



# Hindustan Times

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## House face-off as Oppn slams budget priorities

HT Correspondent

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**NEW DELHI:** The Opposition and the government on Wednesday faced off in Parliament over the Union Budget as the former attempted to corner the latter over allegations that preferential treatment was given to two allies critical for the survival of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) administration.

A day after Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented her seventh budget in Parliament, members of the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) staged a walkout from the Rajya Sabha and alleged that the government had given out sops to Bihar and Andhra Pradesh while ignoring other states.

The government hit back, dismissing the allegation. The budget was debated in both Houses on Wednesday, with senior Opposition leaders such as the Congress's P Chidambaram, Shashi Tharoor and Gaurav Gogoi, the Trinamool Congress's Abhishek Banerjee and Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam's Dayanidhi Maran tearing into the government, which was defended by Sitharaman, her cabinet colleague Kiren Rijju, former Tripura chief minister Biplab Deb, and senior leader Bhartruhari Mahtab.

Members of the INDIA bloc also staged a protest inside the Parliament premises, calling the budget discriminatory and demanding equitable treatment for all states. "Many didn't get

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### BUDGET DISCUSSION BEGINS

"Congress' (Kumari) Selja ji called it a 'Kursi Bachao budget'. It means the Congress does not need Bihar and Andhra Pradesh."  
— **Biplab Deb, BJP**

"I am saying with responsibility that this is a 'deliberate attempt' of the opposition parties led by the Congress to give the people the wrong impression that their states were not allocated funds or schemes."  
— **Nirmala Sitharaman, finance minister**

"If I had to describe the budget in one line, it would be a budget without clarity or vision, rolled out to satisfy the BJP's coalition partners."  
— **Abhishek Banerjee, Trinamool Congress**

"The budget in many ways is an emblem of this government's economic mismanagement and financial recklessness."  
— **Shashi Tharoor, Congress**

"If you don't take inflation seriously, you will be punished more. If you want to suffer, you are welcome to suffer the punishment."  
— **P Chidambaram, Congress**

"The budget that was presented, no state got anything...sabri thali khali, aur do thali mein pakora and jalebi (all plates empty and in two plates, there is pakora and jalebi)."  
— **Mallikarjun Kharge, Congress**

## Can't name each state, says FM on allegations of sops for allies

**NEW DELHI:** The government on Wednesday lashed out at the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) over its "immature and negative reactions" to the Union Budget, with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman dismissing the "outrageous allegation" that states ruled by non-NDA parties were discriminated against.

This came after the Opposition accused the government of

presenting a "discriminatory" budget, pointing towards a host of budgetary announcements for Andhra Pradesh and Bihar in the budget on Tuesday. Sitharaman said it was not possible to name every state during the limited duration of the speech.

"I would challenge the Congress party... for all the budget speeches they have delivered... have they named every state of the country in each of their bud-

get speeches? This is an outrageous allegation," she said. Citing an example to refute the allegation of discrimination, Sitharaