNNI Muslim, Sheikh Siddiqui fair girl 33/53/ M.Sc. B.Ed. recent marriage. PHD. MBA well settled boy. M: 738808333, 842238333.

WANTED boy for our medico girl 5'3"/32, fair, doctor Sheikh, Zed, Mughal medico or govt employee preferred w/Ph 8267019126

SUNNI Muslim MBBS girl, 29 years old, fair complexion, height 5'3". Seeking a suitable match with MD/MS qualified boys. WhatsApp: 9414036766.

RESP. qualified Family's SM UM Beautiful 29/5/3ft PhD eng 60k, few white spots on legs completely gone after treatment. 8297040551

BE (CS) 30 year Engineer Girl Reputed Sunni Muslim family working in MNC Wkg Delhi 9425608403, 9340132796

SEEKING match for beautiful Muslim girl, US Citizen 5'4"/22. Preference to Doctors & Engineers. Contact: drs176@gmail.com

SEEKING suitable match for Sunni Muslim Shaikh 92 born /5'2", PG, B.Ed fair, smart, deendar working girl from stat us family. Contact 9651000524.

SM for Sunal Syed Muslim 25/5'6" b'val fair B.Des. In NIIFT wkg for reptd brand. Well.ed. sunni family Wapp bio-data 894032081.

AJMER-BASED Sunni Muslim family invites proposals for their 35/5'5", M.A. in English, Fair, conv. (Psychology) from a reputed Daughter. Seeking a suitable match at early marriage. WhatsApp at +91 941009858

SUITABLE Match for Kayastha beautiful Girl 1993 born, MBA, PhD (Psychology) from a reputed family, Caste No Bar. Contact: 9415108105.

JAT

SM for Jat BDS Girl April-98 born 53' preparing for MDS. Father Senior Officer Govt of India. Srivastava to Medios MBBS/BDS/PG. #931533012 Em: dsrana201@gmail.com

30/57 B.Tech MBA, Fair Tall Slim, Manager 36 LPA. Affluent family. Seeks well placed upper/similar caste. Pthr IRS(Rtd) No.9987003399

KERALITE

NAIR Girl 1986/165cms. POORADAM, CA, Manager, MNC, Mumbai seeks alliance from Engineers, Finance Professionals bet. 39-49, mail profile: ck_chakkalinga@rediffmail.com / 9833715892

NORTH INDIAN

MBA HR Girl Aug 83/5'4" Wkg MNC Pune - 12LPA Father B.Sman seeks cultured & good family values man #9372483189 rajtchadh97@gmail.com

RAJPUT

B.DESG Beautiful talented Fashion Designer, 1996/5'3", N.married from respectable Ggn bsd family seeking SM/PG, prof. Delhi/NCR # 981822162

BAUCTION - IIT, 22.72.92/5", Chaudhary Rajput girl working USA seeks Prof. Qld/USA based match. Contact: 9759580240.

ALLIANCE invited Tall spk Bhillava girl, fair, 37, 5'5", never married, MBA (Fin) wkg MNC Blore. Qualified, Grad / Post Grad, employed suitable boy dnksks.93376@gmail.com / mob 9844517464

NOV, 86, 5'4", b'val, chet prof. Based in Br, Wb, Prof Hindu boy WA 9620035770 or email on amitaharulla@yahoo.com

PQMA B.Arch/M.Plan/MBA-IIM Mittal girl, May 83/155cms Div/5'2", Wkg MNC Hyd/50-LPA. Contact connect0406@gmail.com

SIXH, unmarried girl, 43/153, beautiful, B.Sc, B.Ed, MBA. Early decent marriage. Well settled, Divorced/Widower Non-Sikh also. WhatsApp Biodata 9980710134

BEAUTIFUL Pbi girl B Com(Hons) Masters B'sess Mgmt. CPA 1L 10.09.94 40 pm Delhi 9/9 Wrkg Risk Analyst Delhi 9853907765 986888661

Seeking match for a beautiful Bengali Kayastha girl, 40 years old, 5 feet 4 inches tall, medical doctor practicing in New York City. Girl was born and brought up in USA. Looking for an Indian Hindu, well educated professional, never married, between 38 and 44 years and MUST BE BROUGHT UP IN USA OR LIVING IN USA. Only serious enquiries. Please correspond BY EMAIL FIRST with recent photo, biodata, and WhatsApp number.

anjalighosh727@gmail.com
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BY RELIGION

CHRISTIAN

SUITABLE match 4 Christian Prof'st girl 31, 5'5" wheatish, good looking, B.tech employed MNC prof'ly well qualified, employed boy from Hindi speaking Christian fmly. 9542645407 / 9701551480.

B'FUL, Charming, Wheatish 32/5'5" B.com (H), LL.B, LL.M, well std rptd. fmly seeks hgly qld nmr Delhi/NCR boy 951048236. E: rose727@gmail.com

CNI Girl, Fair, Slim, B.Tal 88 born 5'3" MBA, wkg Top MNC, well std rptd fmly seeks qld nmr Delhi/NCR boy 951048236. E: rose727@gmail.com

PQM for fair Qld, Christian Girl 1988/5'4" Issueless Divorced, working in Delhi both Married & Unmarried can Contact- 8052519251

HINDU

ORTHODONTIST good looking 5'7"/95 Hindu brah. seeks prof. well qual. Delhi-NCR based Hindu boy Cont. 9811284500, ramanrini@hotmail.com

PG Employed Groom from Tamil/South Ind Family required for Tamil Muddalar girl. Works in London PG(Ph) 28 yrs/165 Cms. Strictly no dowry. Write to dngrbl@dyanoy.in

PUNJABI Khatri (Radha Sonni, Beas follows) family invites proposal for their daughter 28/5'3" Beautiful, Slim B.Tech working in Noida MNC, Caste no bar, Teetotaler and Vegetarian. Father in Govt. Service Ph:9650111736

ALLIANCE invited Tall spk Bhillava girl, fair, 37, 5'5", never married, MBA (Fin) wkg MNC Blore. Qualified, Grad / Post Grad, employed suitable boy dnksks.93376@gmail.com / mob 9844517464

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anjalighosh727@gmail.com
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Please text before calling.

MUSLIM girl, 1994, 5'1", Regular Govt employee. Chandigarh. Father retired gazetted officer. Contact: 700982727

SUNNI Sheikh very well-off family Looking 4 Prof. stud boy 40 -45 yrs. 5'8", MBA, wkg in Patna based, 5'1" well settled Wkg Girl. Sub caste no bar. # 870957868. E: toide2024@gmail.com

MUSLIM boy 1993 Born / 5'10" MBBS / MD/ doctor / UK / is looking for a match for early marriage (Neha 736384551)

SUNNI Muslim, Sheikh Siddiqui fair girl 33/53/ M.Sc. B.Ed. recent marriage. PHD. MBA well settled boy. M: 738808333, 842238333.

WANTED boy for our medico girl 5'3"/32, fair, doctor Sheikh, Zed, Mughal medico or govt employee preferred w/Ph 8267019126

SUNNI Muslim MBBS girl, 29 years old, fair complexion, height 5'3". Seeking a suitable match with MD/MS qualified boys. WhatsApp: 9414036766.

RESP. qualified Family's SM UM Beautiful 29/5/3ft PhD eng 60k, few white spots on legs completely gone after treatment. 8297040551

BE (CS) 30 year Engineer Girl Reputed Sunni Muslim family working in MNC Wkg Delhi 9425608403, 9340132796

SEEKING match for beautiful Muslim girl, US Citizen 5'4"/22. Preference to Doctors & Engineers. Contact: drs176@gmail.com

SEEKING suitable match for Sunni Muslim Shaikh 92 born /5'2", PG, B.Ed fair, smart, deendar working girl from stat us family. Contact 9651000524.

SM for Sunal Syed Muslim 25/5'6" b'val fair B.Des. In NIIFT wkg for reptd brand. Well.ed. sunni family Wapp bio-data 894032081.

AJMER-BASED Sunni Muslim family invites proposals for their 35/5'5", M.A. in English, Fair, conv. (Psychology) from a reputed Daughter. Seeking a suitable match at early marriage. WhatsApp at +91 941009858

SUITABLE Match for Kayastha beautiful Girl 1993 born, MBA, PhD (Psychology) from a reputed family, Caste No Bar. Contact: 9415108105.

HIGHLY AFFLUENT SUNNI MUSLIM FAMILY

Looking For SUITABLE MATCH FOR A BEAUTIFUL GIRL

Age 33/ Height 5'3"

Convent educated with graduation from England and culinary course from New York.

Boy should be from a business family or in highly paid job in MNC

NO MARRIAGE BUREAU PLEASE

Contact: **6398277025**
7607959526
saba@parkeexports.in

SIKH

Chandigarh based very high status Gursikh Industrialist Family of reputed seek alliance for their Smart Attractive Intelligent Daughter 29/5'5" Convent Educated Law Graduate into family business, wish to hear from handsome well educated gursikh boy belong to a prominent Industriaist / High business family

CALL AT 9711995169

OR MAIL US AT onway5390@gmail.com

GENERAL

CASTE NO BAR

SM for slim, beautiful, introvert, sensitive, MBBS girl, 5'5", 92 born, well off family, father hayhai Kshatriya, ret'd DR, GOI, mother Brahmin Enggr - NCO. Want well settled, tall medico/ professional/businessman, good family background, boy from MBBS/MD/MS/PG/PhD no bar. 898200055, 9732543491

MS (HR/TISS) & Eco.(Hons/LSR), B.Tal girl, 5'7"/87born. Working in US based MNC as HOD. 70/LPA. CNB, Wapp: call: 9818542779, 9899018945.

STATUS match for B.Tech IT girl W/FH wkg MNC 1994/5'5", 55 LPA. 7087408123

SUITABLE match for Sikh Khatri girl Issueless divorcee. 82 yr old, MBA working in Gurgaon, Clean honest family. Caste No Bar. # 9868325151.

CASTE NO BAR, 30/54/ Legal Professional, Working with Gol, Kayastha, Family well settled. Father & Brother-in-Law are senior Civil Servants. Looking for a suitable groom in Dehradun. Send details at: 9886945489

RAJPUT b'val, slim, fair girl 5'2"/Feb. 88 Eng.(H), MBA wkg Mer-Gr 4. Ggn 20-LPA, family std edd upper CNB, Wapp Profile & Pics # 995329792

WELL Settled PQM4 Punjabi Girl B.Tal Fair Slim 5'6" / 84 B.Tech / PG, Wkg in Dubai in PGI MS Rohak, Preferable non Bar. M. 7717839665

1985 born MBA IT unmarried Jain, 5'7 slim attractive girl seeks a home veg match India & Abroad. Email: lordshiv atma@gmail.com / 9748408183

KAHAR Bhoi Girl, July 1991/5', MBA, M.A. Eco and Eng. B.Ed, Senior PGT Commerce, Rajpur seeks educated and well earning groom. All Hindu accepted Contact: 9406097270

B.TECH IT, MS wrkg Blore 81/3'4", nvr mrd, SC (Chamar) girl, parents Delhi, Native UP, caste no bar. Call: 8819478760. E: inboxmetta@gmail.com

MBA(HR) & MA (Eng.) b'val Mather Girl, Nov 89, 5'5", belongs to a reptd family. Seeks well settled match. Caste no bar. # 9814607232, 9914142232

RAJPUT Girl Eng. (H) MBA Aug 1994/5'5" wrkg big media house GGN. Upper middle class family. Anshik Mglk. Seeks only upper caste # 982117791

KAYASTHA 28/5'3", working at JNV, Central Govt residential school as TGT English teacher. Looking for JNV teacher within 34 yrs, minimum 5'6" ht. M-748893539

PHD Artificial intelligence from Europe. Research scientist. Meta USA. B.Tal Punjabi Arora girl 30/5'4" wstd fmly. Pref. upr cast. ph: 9814927827

B.TECH Fair Girl working in MNC, Software Architect, Pkg 60 LPA, NV 89, 85.47, Jatav. Seeks suitable alliance, Wapp No. 9987003130, 982302743

RAJPUT Girl Eng. (H) MBA Aug 1994/5'5" wrkg big media house GGN. Upper middle class family. Anshik Mglk. Seeks only upper caste # 982117791

SUITABLE Match for Kayastha beautiful Girl 1993 born, MBA, PhD (Psychology) from a reputed family, Caste No Bar. Contact: 9415108105.

To book your ad **Logon to: ads.timesgroup.com** or Call: 18001205474 (Toll Free)

EliteMatrimony
Exclusive matchmaking service for elites from matrimony.com group

ELITE BRIDES WANTED

CASTE NO BAR, JAIN, 45, 170 cms, Working Professional, Masters. Lives in Bangalore. Father is a retired person. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366530294

CASTE NO BAR, BANIIYA, 31, 178 cms, Working Professional, Masters. Lives in Canada. Father is a retired as CEO. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible match from India/Abroad. Contact: 6366530294

CASTE NO BAR, ARORA, 30, 180 cms, Working Professional, Masters. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Working Professional. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366530294

CASTE NO BAR, ARORA, 30, 180 cms, Working Professional, Masters. Lives in Delhi. Father is a Working Professional. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a suitable match. Contact: 6366530294

SM for talented, beautiful charming issueless G.Pn based doctor working in shrt mrg 4/8/83.5'3" M.Phil, Ph.D wrking MNC. Caste no bar - 9818104339

PQM for 53' Rajput CA girl wkg in GGN, DOB 25/03/87: 40/AM Delhi. pundhir. sujanit@gmail.com / 9818629991

PB Khatri 1988 born 5'4" bachelor b'val girl B.Tech M.Tech MBA wkg in top MNC as CEO pkg 55LPA seeks good life partner caste no bar 9818272742

PUNJABI Khatri girl, 32, 5'7, MBA; diplomat status , born Delhi, well settled in Poland seeks high qualified affluent groom .Never married. Non-smoker. Age 31/35. Working in ready to relocate to Europe or USA (Washington DC). 9870376158

BRAHMIN 26/5/4 B.Tal, fair, slim girl B.Tech IIT MBA wkg in MNC 20 Lpa only Child Father. Contact: 826994986, 8269898223

ALLIANCE for fair, 1992 Born / 5'4", Kayastha Girl, B.E. MBA (IM), 30 LPA, Caste No Bar. Ph: 902625513 / 9820983306

SIXH IT, Masters(USA), 1985, 5'4", fair, never married girl working in USA. WhatsApp +91-9979413156

B.ED Manglik, Talented, Well Qld, Girl with liberal education, working in reputed School / University, 31Yrs (21 Apr 93, 0910 Hrs. Kochi)/ 5'2" Fair, Govt Medical Officer Managing Trustee of NGO. Upper middle class Punjabi family Settled in Canada bsd groom. Father Sr. Doctor. Wapp:

Why gun permit shouldn't be cancelled: Cops to Khedkar mom

Pune: City police on Saturday issued a notice to Manorama Khedkar, mother of probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar, asking why her firearm licence should not be cancelled over a rioting and threatening case registered against her on Friday by the Paud police in rural Pune, reports Gitesh Shelke.

A video clip in which Manorama is seen waving a firearm during an argument with some farmers over a land dispute at Dhadawali, in Mulshi, was widely circulated on social media on Friday. Pune Rural police verified the video and confirmed that it was shot during the incident on June 5, 2023. They booked Manorama based on a complaint by a farmer.

Pune police commissioner Amitesh Kumar said on Saturday, "We checked our records and found that Pune police had issued the firearm licence to Manorama Khedkar in 2000. However, the same was not meant for misuse of the way it has been seen in the video. We will take appropriate legal action after receiving her reply to our notice."

A senior Pune cop told TOI, "We are yet to verify the purpose for which Manorama had sought the firearm licence and on what grounds the same was issued to her." Manorama's lawyer, Ravindra Sutar, had said on Friday that the land dispute is pending before the civil court at Shivajinagar in Pune.

TOI tried to call Manorama on her cell phone but the call could not be connected. TOI also made calls and sent a text message to Puja Khedkar's father, Dilip Khedkar, to seek his version of the issue but there was no response from him till time of going to press.

SP (Pune Rural) Pankaj Deshmukh told TOI on Saturday, "Our team visited the village to conduct a spot panchanama report and to record statements of witnesses."

District hosp issued 2 disability certs to IAS trainee: Surgeon

Nisha.Nambiar
@timesofindia.com

Pune: Ahmednagar district civil hospital officials confirmed on Saturday that the hospital had twice issued "persons with disability certificates" twice to probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar — once in 2018 and again in 2021. The certificates were issued by two separate committees.

District civil surgeon Dr Sanjay Ghogare told TOI on Saturday that one committee issued the first disability certificate to Khedkar on April 25, 2018 for low vision, and another issued the second certificate on Jan 19, 2021 for multiple disabilities. He said the second certificate covered both low vision and mental illness (depression).

He said two or three member panels were appointed to verify disability status of the applicant.

Khedkar had submitted a PwBD (persons with benchmark disability) certificate at the time of appearing for her UPSC exam. Disability activists, including Rafiq Khan, sought a probe into the certificates issued to her. Khedkar's father had earlier said she had all the relevant documents and they would be submitted to the agencies investigating the issue. Repeated attempts by TOI to contact the Khedkar family went in vain.

Ghogare said, "We have been told to submit a detailed report on the certificates to Ahmednagar collector S Salimath by Tuesday. Copies of the certificate, test reports and other probe reports would be there in the files."

Ahmednagar district collector Salimath said he



One committee issued the first certificate to Puja Khedkar (in pic) on April 25, 2018 for low vision, and another issued the second on Jan 19, 2021 for multiple disabilities, district civil surgeon Dr Ghogare said

had asked the district civil hospital to verify if the documents were issued to Khedkar. "A detailed report is expected from the hospital next week," he said.

Khedkar first courted controversy for allegedly using a beacon and a "Govt of Maharashtra" insignia on her car while she was posted in Pune. She was transferred to Washim on July 8. Centre on Thursday constituted a single-member committee comprising an additional secretary to Govt of India to verify the candidature claims and other details of Khedkar.

Maharashtra commissioner of disability Pravin Kundlik Puri had told Pune commissioner of police (CP) and Pune district collector in writing on Friday to investigate on priority the authenticity of Khedkar's disability certificates and register a case if they were found to be fake. Puri said on Saturday he would check with the Ahmednagar collector about the documents.

Pune Joint CP Ranjan Kumar Sharma told TOI, "We have received the application and are enquiring about it. Most probably the certificate(s) was issued from Ahmednagar."

Now, 'GOI' tags on Khedkar dad's campaign cars under lens

Pune: Maharashtra police have launched a probe into two new videos that surfaced Saturday, one of which purportedly shows IAS trainee officer Puja Khedkar's father Dilip Khedkar on Lok Sabha poll campaign trail in Ahmednagar in a Mitsubishi Pajero with a Govt of India brass plate on the front bumper, report Gitesh Shelke and Nisha Nambiar.

The other video purportedly shows another vehicle, a Toyota Land Cruiser, with a similar plate in Khedkar's convoy. Dilip, a retired senior Maharashtra govt official, was a VBA candidate from Ahmednagar constituency in the recently concluded Lok Sabha elections. Law prohibits use of such brass plates on private vehicles.

The Toyota Land Cruiser, incidentally, is the same vehicle in an older video in which Puja's mother Manorama is seen to have travelled to Pune's Mulshi village on June 5, 2023, where she is seen waving a pistol at farmers.

Authorities at Pune regional transport office confirmed the Mitsubishi Pajero seen in the video was registered on Sept 25, 2009, in the name of Thermoverita Engineering Pvt Ltd. The same company also holds the registration for the Audi car which Puja used during her posting at Pune collector's office with a red and blue beacon light and 'Maharashtra govt' plate on it.

The Toyota Land Cruiser was registered on Aug 6, 2019, in the name of Pooja Automobiles, in which Manorama and Dilip are partners, according to their election affidavits.

Pune joint commissioner of police Ranjan Kumar Sharma told TOI: "The two videos have originated from Ahmednagar district and police there are taking necessary action." Ahmednagar SP Rakesh Ola confirmed the probe.

PM: Want Mum to be fintech hub, Maha tourism capital



PM Narendra Modi with Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde and deputy CM Devendra Fadnis in Mumbai on Saturday

In the third term, NDA govt will work at thrice the speed. Maharashtra has the power of industry, agriculture, finance sector and this has made Mumbai the finance centre. I want to make Mumbai the fintech capital and Maharashtra the tourism capital of the country, he said.

He said, "Mumbai has completed Coastal Road and Atal Setu and there were attempts to delay it, but today 20,000 cars are using it (Atal Setu) daily. Also, because of it, fuel worth Rs 20-25 lakh is getting saved. With this ap-

Modi urges Indian media to enhance global footprint

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: PM Narendra Modi on Saturday urged the media to expand its global influence by extending its social media outreach to international languages recognised by the UN. He also sought its cooperation to instill "a sense of duty among citizens" as the country celebrates 75th anniversary of the Constitution.

Modi said role of newspapers is crucial to journey of Viksit Bharat. "Media is not a mute spectator to the happenings in the country. It is also responsible for bringing about change and granting direction. Citizens of a nation who gain confidence in their capabilities begin to achieve new heights of success. This is happening in India today," he said.

The PM spoke after he inaugurated the B wing of the

INS Towers (Indian Newspaper Society) in Bandra-Kurla Complex in Mumbai. The 14-storey structure comprises 1.25 lakh sq-ft of space which houses the offices of several newspapers. INS is an 85-year-old institution that was established in 1939. It has 800 members on its rolls.

The PM unveiled a plaque bearing his name at the entrance. CM Eknath Shinde, deputy CMs Devendra Fadnis and Ajit Pawar and governor Ramesh Bais joined him upon the dais.

Lauding the efforts of INS, Modi said, "INS came into existence well before Independence and its work has benefited many people."

PM said, "Media makes people aware of their rights and their own capability. It deserves credit for promoting govt's programmes like Digital India."

Vistara CEO may be back in Singapore Airlines with AI brass set for key roles in merged entity

Saurabh Sinha | TNN

New Delhi: Vistara CEO Vinod Kannan could be headed back to Singapore Airlines (SIA) as Tata Group is all set to merge this full service carrier (FSC) into Air India before the year end, say sources. SIA will have 25.1% stake in the merged AI.

The merged Vistara-AI Air India is likely to see AI current management team in most key positions. However, a senior AI official said the management structure

for the merged entity is yet to be finalised.

Kannan, who is among the key players credited with Vistara's passenger-friendly image, is a SIA veteran who had joined the mega southeast Asian carrier in 2001. Just over a decade back Tata and SIA decided to create a JV FSC in India, Vistara, which started flying in Jan 2015.

Kannan was sent on secondment to Vistara in June 2019, when he was chief commercial officer Scoot (SIA LCC) and before that he was SIA VP. "He is likely to return to Singapore Airlines now as Vistara sunsets," say sources.

AI is now facing increasing restiveness from passengers 2.5 years after the Tata takeover on several fronts but especially these two: poor onboard experience on old planes that received no upkeep during Maharaja's PSU years and a tacky on-time performance. Despite very high fares (especially on international routes, and those too medium to long hauls), passengers are not beginning to feel short-changed. Vistara was seemingly better of the two Tata Group full service carriers (other being AI) strictly from a passenger perspective and that will be gone before the year end. "While AI turnaround is the most challenging exercise in contemporary aviation, it has to improve quickly otherwise passengers will be doubly unhappy with Vistara being disbanded when AI still had a very long way to go," said multiple stakeholders of AI.

'We had checked docus and found them to be authentic govt records'

Continued from P 1

Probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar is under multiple investigations for submitting a non-creamy layer certificate to UPSC, despite owning properties worth at least Rs17 crore, including family gifts.

Her selection under the benchmark disabilities category is also under review.

According to Bhore, it was the medical college's first batch when Khedkar joined.

"Khedkar had also attempted the Maharashtra common entrance test for medical admissions. But her AMUPMDC score was higher than the state CET. She had

College records indicate Khedkar scored 83% in Class 10 & 74% in Class 12 state board exams. She earned her MBBS degree in 2011-12 after academics and internship at Navale College

provided a non-creamy layer certificate of the NT-3 category of the Vanjari community at the time of admission. We checked all the documents at the time of submission and found them to be authentic govt records," college director Arvind Bhore said.

When TOI contacted Khed-

kar, her cellphone was switched off. She also hadn't responded to text messages till the time of going to press.

College records indicate Khedkar scored 83% in Class 10 and 74% in Class 12 state board exams.

She earned her MBBS degree in 2011-12 after completing academics and internship at Navale College. During her internship, she was stationed at the community medicine department.

"Her conduct was fine and she passed all her semesters with ease while her internship at the hospital was also completed on time," Bhore said.

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH

Sector-30, Noida,
Gautam Buddha Nagar-201303
(An Autonomous Institute under Govt. of Uttar Pradesh)

Advt No. PGICH, Date: 13.07.2024
Noida/Nur.Off./2024/ 21

Online applications are invited from Indian Nationals for regular recruitment to the post of Nursing Officer (Previously known as Staff Nurse Sister Grade-2) on prescribed format on website: www.pgich.edu.in

Date of Start of Application - 01st August, 2024
Last Date for Submission - 03rd September, 2024

Director

PASHCHIMANCHAL VIDYUT VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

(A Govt. of UP Undertaking)
Urja Bhawan, Victoria Park, Meerut 250001

"PUBLIC NOTICE FOR PUBLIC HEARING"

It is for the information of stakeholders of P.V.V.N.L that, On the petition filed before Hon'ble U.P. Electricity Regulatory Commission Lucknow for Determination of Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR)/ Tariff for FY 2024-25, Annual Performance Review (APR) for FY 2023-24 and True-up for FY 2022-23, a public hearing will be organised by the Hon'ble UP Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC) on 20-07-2024, 11:00 AM onwards at Atal Sahbagar, Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Ramgarhi, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh 250001. This is for the kind information of all stakeholders of P.V.V.N.L Chief Engineer (Commercial). "Save Electricity in the Interest of the Nation." RO 2580 dt 12.07.2024

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Directorate of Floriculture (G & P) Department Kashmir
Tele-fax : 0194-2482032 e-mail kashflori@rediffmail.com

Subject :- Extension No. 01.

In view of poor response, the last date for submission of bids invited vide this office e-Tender Notice No. 11 of 2024 dated 20.06.2024 for Supply of Good Quality Germplasm of different varieties of Tulip and other Bulbs for Ornamental purpose for Tulip Show-2025 is hereby extended as per the details given below :-

1. Period of downloading of bidding document	11/07/2024 from 03:30 PM to 20/07/2024 up to 02:00 PM
2. Bid submission Start Date	11/07/2024 from 04:00 PM
3. Bid submission End date	20/07/2024 up to 02:00 PM
4. Date and time of Opening of Tenders online	23/07/2024 at 02:00 PM

Other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid Tender Notice.

No.- DFK/GS-726/881-83
Dated:- 11/07/2024
DIP No: DPK-2880/24

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P)
DEPARTMENT KASHMIR
Tel - 0194 - 2474234 Fax - 2482032 -
email :- kashflori@rediffmail.com

GIST of e-Tender Notice No. 25 of 2024 Dated :- 10/07/2024

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of J&K UT, bids are invited from interested bidders for Outsourcing of entry ticketing system of Mughal Garden Cheshmashahi, Srinagar of Floriculture Department Kashmir as per details given below :-

The bidders have to quote their bid amount in the concerned BOQ :-

S. No.	Period of contract	Reserve Bid (Rs. in Lakhs)	Value of security deposit @ 10%	Cost of tender document
1.	(01) One year from the date of award of contract	Rs. 1,52,39,800.00	Rs. 15,23,980.00	Rs. 3000.00 in the shape of e-challan

The bidding document(s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the Departmental website www.dofkashmir.com/ www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below :-

1. Period of downloading of bidding document	11.07.2024 from 02:00 PM to 31.07.2024 up to 02:00 PM
2. Bid submission Start Date	11.07.2024 from 02:30 PM
3. Bid submission End date	31.07.2024 up to 02:00 PM
4. Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	03.08.2024 at 02:00 PM

In case of any eventuality, the date of opening will be considered on any other convenient working day.

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)

DIP No: DPK-2882/24/12/07/2024

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tendering Notice No. 2024-Jul-02 dated : 12.07.24

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), N.C. Rly Agra for and on behalf of the President of India invites "Open Tender" through on Line only (E-Tendering) for the following works. The details of the tender are as under:

SN : 1	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-01	Approx Cost Rs.:	5274318.00
Description of work : Carrying out Gradient verification of stations yards and sections using LIDAR Survey technology under Sr. DEN/II/Agra jurisdiction			
SN : 2	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-02	Approx Cost Rs.:	12503246.72
Description of work : Replacement of Existing Steel Girder Bridge No. 1399/2 in MTJ-PWL section			
SN : 3	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-03	Approx Cost Rs.:	11795584.26
Description of work : Improvement of Staff Quarters in Mathura-Alwar section.			
SN : 4	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-04	Approx Cost Rs.:	35814584.81
Description of work : A- Deep Screening & muck removal at MTJ & BAD yards B. MTJ-PWL section TRR(P) 9.67 Kms C-MTJ-PWL section : Through rubber pad & liner replacement.			
SN : 5	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-05	Approx Cost Rs.:	39371753.37
Description of work : (A) Improvement of drainage at LHS no. 362 by Box culvert in Mathura-Achhnera section. (B) Mathura-Palwal-Replacement of Arch Bridge no. 1433/3 of UP & DN span 1x0.47 m span and other minor bridges with RCC box culvert. (C) Rehabilitation of bridge no 1436/2 with protective works etc. in Mathura-Palwal section.			
SN : 6	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-06	Approx Cost Rs.:	5761860.00
Description of work : Carrying out Gradient verification of stations yards and sections using LIDAR Survey technology under Sr. DEN/II/Agra jurisdiction.			
SN : 7	Tender No. 2024-Jul-02-07	Approx Cost Rs.:	537237.75
Description of work : Kiraoli & Mirhakar-Supply of potable water for stations and colony for 15 Months.			

For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website "www.ireps.gov.in" Tenders can only be submitted through web portal "www.ireps.gov.in" up to 15.00 hrs on 02.08.24 1222/24 (D)

North central railways @ www.nctrailways.gov.in @northcentralrailway @CPRONCR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER GENERATION DIVISION

BAGLIHAR HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT-I CHANDERKOTE

Email : xenegenbhep1@gmail.com

E-NIT No : 03/BHEP-I of 2024-25
Dated : 06-07-2024

E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-tender (in two parts) on behalf of Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Power Development Corporation, are invited from the registered Contractors / Firms / Joint Ventures having specific experience for below mentioned work :

S. No.	Scope of work	Period of Contract	Estimated Cost of work (IN Rs.)	EMD (IN Rs.)	Cost of Tender document (IN Rs.)
1	Annual Maintenance Routine Maintenance and operational support of Electro Mechanical Equipments installed at 450 MW (3x150) BHEP STAGE-I for TWO years.	TWO YEARS w.e.f the date of issuance of LOA	Rs 3,61,88,705/- (Rupees Three Crores, sixty one Lakh, eighty eight Thousand, seven Hundred and five ONLY) including GST	7,24,000/-	10,000/-

Position of Funds : Available
T.S. = Accorded
AAA = Accorded

Critical Dates :

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06-07-2024
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	09-07-2024 to 30-07-2024
3	Pre-Bid meeting in the office of the Chief Engineer Electric BHEP, Chanderkote, Distt Ramban J&K	15-07-2024
4	Bid submission Start Date	16-07-2024
5	Bid Submission End Date	30-07-2024 upto 04 :00 PM
6	Date & time of opening of tech Bids (Online)	01-08-2024 at 03:00 PM

Note : Any request by mail, post, by hand, by fax or telegraphically for any modification, addition, deletion etc. in the tender shall not be considered after Pre-Bid meeting date.

- Complete bidding process will be online. Price bid as well as pre-qualification documents not to be submitted in physical form. However, the same shall be obtained by the Department/ JKPDC management from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial bid. The bidder will be out rightly rejected if any discrepancy is observed in the uploaded documents & the hard copies submitted by the bidder.
- Tender fee should be deposited in account of Chief pay and Accounts Officer, BHEP, Chanderkote with Account No. as 0240010200000002
IFSC code as JAKA0CHNDAR
Bank : J&K bank Ltd Chanderkote
- As per the guidelines of J&K Finance Department, Cost of tender document is to be paid in the shape of E-challan/ treasury challan only, in favour of Chief Pay & Accounts officer BHEP Chanderkote. The prospective bidders will have to upload the copy of the same online, while submitting the online technical bid.
- The E-Challan/treasury challan copy, pre-qualification/technical bid documents shall be submitted online only on or before due date and time of submission of bid. The e-bids not accompanied with tender document fee of requisite amount shall be out rightly rejected.
- Bid must be accompanied by Bid security (EMD), which should be in the shape of Bank Guarantee/ CDR/FDR of any NATIONALISED BANK pledged to Chief Pay & Accounts Officer BHEP Chanderkote.

No.-GD/BHEP-I/T/15-22
Dated:-06/07/2024

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Generation Division BHEP-I
Chanderkote.

DIP No: DPK-1072-P/24/12.07.2024

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No. [05 - D, I & J 2024-25-WV]

- Name of work with its location:
S.N. (D) Development of Goods shed at Farukh Nagar (FN) in the section of SSE/W/ GGN under ADEN/DEE
Similar nature of work:- Any Civil work other than track work.
S.N. (I) Urgent Repair to drain & washable apron between Platform 5&6 and Platform 7&8 at HN2M
Similar nature of work:- Any Civil work involving concreting work.
- S.N. (J) Survey of Track for Pre tamping and post tamping, design mode tamping work on high speed route between NDL5-PWL & DEE-RE section for running of 160KMPH high speed trains
Approx. Cost of work: S.N. (D) Rs. 1,43,57,112.31, (I) Rs. 59,99,953.90, (J) Rs. 29,40,723.24
- Earnest Money Deposit: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. Note:- FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no. 201025/CE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016)
S.N. (D) Rs. 2,21,800.00, (I) Rs. 1,20,000.00, (J) Rs. 58,800.00
- Completion period of work: S.N. (D) 06 Months, (I) 06 Months, (J) 06 Months
- Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15.00 hrs. on 06.08.2024. Opening of tender at 15.00 hrs. on 06.08.2024
- Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.:- Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
No.: 128-W/280/OET/2023-24/W-V/NIT-05 - D, I & J Date: 13.07.2024 2148/24

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POWER, PRAYERS & BLESSINGS

Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant's post-wedding 'Shubh Aashirwad' (Divine Blessings) ceremony saw new illustrious guests, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, former PMs, political heavyweights, and spiritual leaders from various Vedic Hindu traditions. Star power continued to soar as glamorous artistes, businessmen and sports legends returned to the Jio World Centre at BKC on Saturday.

"This is the final and the most auspicious ceremony and the last wedding in our family," the groom's father, Mukesh Ambani, had remarked, reflecting on Friday's lavish nuptials. "Marriage is the basis of family, community, society, and the larger human family... thus the most essential guarantor of continuity, cohesion, wellbeing, and progress of the human race. Therefore, the matrimony of Anant and Radhika commits them to serve humanity as a whole," he continued, describing the celebrations "curated" by his wife Nita as a "deeply immersive experience of India's rich culture and spirit of a traditional Indian wedding," set against the backdrop of a Varanasi-inspired venue and, of course, a rare assembly of powerful figures at a wedding ceremony that has captured the imagination of observers



Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh



Sachin and Anjali Tendulkar



Amruta and Devendra Fadnis



Hollywood stylist Law Roach



Former UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Ranbir Kapoor



Mukesh and Anant Ambani with Akhilesh Yadav



Kim and Khloe Kardashian



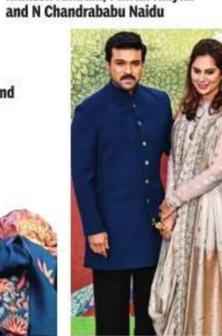
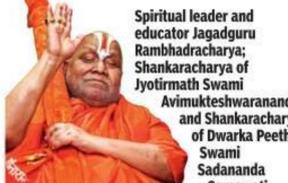
Rashmika Mandanna



Mukesh Ambani, Pawan Kalyan and N Chandrababu Naidu



(From left) Uddhav Thackeray; Lalu Prasad Yadav with Rabri Devi, Tejaswini, Tej Pratap and family; Eknath Shinde



Ram Charan and Upasana Kamineni; Siddharth Roy Kapur and Vidya Balan; Riteish and Genelia Deshmukh; Madhuri Dixit and Shriram Nene

Villages on LAC 'deserted', Shah bats for jobs growth

Panel Gives Report To U'khand CM, Suggests Repopulation Measures

Kalyan.Das@timesofindia.com

Dehradun: Uttarakhand's rural development and migration prevention commission submitted a report to the chief minister on Friday in which it stated that 11 villages near the Indo-China border in the districts of Uttarakashi, Chamoli and Pithoragarh were "completely empty with no residents there".

The report was submitted following a ground survey of 137 border villages last year during which the 11 identified ones were found to have no residents.

Speaking on the report, vice-chairman of the commission, SS Negi told TOI that four teams of the commission had carried out the ground survey of the villages. "Of the 11 villages, six are in Pithoragarh district — Gunkana, Lum, Khimling, Sagri Dhakhdauna, Sumatu and Poting; three in Chamoli district — Rewal Chak Kurkuti, Fagti and Lamtol; and two in Uttarakashi — Nelang and Jadung. I'd visited the two Uttarakashi villages which have been empty since the 1962 Indo-China war. They were emptied by the Army then as a precautionary measure. Today, they host the Army and ITBP posts, but no residents," said Negi.

He said that the report submitted by the commission comprises several suggestions for the govt to repopulate them. Negi added: "Some of them include promoting border tourism in those areas by relaxing accessibility norms and providing 200 days' employment instead of 100 days under the MGNREGA programme in the border villages. We've also suggested the govt to develop the places situated near the 51 border villages identified as 'Vibrant Villages' by the Centre by considering them as a cluster. Efforts should be made to promote tourism in those villages so that people get livelihood opportunities."

Mantri pitches for co-op boost, green energy use in border villages

New Delhi: Union home minister Amit Shah, who on Saturday reviewed the implementation of the 'Vibrant Villages Programme' (VVP) aimed at accelerated and integrated development of villages bordering China, stressed the need to create job opportunities for their residents, have local agricultural and handicraft products sourced by cooperatives, and maximise use of green energy in them, reports Bharti Jain.

Chairing the meeting on VVP, attended by Union home secretary and ITBP DG, Shah said the Narendra Modi govt is committed to the all-round development of the border villages by increasing their connectivity with the rest of India, thus preventing out-migration by their residents.

Shah, who is also the minister of cooperation, said that Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Army deployed around the border villages should encourage purchase of local agricultural and handicrafts through cooperatives. He underlined that the healthcare facilities of Army and CAPFs should be regularly made available to benefit the residents of nearby villages. He stressed upon maximum use of solar energy & other renewable sources of energy like windmills etc in these villages.

PM Modi prefers to call the border villages as 'first villages', a change from the past when they were referred to as 'last villages'. VVP was launched in Feb last year in a bid to win over the hearts and confidence of border residents, who form the first line of defence against any border transgressions or war. Happy border population makes the base for a stronger information network, was the mantra behind the VVP initiative.

Arrested K'taka ex-mantri ran tribal funds racket: ED

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Former Congress minister B Nagendra orchestrated the scam in Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited, where funds up to Rs 94 crore were embezzled, Enforcement Directorate said in its remand application.

"On his directions, the accounts of the corporation were transferred from Vasant Nagar branch of Union Bank of India to its MG Road branch. Nagendra held meetings with officials and others at a hotel to pressure them to illegally divert the money," the application said. Arrested by ED late Friday night, Nagendra was produced before a special judge for elected representatives Saturday, and remanded in six-day custody.

Tribal youth's death triggers violence in Tripura, 4 held

Agartala: Violence erupted in Gandatwisa subdivision of Tripura's Dhalai district, with two groups clashing over the death of a youth on Friday night, which left seven policemen injured, reports Biswendu Bhattacharjee.

Prohibitory orders were imposed on Saturday for two days under section 163 of BNS. A large posse of security personnel has been deployed to maintain peace. Tension escalated the previous night after the death of Parameshwar Reang, 21, who had been thrashed by a group of people in a fair ground on July 7. Police have arrested four persons involved in the attack on Parameshwar and all of them are in judicial custody.

Parody a/c behind fake post on Birla: Rathee; Cops say probe on to identify culprits

Mumbai: Cyber police on Saturday said they are continuing their investigation to identify those responsible for a social media post alleging that Lok Sabha Speaker MP Om Birla's daughter Anjali had cleared the UPSC exam without appearing for it, even as YouTuber Dhruv Rathee denied any

role in the matter. Rathee in a post said: "The alleged post was done by some random parody Twitter(X) account. I have nothing to do with this." Maharashtra nodal cyber police on Wednesday registered an FIR against X handle Dhruv Rathee (parody) @dhruvrathee under BNS sections

for defamation and the Information Technology (IT) Act. Police said they registered the offence on a complaint from a relative of Om Birla. Meanwhile, the suspect on Saturday uploaded the message on his handle Dhruv Rathee (parody) @dhruvrathee: "As directed by @MahaCyber1,

I have deleted all my posts and comments on Anjali Birla, I will (would) like to apologise as I was unaware about the facts and copied someone else's tweets and shared it." A senior cop said, "We have registered a case and our teams are trying to identify IP address of the X handle." TNN

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tender & notices

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I, Pratyush Kumar S/o Pradeep Kumar Sethy residing at AD 324, Salt Lake, Sector 1, Bidhannagar, CC Block, Kolkata 700064 have changed my name to Pratyush Kumar Sethy vide affidavit Ist Class Judicial Magistrate, Alipore, Kolkata dated 24.06.2024. Henceforth will be known as Pratyush Kumar Sethy. Both the person is the same & one identical.

IT is for general information that I MOHD FAISAL s/o MOHD WAHID residing at C-507, near SKV school Gokulpuri District North East Delhi-110094 declare that the name of my father and mother have been wrongly written as MOHD VAHEED and ANGURI BEGUM in 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my father and mother are MOHD WAHID and ANGOORI BEGAM, which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

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New criminal laws demand much more forensic investigation. But most forensic labs across the country face crippling staff shortages. Delays in testing evidence were the norm even under the old laws. The problem will likely get far worse.

A state-by-state report on the sorry state of India's forensic investigation capacity

TEAM TOI

This ain't no CSI. Or even those sleek Indian OTT whodunits. On TV, whether it's Miami or Mumbai, competent-looking forensic specialists arrive at a crime scene ASAP. They have all the tools, and the training. Results come fast, as do convictions.

Cut to Indian reality. Most states have 60%+ forensic staff vacancy. Unsurprisingly, police has to wait for

months, sometimes more than a year, for forensic testing. That feeds into massive delays in disposal of criminal cases. If this was not grim enough, there are also an alarming number of cases of tampering with evidence, and poor chain-of-custody compliance.

And, it's all likely to get worse. India's new criminal code, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), mandates thorough forensic investigation for every crime that carries a jail term of 7 years or more. This is, law-making wise, an excellent idea. Forensic

capacity-wise, BNSS may take a stretched system close to breaking point. Or, it can further delay investigations and court proceedings. Or, it can incentivise cops to take even more shortcuts. Or, most likely, all three.

THE OVERVIEW

Forensic investigation started during the raj. The first lab was in Chennai (then, Madras), followed by Kolkata (Calcutta), Agra and Mumbai (Bombay).

Post-Independence, the network expanded. Forensic investigation now has a three-tier structure — Central Forensic Science Labs (CFSLs), State FSLs, and Regional FSLs aided by mobile forensic units. There are 117 functional FSLs, of which eight are CFSLs. This sounds a little inadequate for a vast country but not too bad. But that's only till you start taking a closer look.

A 2023 report by Project 39A, a centre that researches the criminal justice system, makes

- for grim reading. Some highlights.
- The report covered 26 FSLs and found 40% staff vacancy. Around 66% of these were scientific posts.
- It said many FSLs have inadequate space, meaning even if they had adequate personnel and equipment, there wouldn't be enough room for them.
- It also reported a "drastic decline" in DNA profiling.
- Cyber forensics and ballistics were two other areas where pendency was particularly high.
- The report says Central funding of

FSLs is "highly inconsistent". For state FSLs, bureaucracy made funding and approvals cumbersome. CFSLs were better situated on this metric.

When you drill down the forensic capacity shortfall to states, the picture becomes clearer. TOI reporters looked at forensic capacity across states, spoke to current and retired officials.

A quick summary: Southern states, except for Telangana, are much better off than most of the rest of India. Three other relative bright spots are Delhi, Chhattisgarh and Assam.

CSI: STATE BY STATE

● **KARNATAKA:** One of the success stories. With 230 scientists, 206 scene-of-crime officers (SOCO) and state-of-the-art equipment, the Karnataka FSL is perhaps the best staffed and equipped lab in the country. Well before the new laws came in, SOCO personnel would visit crime scenes along with police and collect evidence.

According to police, the staff strength is almost full and they are looking for a few vacancies to be filled in 'mobile forensic and audio-video' units. They have enough to handle the newly introduced laws, senior police officers say.

● **KERALA:** Not in Karnataka's class, but getting there. There are 168 FSL officers and govt recently sanctioned 28 more posts, out of which 17 have been filled. Recruitment is on for the remaining 11. Police have asked the govt for 98 more posts. There are 18 FSLs.

But the current capacity was good enough to ensure no major case was delayed, say cops. This, despite the number of forensic exhibits doubling from 6,506 in 2018 to 13,273 in 2022. Good forensic capacity has helped solve tough cases, like the rape and murder of a Dalit law student in Perumbavoor in Ernakulam district in 2016. A fluid sample collected by the forensic team from the victim's body cracked the case.

● **ANDHRA PRADESH:** One step below Karnataka and Kerala in forensic capacity. It has around 500 personnel working in FSLs. But it needs 300 to 400 additional forensic experts, to meet BNSS demands.

FSL joint director (admin) V Eswaramma said forensic labs examine 15,000 to 20,000 cases every year. He expects the number to go up under BNSS. She says FSLs have solved cases of rape, murder, and poisoning when witnesses have turned hostile.

V Suresh Babu, a retired DCP, said the state doesn't have a sufficient number of forensic teams or testing kits.

● **TELANGANA:** The southern laggard in the forensic capacity league. The state has 66% vacancies. According to a Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPRD) report, there are only 10 scientific officers against 25 sanctioned posts and not a single scientific assistant against 28 sanctioned posts. As for lab assistants, there are 28 posts sanctioned for the RFLSs, but only 10 have been allotted so far.

ADG Shikha Goel said the department is preparing an estimate of manpower, infrastructure and equipment needed to meet the provisions under the new laws.

● **ASSAM:** At 30% staff vacancy, it does better than many big states. And govt says recruitment is on. The directorate of forensic science in Kahilipara, Guwahati, has 11 full-fledged divisions and a DNA testing unit. There are three fully functional regional labs and two more will be ready shortly. Special forensic labs are planned in hilly districts like Karbi Anglong to deal with NDPS cases.

Director of forensic science, Athang Singson, said they have state-of-the-art equipment. Police personnel say they are confident they can meet the BNSS's forensic investigation demand.

● **TAMIL NADU:** FSLs say staffing is adequate. There are 254 scientific staff members in the forensic department, assisted by 144 technical staff in the roles of laboratory assistants and technicians. There are 103 additional staff for other roles. On equipment, too, TN does better than most. FSLs say they have enough. And the state govt recently sanctioned Rs 10.13 crore for the establishment of a new DNA Division in an RFLS. Govt has also sanctioned Rs 50 lakh to buy a bullet velocity measurement system to aid in ballistics probe.

WHAT IS FORENSIC INVESTIGATION?

Basically, using scientific methods and techniques to analyse evidence, typically in criminal cases, but sometimes also in civil cases.

A good FSL should be able to do the following: DNA analysis, fingerprint analysis, ballistics (analysing firearms, bullets, and trajectories), toxicology (identifying drugs, poisons, or other substances in body fluids), blood spatter analysis (interpreting blood patterns at crime scenes), trace evidence, which deals with studying tiny particles like fibres, hair, etc, and, last, but also the fastest growing forensic speciality, digital device analysis (desktops, laptops, tablets, smartphones).

Digital documents can include emails, server logs, documents in cloud storage, social media posts, messages, websites, locational evidence and voice mail.

● **DELHI:** FSL staff vacancy is around 17-18%. There are 500 forensic personnel. 100 posts are unfilled. Recruitment is on, and FSL expects the staff vacancy situation to ease soon.

There are 10 FSL divisions. Cops say all laboratory divisions are well-equipped. To expedite forensic sample processing, an annex building with upgraded laboratories was constructed last year.

Deepa Verma, FSL director, told TOI that forensic teams are now deployed in all 15 police districts. And that these teams received comprehensive training on the new laws and on proper evidence collection procedures at crime scenes.

● **CHHATTISGARH:** Does better than its bigger neighbour, MP. The state has 325 sanctioned FSL posts, 60 are vacant. There are 178 personnel and recruitment is on for 40 vacancies. Approval for more posts is expected, said TL Chandra, joint director, SFSL.

The state has labs in Raipur, Jagdalpur, Durg, Bilaspur and Ambikapur, and is awaiting the Centre's nod for labs in Raigarh and Rajnandgaon.

There's no forensic report pending for more than a month, but a spurt in tests is expected with the new law, said Chandra, adding that the lab handles 23,800 exhibits on an average per year.

● **WEST BENGAL:** There are 35 forensic officers. A minimum of 30 more are needed. For forensic assistant and lab assistant levels, staff shortage is 50%. A forensic officer told TOI that they are unable to make immediate crime-scene visits. One arson site was investigated 48 hours after the event — as good as not sending a team. And that's just one case.

Six months is the usual delay in submitting reports. Even for high profile cases — the recent student death at Jadavpur University due to ragging — the delay can be more than a year. When cops persist, in some cases, reports come in 60-90 days.

Bengal FSL director K Jayaraman is clear: "Without capacity addition, it will be impossible for our small team to manage the volume of work we will soon face."

India's CSI: Crime Scene Incapacity



● **MAHARASHTRA:** In 2022, Maharashtra's main forensic laboratory in Kalina, Mumbai, received 32,109 cases, but only 50% were examined. The bulk of the rest (44%) were carried forward to the next year. This is a regular practice. Of the 47,362 cases examined in 2021, 16,608 were old cases that had been "carried forward".

"The pendency of cases for forensic examination directly impacts the time taken and quality of investigation of cases," said a report by Praja, an NGO that had filed an RTI on the issue. There's 39% vacancy in Kalina FSL. As of March 2023, it had only 260 of the 426 sanctioned staff.

Navi Mumbai DCP (crime) Amit Kale said, "Post-mortem reports of more than 800 cases of accidental deaths were pending at Kalina FSL for two years."

● **ODISHA:** FSLs have 60% vacancy. Broken down by function, it's 55% for scientific officers, 65% for assistant scientific officers, and 60% for lab attendants. Of the combined sanctioned strength of 250, there are at least 150 vacancies.

DGP Arun Kumar Sarangi told TOI police have asked for more personnel. Retired SP Santosh Jena said one of Odisha's problems is that forensic staff there get headhunted by other states with better offers.

● **RAJASTHAN:** As many as 159 (36%) of the 439 sanctioned forensic posts are unfilled. SFSL has requested an additional 500 posts to deal with the expected surge in workload with the new laws. It's still awaiting state govt approval.

Rajasthan FSL director Ajay Sharma says projections show the new laws will mean forensic examination of about 60,000 crime scenes a year.

Recently, Rajasthan HC pulled up the home department for not filing an FSL report in a Pocco case. Without forensics, the court had to grant bail to the accused.

● **JHARKHAND:** Negligible, is how officers describe the forensics staff strength in Jharkhand. Each of the 24 districts needs at least four scientists. Even the FSL centre in Ranchi has 40 officers against 66 sanctioned posts, and it receives 40-45 'exhibits' for analysis every day. DG-CID Anurag Gupta said, "The FSL must be strengthened".

FSL director and special secretary (home) T Kandaswamy, said the govt "hopes" to increase personnel strength by at least 20x.

● **BIHAR:** Forensic staff shortage is at 78%. Even under old laws, it needed huge recruitment. The new laws, cops say, is something they can't even think about.

There are just three functional FSLs — in Patna, Muzaffarpur and Bhagalpur. Nine more are under construction. But each of the 38 districts needs one.

Even the worst crimes don't get prosecuted quickly: the 2012 acid attack on two Dalit sisters, the 2018 Muzaffarpur shelter home rape case, the 2013 Patna blasts case.

"We don't have adequate infrastructure to handle cases as per the new crime laws. Most labs lack modern equipment and technology, such as DNA analysis machines. The state FSL has only one cyber expert. This unit is overloaded with work," acknowledged a top FSL official.

LABS ON WHEELS

● Gujarat Forensic Science University recently launched a hi-tech lab-on-wheels.

● It has equipment to process crime scene evidence on the spot.

● Cost per van Rs 64 lakh

● Each van has a DNA sample collection kit, semen detection and collection kit with spot test card, 9 kinds of crime-detection kits, latent fingerprint development kit, explosives detection kit, light source of eight different wavelengths to detect body fluids, latent fingerprints, drugs, gunshot residue and specks of evidence not visible to the naked eye

● Vans are powered by a 5KV generator

● They are GPS-enabled

● Many states have older model mobile forensic units. Upgraded models are being used currently in Delhi, Mumbai, Gandhinagar

● Most states have too few mobile units

● Even better-performing states like Karnataka need 30-35 CSI vans. It has 14 now.

● Kerala has no mobile unit. It needs 19 vans.

● MP, a big state, needs 116 CSI vans

● Odisha has only one and needs 30

● UP has only 8, West Bengal only 5. Telangana doesn't have a single CSI van

● **HARYANA:** Haryana FSL is battling severe a staff shortage, say officials, especially cyber forensics and DNA technicians. Recruitment of 135 assistant scientific staff is pending. There is a nearly 50% vacancy for lab assistants in FSL Madhuban.

Officials, when asked, give the standard answer: we need more equipment and more personnel.

● **MADHYA PRADESH:** MP's forensics department has 299 sanctioned posts but 47% vacancy. Only 17 officers are assigned for crime-scene examination and they have to cover 53 districts.

CFSL (Bhopal) director Shashikant Shukla told TOI the state needs 876 more trained officers, including scientists, and that 508 posts have been approved. But, as he said, it will take years to get up to adequate capacity.

In most parts of MP, there is typically only one scientific officer responsible for overseeing two or more districts within a particular division. This arrangement significantly delays response times to crime scenes.

MP HC recently took up, suo motu, delays in presenting forensic and DNA reports in criminal cases. A status report submitted by govt said such reports are pending in over 2,500 cases.

TAMPER PROBLEM

A major issue with forensic investigations is whether the evidence collected, even if it's processed quickly, is actually authentic. Cases of manipulation are enough to cause concern. Mucking around with evidence can happen at the level of cops or labs. Some prominent cases:

● In the Pune Porsche case, the accused teen's blood sample was binned. Police arrested two doctors at govt-run Sassoon Hospital who discarded the 17-year-old's blood sample and switched it with another individual's.

● An India Today sting-op in Feb 2023 revealed scientists at Varanasi's FSL offered to manipulate forensic reports for a bribe. The FSL chief demanded

Rs 10 lakh to remove all signs of poison from the record in a case the undercover reporters had sought to fudge. The lab head even offered to fudge DNA samples in a Lucknow lab, against cash. In Agra, a scientist was ready to tamper with a viscera report in a dowry death case.

● Forensic probe of a set of video clippings of the Feb 9, 2021, JNU event found two videos were "manipulated" where voices of persons not present in the clips had been added. Of the seven videos sent to the Hyderabad-based Truth Labs, two were found to be tampered with while the rest were authentic.

● In 2019, CBI filed a case against a former deputy director of Delhi's FSL for tampering with evidence in multiple rape cases.

Reporting by Abhay Singh, Nandita Sengupta, Himanshi Dhawan in Delhi, Malathy Iyer in Mumbai, Sanjay Sahay in Ranchi, Debabrata Mohapatra in Bhubaneswar, Tamaghna Banerjee in Kolkata, Nitesh Sharma in Jaipur, Mukut Das in Guwahati, A Selvaraj in Chennai, Kshitiz in Patna, Rajiv Kalkod in Bengaluru, Karishma Kotwal in Indore, Rashmi Drolia in Raipur, Sai Kiran KP in Thiruvananthapuram

INQUIZITIVE

by JOY BHATTACHARJYA

- 1 Which 1994 film starring Naseeruddin Shah, Akshay Kumar, Suniel Shetty and Raveena Tandon shares its name with a necklace of gold coins traditionally worn at a Sikh wedding?
- 2 In which sport are Gaganjeet Bhullar and Diksha Dagar two of the four participants

representing India at the 2024 Paris Olympics?

- 3 The storming of which prison in 1789 is celebrated annually in France?
- 4 In which specific place is the Royal Observatory in London located, which gives us the 'G' in GMT?
- 5 According to legend, after refusing to drop anchor during a storm, Captain Hendrick Vanderdecken and his crew were condemned to sail the



oceans forever. What was the name of his ship?

- 6 Four of the five original brigades of the INA were named after the Rani of Jhansi, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Netaji. Who gave his name to the fifth?
- 7 What connects the logos of Fedex, Amazon, Subway and the swimwear brand, Speedo?

8 The yo-yo is a toy that became hugely popular in the early 20th century and then had a resurgence in the sixties. In which Asian country did the yo-yo originate?

9 Which renowned Indian poet decided to enter his pen name as his (later famous) son's surname during his school admission in the 1940s?

10 The type of mustache, shaved but for an inch in the centre, worn most famously by Adolf Hitler and Charlie Chaplin, is named after which household object of daily use?

ANSWERS

- 1 | Mohra
- 2 | Golf; the other Indians are
- 3 | The Sastik
- 4 | Greenwich, Greenwich Mean Time
- 5 | Mauritana Azad
- 6 | They all feature
- 7 | negative space between the 'e' and the arrows. In case of Fedex, the arrow is the
- 8 | The Philippines
- 9 | Harivansh Rai Prasad
- 10 | The toothbrush; it's known as the toothbrush mustache

No Viksit Bharat without overhaul of education

SWAMINOMICS

SWAMINATHAN S ANKLESARIA AIYAR

Prime Minister Modi's Viksit Bharat vision of India becoming a high-income country by 2047 is ambitious. It implies that Indians will become educated and skilled enough to merit high incomes by global standards.

However, the 2023 Annual Survey of Education Report is dismal. About a quarter of all youth (14-18 years) cannot read a class 2 text fluently in their regional language. Only 43% can solve simple division sums. ASER is a rural survey, and hopefully urban schools are better, but the bulk of the population is rural.

India has some world-class schools and colleges producing world-class graduates. But below this veneer, education is rotten. In a country of 1.4 billion, even a thin layer amounts to millions of people, who have achieved eminence in India and abroad. But govt schools in states are mostly pathetic. ASER reports show hardly any improvement in the last ten years.

By contrast, the Centre's Kendriya Vidyalayas are good schools. They are designed for children of civil servants, and this elite has the clout to ensure quality education.

I helped my driver's two children, Saurabh and Lovely Khatri, get into a Kendriya Vidyalaya through the minister's discretionary quota. After graduation and college, Saurabh was hired by TCS and is currently shifting to a new IT company. Lovely works in Cognizant, another top IT company. In one giant leap, they have moved from the bottom to top of the social ladder. That needs repetition a million-fold for India to become a high-income country.

But education is a state subject, and state govt schools are usually terrible. Their entire ecosystem is faulty. Teachers are absent or not teaching in half the schools, according to a well-known survey. In rural schools, many children come for mid-day meals rather than food for thought. Single-teacher schools with dozens of students of different grades cannot produce decent results.

Many teachers are politically oriented and connected to political parties, and this can ruin discipline. State govt use teachers not only for teaching but for managing elections, censuses, and other tasks (one teacher was asked to be a stand-in pujari at a temple). Teachers' unions are powerful and resist any change. Many teachers, in both schools and colleges, say their careers depend on political connections more than the results of their students.

When an entire ecosystem is rotten, change is



NEW MODEL: Instead of crumbling govt schools like this one in Patna, we need a few Shandaar Kendras, centres of excellence to create a new ecosystem

difficult. Breaking the mould meets huge resistance. What is the way forward?

The best approach is to start with a few Shandaar Kendras — centres of excellence — in standard states and expand those in stages. That can gradually create a new ecosystem to displace the old. The effort will take decades, so an immediate start is needed.

One feasible solution, Modiji, is to start Shandaar Kendras as joint ventures between Kendriya Vidyalayas and state schools. These can be funded jointly by the centre and states, in the proportion of say 70:30. These Kendras should be protected from political interference. Some teachers can be permanent employees, but others should be staff from state schools who will work in the excellent schools for five years and then revert to the state system to try and spread the new ecosystem. Many can later man new Shandaar Kendras as the project expands. This will not meet the resistance that a total overhaul would, so it is politically non-disruptive.

Many states may oppose what they see as the Centre encroaching on their turf, despite the sweetener of majority funding by the Centre. So, we also need alternative ideas for non-intrusive reform.

Modiji, the simplest non-confrontationist path lies in your own hands. RSS runs over 12,000 Vidya Bharati schools with 3.4 million students. These schools focus on promoting knowledge of and pride in Hindu traditions. But it also admits Muslim and Christian children, of whom one topped the class 10 exam in Assam in 2016.

Most of these are elementary schools up to class 5. Surely, in search of Viksit Bharat, your top priority should be to upgrade Vidya Bharati schools to the level of Kendriya Vidyalayas. This means upgrading all class 5 schools to class 12 level and producing graduates who will get admission to the top colleges.

You will face no political interference for captive schools, and no shortage of funds. Industrialists will happily fund such excellent ventures.

RSS also runs some intermediate schools and regular colleges. These too need to be upgraded, striving ultimately for equivalence with St Stephen's College, Delhi, or Presidency College, Kolkata. This will take decades. But by pushing your own schools and colleges to excellence, you can create a new educational ecosystem that will rub off on the states. ■

Remarkable that French players like Mbappe spoke out against Le Pen

Bestselling writer and Financial Times columnist **Simon Kuper** has a new podcast as well as a memoir of Paris, the city he moved to 22 years ago to escape pricey London. In an interview with **Neelam Raaj**, he spoke about political 'wolves' and footballing heroes

■ You've spent decades in Paris, so let's start with the French election verdict. The wolf, as you called the far right, failed to turn the doorknob this time but the threat is far from over, is it?

The far-right threat might actually be over — I'm not sure. The scenario that everyone talks about is that French anger keeps rising, and the far-right vote with it, and eventually Marine Le Pen (the wolf) is elected president, perhaps in 2027. That might happen. But I see another scenario. There's a French tradition of voters talking radical but acting conservative. They expect the elitist guy in handmade suits to win, they quietly want it to happen, and then they can spend five years railing against him. Look at the polls last week. The far-right were predicted to win. They finished third. I suspect a lot of their so-called supporters don't really want them to win.

■ 'Politico' ran this headline: Marine Le Pen: 0. Kylian Mbappe: 1. Did he really impact the vote? You've also met him. To borrow from the name of your podcast 'Heroes & Humans of Football', tell us about the human rather than the hero?

It's impossible to say whether an athlete or anyone else speaking out moved the vote in any way. But it was remarkable that several French players, not just Mbappe, took the risk of speaking out against France's biggest party. That really impressed me. I can't remember leading footballers taking a communal partisan political stand like that — or not since Zinedine Zidane and other French internationals spoke out against Marine Le Pen's father Jean-Marie Le Pen in the 2002 French elections.

Our podcast is called Heroes & Humans, because we try to understand these heroes as human beings. I interviewed Mbappe when he was 22, and he was one of the most intelligent, well-spoken footballers I've ever met. Really clever guy, learned fluent English

FOR THE RECORD

and Spanish, his parents made sure he passed the French high-school exams, his mum's dream for him was to go to the country's top business school. It wasn't a dream for him to become a top pro. There's a question we always ask at the end of the podcast: "What would he have been if he couldn't play football?" I decided: if Mbappe hadn't been a footballer, he'd have been a wonderful teacher in a school in the Paris suburbs. He and his mum are now actually trying to found a school.

■ Coming back to your podcast co-hosted with journalist Mehreen Khan, what is the story you most enjoyed telling?

I grew up in Holland. My dad got a job there in 1976, so we moved there from London when I was an impressionable seven-year-old, during the golden age of Dutch football. That's where I fell for football, and my hero is Johan Cruyff. He wasn't just a brilliant footballer. He was the most brilliant thinker about football there probably has ever been. He's the guy who in the late 1960s, at what was then semi-pro Ajax in Amsterdam-East, essentially invented the pressing football of the 2020s, the game played now by Manchester City and Liverpool. He later coached Pep Guardiola at Barcelona and was Pep's greatest influence. He's the spiritual father of the leading coach of our generation. So, our podcast on Cruyff was the one that means most to me. We released it last week because July 7 was exactly 50 years since Cruyff's brilliant Dutch team somehow lost the 1974 World Cup final to West Germany. It's a wonderful story, featuring the German tabloid headline just before the final, 'Cruyff, Champagne and Naked Girls.' That headline almost destroyed his marriage, and it destroyed his play in the final. Years later I met

Cruyff, and it was lovely until we fell out horribly. If anyone has had a worse experience with their childhood hero, I can't bear to hear it.

■ Your book 'Chums' highlighted the hold of 'Oxford Brahmins' on power. Keir Starmer's cabinet is being described as the most diverse ever since most members went to state schools. Is that stranglehold loosening?

The Conservative Party is traditionally more public-school than Labour. I do think the hereditary toffs have taken a setback that might prove lasting, because Boris Johnson, the Etonian who embodied the lazy unserious entitlement of their class, was such a disastrous and mendacious PM. The Conservatives have left Britain in a dreadful state after 14 years in power. So yes, I think the public schoolboys have had their day in power for a while. I describe in 'Chums' how Oxford and Cambridge have changed their admissions system to make it harder for lazy but polished public schoolboys like Johnson to get in. On the other hand, the Etonian is an eternal feature of the British power structure, and I don't think he's just going to vanish forever.

■ You've published a memoir on Paris. Despite its problems, you're quite upbeat about the city. Can you explain why?

It's mostly because Paris is at the start of a dramatic transformation — probably its biggest since Baron Haussmann began building the modern city in the 1850s. The thing about Paris is that the gorgeous city — the picture-postcard place of the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, the Left Bank etc — has always been cut off from the suburbs. But the suburbs have gradually grown, and now they have about 5x as many inhabitants as the city itself; nearly 10 million versus 2 million inside Paris. People in the suburbs tend (though not always) to be poorer, and the suburbs are much less white than the city. Now, for the first time in history, the city planners are connecting Paris with the suburbs by building 68 new metro stations and laying countless bike lanes. I think that by the early 2030s, Paris and its suburbs will be one cohesive metropolis. That will be a revolutionary change.

■ It's the day of the Euro final, so we have to ask who were you rooting for in the tournament?

I'm a British and now a French dual citizen, but I always root for Holland. But this was a mediocre Dutch team. The Spanish team is the best and most beautiful in the tournament.



The deeper message and geopolitics behind the Modi-Putin bonhomie

BY INVITATION

ZORAWAR DAULET SINGH

Defying predictions of a stagnating relationship, PM Narendra Modi and Russian president Vladimir Putin have once again shown the world the bonhomie they share. Putin added a charming touch by conveying his remarks through a competent Hindi translator, which seemed to visibly please the PM. 'Sukh-dukh ka saathi' or all-weather friend is how Modi described Russia. The Modi visit has restored the nearly quarter-century-old ritual of annual summit that had been interrupted since 2020 by Covid and then the Ukraine war in 2022.

Geopolitics has always been at the heart of the India-Russia relationship. A radical and menacing China in the 1960s and the Sino-American rapprochement in the 1970s had led Delhi and Moscow to develop a comprehensive strategic

partnership. Today, alignments have shifted and are more complex. Russia and China have come closer, in large part to counterbalance an unpredictable and hostile US.

But is Russia really becoming a junior partner to China, as mainstream commentaries suggest? This is simply untrue. Russia has single-handedly and successfully resisted the mighty NATO alliance in Ukraine as well as absorbed the shock of nearly 16,000 western economic sanctions. According to World Bank data released in June, Russia is the fourth largest economy in the world after China, US, and India (GDP based on purchasing power parity).

Russia is too proud, too independent and too militarily powerful to ever submit to China. Its grand strategy is to balance the US, shape a stable balance of power in Eurasia and Asia, and proactively collaborate with the Global South in developing a more sustainable multipolar world. India, for its part, has committed itself to comprehensively deepen economic interdependence with Russia so the latter has another major Asian economy as an

option to diversify its commercial ties with China.

How will Washington and Beijing look at this summit? Many have already declared Modi's folly in undermining the partnership with the US and failing to make a dent in the Sino-Russian relationship. Again, this sweeping narrative is based on half-truths and devoid of context. It also fails to recognise Indian geostrategic interests.

First, a more transactional relationship with the US has been evident for some time. If two decades ago, it was conventional wisdom to assert that the US held the keys to India's emergence as a great economic, political and military power, this assumption is no longer obvious today. In recent years, Washington has made it apparent that it sees India more as a useful instrument in a future confrontation with China than as a major power with legitimate interests and aspirations. This approach has unsettled Indian strategists who worry not just about the US being unable to back up the tough talk on China should a serious clash erupt in the Himalayas, but that India might find itself drawn into

a deadly Sino-American military conflict in the Western Pacific. This is a key reason for India to hedge its bets and broaden its geopolitical horizon towards the non-western world. Rejuvenated ties with Moscow will ensure Washington takes India more seriously as an independent player.

As for China, its growing ties with Russia have been premised on an acute realisation that a sequel to the Ukraine experiment — using a willing proxy — could occur on its eastern doorstep in the Taiwan Straits. Beijing might even wish for a protracted conflict in Ukraine so the US finds itself bogged down in areas away from the Western Pacific. China, therefore, is unlikely to weaken its Russia link in a hurry. The only realistic way to influence the Sino-Russian entente, is if the collective West abandons its disastrous confrontation and negotiates a new European security architecture that accommodates core Russian interests. However, the prevailing politics in the US leaves little room for optimism.

The irony of this summit is that Beijing views the upswing in India-Russia relations as general-

ly conducive to regional and continental stability. This is because Delhi's latest assertion of its geopolitical independence makes it less receptive to a US Cold War approach to Asia while simultaneously providing it with the reassurance that a military superpower like Russia has a sympathetic ear to core Indian interests in the subcontinent. While Russia will not interfere or publicly take sides in the India-China border dispute, it has its own strategic reasons to encourage both its key partners in Asia to deal with their differences in a mature framework. Russia has already played such a constructive role in the aftermath of the 2020 Ladakh border crisis.

India-Russia relations are still vital because they act as a geopolitical stabilizer while also providing immense leverage to Delhi during this period of great change. The messaging from Modi's visit should be seen in this light — it is an emphatic vote for a multipolar world and India's continued march forward to major power status. ■

Daulet Singh is author of 'Power & Diplomacy: India's foreign policies during the Cold War'

Love, lies, and the law: Dilemma of criminalising false promise to marry

BY INVITATION

MIHIKA PODDAR

On July 1, three new laws replacing erstwhile criminal laws came into force. This includes the Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, 2023 (BNS) which replaces the IPC. The revised code reduces the number of sections from 511 to 358 and adds 21 new offences. One such new offence that is being hotly debated is section 69 of the BNS that criminalises 'sexual intercourse by employing deceitful means, etc'.

Among other forms of deceptive sex, section 69 explicitly recognises as a separate offence when a person "making promise to marry to a woman without any intention of fulfilling the same, has sexual intercourse with her". This is punishable with fine and imprisonment up to ten years.

The law is notorious for censoring sexuality outside of marriage, especially for women. Criminalisation of such false promise to marry (FPM) cases is a pertinent example. While there is a bigger debate to be had on criminalisation of deceptive sex per se, such treatment of marriage-related deception raises particular problems.

Notably, this is not a new offence — this was initially recognised by the judiciary as rape, reasoning that consent given under a misconception is invalid and, therefore, amounts to rape. This was criticised as extending the definition of rape too far and prohibiting socially sanctioned sex outside of marriage. Recognising some of these issues, courts had increasingly started using the offence of cheating to classify such offences instead of rape. This is not a perfect solution, as cheating (S415) falls under 'property offences', reminiscent of the 'proportification' of women's bodies.

Now that BNS has recognised deceptive sex as a separate offence, it is likely that its operationalisation will be influenced by the judicial discourse so far. In adjudicating these cases, courts have considered two factors — first, whether the woman's consent was based on the FPM; and second, whether the promise was merely one which could not be fulfilled (i.e. not rape) or was false to begin with. In principle then, one cannot be penalised if a relationship breaks up or another reason prevents the promise of marriage from being fulfilled, as long as the promise was sincere when being made. However, evidentiary challenges surrounding establishing intent remain.

Aside from this, it still raises problems of crimi-

nalising FPM as a sexual offence per se. On one hand, criminalisation of deceit recognises the locational experiences of women, where pre-marital sexual relations can have serious sociocultural ramifications. Caste and class realities also increase the likelihood of such exploitation. Moreover, if the purpose of law relating to sexual offences is preserving sexual autonomy, engaging in deceptive sex — as Yale professor Jed Rubenfeld has argued, (although exclusively in the context of rape) — should be criminalised. Fraud is fatal to consent, not just force.

On the other hand, FPM cases raise particular challenges by tethering women's sexual agency to marriage. One can sympathise with the woman who has been deceived into having intercourse, but labelling FPM cases in particular as sexual offences, as Professor Nivedita Menon argued in her book, holds sex as legitimate only within the framework of marriage. This is evident in a system where marital rape is not criminalised, courts deem couples engaging in premarital sex to be married, and describe all sex outside of marriage as immoral. Notably, courts have excluded married women from being capable of falling for a FPM, not factoring divorce or re-marriage as realistic possibilities. This creates an implicit assumption in the law of consent being embedded within marriage, undoing feminist struggles to free one from the other. The law consequently ends up reifying social norms on honour, patriarchal controls on young women's sexuality, and stigma around premarital sex. In practice, too, court have been seen to use FPM cases as a tool to

promote a heteronormative, intra-caste, intracommunal construct of marriage. These concerns can be said to go against the spirit of equality and sexual autonomy, values protected under Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

The debate highlights the complexities of navigating legal frameworks in a society where traditional norms intersect with evolving concepts of autonomy and gender equality. While section 69 of BNS fixes some problems with the erstwhile judicial criminalisation by creating a separate legislative offence, it leaves some bigger questions open: Should sexual consent be contingent upon a promise to marry? And does it warrant recognising the correlation between promises of marriage and sexual consent as legitimate grounds for prosecution?

It also remains to be seen how courts will interpret and apply this new provision, and whether it will stand any potential constitutional challenges. ■

Poddar is a DPhil candidate in law at University of Oxford

INBOX

India's sorry status in world of football

Apropos of 'Euro has the...' (ATM, July 7), Euro 2024 knockout stages demonstrated how football brings small nations together and proves larger populations do not always equal better results. Small countries like Slovenia, Slovakia, Georgia and Turkey were par excellence. Despite its billion plus population, India is yet to qualify for the FIFA World Cup. Lack of infrastructure and usual cultural propensities keep India back in most sports. Also, most sports administrators are busy protecting their own interests.

— Gregory Fernandes, Mumbai

Agility in foreign policy

In response to 'A Trump Second...' (ATM, July 7), I have another perspective. As a significant global player, India should not be overly concerned with the specific policies of any single US administration. Instead, it should remain agile and assess the evolving geopolitical landscape, making decisions based on national interests. Our nation's market size, defence capabilities, and economic growth indices enable us to adapt and thrive despite external political shifts.

— Arun Chattopadhyay, Chennai

Matter of experience

In 'Biden is old...' (ATM, July 7) Shobhaa De has aptly brought forth her viewpoint that aging does not necessarily imply decline in mental acuity or physical agility. It is not a cage that stifles and slows you but a journey of maximising experience and wisdom.

— Julie Kathait, Noida

Email your letters to the editor at sunday.times@timesofindia.com with 'Sunday Mailbox' in the subject line. Please mention your name and city

How Republican worldview will shape US-India ties if Trump wins

RIGHT & WRONG

SWAPAN DASGUPTA

Whereas democracy involves a consideration of multiple views, the intervention of an all-powerful establishment subverts the level playing field with its own hierarchy and prejudices. Last week, even before tactical voting gazzumped the National Rally and made France ungovernable, the country's establishment had deemed its leadership not fit for purpose. Marine Le Pen of the far right has had to fight two parallel battles: a political war against cosmopolitan sensibilities and a social struggle to be regarded as 'respectable'. The first depends on French voters, but the second is determined by the elite establishment of France.

In the US, judging by the standards of capitalist achievement, Donald Trump should have been in the same club as Wall Street bankers, Silicon Valley techies and Texan oil barons. Unfortunately, when it came to politics, the regulators of American sensibilities cast him aside as a brash interloper and, worse, the star attraction in what Hillary Clinton called a "basket of deplorables". Even four years in the White House haven't made America's old establishment acknowledge him as human. With a big question mark before President Biden's ability to bat for another four years, the movement to prevent Trump from reclaiming the White House has become absolutely frenetic.

As I discovered during a visit to Washington DC just prior to the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, the understanding of the impulses driving Trump Republicans are clouded in prejudice and blind hate. The situation reminded me of the Western journalist who lamented a week before the counting of votes for India's 2014 general election that she hadn't ever spoken to either a BJP functionary or even a Narendra Modi supporter. In her mind, the political Hindu resided in hell.

Three days at this year's National Conservatism conference provided an exposure to the different strands of thought that make up the NatCon worldview. If Trump wins, some of these could have a bearing on India-US ties.

First, the American conservative focus on God, religion and family as the basis of America's Judeo-Christian nationhood has some commonality with the Hindu nationalist projection of Bharat as a civilisational state. To this can be added the pride of place accorded to nationalism — a contentious term in liberal circles — as a legitimate principle of statecraft.

This nation-first approach has profound implications. If the uniqueness and validity of national cultures are acknowledged as legitimate, India, which has been at the receiving end of vilification by evangelical propaganda, may have an opportunity to exploit the contradictions between America's national Christianity and the universalist 'harvesting souls' approach of many churches. It is Hindu society's disavowal of religious conversions that has stood in the way of any understanding between the



NEW TRUMP PLAYBOOK: Tory debacle has shown that it does not pay to talk Right and act Left

two conservative traditions. If national conservatism sets the new Republican tone, this could change.

Second, while there is abiding faith in America's 'manifest destiny', there is receding commitment to pushing 'truth, justice and the American way' down the throats of other societies. The disastrous consequences of forcing Western democratic norms on countries such as Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan are now being acknowledged. American conservatives are openly repudiating the universalism of the Fukuyama-inspired Republicans of a previous era.

Thirdly, the growing appeal of a realist foreign policy in the Trump ecosystem suggests that the US will be loath to commit resources to areas of secondary concern. If China is deemed the biggest challenge to US interests, involvements such as NATO and the Ukraine war could well be scaled down. Of course, this resource-dependant view of the national interest will be fiercely contested by the State Department and CIA. In the short term, US foreign policy could become quite incoherent, although India's position as a frontline state in the China game would carry its own logic.

Fourthly, with economic nationalism acquiring respectability, there is likely to be less attachment to the norms set by the World Trade Organisation. Although there is unlikely to be any unilateral repudiation of free trade and global markets, we are likely to see the growing importance of bilateral trade deals. The return of manufacturing to the US is an article of faith for its conservatives and market economics is not among the ecosystem's principal attachments.

Finally, a Trump presidency will insist on a sharp reduction in unskilled immigration to the US and even harsh measures against illegals already in the country. This could mean unending fights with the judiciary and other socio-political tensions.

Among the major lessons US conservatives appear to have learnt from earlier defeats, including the Tory debacle, is that it does not pay to talk Right and act Left. The extent to which there is an activist groundswell against the consensus politics of traditional Republicans would indicate that the abrasiveness of the Trump ecosystem isn't one of style alone. Raw anger plays a big role. ■

Meet Kyra, Naina and Zara, the new virtual 'It girls' who even get hit on

Whether it's taking part in pageants, chatting up celebs or becoming the face of brands, India's rising tribe of AI models is disrupting the influencer industry

Mohua.Das@timesofindia.com

- Gorgeous and stylish? Check.
- Available 24/7? Check.
- Insta sensation? Check.
- Fluent in multiple languages? Check.
- Ageless and tireless? Check.
- Scandal-free? Check.
- No tantrums? Double check.

They tick every box you could dream up for a model or an influencer. They are literally unreal. Their earnings, though, are very real. That's Kyra, Naina and Zara for you, India's new breed of hyper-realistic virtual influencers who reside in the multi-verse of social media with thousands of followers and brands eager to hitch their products to their digitally powered personas.

Zara Shatavari, conjured up by Noida-based Rahul Choudhry, recently represented India in 'Miss AI', a first-of-its-kind international beauty pageant for women generated by artificial intelligence who were judged on beauty, tech skills and social influence. The panel of judges included both human and AI-generated influencers.

Though Zara, who championed health and wellbeing, lost to Kenza Layli, a hijab-wearing AI-generated model from Morocco, Choudhry says he knew the pageant would be a game-changer. "It was bound to generate buzz and popularity," he explains. The idea of Zara came to Choudhry — co-founder of a digital ad agency and a pharma startup — while developing a nutraceutical product. "We needed a relatable, health-conscious and fashion-savvy brand face who could connect emotionally with our audience," Rahul recalls. "But hiring a celebrity was beyond our budget, while an unknown face didn't seem wise."

Then came the eureka moment. "Since we were already using generative AI, I thought why not create our brand ambassador using it? We'd save both money and time." And thus, Zara Shatavari was born. The last name, Shatavari, comes from a key ingredient in their nutraceutical product.

EVEN HER MANAGER IS VIRTUAL

Kyra, India's first virtual influencer who is into fashion, travel and fitness, was launched by FUTR Studios, a Bengaluru-based virtual human company after its founder Himanshu Goel stumbled upon AI influencers like Miquela from the US and Imma from Japan and wondered why India did not have one. Kyra was born in 2022 on Instagram. A year later, she even had a virtual manager on LinkedIn called Sravya whose job is to keep Kyra's follower base growing.

Visual AI tools like Maya and Unreal Engine are used to design the look of these virtual influencers. Their conversations are powered by LLM models that create a personality and make their chat style as real as chatting with a friend. Deepfake, voice cloning, and editing software lend the final touches. But eye-catching visuals alone without a backstory would mean just colourful pixels on a screen. What makes AI influencers stand out is how their creators treat them like characters, with distinct personalities, conversational style and origin tales.

PAP SNAPS AND PODCASTS

Take Naina and Virat for instance. Naina is a 22-year-old from Jhansi who



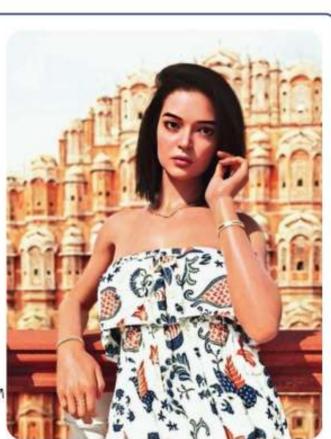
NAINA
3.2L followers
AI PERSONA
22-year-old from Jhansi who moved to Mumbai to chase her dreams
POTENTIAL EARNINGS*
₹2.5-₹4.4 lakh per post/reel



VIRAT
1L followers
AI PERSONA
Suave 28-year-old guy from SoBo who knows the luxury lifestyle scene
POTENTIAL EARNINGS*
₹78k-₹1.3 lakh per post/reel



ZARA
15K followers
AI PERSONA
PCOS & depression warrior, foodie but health conscious, travel and fashion enthusiast
POTENTIAL EARNINGS*
₹11k-₹20k per post/reel



KYRA
2.7L followers
AI PERSONA
Young girl's BFF with fashion and hairstyles that 'slay', has a zest for adventure
POTENTIAL EARNINGS*
₹2.2-₹3.9 lakh per post/reel



ZARA
15K followers
AI PERSONA
PCOS & depression warrior, foodie but health conscious, travel and fashion enthusiast
POTENTIAL EARNINGS*
₹11k-₹20k per post/reel

*As calculated by Inbeat's Instagram money calculator, which evaluates metrics for influencer collaborations; income from reels is higher

chased her Mumbai dreams to become a social media sensation overnight. Her 3D avatar blurs the line between virtual and real with her daily life updates and celebrity interviews — like a gym session with fitness guru Yasmin Karachiwala or a slang quiz with actor Manoj Bajpayee. She is snapped by paparazzi and hosts a multilingual podcast thanks to AI voice cloning. Virat, on the other hand, is a suave 28-year-old guy from SoBo with tousled hair and laidback charm setting the bar in the luxury lifestyle scene where male influencers are scarce.

"Naina and Virat can dish out fashion tips, travel advice, and even life lessons in real-time," says Abhishek Razdan, their human parent and co-founder of Mumbai-based Avtr Meta Labs. "We blended cultural research, trend analysis and creative brainstorming to develop their personalities."

RAHUL CHOUDHRY, CREATOR OF ZARA, MISS AI CONTESTANT

Initial cost of creating an AI influencer can be high but think of long-term savings. No travel expenses, no appearance fees — just continuous engagement whenever, wherever. They also let smaller brands tell their stories without breaking the bank

"Sure, the initial cost to create her can be high but think of long-term savings. No travel expenses, no appearance fees — just continuous engagement whenever, wherever," says Choudhry, explaining why brands are digging virtual influencers over real people. Most of these creators are aiming at building a universe of AI characters, just like the Marvel and DC universes.

One of the main reasons human influencers became so credible and authentic is that they are relatable, points out communications consultant and advertising industry observer Karthik Srinivasan. "With AI influencers, however, it's a different story. Brands love AI influencers because they're incredibly

flexible no matter how bizarre the script. They're more like those nameless models in ads — looking human with advanced tech, but ultimately, not real."

Srinivasan isn't convinced that these pixel influencers can create a shift in marketing. "It's just initial days and people flock to shiny and new things. But over time, people could start seeing them as scripted cartoon characters or digital toys."

Right now, the likes of Kyra, Zara and Naina clearly identify as virtual influencers, but Srinivasan fears a future where brands and agencies stop disclosing that a virtual influencer is, in fact, virtual. "Then we might be heading into murky waters with potential for deception. Just as the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) requires real humans to disclose if their posts are ads or promotions, the same standard should apply to virtual influencers. Both ASCI and the government need to ensure that these AI-powered endorsements are clearly marked as such."

Choudhry argues that AI influencers are meant to complement, not replace, human influencers. "AI influencers level the playing field and allow smaller brands to tell their stories without breaking the bank," he says. Goel agrees, "It's not an either/or scenario. Virtual influencers can also bring to life impossible and wildly imaginative scenarios. Sky's the limit." Literally so — Kyra has already travelled to outer space and starred as an undercover spy for ads.

Zara, Kyra and Naina appear so real that people eerily slide into their DMs. Despite clarifying Zara's AI origins, Choudhry has seen followers persist with unsettling questions like, 'Kyra aap sach mein robot ho?' (Are you really a robot?). Even worse, Zara's inbox regularly fills up with lewd and offensive messages. "I find myself constantly deleting comments and blocking accounts — just like any real woman would," says Choudhry.

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Munro, motherhood and a morality tale

On my 49th birthday, before the family woke up, I was bent over my laptop, like every other morning in the previous month, working on my first-term submission that focused on the disruption of time in Alice Munro's fiction. There were two reasons I was working on my birthday. One was anxiety as this was a graded submission for my Master's, and the other was the immense pleasure I got from being immersed in Munro's landscape of dense narratives about women and their displacement in the world.

Alice Munro's stories rarely follow chronological order: I had chosen to break down the techniques she used to manipulate time and picked 'To Reach Japan', where her chronological disruptions are framed within a train journey. In the story, Greta, a married poet, sneaks away with a young actor, leaving her young daughter alone. When she returns, her daughter is missing and she finally finds her stranded between two railcars. 'Not crying, not complaining, as if she was just to sit there forever and there was to be no explanation offered to her, no hope.' A guilty Greta decides to stick to the path of motherhood and put her family ahead of herself. This is again jeopardised at the train station when she meets another man and lets go of her daughter's hand.

I made small cards with the first line and a short synopsis of each chapter of the story that morning. I groggily placed these cards sequentially the way Munro laid out her chapters and then rearranged them chronologically to see the play of time in the narrative. I noted the way she used epistolary, tense changes, anchoring events as linguistic devices. In a house filled with family and friends, with raucous laughter and bewildering disagreements, I cherished the quiet dawn of my birthday with Alice Munro.

She passed away in May this year, and like the rest of her devoted readers, I mourned the loss of a great writer and my hero.

Two months after her death, her daughter, Andrea Skinner, has written an essay for the Toronto Star about how she had been sexually abused by her stepfather as a young child. In her twenties, she finally wrote a letter to her mother detailing what her stepfather had done to her. In retaliation, the stepfather wrote a series of letters to the family. In the essay, Andrea states, 'He described my 9-year-old self as a "homewrecker," who looked towards him for "sexual adventure".'

After this revelation, Alice Munro fled her marital home, but shortly returned to her husband and stayed with him for the rest of his life. Andrea writes, 'She said that she had been told too late. She loved him too much, and that our misogynistic culture was to blame if I expected her to deny her own needs, sacrifice for her children and make up for the failings of men. She was adamant that whatever had happened was between me and my stepfather. It had nothing to do with her.'

Like her fictional Greta, Munro, despite the guilt and obligations of motherhood, prioritised her own needs and abandoned her daughter.

Motherhood's greatest covenant revolves around protection. In terms of hierarchy, when it comes to our greatest fears, the death of a child is closely followed by abuse and disease. While one would think that a mother being ambivalent about her child's abuser is an anomaly, I know of two families who have undergone comparable situations. In one, the mother was deeply conflicted between her daughter and the abuser; and in the other, the mother stayed on with the stepfather, refusing to believe her daughter's account of the abuse.

Conscience often seems to be like an ocean influenced by the moon. Volatile high tides that embrace the shore in mighty bursts. Low tides that pull back to

Mrs. Funnybones

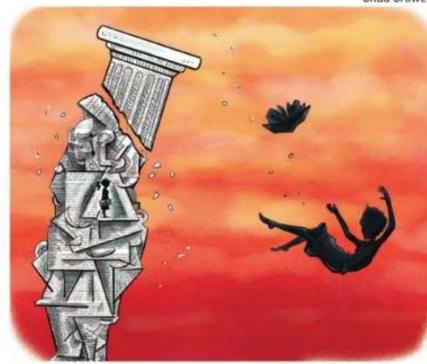


TWINKLE KHANNA

reveal empty wrappers and broken idols. In the two scenarios I mentioned, the reasons for maternal apathy could be attributed to torn loyalties, wanting to keep the family intact, fear of social stigma and the mother's dependence on the men in her family. In Munro's case, we only have her stories to give us clues. A series of tales about weak women bedazzled by duplicitous men. Another reason could possibly be her upbringing as her fellow Nobel Prize winner, Margaret Atwood, states, 'One noteworthy thing for me is that Alice was from small-town southwestern Ontario at a time when such things were swept under the carpet as a matter of course.'

The moral failures of Munro's motherhood, though, cannot be justified. Just the way Picasso's misogynistic treatment of women that led to two of his lovers killing themselves and two going mad cannot be ignored when talking about his legacy. It brings us back to a series of ques-

Chad Crowe



Should you refuse to bask in the sun because its callous creator allows legions to die in wars in his name? Humans are strange; we accept flawed gods but expect perfection from our idols

tions when we encounter remarkable art created by rotten people. Do we abandon their music, paintings and books? Is it possible to celebrate the art and not the artist? Consider the impact of a piece of art that lifts you onto its shoulders to show you a new horizon, settles into your chest with the warmth of your morning tea or jars you out of complacency like you have brushed against a faulty switchboard. Assuming you are not an atheist, should you also then refuse to bask in the morning sun because its callous creator allows legions to die in wars in his name? Humans are strange creatures; we accept flawed gods but expect perfection from our idols.

In her essay, Andrea states, 'I wanted this story, my story, to become part of the stories people tell about my mother. I never wanted to see another interview, biography or event that didn't wrestle with the reality of what had happened to me.'

Munro often used a metaphor to describe her reading process, which could be an analogy to her approach to writing. 'A story is... more like a house. You go inside and stay there for a while, wandering back and forth and settling where you like and discovering how the room and corridors relate to each other, how the world outside is altered by being viewed from these windows... You can go back again and again, and the house, the story, always contains more than you saw the last time.'

Andrea Skinner has rightfully unlocked a secret room in her mother's house of words. She stands at its threshold with her story inside each one of Munro's.

Like in her non-linear fiction, Alice Munro's death is not the end of her story, but the penultimate paragraph where the present can only be understood by examining the past.

When mum's mum: The culture of silence around child sexual abuse

Revelations of Munro's daughter haven't just knocked the literary hero of a pedestal, but also highlighted how common it is for families to silence the survivor

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Didi, can you move me to a hostel? I can't stay at home," Sukanya, a 13-year-old, popped the question to a social worker who was visiting her govt school in Bengaluru. When the worker asked why, she deflected the queries and then just backtracked from her request altogether. A month later, when the worker went back, Sukanya's voice had an urgency, "I need to move out of my home now." She still would not say why. It was only after an hour-long conversation that the truth tumbled out.

"Sukanya was being abused by her father who would slip into her room at night and assault her," says Kushi Kushalappa, director, support and rehabilitation at NGO Enfold. She resisted but he threatened to falsely accuse her of having an affair with a boy in the neighbourhood. The father, a cab driver and the main earning member of the family, was also a careful person. He had gifted the mother a set of anklets, so he was forewarned about her movement.

The abuse continued for over six months till Sukanya's father started asking her about her period. It dawned on her that this might be a penetrating penetrative sex, and this left her in panic. She complained to her mother about the father's behaviour; but to her shock, her mother accused Sukanya of flirting with the neighbour-

hood boy and of having loose morals. The implication that Sukanya had 'asked for it' is a common way to brush off child sex abuse (CSA) in cases where family members are involved.

It's the reason why Nobel laureate and writer Alice Munro's daughter Andrea Robin Skinner's public admission about being sexually abused by her stepfather Gerald Fremlin when she was nine struck a chord with so many people. Though from a different socio-economic strata, Munro behaved no different from Sukanya's mom. Skinner said that when she told her mother about the abuse in 1992, Munro "reacted exactly as I had feared she would, as if she had learned of an infidelity". Munro stayed with Fremlin till his death and blamed Skinner for telling her too late.

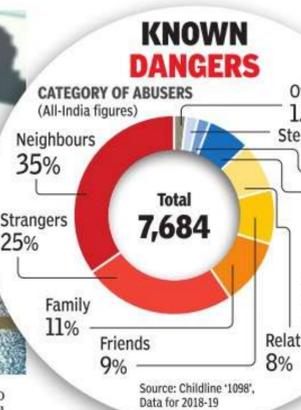
Kushalappa, whose NGO helped Sukanya file a FIR against her father in 2018 and move to a safe space, says children fear they won't be believed by adults. "Very often, the perpetrator has created a stellar reputation amongst other family members so that people end up disbelieving the survivor." Even at 13, Sukanya knew that outing her father would have consequences for her family and that she would be cut off from them. She also came under immense pressure to withdraw the court case. Just like Sukanya's family was dependent on the father's income, many others could be economically and socially dependent on the



perpetrator. Children are also taught to respect elders and authority figures and often that leaves them with feelings of guilt, shame and hinders them from fully expressing themselves.

BEWARE OF KIN

Alankaar Sharma, who teaches social work at the University of Wollongong, Australia, conducted a study on sex abuse on boys and men in India. He says that many people still believe that strangers are the biggest threat when research shows that most children are abused by people who are known to them and have power over them. A 2007 govt study found that one in two children had faced one or more forms of sexual abuse. In 95% of cases the abuser is someone close to the child like a family member



opened without the victim wanting it', 'what did they do to invite the perpetrator's attention', and 'why didn't they disclose sooner if they were so uncomfortable with it,' contribute in major ways to keeping CSA under wraps, he says.

Boys worry about the added pressure of appearing unmanly. In his study published in 'The British Journal of Social Work', Sharma spoke to abuse survivors such as 30-year-old John, who was first abused when he was six. He was assaulted by a relative at a family wedding after which he complained of pain in the rectal area. When asked further, John told his mother that he had been abused by an uncle at the wedding. He even named him. "She said, 'Are you sure?' I said, 'Yeah, I am sure'...So she said, 'Okay, now go and do your homework, we'll talk about it later.' That was the only response. And the later never happened."

WARNING SIGNS

Psychiatrist Dr Harish Shetty says there are warning signs that people could be alert to. For instance, two Mumbai-based children, six and nine, refused to allow their father to touch them or bathe them as he usually did. It was later found that he was abusing them. Even vague signs in a child, like insomnia, being averse to touch, averse to eating bananas or anything creamy, irritability, anger against the family could be signs of sexual abuse, he says. One child he counseled would wear long-sleeved clothes even during the summer while another was aching exams but always tearful

and unhappy. "Schools and teachers should be in a state of heightened sensitivity."

POCSO HURDLES

India enacted the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) in 2012 which provides for a survivor-centric approach, and though it has increased reporting of cases (child rape cases are up 96% from 2016 to 2022, as per a CRY analysis), there are still many hurdles. "Our laws are geared towards stranger abuse," says Peris Sidhva, child rights lawyer and director at Rati Foundation. Most cases are covered up even before a FIR is registered, and those that go to court can also end up being thrown out when the survivor turns hostile under pressure or coercion. There are challenges like jail-like living conditions of children's remand homes and problems with accessing child-friendly provisions like interim compensation.

But most urgently, there is a need to create a culture that promotes open communication around personal safety and sexual abuse and validates children's emotions and experiences, says Manjeer Mukherjee, sociologist and senior director with NGO Arpan. "Establishing safe spaces where children can discuss their concerns without fear of judgement is necessary. Building a support network of adults who understand that keeping children safe is the responsibility of every adult is key. In essence, a paradigm shift is required to move from a culture of proactive and disbelief to one of support and proactive engagement," she says.

All survivor names have been changed to protect identity

STATS STACK

Indian women are leading the way when it comes to asking for salary hikes, according to a recent global survey

WOMEN ASKING FOR SALARY HIKES

India	65%
US	51%
UK	47%

Source: 2024 Indeed Survey



PICASSO IN LADIES' LOO



A women-only exhibition in Tasmania, Australia made waves recently when a court ruled that men must be admitted as well. This led to the exhibit, called The Ladies Lounge, to shut down. Now, the Museum of Old and New Art has protested this decision in a rather unique way, by hanging two Picasso paintings in the women's loo. Sorry, boys.

IT'S LIT

AUNT JENNIFER'S TIGERS BY ADRIENNE RICH

Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen, Bright topaz denizens of a world of green. They do not fear the men beneath the tree; They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

Aunt Jennifer's finger fluttering through her wool Find even the ivory needle hard to pull.

The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's hand.

When Aunt is dead, her terrified hands will lie Still ringed with ordeals she was mastered by. The tigers in the panel that she made Will go on prancing, proud and unafraid.

Male rape survivors overlooked by BNS

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One of the stomach-churning scenes in Netflix's much talked about show 'Baby Reindeer' is when a bisexual man is sexually assaulted and raped. It's tough to watch but for male survivors of sexual crimes in India, the reality is even harder. The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which has replaced the IPC, no longer recognises sexual crimes against men due to the removal of Section 377. As for transgender people, they now must rely solely on the Transgender Act 2019, which has significantly lower penalties than the rape law for women. The rape law, under both IPC and BNS, defines the perpetrator as a man and the victim as a woman.

Lawyer Tripti Tandon, deputy director of Lawyers Collective, says the idea that men are not sexually assaulted is simply untrue. "Section 377 has been used by men for cases of assault for years now. The legislation cannot wish away the thousands who have done so." She points out that sections like hurt and grievous hurt may be applied, but these do not address the sexual nature of the crime.

LGBTQ activist Harish Iyer says that when he came forward about being a survivor in the late nineties, he was pretty much alone. "But now, many more have spoken up, so the same excuses no longer apply." Plus, even if one argues that there are a small number of men this happens to, that is not reason enough for it to not be classified as a crime, he adds.

Arvind Narrain, founding member of the Alternative Law Forum and co-editor of 'Law Like Love: Queer Perspectives on Law', says, "If you look at the caseload under 377, what



SCREEN TRAUMA: TV series 'Baby Reindeer' highlights sexual violence against men

we found is that the large majority are cases of non-consensual sex. It functioned as a tool of intimidation and harassment, for sure. But a lot of the abuse was underground."

Trans people also at risk

Narrain points out that sexual violence is a huge issue among the trans community. "If you only address it under the trans act of 2019 where the penalty is much lower, it indicates a difference in how you view two sets of bodies — one with higher rights and one with lesser rights. It's discriminatory," he says.

Muskan Tibrewala, assistant director, Law and Marginalisation Clinic at the Centre for Justice, Law and Society, says that not only is the penalty lower, it is also bailable and non-cognisable. "So, that means that the police do not immediately have to file an FIR. Even if they apprehend the offender, they can immediately get bail from the police or magistrate. This of course puts victims at risk."

The only possible exception is in the case of trans women. "If they get an ID card that says they are a woman, they may be able to register a case under Section 375," says Tibrewala, adding that it would be left to the police's discretion.

Queer people robbed of recourse

Narrain argues that while 377 was inadequate and ripe for misuse, leaving no recourse at all is a step backwards. Which is precisely why, he adds, many queer groups had, during the drafting process, requested the rape law be made neutral with respect to the victim.

Tandon says that the lack of legal mechanisms in these cases sends out the wrong

message — "that it is okay to sexually violate men and queer people". She's seen many cases of gay men reaching out after someone they've met on a dating app ended up being violent or filmed them without their consent and blackmailed them. "Even when 377 existed, it was hard to make a complaint. The police station is not a queer-friendly space," she says. Tibrewala notes there are cases where men are laughed out of police stations while reporting assault. But now, even the flawed recourse is gone.

“The lack of legal mechanisms sends the message that it is okay to sexually violate men and queer people

—TRIPTI TANDON | LAWYERS COLLECTIVE

Used for marital rape too

That is not the only purpose 377 served — for one, it could be used in the sexual abuse of animals. It was used by women as well — specifically in cases of marital rape. Tandon says, "Unlike 375, which had the explicit exception of not applying in cases where between married couples, 377 did not have this exception. So, women were able to register FIRs using this, though that depended on the specific court and their interpretation."

Iyer says, "We don't even need a new law, all we need to do is change 'woman' to 'person' in the BNS." Narrain puts it simply: "The state has a responsibility to protect all persons against sexual violence, irrespective of gender identity and sexual orientation. That is a constitutional obligation, and one that has been failed."

'Voices of women have been missing from 1984 narrative'

Forty years after the anti-Sikh massacres of 1984 in the wake of Operation Blue Star, women survivors of the tragedy continue to fight silent battles for justice. Human rights advocate **Sanam Sutirath Wazir**, who spent a decade researching the tragic events, talks to **Sharmila Ganesan Ram** about the cost of ignoring the Kauras

Who are 'The Kauras of 1984', who your book is named after?

"The Kauras of 1984' refers to Sikh women who tragically became the first casualties in the conflict. They are also victims and survivors whose lives were devastated by state machinations and the complicity of authorities in perpetrating violence. For Kauras, Operation Blue Star and the Delhi massacres of 1984 were not mere historical occurrences but deeply personal and traumatic experiences. Among them are daughters who were their fathers' favourites, pursuing education and dreams, only to witness their fathers being brutally killed. Before the violence erupted, they had trusted implicitly in the protective mantle of their country's institutions. However, the brutal events shattered this faith. After the massacres, a haunting

question lingered in the minds of many: Were they truly recognised as Indian citizens, and why did every institution seem to abandon them in their hour of need?

Why did you choose to focus on the impact on women in particular?

For many, particularly within the Sikh community and those directly impacted by the events, 1984 epitomises a profound sense of injustice, trauma, and a loss of trust in institutions. During my childhood in J & K, the Chittisinghpura massacres (when 35 Sikh villagers were shot dead in March 2000) and the ongoing impunity in Kashmir were pivotal moments. Witnessing such atrocities and observing the lack of accountability for these crimes fuelled my determination to advocate for justice. In 2014, I was re-

searching the 1984 Anti-Sikh massacres for Amnesty International. A few months into my field work, I realised that a crucial perspective on this bloodied epoch in Indian history was missing. The voices of the women were silent in the existing narrative. Through this book, I wanted to highlight their stories, their struggles for justice, and their enduring quest for recognition of their experiences in the face of historical injustices.

From minors who survived rape to those who watched loved ones burn to death, the narratives of the women featured in the book are often disturbing. As a male interviewer, what was your toughest moment?

Every interview was emotionally draining. I would come back with tears in my eyes, struck by the incredible strength these people displayed. One of the most difficult nights during this process occurred in East Hampstead, London. Despite the late hour, I called my mother in India and poured my heart out to her. She emphasised the importance of portraying what had happened to the Kauras in their own words and

reminded me that my gender should not hinder me from sharing their stories.

You write about Nirpreet, a woman who became a militant in the wake of 1984. What made her pick up the gun?

Nirpreet was profoundly affected by her



father's tragic death; she witnessed the horrifying incident where he was burnt alive and saw his killers. The distress was further compounded by the shocking revelation that these perpetrators were endorsed with party tickets to contest elections. This unsettling situation in Delhi uprooted them, leading to frequent relocations and persistent fear. Eventually settling in Punjab, Nirpreet responded by pursuing an alternative path to seek justice, a decision she firmly stands by today without any feelings of regret.

The 2015 Amnesty International report you wrote stated that for the death of 3,000 people in Delhi alone, less than one percent had been convicted. Has this changed?

Despite the passage of time, the number of convictions and closed cases remains notably low. The 2020 report from the Justice Dhirga Committee, submitted to the Supreme Court and accepted by the Centre, underscores deficiencies in the timely submission of findings by the police, government, and prosecution to the courts. Particularly troubling was the committee's revelation that the then

SHO of Kalyanpuri allegedly assisted rioters during attacks on Sikhs. Furthermore, delays in filing reports by Delhi govt and police reportedly led to the loss of crucial case records. Additionally, in the Pul Bangash case, the CBI has filed a chargesheet against Jagdish Tytler. The central probe agency presented statements from four eyewitnesses before special judge Rakesh Sayal, indicating that Tytler was present at the location where three individuals were killed during the riots. He faces charges including rioting and murder.

What would closure look like?

For the victims, there can be no reconciliation without justice. They need acknowledgment, healing, and restoration for the multi-generational impact of the violence they have endured. For 40 years, they have lived in a quagmire, where hopes of justice have been pulled down by the incessant delay in meting out justice. They are seeking — as the elusive state calls it — 'closure', to help them go on with their lives. Not that they seek to forget what transpired, or stop grieving, but for four decades, they have remained frozen in an unbearably horrific moment, and wish to find closure through the punishment of the perpetrators of 1984.

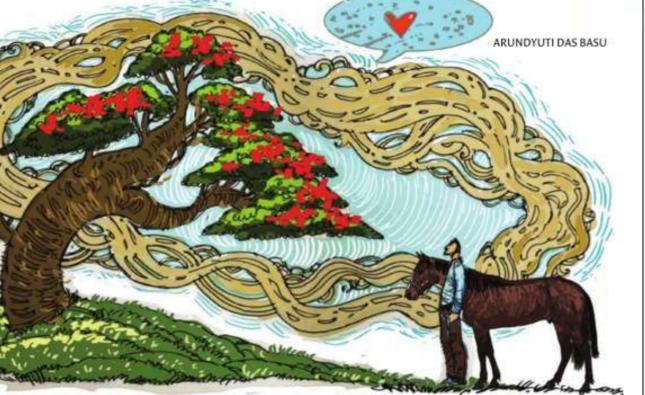
TIMES NATION

THE SPEAKING TREE

A Tale Of Varied Perspectives

Behind beautiful appearances, there is a deeper purpose. The true value of objects should not be measured by their usefulness but by their role in the larger scheme of things, writes **SUDHAMAHY REGUNATHAN**

It was the month of June. Mist was playing hide and seek with the rhododendron bushes. The flowers in these bushes were ruby red and dancing with the wind. Standing against the stark, snowy background, they looked picturesque. In this month, they were in full bloom. The bushes twined and intertwined forming narrow and romantic tunnels under their not-very-tall branches. The tunnel with mystery was thus created and extended for miles. On the higher reaches of Arunachal Pradesh, above the land of the Sherdukpens and the Monpas, the fragrance of these rhododendron bushes intoxicated all those who passed by. And generally, very few passed by except for a few ghorawallas and fewer travellers. The rhododendrons were always a pleasurable sight for them to behold. Many songs and folk tales were associated with them.



One such is told about a ghorawalla who was walking past and admiring the beautiful red flowers. Ghorawallas are those who walk their yaks and ponies, running errands or carrying loads. He admired the red bushes for some time and then said, "It is so sad that you bloom alone, hidden away from innumerable admirers. I would have loved to pluck you and offer you at the feet of the Buddha in Gaya. Or if not so far away, at least take you with love and care to the gompa, temple, in my village where I could have offered you. I

would have taken you to the Lord in both cases. Or, if none of that, I would have loved to take you to my beloved and offer you to her. She would have been ecstatic to see such beautiful flowers. But alas, I can do none of those. You have to bloom unseen, unknown, unsung and alone."

The rhododendron bush was hearing all that the ghorawalla was saying and replied, "Don't feel bad for me. So what if my branches, leaves and flowers have poison in them? It is because I have poison that you have not plucked every part of me and ravaged my bushes. That is why I am intact and you and others like you are able to admire me. Or else you would have seen a broken bush with no leaves or flowers. The poison is my protection. You know my leaves also turn red often. They are beautiful too."

"Ah!" exclaimed the ghorawalla, "but you are of no use to anyone. What is the use of just being pretty?"

"My dear," whispered the rho-

dodendron, "you did not think me worthy enough to be plucked for your sweetheart, nor do you deem it fit to take me to your gompa? Of course you did not even consider taking me to Gaya. But I feed the bees that live here and make their home in lives close by. The bees still suck my nectar and take it to the Lord in the form of honey. Your sweetheart cannot take me as honey but takes me as a medicine when she is unwell. My sweetness reaches everyone. I am still loved by the Buddha...so do not worry about me nor lament on your inability to take me to the world."

With a fresh gust of wind, the red rhododendrons seemed to laugh and sway happily.

The ghorawalla knelt to the beauty which was also aware of her reasons for existence. It had awoken something within him. He, like the rhododendron bush, had to find his purpose. Behind that lonely and beautiful appearance, there was a deeper purpose. The ghorawalla understood that he should not assess from the perspective of how useful anything is to him, but look at the larger scheme of things. ■

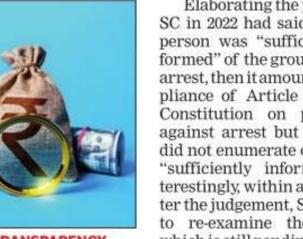


String of SC rulings restricts ED power of arbitrary arrest

Kejriwal Order Latest Bid To Make PMLA Clauses Statute-Compliant

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New Delhi: Supreme Court's judgment on Delhi CM and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal's petition is the latest in the series of verdicts by the apex court to read down or read into the provisions of PMLA to infuse accountability, fairness and transparency in money-laundering probes by Enforcement Directorate and to protect the rights of citizens from arbitrary arrest.



INFUSING TRANSPARENCY

Though the apex has upheld several stringent provisions of PMLA, including ED's power to arrest, conduct search and seizure, and impose stringent twin bail conditions, it has interpreted the provisions in a way to make them compliant with constitutional provisions.

A three-judge in July 2022 in Vijay Madanlal Choudhary case had examined threadbare the law and upheld the stringent regime prescribed for money-laundering offences and vast powers enjoyed by ED, giving the agency the go-ahead to arrest people and conduct search and seizure even when no complaint had been filed, making statements made before the agency admissible in court while, also, putting the burden on the accused to prove his innocence.

Power to arrest is covered under Section 19 of PMLA. It says, if an authorised ED officer has, on the basis of material in his possession, reason to believe (the reason for such belief to be recorded in writing) that any person has been guilty of an offence punishable under this Act, he may arrest such person and shall, as soon as may be, inform him of the grounds for such arrest.

Elaborating the provision, SC in 2022 had said that if a person was "sufficiently informed" of the grounds of his arrest, then it amounts to compliance of Article 22 of the Constitution on protection against arrest but the court did not enumerate on what is "sufficiently informed". Interestingly, within a month after the judgement, SC decided to re-examine the verdict which is still pending.

After 2022 verdict, several high courts held that if an accused was orally told by an ED officer about the grounds of arrest, then the arrest would be valid. But the apex court has set aside the HC's interpretation and ruled that grounds and reasons of arrest had to be provided to an accused at the time of arrest.

SC in Oct 2023 in Pankaj Bansal case held the communication of the grounds of arrest must be made to the arrestee in writing to ensure compliance with Article 22 of the Constitution. It held that a written record of the grounds of arrest is necessary to enable the person to

prepare an effective defence if he chooses to apply for bail.

Granting bail to Prabir Purkashatya for non-compliance of Section 19(1), the court said Right to Life and Personal Liberty, being the most sacrosanct Fundamental Right, cannot be compromised.

In the V Senthil Balaji case, SC held that the ED officer can only arrest once they record "reasons to believe" in writing, that the person being arrested is guilty of the offence punishable under the PMLA Act.

Agreeing with decisions in the Pankaj Bansal and Prabir Purkashatya cases, SC, while granting interim bail to Delhi CM, said, "Power to arrest a person without a warrant from the court and without instituting a criminal case is a drastic and extreme power. Therefore, the legislature has prescribed safeguards in the form of exacting conditions as to how and when the power is exercisable. The conditions are salutary and serve as a check against the exercise of an otherwise harsh and pernicious power."

Was JP's stir anarchical, BJP questions Akhilesh

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Senior BJP functionary Sudhanshu Trivedi criticised the opposition Saturday, questioning whether the movement led by Jayaprakash Narayan was considered anarchical. He addressed Akhilesh Yadav, asking "I want to ask Akhilesh whether his father Mulayam Singh was a part of anarchy?" Trivedi's comments were in response to opposition objections to the NDA govt's announcement to observe June 25 as 'Constitution Murder Day'.

Trivedi highlighted that during the Emergency, the fun-

damental rights were suspended, and people could not seek legal recourse if detained by the police. He noted that anyone criticising Indira Gandhi's govt risked imprisonment.

On BJP allegedly targeting opposition leaders, Trivedi compared Nehru's governance style to Hitler's. He argued that during the Congress regime, true oppression occurred, citing instances such as poet Majrooh Sultanpuri's two-year imprisonment for criticising Nehru and banning of Kishore Kumar's songs on AIR after he refused to participate in a Congress event.

TOT LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDEEP ADHWARYU



GOP convention in Milwaukee next wk to seal Trump 2024 run

Ex-Prez Tempers His Outbursts For Wider Appeal

Republicans are set to gather in Milwaukee to select Donald Trump as their presidential nominee at the party's four-day convention starting on Monday.

The Republican National Convention (RNC) comes as Democrats are engulfed in turmoil, with President Joe Biden facing calls to drop out of the race after a disastrous debate performance against Trump raised questions about his mental acuity.

Political conventions are a stage for party delegates to select their presidential nominees and to adopt a party platform. Drawing large television and online audiences, next week's convention is likely to fire up core Republican supporters ahead of the November election.

Trump's campaign has outlined themes for each day of the convention that riff on his red-hat rallying cry: "Make America Great Again." Over 50,000 people are expected to attend. That includes some



Denise Morrissy shops for campaign items supporting Donald Trump at the Patriot Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Friday, three days before the start of Republican National Convention

2,429 "delegates" — a mix of politicians and grassroots activists — who will vote for the candidate who won their state's nominating contest earlier this year. In almost every part of America, that's Trump.

Meanwhile, Donald Trump, famed for his unpredictable and inflammatory outbursts, is opting for self-censorship in a bid to expand his electorate to more moderate voters ahead of the US presidential election. The 78-year-old billionaire appears to be dialing back his rhetoric on key issues such as immigration and abortion — a tactic

that analysts say is buoyed by his confidence in the loyalty of his conservative base ahead of November's vote.

Trump, who will officially become the Republican presidential nominee at the party's convention next week, has also denounced a controversial document called "Project 2025." The 900-page text — seen as a governing roadmap and drafted by a conservative think tank with some of Trump's close allies — was subject to harsh criticism for its calls for mass deportations of migrants and a weakening of federal agencies. AFP, AP

Biden's press conference gets 25m viewers

President Joe Biden's press conference on Thursday, when he directly addressed questions about his mental acuity, drew an audience of at least 25.1 million viewers — a big turnout for what's usually a less-newsworthy event.

The telecast attracted 24.2 million viewers on eight cable and broadcast networks, according to Nielsen. When smaller outlets like NewsNation and Newsmax are added, the total is higher. The conference was framed as a make-or-break moment for the Biden campaign following the president's poor performance in a debate on June 27 with Donald Trump, the Republican candidate.

The conference drew half as many viewers as the debate, which attracted over 51 million, but came close to other events, such as two Biden previous State of the Union addresses that each pulled in over 27 million. Fox News said it led the coverage with an audience of 5.67 million; ABC had 4.97 million; and CBS 3.6 million. BLOOMBERG

Israel raids for Hamas military chief in humanitarian zone kill at least 90

Cairo/Gaza/Jerusalem: An Israeli airstrike killed at least 90 Palestinians in a designated humanitarian zone in Gaza on Saturday, the enclave's health ministry said, in an attack that Israel said targeted Hamas military chief Mohammed Deif. It was unclear whether Deif was killed. "We are still checking and verifying the results of the strike," an Israeli military official told reporters.

The militant Islamist group Hamas said in a statement that Israel claims it had targeted leaders of the group were false and aimed at justifying the attack, which was the deadliest Israeli attack in Gaza in weeks.

Displaced people sheltering in the area said their tents were torn down by the force of the strike, describing bodies and body parts strewn on the ground.

"I couldn't even tell where I was or what was happening," said Sheikh Yousef, a resident of Gaza City who is currently displaced in the



Palestinian children in shock after an Israeli bombardment on a refugee camp in Al-Mawasi, Khan Younis, southern Gaza, Saturday

Al-Mawasi area. "I left the tent and looked around, all the tents were knocked down, body parts, bodies everywhere, elderly women thrown on the floor, young children in pieces," he said.

The Israeli military said the strike against Deif also targeted Rafa Salama, the commander of Hamas' Khan Younis Brigade, describing them as two of the master-

mind of the Oct 7 attack on southern Israel that triggered the nine-month war in Gaza.

Deif has survived seven Israeli assassination attempts, the most recent in 2021 and has topped Israel's most wanted list for decades. Israeli defence minister Yoav Gallant was holding special consultations, his office said, in light of "developments in Gaza". It was unclear how the strike would affect ceasefire talks underway in Doha and Cairo.

Al-Mawasi is a designated humanitarian area that the Israeli army has repeatedly urged Palestinians to head to after issuing evacuation orders from other areas. Reuters footage showed ambulances racing towards the area amidst clouds of smoke and dust. Displaced people, including women and children, were fleeing in panic, some holding belongings in their hands.

The Israeli military published an aerial photo of the site, which Reuters was not immediately able to verify, where it said "terrorists hid among civilians". Many of those wounded in the strike, including women and children, were taken to the nearby Nasser Hospital, which hospital officials said had been overwhelmed and was "no longer able to function" due to the intensity of the Israeli offensive and an acute shortage of medical supplies. REUTERS

Musk donates to Don; Meta lifts restrictions

Billionaire Elon Musk has donated to a super political action committee working to elect Donald Trump to the White House, a major gambit by the world's richest person to make his imprint on the US political landscape.

Musk has contributed to a low-profile group called America PAC, according to people familiar with the matter, who requested anonymity to detail his plans. It's unclear how much Musk has given, but the people characterized the figure

as a sizable amount. The PAC is next required to disclose its list of donors on July 15.

The move highlights the growing influence of a technology mogul who tops the Bloomberg Billionaires Index with a net worth of \$263.6 billion and his shift from a self-described political independent — who said he preferred to stay out of politics — into a figure who regularly uses his X social-media platform to espouse right-leaning views and assail Democrats. Musk has yet

to publicly endorse a candidate in the 2024 race.

Separately, Ken Griffin and Paul Singer, Republican billionaires who have criticized Trump, met with the former president to discuss donating to his campaign, said people familiar with the discussions.

Meanwhile, Meta said Friday it was lifting restrictions on US presidential candidate Donald Trump's Facebook and Instagram accounts, ending measures put in place after his supporters violently

stormed the US Capitol in 2021. It said that "former President Trump, as the nominee of the Republican Party, will no longer be subject to the heightened suspension penalties." Trump's Facebook and Instagram accounts were suspended indefinitely a day after his supporters attacked the US Capitol on January 6, 2021. His accounts were reinstated in Feb 2023 but with a threat of penalties for future breaches, an additional restriction that Meta lifted on Friday. BLOOMBERG, AFP

Freed in fake marriage case, but Imran to remain in jail

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Islamabad: A Pakistan district and sessions court acquitted former prime minister Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, on Saturday in a case of unlawful marriage. This was the last case keeping Khan in prison but he will not walk free as the authorities immediately issued fresh orders for his arrest in three other cases.

The additional sessions judge directed authorities to immediately release Khan and his wife if they are not wanted in any other case.

Khan's party, Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI), said, "Mr Khan has been arrested in three more cases." The three cases are linked to violence against the military and other state installations after his brief arrest in May 2023. The party warned that keeping Khan, 71, in jail after Saturday's decision would lead to political crisis.

Oli meets ally; new Nepal govt likely to be sworn in Monday

Kathmandu: K P Sharma Oli, set to become Nepal's new Prime Minister, on Saturday held consultations with his alliance partner Nepali Congress in preparing the list of ministers to be inducted into the new coalition govt that is likely to be sworn in on Monday.

President Ram Chandrababu Naidu is expected to appoint Oli, 72, as the new prime minister of the Communist Party of Nepal-United Marxist Leninist (CPN-UML)-Nepali Congress (NC) coalition on Sunday. "However, the President is likely to administer the oath to the new PM and other members of the cabinet on Monday morning," said sources close to the NC and UML. A small cabinet is likely to be announced on Monday before the oath-taking ceremony begins.

Amid political turmoil in the Himalayan nation, CPN-UML chairman Oli, 72, is set to become prime minister once again after incumbent Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' on Friday failed to win a trust vote in Parliament.

Out of a total of 21 ministries, the Nepali Congress will get nine and the UML eight plus the post of Prime Minister, a source close to Oli said. "Key positions such as home, foreign, finance and energy will be divided between NC and UML. Nepali Congress is likely to get the portfolio of home while finance will go to the UML," the source said. PTI

Body of Indian swept away in mudslide found

Kathmandu: Rescuers in Nepal on Saturday recovered the body of a 40-year-old Indian national working in this country, the first from two buses that were swept by a mudslide into a rain-swollen river with more than 50 passengers a day earlier. The two buses carrying 54 passengers, including seven Indians, went missing in the Trishuli River in the landslides at the Simaltal area along the Narayanghat-Mugling road in Chitwan district on Friday. Three people swam to safety later. The first body from the buses has been recovered from 50 km from the accident site. The deceased was identified as Rishi Pal Shahi from India, police said. Other missing Indians are Santosh Thakur, Surendra Sah, Adit Miyaan, Sunil, Shah Nawaj Alam, and Ansari. PTI

Italian police free 33 Indian farm labourers from 'slavery'

Rome: Italian police said on Saturday they had freed 33 Indian farm labourers from slave-like working conditions in the northern Verona province and seized almost \$545,300 from their two alleged abusers. Labour exploitation is in the spotlight in Italy following an accident in June in which an Indian fruit picker died after his arm was severed by machinery.

In the latest case, police said the alleged gang-masters, also from India, brought fellow nationals to Italy on seasonal work permits, asking them to pay 17,000 euros (\$18,564) each and promising them a better future.

The migrants were given farm jobs, working seven days a week and 10-12 hours a day for just 4 euros per hour, which was entirely docked from them until they settled all their debts, police said, describing the migrants' treatment as "slavery".

Some were asked to continue working for free to pay an additional 13,000 euros for a permanent work permit "which, in reality, would have never been given to them," the police statement said.

The alleged abusers were charged with crimes connected to slavery and labour exploitation, while the victims will be offered protection, work opportunities and legal residency papers, the police said. REUTERS

Taiwan steps up alert as Beijing tests missile unit

Taipei: Taiwan's defence ministry said Saturday it was monitoring "waves of test-firing" by China's missile unit in a region more than 1,600km from the self-ruled island and that its air force stepped up its alertness. China views the democratic island as a breakthrough province that should be reunified with the mainland. The ministry had detected "multiple waves of test-firing operations" by China's Rocket Force in Inner Mongolia on Saturday. It is not immediately clear if the tests were part of China's recent ramping up of its military activities around the island. AP

China blasts US after Biden signs bill enhancing support for Tibet

China expressed strong opposition on Saturday to a US law signed by President Joe Biden that presses Beijing to resolve a dispute over Tibet's demands for greater autonomy, vowing to "firmly defend" its interests.

Biden signed into law on Friday the Tibet Dispute Act, which seeks to push Beijing to hold talks with Tibetan leaders, stalled since 2010, to secure a negotiated agreement on the Himalayan region and spur China to address the Tibetan people's aspirations on their historical, cultural, religious and linguistic identity.

The law "grossly interferes in China's domestic affairs, undermines China's interests, and sends a severely wrong signal to the 'Tibet independence' forces," China's foreign ministry said. "The US must not implement the Act."

Although Washington recognises Tibet as a part of China, the law appears to question that position, analysts say. REUTERS



US PLACES VISA CURBS ON SOME CHINESE OFFICIALS: The Biden administration Friday imposed visa restrictions on some Chinese officials for "repression of marginalized religious and ethnic communities," without identifying the officials or giving details. Beijing sanctioned six US firms for involvement in an arms sale to Taiwan — their China-based assets would be frozen and some executives denied entry. BLOOMBERG

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Ray Kurzweil says humanity well on course to merge with AI

Sitting near a window inside Boston's Four Seasons Hotel, Ray Kurzweil held up a sheet of paper showing the steady growth in the amount of raw computer power that a dollar could buy over the last 85 years. A neon-green line rose steadily across the page, climbing like fireworks in the night sky.

That diagonal line, he said, showed why humanity was just 20 years away from the Singularity, a long hypothesized moment when people will merge with artificial intelligence and augment themselves with millions of times more computational power than their biological brains now provide. "If you create something that is thousands of times — or millions of times — more powerful than the brain, we can't anticipate what it is going to do," he said, wearing multicoloured su-

spenders and a Mickey Mouse watch he bought at Disney World in the early 1980s.

Kurzweil, a renowned inventor and futurist who built a career on predictions that defy conventional wisdom, made the same claim in his 2005 book, "The Singularity Is Near." After the arrival of AI technologies like ChatGPT and recent efforts to implant computer chips inside people's heads, he believes the time is right to restate his claim. Last week, he published a sequel: "The Singularity Is Nearer."

Now that Kurzweil is 76 years old and is moving a lot slower than he used to, his predictions carry an added edge. He has long said he plans to experience the Singularity, merge with AI and, in this way, live indefinitely. But if the Singularity arrives in 2045, as he claims it will, there is no guarantee he will be alive to see it. "Even a

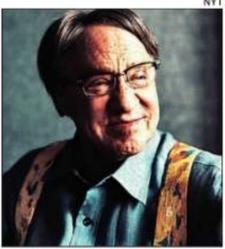
healthy 20-year-old could die tomorrow," he said.

But his prediction is not quite as outlandish as it seemed in 2005. The success of the chatbot ChatGPT and similar technologies has encouraged many to make extravagant predictions about the future of AI and how it will alter the course of humanity.

Many skeptics warn that extravagant predictions about artificial intelligence may crumble as the industry struggles with the limits of the raw materials needed to build AI, including electrical power, digital data, mathematics and computing capacity.

The big leap, of course, is imagining how human consciousness would merge with a machine, and people like Kurzweil struggle to explain how exactly this would happen.

Born in New York City, Kurzweil began program-



'S' FOR SINGULARITY: Kurzweil

ming computers as a teenager, when computers were room-size machines. In 1965, as a 17-year-old, he appeared on the CBS television show "I've Got a Secret," performing a piano piece composed by a computer that he designed.

While still a student at Martin Van Buren High School in Queens, he exchanged letters with Marvin Minsky, one of the computer scientists

who founded the field of artificial intelligence at a conference in the mid-1950s. He soon enrolled at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study under Minsky.

AI began to rapidly improve in the 2010s as a group of researchers at the University of Toronto explored a technology called a neural network. This mathematical system could learn skills by analysing vast amounts of data. By analysing thousands of cat photos, it could learn to identify a cat.

Geoffrey Hinton, the University of Toronto professor who helped develop neural network technology and may be more responsible for its success than any other researcher, once dismissed Kurzweil's prediction that machines would exceed human intelligence before the end of this decade. Now, he believes it was insightful. "His prediction no

longer looks so silly," said Hinton, who until recently worked at Google, where Kurzweil has led a research team since 2012.

Hinton is among the AI researchers who believe that the technologies driving chatbots like ChatGPT could become dangerous — perhaps even destroy humanity.

But Kurzweil is optimistic. He has long predicted that advances in AI and nanotechnology, which could alter the microscopic mechanisms that control the way our bodies behave and the diseases that afflict them, will push back against the inevitability of death. Soon, he said, these technologies will extend lives at a faster rate than people age, eventually reaching an "escape velocity" that allows people to extend their lives indefinitely. "By the early 2030s, we won't die because of aging," he said. NYT

A labour crunch awaits Starmer plan to spur UK housebuilding

Prime Minister Keir Starmer's promise to "get Britain building again" will quickly face a shortage of skilled workers in the very industries he's hoping will power the turnaround — the UK is facing a supply crunch of builders, solar-panel installers and engineers, raising questions about who will carry out PM's mission to expand clean power and build 1.5 million homes in five years.

While the Labour Party has pledged to expand training in key sectors, the scale of the shortages suggest they will slow early efforts to ramp



Vacancies per job are still above pre-Covid levels in areas like gas, construction, electricity, education up activity in those sectors.

The UK needs 400,000 workers to meet its net zero targets, 30% more than the oil-and-gas sector staff available to fill those roles, according to a PwC analysis. Construction workforce too has declined about 14% in five years.

Green jobs cover a wide range of sectors associated with industries that will help shift the economy away from fossil fuels. Those include wind and solar installations, heat pumps, carbon capture and storage, battery technologies. More broadly defined it can also include project developers and people who manage planning permission.

UK businesses in these sectors warn they're already struggling to find staff as they were particularly badly hit by a mix of Brexit, higher inactivity rates, and a lack of training opportunities. BLOOMBERG

Boeing begins flying 777-9 in path to certification

Boeing has started conducting flight trials of its 777-9 aircraft with US regulators on board, achieving a milestone toward certifying its jumbo airliner after years of setbacks. The company announced that it took the initial test flight late Friday with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) personnel. Achieving so-called Type Inspection Authorization marks the start of certification flight testing. The FAA declined to comment, but noted "safety always drives the timeline." "Generally this kind of thorough process takes many months," the regulator said in a statement. BLOOMBERG

'Rust' case against Baldwin dismissed

A judge in New Mexico dismissed the case against Alec Baldwin on Friday after finding that the state had withheld evidence that could have shed light on how live rounds got onto a film set where the cinematographer was fatally shot.

The dismissal was with prejudice, meaning that the prosecution of Baldwin is over. If he had been convicted of involuntary manslaughter, Baldwin would have faced up to 18 months in prison. "There is no way for the court to right this wrong," Judge Mary Marlowe Sommer said



Actor Alec Baldwin reacts after the judge threw out the involuntary manslaughter case in court as Baldwin wept. Baldwin was rehearsing with a gun on the "Rust" film set in 2021 when it fired a live round, killing Halyna Hutchins, the cinematographer. Baldwin was told the gun was "cold," with no live ammunition. NYT

AROUND THE WORLD



WORLD'S 1ST HYDROGEN POWERED COMMERCIAL FERRY BEGINS SERVICE: The MV Sea Change, the first commercial passenger ferry powered by hydrogen fuel cells, is seen on the water, Friday, in San Francisco. The 21-metre catamaran will transport up to 75 passengers along the waterfront between Pier 41 and the downtown San Francisco ferry terminal starting July 19. The service will be free for six months while it's being run as part of a pilot programme. Sea Change can travel about 300 nautical miles and operate for 16 hours before it needs to refuel. The fuel cells produce electricity by combining oxygen and hydrogen in an electrochemical reaction that emits water as a byproduct. AP

Man gets 226 yrs in jail for killing 2 Alaskan women

A man who killed two Alaska Native women and was heard while videotaping the torture death of one say that in his movies "everybody always dies" was sentenced on Friday to 226 years in prison. Brian Steven Smith received 99-year sentences each for the deaths of Kathleen Henry, 30, and Veronica Abouchuk, who was 52 when her family reported her missing in February 2019, seven months after they last saw her. Smith, a native of South Africa who became a naturalised US citizen shortly before torturing and killing Henry at an Anchorage hotel in September 2019, showed no emotion during sentencing. Smith was arrested in 2019 when a sex worker stole his cellphone from his truck and found the gruesome footage of

Henry's torture and murder. Smith eventually confessed to killing Henry and Abouchuk, whose body had been found earlier but was misidentified.

'Smoking laptop' prompts evacuation: A smoking laptop in a passenger's bag prompted an evacuation on an American Airlines flight headed to Miami from San Francisco International Airport Friday, according to the airline. One person sustained minor injuries while exiting that required transport to a hospital, the airline said.

Suspect held with bodies in suitcases at UK bridge: UK police on Saturday arrested a man after two suitcases believed to contain the remains of two men were dumped on a famous bridge. The suitcases were discovered Wednesday after police got a report of a man behaving suspiciously on the Clifton Suspension Bridge in Bristol.

GUKESH AND PRAGGNANANDHAA TO HEADLINE INDIAN TEAM IN THE 45TH CHESS OLYMPIAD

SHUBHANKAR SHARMA MAKES CUT; SAHITH THEEGALA LIES FIFTH AT SCOTTISH OPEN



BARBORA IN DREAM LAND

Krejcikova Beats Paolini To Win Wimbledon In Ode To Her Idol & Mentor Jana Novotna

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London: Barbora Krejcikova blew a kiss at the blue sky, in the direction of her mentor perhaps, the 1998 Wimbledon champion Jana Novotna.

After nearly two-hours on Centre Court, sealing a 6-2, 2-6, 6-4 win over tennis' tall story Jasmine Paolini, the 28-year-old Czech, whose play sparked the grass with 28-winners, laid bare the turning point of her tennis journey.

A little over a decade ago, Krejcikova, a top-ranked junior, knocked on Novotna's door. She had written a letter to the legend, narrating her dilemma. Should she pursue tennis and turn pro or should she go with academics?

"Going to Jana, knocking on her door, giving her the letter, changed my life," she said, awash in the light of the evening sun, holding the glittering Venus Rosewater Dish. "In that period, when I finished juniors, I didn't know what I should do. Jana told me I have the potential and that I should definitely turn pro. Before she passed away, she told me to go and win a

Grand Slam. I achieved that (2021), it was an unbelievable moment for me."

"I never really dreamed that I would win the same trophy as Jana did in 1998," she said. "Here I am, standing with it. It's an amazing moment."

Krejcikova, who closed out the match on her third Championship point, is richer by £2.7 million.

"I think nobody really believes it. That I got to the final and won Wimbledon. I mean, I still cannot believe it. It's unbelievable. I mean just two weeks ago I started here. I had a very tough first match, 3-hours and 15-minutes (against Veronika Kudermetova). And I wasn't really in good shape before that because I was injured and ill and I didn't really have a good beginning of the season. It's unbelievable now to be standing here, I have worked extremely hard for it."

Krejcikova, who came into the tournament, ranked 32 in the world, will return to the top-10 of the rankings on Monday.

"It's unreal what just happened. It's definitely the best day of my tennis career and also the best day of my life," she said. "I mean it's super diffi-

MATCH STATS

Barbora Krejcikova beat Jasmine Paolini

6-2, 2-6, 6-4

Barbora		Paolini
6	Aces	3
4	Double Faults	1
0	Tie Breaks won	0
3/7	Break Points Won	2/6
85	Points Won	76
52	Service Points	52



WALK OF FAME: Barbora Krejcikova celebrates her win on Saturday

cult to explain what I'm feeling right now."

When Krejcikova left the court, carrying the Venus Rosewater Dish, she stopped before the Honors Board, where her name was already up. Deborah Jevans, a former pro, and chair of The All England Lawn Tennis Club, pointed out Novotna's name.

That's when the dam burst, Krejcikova sobbed, as much for the loss of her mentor, who succumbed to cancer in 2017, as for her own journey.

Paolini, a second successive runner-up finish in majors, went toe-to-toe with Krejcikova in the decider, but fumbled in the

seventh game, giving it away with a double fault. "I'm a little bit sad today," Paolini said. "I try to keep smiling because I have to remember that today is still a good day. I did a final, I was watching Wimbledon on TV as a kid, watching the finals, cheering for Roger Federer, but to be here right now, is crazy."

Djokovic says Kyrgios hinted at a return at the US Open

London: No one knows for sure when 2022 Wimbledon runner-up Nick Kyrgios will return to competition after nearly two years away from the tour because of injuries. But perhaps Kyrgios dropped a hint to Novak Djokovic while the two were practising this week at the All England Club.

"He hit a really good serve, and he said, Well, I might come back at the US Open. So I don't know if he was joking about it or not," Djokovic said after winning his semifinal on Friday. "But let me tell you, he's hitting the ball as good as ever, really."

Kyrgios, a 29-year-old Australian, lost to Djokovic in the Wimbledon final two years ago, before knee and wrist problems sidelined him. Kyrgios has played just one official singles match since October 2022. He has been doing TV commentary during Wimbledon. The US Open starts in late Aug.

"Yeah, I think that the return is near, but it's hard to say, really, because (it's) one thing... really practising for like an hour or two, but completely something different when you are out there on the tour playing in a tournament where you have to come back every single day — maybe for four, five, six days in a row," Djokovic said. "I guess he will also not know if his wrist will react well until he actually plays a tournament." AP

Novak Djokovic eyes Court's record on Centre Court

7-Time Champ Ready To Spoil Spaniard Alcaraz's Plans For Super Sunday

Prajwal.Hegde@timesofindia.com

London: When Novak Djokovic steps on Centre Court on Sunday afternoon it will be 38 days since his right knee went under the knife in a Paris hospital.

At the time, the reasoning behind the express decision appeared to be the Olympic Games. Wimbledon may not have been on his radar at first, but then The Championships was never really off the seventh champion's mind either. Playing at SW19 this fortnight, is the miracle on a knee sleeve.

The 37-year-old will take on the effervescent Carlos Alcaraz in what will be the Serbian's 37th Grand Slam final and the tenth here at Church Road. It's a rematch of last year's final, with Djokovic looking for a

historic 25th major title and Alcaraz a second Wimbledon crown and fourth major.

"I'm aware that Roger (Federer) holds eight Wimbledon. I hold seven. History is on the line. Also, the potential 25th Grand Slam," said Djokovic, owning the moment. "It is great motivation, but at the same time, it's a lot of pressure. Every time I step on the court now, even though I'm 37 and competing with the 21-year-olds, I still expect myself to win, and people expect me to win."

Djokovic, who reached the semifinals at the Australian Open and the quarterfinals at Roland Garros, is in his first final of the year. "This year hasn't been that successful for me. It's probably the weakest results in the first six months I've had in many years. I had to really try to find a way, also I had to regroup from the injury," he said. "There have been seasons where I wasn't playing at a desired level, but then I would win Wimbledon and then things would change. Wimbledon brings the best out of me and motivates me to really always show up and perform the best I can."



ALCARAZ



DJOKOVIC

It is the grass on which his game grows. Djokovic, who has been meticulously following medical guidance in his return to competition, wasn't sure he would play Wimbledon until three-four days before the start of The Championships. Lorenzo Musetti, who finished on the wrong side of the scoreline against the world No.2 in the semifinals, said it was the best Djokovic had played against him in their seven meet-

ings. Alcaraz, who trails the Serbian 2-3 in head-to-head clashes, having lost both matches he played against Djokovic after Wimbledon last year, knows what to expect in the final. "I know how it's going to feel playing against Djokovic," the 21-year-old Spaniard said. "I know what I have to do. I'm sure he knows what he has to do to beat me. It's going to be an interesting one."

MEN'S FINAL FACE-OFF
NOVAK DJOKOVIC VS CARLOS ALCARAZ

HEAD-TO-HEAD:

Djokovic leads 3-2

In their last match, on Nov 18, 2023, Djokovic won 6-3, 6-2.

In 136 total games (not matches or sets) against one another, Djokovic has won 77, while Alcaraz has won 59.

Djokovic applauded Alcaraz' coming of age on grass so early, given that it's not a surface Spanish players grow up on. "I see a lot of similarities between me and him in terms of ability to adapt and adjust to the surface. He has the skills to play well on any surface," Djokovic said, adding, "he's a complete player."

"I think he's going to win many Grand Slams in his career," Djokovic said of Alcaraz. "I hope he's going to give me this one in two days... After that I'll cheer for him."

Raja bags silver in La Plagne Open

La Plagne: Indian Grandmaster Raja Rithvik bagged the silver medal while compatriot Panneerselvam Niyan took home the bronze in the La Plagne Open here. Rithvik clinched silver through tie-breaker after he was tied for second place with other players such as Niyan, GM Prraneeth Vuppala, and IM Dhullipalla Bala Chandra Prasad.

All of them had logged seven points from nine matches in the event held here between July 6 and 12. Niyan was seeded sixth in the competition. French GM Jules Moussard secured gold. AP

GALLERY

PCB's no to Naseem to feature in The Hundred

Laure: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has decided not to grant pacer Naseem Shah the No Objection Certificate (NOC) to play in The Hundred under workload management, sources told Geo News. The sources informed Geo News that after reviewing the application submitted by the Pakistani cricketer, the decision to deny the NOC has been taken as a preventive measure.

Jhulan joins Trinbago Knight Riders as mentor ahead of women's CPL: Former India pacer Jhulan Goswami has joined Trinbago Knight Riders (TKR) as a mentor ahead of the women's Caribbean Premier League. She will be seen in the role of mentor to a team led by star all-rounder Deandra Dottin, who captained TKR Women to the championship title in the inaugural season of WCPL in 2021.

Australia's Hull races to world record in rarely-contested 2000m: Jessica Hull of Australia blazed to a world record in the women's 2000 metres at the Monaco Diamond League meet on Friday, making a stunning statement ahead of the Paris Olympics as trackside fireworks exploded during her final powerful strides.

Anahat, Tiana enter 3rd round of World Junior squash: Young Anahat Singh has stormed into the girls' third round of the World Junior Squash Championships in Houston. The 16-year-old women's national champion, seeded 5/8, on Friday eased past South African Dene Van Zyl 11-3 11-2 11-6 in the second round following a first-round bye. Tiana Parasrampur (17/32) also advanced to the third round with a 14-12 11-5 11-5 win over Emma Merson of New Zealand.

Helios fancied: Helios should win the Be Safe Cup at the Bangalore races on Sunday. Selections: 1st race: Amazing Stride 1, Nix 2, Ranquelino 3. 2nd race: Super Kind 1, Lauterbrunnen 2, Sand Castles 3. 3rd race: Jade 1, Galahad 2, Golden Peaks 3. 4th race: General Patton 1, Measure of Time 2, Oxytocin 3. 5th race: Jersey King 1, Invincible 2. AGENCIES/TNN

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: India vs Zimbabwe, 5th T20I, 4 pm (Sony Sports); **CYCLING:** Tour De France, Stage 15, 7.30 pm (Eurosport) **FOOTBALL:** Euro 2024, Final, 12.30 am Monday (Sony Sports); **TENNIS:** Wimbledon, Men's Final, 6.30 pm (Star Sports)

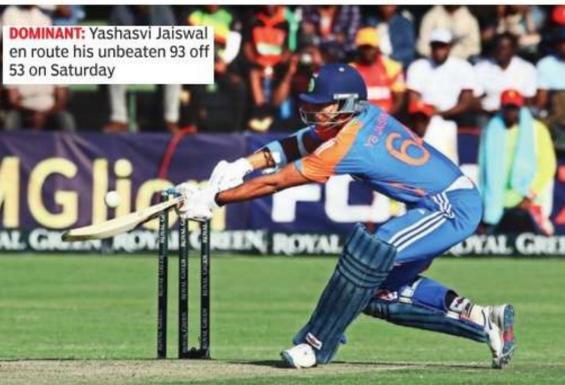
JAISWAL & GILL TURN IT ON

Opening Pair Knocks Off 153-Run Target As India Clinch Series In 4th T20I

Harare: Yashasvi Jaiswal's flair was complemented by skipper Shubman Gill's poise as young Indian team centered to a 10-wicket victory over Zimbabwe in the fourth T20 International, taking an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match series.

This is the second time that India beat Zimbabwe by 10 wickets after a similar-margin win at the same venue in 2016. Jaiswal and Gill's approach was in complete contrast as the Mumbai southpaw went hammer and tongs during his unbeaten 93-run knock while the skipper (58 not out) was ready to play the second fiddle in a chase of 153 which was completed in 15.2 overs.

The target was made to look way easier than it should have been on a track that had good bounce and carry. Jaiswal, who had to sit out during the T20 World Cup campaign hardly looked rusty, playing shots all around the wicket. The thumping bowler's back-drive off rival skipper Sikandar Raza was delightful and equally stylish was the pick-up pull off Richard Ngarava for a six.



DOMINANT: Yashasvi Jaiswal en route his unbeaten 93 off 53 on Saturday

The lack of pace in Zimbabwean attack on a good wicket became home team's undoing as the dominant Jaiswal had reached his half-century with nine boundaries when the skipper was yet to reach 15.

There was no way that Zimbabwe could have stopped the run-feast as towards the end, the bigger interest was whether the two flag bearers of Indian batting into the next decade could reach their individual milestones of half-century and century.

It was Gill, who got his fifty and that didn't leave Jaiswal with enough runs to complete his hundred.

Earlier India's part-time bowlers Shivam Dube and Abhishek Sharma performed commendably in the middle overs to restrict Zimbabwe to a manageable 152 for seven after being put into bat by Gill.

Raza smashed 46 off 28 balls but India's fifth bowler Abhishek (1/20 in 3 overs) and sixth option Dube (1/11 in 2 overs) produced a decent effort to

keep the proceedings under control.

They removed the dangerous-looking opening duo of Wesley Madhevere (25 off 24 balls) and Tadiwanashe Marumani (32 off 31 balls) to put brakes in the middle overs.

However Raza with three sixes and two fours was the reason that Zimbabwe reached 150-plus target with almost all the Indian bowlers, save leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi, entering their names in the wickets column. Medium fast bowler Tushar Deshpande (1/30 in 3 overs) was handed a debut cap but in his first spell he flattered to deceive, either pitching it too full or bowling too short.

More often than not he drifted on the pads allowing both openers Madhevere and Marumani to pick up easy boundaries.

Deshpande would feel good that he could get rid of Raza with a slower delivery in the slog overs to prevent Zimbabwe from surpassing 170 which would have been par on this track.

Zimbabwe's best opening stand for the series in the first three games was 9 but Madhevere and Marumani added 63 in a solid stand even if it was not exactly spectacular. AP

Brief scores: India 156/0 (Jaiswal 93*, Gill 58*) beat Zimbabwe 152/7 (Raza 46, Marumani 32, Khaleel 2-32, Dube 1-11) by ten wickets

ICC members raise concerns over 'mismanaged' T20 WC

Arani.Basu@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The International Cricket Council (ICC) is going to audit the recently-concluded T20 World Cup at its next board meeting in Colombo next week. TOI has learnt that the board members have expressed disappointment over how the tournament was organized in USA and West Indies. Amidst these concerns, ICC's head of events Chris Tetley tendered his resignation on Friday. Sources said that some member boards have written to ICC about the huge expenses incurred during the USA leg of the tournament. There are questions also over why New York, which organized a temporary stadium for the tournament, had become the central venue for the marquee matches in the first half of the tournament.

"The auditing is still on. There are assumptions that ICC may have incurred losses

in ticketing as well in the USA leg. The tournament looked mismanaged. The performance of the New York stadium wasn't up to the mark," an ICC source told TOI. "The board will discuss how the organizing committee may have overshot the allocated budget. It was always going to be a herculean task to take mainstream cricket to USA. The ICC team has worked hard to conduct the tournament but expenses need to be checked at the same time," the source added.

As far Tetley's resignation, sources said that Tetley had discussing it with ICC bosses for a year. "There are back-to-back ICC events which started with the ODI World Cup last year. Tetley and another executive were asked to stay on for a while to oversee a smooth transition. They may be asked to stay on till the Women's T20 World Cup in Oct or the Champions Trophy in Feb. That call will be taken in ICC's board meeting," the source said.

Delhi Capitals part ways with Ponting

New Delhi: Delhi Capitals on Saturday parted ways with head coach Ricky Ponting after seven unsuccessful years in their quest for an elusive IPL silverware, the franchise announced on social media. While it is still early days, there is every possibility that Sourav Ganguly, the current Team Director of DC, could double up as the head coach next season.

"As you move on as our head coach, we are finding it incredibly difficult to put it down in words. The four things that you told us about in every huddle — care, commitment, attitude and effort, they sum up our seven years

together," DC posted on their official 'X' handle.

While the franchise waxed eloquent in that emotional post about their long association with the Australian, it is learnt that Ponting was told in no uncertain terms that his performance hasn't pleased the management after being given seven years — unheard of at franchise level without results.

Ponting, a two-time World Cup winning captain of Australia, came on board in 2019 and while the team reached its maiden final in 2021, the performance in the following years have not matched that early promise. AP



(File photo): From left, Marloes Oldenburg, Hermine Drenth, Tinka Offereins and Benthe Boonstra celebrate taking second place in the women's Four Final at the 2024 World Rowing Cup in Rotsee in May

Dutch rower makes it to Paris Oly 2 yrs after nearly losing her life in a crash

Two years ago, doctors were by the hospital bed of Dutch rower Marloes Oldenburg asking if she wanted to donate her organs in case the risky surgery they were about to perform on her didn't go well. She had just been airlifted to a hospital with her back broken into multiple places following a nasty bicycle crash during a trip to celebrate the silver medals she had won at the world championships a week earlier.

Doctors didn't know if Oldenburg would survive, or even walk again, so rowing wasn't really a priority at the time. About 12 weeks later, Oldenburg was back training. And in less than a month, she will be rowing again at the Paris Olympics — still carrying the pins that were inserted under the skin of her neck, and still unable to turn her head sideways because of the surgery that saved her life and changed her perspective on sports.

"It sounds a bit weird when you are 36, but I'm really happy I'm alive. If you've been so close to death, you have to appreciate a lot," she said. "My goal really changed. Beforehand, it was: 'I need to go to the Olympics, I need to get a medal.' And now it's more like: 'I'm going to the Olympics. How cool!'"

Oldenburg had to learn how to swim again before getting back in a boat, but quickly got up to speed and will arrive in France as one of the medal favorites with the Dutch team in the coxless four event. "It went really fast," she said. "My teammates picked me up, they supported me. After six months we got bronze at the European (championships). And after 10 months, we became world champions. It was insane."

Oldenburg landed on top of her head after her bicycle flipped over while she went across a tiny bridge on a mountain biking route in the Netherlands. She broke the first vertebrae and damaged a main artery in the neck during the fall. AP

EURO FEST

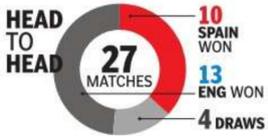
TIMES SPORT

SUNDAY TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI
JULY 14, 2024

FOLLOWING THAT PATH (WITH COACH DE LA FUENTE) THROUGH THE YOUTH RANKS HELPS US UNDERSTAND HIM AND PLAY IN THE WAY HE WANTS. THIS IS A DIFFERENT LEVEL OF FOOTBALL BUT HIS IDEAS AND HIS CONNECTION WITH US ARE THE SAME."

— SPAIN MIDFIELDER **DANI OLMO**

THE FINAL SPAIN VS ENGLAND



19 **LAMINE YAMAL**

One is the best team swinging towards sweet success. The other's a survivor, limping to the end with resilience...

LAST DANCE

Berlin: Spain go into Sunday's Euro 2024 final as slight favourites over England after not only being the most attractive team to watch at the tournament but having won every match they have played.

The Spaniards have emerged as a team that can quickly adapt their strategy to their opponents without giving up their direct attacking game in favour of a results-based performance.

They outsmarted France in the semifinals despite falling a goal behind and it took them just five minutes to score twice to take the lead with their relentless pressing game and vertical passing that forced the French to resort to long balls.

With Rodri as their midfield dynamo, the battle in the centre of the pitch is expected to play a key role in the outcome. "We have Rodri, who is a perfect computer, he administers everything, the emotions, all the moments in a managerial way - that's a great help for everyone," said Spain coach Luis De la Fuente.

England will have to wrestle possession from Spain, who also have the outstanding Fabian Ruiz in midfield, a player who for many is already the player of the tournament.

With lightning wingers Nico Williams and Lamine Yamal ripping up defences and able to score and provide assists, England's fullbacks will have their hands full.

Yamal turned 17 on Saturday. "I've told my mum that if we win I don't want any presents, I just want to celebrate in Madrid with my mates," Lamine, as he prefers to be called, said in an interview with Spain's Marca outlet on Saturday. He has been highly influential for Spain in Germany as the player with most assists (3), key passes (16) and clear chances created (6).

A second successive Euro final for England and coach Gareth Southgate is no mean feat even though they had to endure weeks of criticism, especially in the group phase, for lacklustre performances and with little punching power up front. England's defence, however, has remained solid and with the pace of John Stones and Kyle Walker, when they do get exposed, they have proved adept at scrambling recoveries.

The 74.9km Declan Rice has covered in 10 hours of football is more than any other player at Euro 2024 and underlines his contribution, with England looking to Rice to drive the team forward from his role in the centre, setting the tempo and bringing a physicality to the game that might unsettle Spain. "On Sunday, all of us will run through brick walls, do anything to win this game. Whether that's in 90 minutes, 120, we'll give it absolutely everything. That's all we can ask of each other," said Rice. **REUTERS**

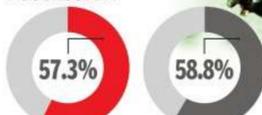
STATS THE WAY

Spain	England
13	7
3	4
108	66
37	19
2	3
27	25
351	313
34	22
79/103	56/75
16	14

PASSING ACCURACY



POSSESSION



15/07/2024
12:30 am Live on Sony Network

10 **JUDE BELLINGHAM**



1 This is the first European Championship final at the Olympiastadion, the venue for Italy's shoot-out win against France in the 2006 FIFA World Cup final and Barcelona's 2015 UEFA Champions League final defeat of Juventus.

1 Spain are the only team to retain the Henri Delaunay trophy with their triumphs at EURO 2008 and 2012.

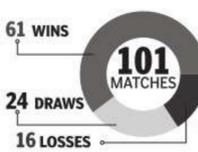
SPAIN: Unai Simon (23); Dani Carvajal (2), Nacho (4), Aymeric Laporte (14), Marc Cucurella (24); Rodri (16), Fabian Ruiz (8); Lamine Yamal (19), Dani Olmo (10), Nico Williams (17); Alvaro Morata (7)

ENGLAND: Jordan Pickford (1); Kyle Walker (2), John Stones (5), Marc Guehi (6); Bukayo Saka (7), Kobbie Mainoo (26), Declan Rice (4), Luke Shaw (3); Jude Bellingham (10), Phil Foden (11); Harry Kane (9)

PREDICTED LINEUPS



13 Excluding penalty shoot-outs, Southgate has not lost any of his 13 EURO matches as coach (W8 D5) - the longest run without defeat for a coach in EURO history.



"We will have to get the ball off them first. It is not as simple as us having the ball and making them run. We have to be exceptional with the ball and without it. They have been the best team. We are starting to show a better version of ourselves. But we are in there with what we have shown to this point. We have as good a chance as they do."



STEADY SOUTHGATE

Appointed: Nov 30, 2016

After reaching a Euro final as well as a World Cup quarter-final and semi-final in his three previous major tournaments in charge, Southgate will be desperate for this to be fourth time lucky. The former centre-back will seek to get the best out of the vast amount of talent at his disposal in the title match in Berlin. England have won their group in both Euro campaigns under Southgate - as many times as they had topped their pool in their previous 8 appearances.

DIRECTOR DE LA FUENTE

Appointed: Dec 8, 2022

A likeable Basque who won the Spanish Liga as a full-back with Athletic Club, the Spain boss has the winning habit. He led Spanish national teams to Euro glory at age-group levels - Under-19s in 2015 and U21s in 2019 - and his senior team beat Italy and Croatia in winning the UEFA Nations League last summer, then ousted the same opponents again in Group B. De la Fuente has generated a stand-out atmosphere, mentality and playing style since arriving in Germany; basically, his squad love playing for him.



"I feel proud of these players and of the path we've gone on to reach the final. There's no achievement without effort and suffering in life is normal, because everything is tough. These are young players but they force themselves to improve more and more each day - I am happy to be here coaching them. I know these players and I take decisions knowing each of them, not on a whim. They are not surprising me, and I know they can give a lot more still."

LAST COMPETITIVE FIXTURE

Sunday's final will be the first meeting of the teams since late 2018, when they came together in the group stage of the inaugural UEFA Nations League. Spain won 2-1 at Wembley in September, but England gained revenge with a 3-2 success in the return in Seville just over a month later.

PENALTY SHOOTOUT RECORD

- Spain's competitive shootout record is now **W7, L6**
- England's record in 11 competitive penalty shootouts is **W4, L7**, with 3 wins in the last four

SPAIN PEDIGREE

EURO best	Winners (1964, 2008, 2012)
EURO Finalist	1984 (L 0-2 vs France)
EURO 2020	Semis, lost to Italy (on penalties)

ENGLAND PEDIGREE

EURO best	Runners-up (2020)
Previous EURO finals	2020 (L vs Italy)
EURO 2020	Runners-up, lost 3-2 on penalties to Italy (1-1 aet)

KEY BATTLES

KANE VS LAPORTE

England skipper Harry Kane, the Bayern Munich striker, who scored 44 goals in 45 games at club level in his first season in Germany, has struggled to carry that form into the tournament. Despite appearing sluggish, Kane has still managed to score three goals to put him in a share of the lead for the Golden Boot. He also has a good record against Aymeric Laporte, who he regularly came up against during their time together in the Premier League when the Spaniard played for Man City.

SPANISH WIDTH VS ENGLISH DEFENCE

Spain's two kings of the wing, Lamine Yamal - who turned 17 on Saturday - and Nico Williams have helped form the tournament's most swashbuckling attack. Tup against them, if Gareth Southgate deploys his wing-back system, will likely be Luke Shaw on England's left and Bukayo Saka on the right. Shaw has only just returned from a five-month injury lay-off while Saka is a natural attacker, although he has earned rave reviews for his diligent defending. Kyle Walker will need to assist.

SAKA VS CUCURELLA

It's a good job for England's sake Saka has seemingly limitless energy because he is also a vital component of their attack. The Arsenal winger will face off with Chelsea defender Marc Cucurella, who has been one of Spain's revelations of the tournament despite his struggles in London over the past couple of seasons. Cucurella's hope will be to drive him back by linking up with Williams, keeping Saka pinned in his own territory.

RODRI VS BELLINGHAM & FODEN

The next winner of the Ballon d'Or could be decided by which of Rodri or Jude Bellingham emerges victorious. A Lynchpin for both Spain and Manchester City, Rodri has remarkably lost just one game in his last 79 matches for club and country. Bellingham, though, has already been on the winning side against Rodri this year when Real Madrid knocked City out of the Champions League on penalties. In his first season in Spain, Bellingham went on to lift the European Cup and La Liga, and could add the Euros just days after his 21st birthday. The toll of a long season has shown in Bellingham's performances at times, but he kept England in the tournament. Foden was superb against the Netherlands and was unlucky not to cap a stellar performance with a goal. He knows City-mate Rodri too well and vice versa.

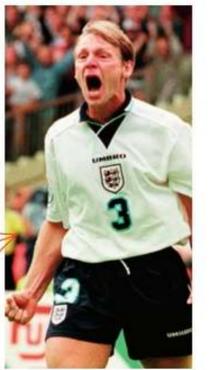
CLASSIC CLASHES

Spain and England meet in the Euro 2024 final in Berlin on Sunday in what will be a rare encounter between the nations at a major tournament. Some notable past clashes:

World Cup 1950: Esp 1 Eng 0
The first competitive meeting of Spain and England came at the 1950 World Cup in Brazil, at which they were drawn together in the same group. Both teams had won their opening match. However, while Spain then got the better of Chile, England suffered one of their most humiliating ever defeats, losing 1-0 to the USA. The clash between Spain and England in Rio de Janeiro on July 2 was therefore crucial, with the latter having to win. Spain came out on top 1-0 thanks to a goal by legendary forward Telmo Zarra. England went out, while Spain advanced to the four-team final round in which they drew with eventual champions Uruguay before losing 6-1 to Brazil and 3-1 to Sweden.

World Cup 1982: ESP 0 Eng 0
Their encounter at the 1982 World Cup found themselves together in the second group stage, in a three-team pool alongside West Germany. The Germans had drawn with England and beaten Spain, results which meant the host nation were already eliminated from their own competition before taking on Ron Greenwood's English side in Madrid. The match ended in a 0-0 draw, an outcome which meant England were knocked out without losing a game. West Germany were eventually defeated in the final by Italy.

Euro 1996: ESP 0 (4) Eng 0 (2)
This match-up at Euro 96 led to one of the most iconic moments in English football history. The game at Wembley ended 0-0 after extra time, meaning a penalty shoot-out. Fernando Hierro blasted Spain's first kick off the bar. England converted four out of four, with Stuart Pearce - who had missed in their 1990 World Cup semi-final shoot-out loss to West Germany - among their scorers. David Seaman's save from Miguel Angel Nadal, uncle of tennis star Rafael, allowed England to win the shoot-out 4-2 and advance to the semis, where this time they lost on penalties to Germany with current manager Gareth Southgate missing the decisive kick. **AFP**



Argentina seek 'triple crown' but Colombia aim for upset in final

Miami: Argentina can become the first South American team to win the 'triple crown' of three straight major tournament titles if they can overcome a formidable Colombia in Sunday's Copa America final.

Inspired by Lionel Messi, Argentina followed up their 2021 Copa America title with the World Cup triumph a year later and have advanced with little drama to this weekend's showpiece with the Colombians.

Spain are the only other team in international football to have won a World Cup in between two straight continental titles when they clinched Euro wins in 2008 and 2012 either side of the 2010 World Cup. As well as achieving that landmark for the squad coached by Lionel Scaloni, a win would also give the 'Albiceleste' a record 16th Copa America title - they are currently tied with Uruguay on 15 Copa wins.

But Colombia have an impressive streak of their own, heading into what should be a fiery and passionate night at Hard Rock Stadium, home of the NFL's Miami Dolphins.

Colombia are unbeaten in 28 matches, a record for the team, and have arguably had the tougher route to the final. While Argentina took care of business against surprise package Canada in their semi, enjoying a comfortable 2-0 win in New Jersey, Colombia had to battle past Uruguay on Wednesday in Charlotte, winning 1-0 despite being down to ten men for the entire second half.

In many ways, Sunday's is the perfect final for the tournament.

Few would dispute that the two best teams in this year's 16-nation competition will fight for the title and there should be an electric atmosphere with both sides able to draw on support from large communities in Miami.

Argentina, ranked number one in the world by FIFA and with a team that has been together for several years, are favourites, but few expect a one-sided game. "Scaloni knows them all by heart. Argentina today have a solidity that is foolproof and they have the added bonus of having the best player in the world, which is why they are the big favourites," said former Chile and Inter Milan striker Ivan Zamorano, who is covering the tournament as a television pundit.

But former Colombia star midfielder Carlos Valderrama believes a surprise could be on the cards. "I see Colombia winning on Sunday," he said. "The team is unbeaten, is playing well in the Copa, with James (Rodriguez) as the best player in the tournament, so we can dream," he added.

Colombia's sole Copa America title came in 2001. **AFP**



7-15 Argentina captain **Lionel Messi** was instrumental in helping his country reach the final, leading the entire competition in big chances created (7) and the second most key passes (15) providing a creative spark for La Albiceleste.



COLOMBIA'S DIAZ (L) AND RODRIGUEZ

THE FINAL NUMBERS

Arg	Col
5	5
8	12
29	23
50.9%	47.9%
14%	25%
1	2
4	3
10	11
70%	58%
50%	51%
2306	1730
86%	83%
24%	35%
35%	50%
0	1
6	9

Shubhankar makes cut at Scottish Open

North Berwick: India's Shubhankar Sharma squeezed inside the cut line at the Scottish Open, landing an eagle in his second round for a 2-under 68 here. Shubhankar is currently tied 63rd with a total of 3-under, where the cut fell. He had carded a 1-under 69 in the first round. Indian-American Sahith Theegala, who is also getting ready for next week's Open, shot 66 despite a double bogey on Par-4 18th on his card. With 66-65 he was 9-under for a tied fifth and just three behind Swedish youngster, Ludvig Aberg, who is growing into a top star. Aberg carded a second consecutive round of 64 to take a one-shot lead into the weekend.

Aditi makes cut, Diksha exits at Evian: Aditi Ashok assured herself of the cut but fellow Indian Diksha Dagar withdrew before the truncated second round on medical grounds at the Amundi Evian Championship in Evian Les Bains. Play was suspended on the day due to lightning in the area. The officials met twice to see if resumption was possible but the storm continued to intensify with heavy rain, thunder and lightning. Aditi added 1-under 70 to her first round 71 and was 1-under for 36 holes and T-44th up from overnight T-52. The second round is yet to finish.

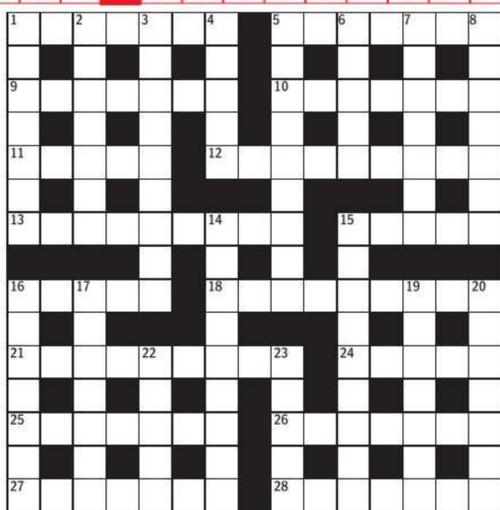
Atwal makes cut on Kaulig Championship: Indian golfer Arjun Atwal (74-71) has made the cut in the Kaulig Companies Championship golf being played here at the Firestone Country Club. Atwal's 1-over 71 in the second round, which included two birdies and three bogeys. He shot 4-over 74 in the first and at 5-over 145 to be tied-49th. The Kaulig meet is one of the majors on the Champions Tour for seniors above 50.

Randhawa tied 5th in Swiss Seniors golf, Jeev is T-19: India's Jyoti Randhawa was tied fifth with 4-under 66, while Jeev Milkha Singh (68) was T-19th at Swiss Seniors Open on the Legends Tour in Europe for over 50-year-old golfers. The Indian duo has been playing well this season with Randhawa in his rookie season after winning Q-School for seniors. Randhawa had five birdies and one bogey, while Jeev had four birdies and two bogeys. AGENCIES

THE TOI CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD No. TCC#0176

The TOI Crossword contest is on a short break, but the crossword itself will continue to be featured in The Sunday Times of India, so that you can continue to relish the challenge every week. Stay tuned!



CRYPTIC CLUES

Across

- 1 Client's letters bashed out - from this? (7)
- 5 He needs understanding first then reform (7)
- 9 Succeed with a will in their resolve (7)
- 10 Mad Hatter's menaces (7)
- 11 Light superstructure of the Statue of Liberty (5)
- 12 A show trial (9)
- 13 Possibly one's tried leaving (9)
- 15 Light cutting instrument (5)
- 16 Five Gaelic lines of poetry (5)
- 18 How rain falls to form hard water (9)
- 21 Dreamy but not solemn composition (9)
- 24 Sound of a hinge breaking? (5)
- 25 Terrible strain on a ruler (7)
- 26 There's merit in unhappy endings (7)
- 27 It's beaten by those who are themselves beaten (7)
- 28 Dance for soldiers and surgeons (7)

Down

- 1 Went around in female dress? (7)
- 2 Inspires ten others perhaps (7)
- 3 There may be a harrowing time for this heavyweight (9)
- 4 Afterwards? Dead right (5)
- 5 General stew thickener (9)
- 6 Mean to get a girl (5)
- 7 How time flies! (7)
- 8 Energetic fellow who hurries around? (7)
- 14 Crude but in a gentle fashion (9)
- 15 Rhine involved with long Wagner opera (9)
- 16 Is it after five or later he calls? (7)
- 17 Rent man involved in scrap (7)
- 19 What I am when I have one over the eight (7)
- 20 Has laid out flowers in the garden (7)
- 22 She's round and full of energy (5)
- 23 Drink almost everything? No, the whole lot (5)

QUICK CLUES

Across

- 1 Make good (7) 5 Drive back by force (7)
- 9 Find refuge (7) 10 Novice (7) 11 Permission (5)
- 12 Mankind (5,4) 13 In the act of crime (3-6)
- 15 Thoroughly proficient (5) 16 Be pre-eminent (5)
- 18 Self-discipline (9) 21 Precipitately (4,5)
- 24 Reserved and haughty (5) 25 Arrears of uncompleted work (7) 26 Offering no opposition (7)
- 27 Severe suffering (7) 28 Great pleasure (7)

Down

- 1 Cattle thief (7) 2 Passengers' attendant on ship (7)
- 3 Informed and alert (2,3,4) 4 Soil (5) 5 Good example to follow (4,5) 6 Unembellished (5) 7 Ancestry (7)
- 8 A pledge (7) 14 Straightforward (9) 15 Assessment (9)
- 16 Item shown in evidence (7) 17 Author of The Canterbury Tales (7) 19 Northwest US state (7)
- 20 Meditate (7) 22 Sham (5) 23 Unenthusiastic (5)

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

CRYPTIC
CASHED STAMPEDE
A E N U O T A
R A N C I D D R A U G H T S
E S G E N N E T
F R A G M E N T S T A R V E
O T A T K A R
R A I N F R A N C I S C A N
O N E O N O
C O N V E Y A N C E S N A G
H W T K P S A
A R A B L E B E L A B O U R
N R Y S D R R N M
G O O D W I L L F O R A G E
E M E U L N N
S T A N D A R D S E X I T E T

QUICK
N O T I C E T U G O F W A R
I A A T N I E
G O K A R T F A S T N E S S
G E M L H H L E
A C A D E M I C T E N D E R
R B N B C H L V
D R A W T R U E T O L I F E
C B A Z P N
L I K E A D R E A M S P U R
E S Y N M R I
T E L L E R E N D U R I N G
S I L F E R V H
L A S V E G A S I M P A C T
I L S T U T L
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Exchange value of your old smartphone*	₹20000	₹20000
Exchange bonus*	₹6000	₹6000
Exchange Effective Price	₹44900	₹54900



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Instant cashback	₹1000.00
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Barbora Krejčíková Has Won Wimbledon for her 2nd Grand Slam title with a 6-2, 2-6, 6-4 victory over Jasmine Paolini in final **P24**

VOL. 35 NO. 28 | NEW DELHI

THE LIMOUSINE vs THE LUCKY TRAIN

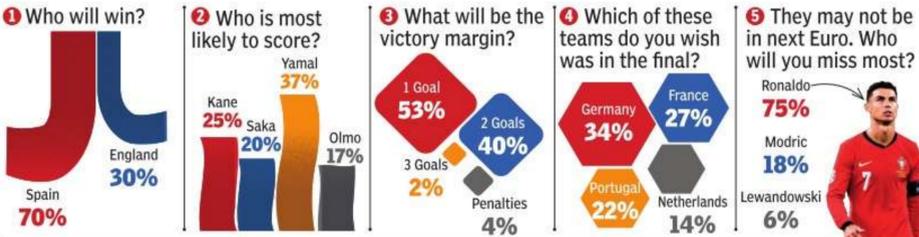


Euro 2024 Mascot: Albert

One reminds us of a limousine; their football a smooth and sumptuous ride on the deluxe automobile. The other can be best described as a lucky train that has evaded disasters and somehow reached its destination. But the past is irrelevant now. **The Euro 2024 final will be a fresh test of skill and temperament.** Spain will be the favourite of the neutral (see poll). But then nobody is better at coming back from the dead than England. Get ready for a late-night date. And it's okay to feel breathless at times

POLL POSITION

In a TOI online poll, 70% say Spain will emerge as the Euro 2024 champions



ENGLAND (World No. 5) vs SPAIN (World No. 8)

Venue Olympiastadion Berlin	Time July 15, 12.30am, Monday	Capacity 71,000	Referee François Letexier (France)
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HEAD TO HEAD England has won 13 games, Spain 10. Four were draws. England scored 45 goals in these games, Spain 32

ENGLAND

Nickname: Three Lions

Previous Best: Runners-up in 2020

Route To Final: (Group Games) Beat Serbia 1-0, drew with Denmark 1-1, drew with Slovenia 0-0. Bt Slovakia 2-1 (pre-quarters). Bt Switzerland 1-1 (5-3) (quarters). Bt The Netherlands 2-1 (semis)

Strength: A knack of winning key moments. Reliable defence. Creative spark of the clever Bukayo Saka and the gifted Jude Bellingham

Weakness: Lack of midfield creativity. Unwillingness to take risks. Slow paced forwards

Top Scorer: Harry Kane (3 goals)

Top Defender: Declan Rice. Cleared 41 balls, made 14 tackles

X-Factor: Phil Foden. Ineffective throughout the tourney, he discovered a semblance of form in semis. Will he click?

Coach: Gareth Southgate, in charge since 2016

Key Stats: England has one of the least number of fouls per game

Strange But True: This is England's first major final away from home

SPAIN

Nickname: La Roja (The Red)

Previous Best: Winners in 1964, 2008 & 2012

Route To Final: (Group Games) Beat Croatia 3-0, bt Italy and Albania 1-0. Bt Georgia 4-1 (pre-quarters). Bt Germany 2-1 (quarters). Bt France 2-1 (semis)

Strength: Fluidity of movement. Youngsters with flair at the front. Rodri has bossed the midfield. Have displayed the mental strength to bounce back

Weakness: Can be vulnerable to counter-attacks. Need to avoid early yellow cards

Top Scorer: Dani Olmo (3 goals)

Top Defender: Aymeric Laporte. Cleared 32 balls

X-Factor: Lamine Yamal. The wunderkind turned 17 yesterday. Scorecard: 1 goal, 3 assists, 30 dribbles

Coach: Luis de la Fuente. Has played for and coached Athletic Bilbao

Key Stats: Only team to win all six games

Strange But True: Spain has committed the maximum fouls of all teams: 83

Do You Know? Spain beat Italy 4-0 in 2012, the highest victory margin in a Euro final



RED CARDS England 0, Spain 1	YELLOW CARDS England 11, Spain 15	GOALS SCORED England 7, Spain 13	GOALS AGAINST England 4, Spain 3	ATTEMPTS ON TARGET England 19, Spain 37	GOALKEEPING SAVES England 14, Spain 16
FOULS COMMITTED England 50, Spain 83	FOULS SUFFERED England 84, Spain 70	DISTRIBUTION England 90, Spain 90	ATTACKS CARRIED OUT England 313, Spain 351	ATTEMPTS MADE England 66, Spain 108	DEFENSIVE TACKLES England 225, Spain 255

THE STORY IN STATISTICS



WHEN THE GOALS WERE SCORED



World champions Argentina will face off with unflinching Colombia in the final of Copa America 2024 on Monday. For exciting details see the inside flap

₹2,000cr prime city land cleared of encroachers

In a major eviction drive against encroachment of public land, Land and Development Office (L&DO) under the housing and urban affairs ministry cleared almost 15 acres of prime land in Khyber Pass in Civil Lines area on Saturday. Sources said the current market value of the large patch of around 32 acres, including the cleared portion, in the area is estimated at over Rs 2,000 crore. The Nazul land (govt land) is owned by L&DO and it was given to the defence ministry in 1935. There were hutments, known as Khyber Pass Hostel, for accommodation of the support staff of defence personnel. **P5**

Teen rape survivor fights back after 3-wk nightmare

Ayantika.Pal@timesofindia.com

Ghaziabad: "My only aim now is to become an achiever in life, something people know me for," a 15-year-old girl told TOI on Saturday as she returned to school after three traumatic weeks. During this period, she was sexually assaulted by a neighbour, closeted herself in at home as the family feared social shame, and saw her name being struck off the school rolls.

The scrapping of her enrolment came with a rebuke from her govt school principal who—unaware of the girl's reason for absence—told her father on Thursday to get her married if he wasn't interest-

TOOK HER TO HOTEL

> Accused had on June 16 invited her to meet him at a hotel while she was going to tuition class. **He took her to a room & allegedly raped her**

> Girl's father says she had not stepped out of home since the incident because of shock

> Dad is worried about her safety as assailant, a married man, lives in the same colony

ted in sending her to class. It was mistimed scorn, which the principal realised on Friday when she was informed about the sexual assault.

> Principal takes her back, P 5

Flood-uprooted villagers face leopard attack

Three men seeking refuge in Dibru-Saikhowa National Park in Assam amid heavy floods were attacked by a leopard and admitted to hospital with injuries, reports Kangkan Kalita.

The trio were among 48 villagers forced to relocate to highlands of the park spanning Dibrugarh and Tinsukia. Searching for their buffaloes on a boat on Friday, they disembarked on a highland where the leopard and cubs had also taken shelter. "The leopard most likely perceived us as a threat and attacked us," said Abash Dang, 26, who was injured. The trio have been discharged after treatment. **FLAP INSIDE**

THE CLASSY vs THE COMBATIVE



“Football was the sport of choice for Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the master of magic realism.”



ARGENTINA (World No. 1) vs COLOMBIA (World No. 12)

<p>Venue Hard Rock Stadium, Florida</p>	<p>Time 5.30 am, 15 July, Monday The match is not being shown live on TV</p>	<p>Capacity 65,000</p>	<p>Referee Rafael Claus (Brazil)</p>
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 <p>ARGENTINA Route To Final: Group Games: Argentina bt Canada 2-0, bt Chile 1-0, bt Peru 2-0. Bt Ecuador 1-1 (4-2 on penalties) (quarters), Bt Canada 2-0 (semis) Strength: Messi's inspirational leadership. Lautaro Martinez's scoring form. Goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez has kept four clean sheets.</p>	<p>Weakness: Can be rattled by high-intensity press and can be vulnerable when hit on the break. Watch Out For: Julian Alvarez Coach: Lionel Scaloni</p>
 <p>COLOMBIA Route To Final: Group Games: Colombia bt Paraguay 2-1, bt Costa Rica 3-0, drew with Brazil 1-1, bt Panama 5-0 (quarters), bt Uruguay 1-0 (semis) Strength: Impressive defensive unit. Los Cafeteros conceded only two so far. Luis Diaz and James Rodriguez are the most dangerous players</p>	<p>Weakness: Lack experience in an international final. History is not on their side either. They have a single win in last 12 meetings with Argentina Watch Out For: Luis Diaz Coach: Nestor Lorenzo</p>

Officially 'destroyed' booze bottles surface in Gujarat jail

HC: Why Have Prohibition When Cops Involved In Bootlegging?

Saeed.Khan@timesofindia.com

Ahmedabad: Irritated by the reappearance in a Surat jail of officially destroyed liquor bottles, Gujarat high court has questioned the purpose of liquor prohibition in the state when police are involved in illegal activities.

"It appears that the destruction of seized goods was nothing but an eyewash. Let a departmental inquiry be conducted into the destruction," HC said and ordered a report within three weeks.

The court stayed until the next hearing on Aug 8 any action against three constables — Pinesh Vithani, Lok Rakshak Gulab Karsanbhai, and Gram Rakshak Dal Ja-



"It appears that the destruction of seized goods was nothing but an eyewash. Let a departmental inquiry be conducted," Gujarat HC said

wan Dhavalbha Kiritbhai — booked on the charge of hiding the bottles in the sub-jail. During a raid in Oct 2021, police recovered 3,221 IMFL bottles in the sub-jail. They found that 1,678 bottles be-

were destroyed under orders of a magistrate, and a panchama dated Aug 27, 2021 had been drawn up bearing the signature of a police inspector and other authorities. He cited the make, batch numbers, and quantity of the seized liquor; which was supposedly destroyed under a court order.

small for the large number of seized goods, they were being kept in a room at the police quarters. The three constables were named as accused.

Vithani moved HC to quash the FIR, claiming he was made a scapegoat for being a low-ranking official. He claimed the goods allegedly recovered from the sub-jail, for which he was implicated, were in fact goods supposedly destroyed under orders of a magistrate, and a panchama dated Aug 27, 2021 had been drawn up bearing the signature of a police inspector and other authorities. He cited the make, batch numbers, and quantity of the seized liquor; which was supposedly destroyed under a court order.

In letter to Shah, Manipur tribal outfit demands UT for Kuki-Zos

Kangkan.Kalita1 @timesofindia.com

Guwahati: In an open letter to home minister Amit Shah Saturday, Manipur-based Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF) called for a separate Union territory with a legislature for Kuki-Zo community.

Expressing concerns about the alleged high-handedness shown by central agencies in dealing with Kuki-Zo "village volunteers" amid the ongoing ethnic conflict, ITLF stressed the need for a UT under Article 239A of the Constitution.

The letter condemned multiple incidents, particularly in Jiribam's Phaitol and Mongbung, where central forces allegedly assaulted seven Kuki women and arrested three Kuki village volunteers. It was also alleged that security forces set fire to the house of the general secretary of Kuki Inpi (Jiribam, Noney and Tamenlong), escalating tensions.

"Military operations will not bring peace to Manipur. The nature of the conflict — death, destruction, and radicalisation of Meitei community — means Kuki-Zo community will not be able to live a safe and dignified life..." it said.

Assam flood-hit sheltering in forest attacked by leopard

Kangkan.Kalita1 @timesofindia.com

Guwahati: Three residents of Dadhia Mahmora and Dadhia Kuligaon villages were injured in a leopard attack while seeking refuge in Dibru Saikhowa National Park in Assam amidst devastating floods. The trio, among 48 villagers forced to relocate to the highlands of the park spanning Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts, was searching for their buffaloes Friday afternoon.

The injured men were taken to Assam Medical College and Hospital in Dibrugarh, where they received treatment and were discharged, health officials said on Saturday.

TOI had earlier reported of potential human-wildlife conflicts as flood-affected villagers took shelter in the park's highlands. This has led to clashes between displaced humans and wild animals, like buffaloes and elephants, competing for the same elevated land.

Abash Dang, 26, who was injured, said: "Alongside the leopard, there were a few cubs as well. We started our search for buffaloes on a boat and disembarked on a



A villager shifts his belongings to a safer place from a flood-affected area at Kailabor in Assam's Nagaon district on Saturday

highland. The leopard and the cubs were also seeking shelter there. The leopard most likely perceived us as a threat and attacked us."

Dodhia villagers confine their buffaloes to highlands during the monsoon when fields and forests are submerged, but they had let their livestock roam freely this time due to the lack of dry land and fodder.

Santana Medhi, forest range officer of Gujjan, said leopard attacks are rare as Dodhia residents have coexisted with the wildlife. "The buffaloes typically roam the park areas during the day. And all of a sudden, the leopard attacked them. We have not documented the pres-

ence of tigers in the vicinity, but there are leopards. There are no human settlements in close proximity to the location where the attack happened," Medhi said.

Since June 19, when the second wave of floods hit Assam, these families have moved deeper into the park to save their lives, seeking refuge in highlands about 5km from their villages. The flood situation in Assam has shown improvement, with the affected population dropping below 10 lakh for the first time in two weeks. However, one more flood-related death was reported in Dhemaji district, increasing the total fatalities from this season's floods to 91 since May.

Rural job scheme workers dig up gold coins

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kannur: A group of MGNREGS workers digging rainwater harvesting pits in a rubber plantation in Kerala's Kannur district literally struck gold on Friday when they unearthed a mud pot containing gold and silver coins and ornaments. On Saturday morning, five more silver coins and two gold ornaments were recovered from the same spot.

The valuables were found in a private property near Parippai Govt LP School in Chemagai panchayat. A preliminary investigation by the archaeology department as-



A preliminary investigation by the archaeology department in Kerala suggested the antiques were around 200 years old

certained that the antiques were around 200 years old. Mistaking the pot for a

bomb, the labourers initially discarded it fearing an explosion. However, when the small container burst open, they were shocked to find it contained precious treasures — 17 pearl beads, 13 gold medallions, four medallions believed to be part of traditional ornament 'kashumala', a pair of earrings and silver coins.

"Seeing the gold and silver items, we were surprised and confused about what to do. We then informed the panchayat president," said Ashitha, one of the workers. Panchayat authorities promptly informed the cops about the findings. Taliparamba Police reached the

spot, took the items into custody and presented them before the Taliparamba first-class magistrate court.

The archaeology department is likely to initiate a detailed investigation into the discovery to check whether there is any treasure trove in the location. The department has also decided to take over the recovery to verify the authenticity of the materials. "The location where the antiques were recovered has no historical importance, hence, the items could be part of a personal collection. However, we can conclude only after an examination," said an official.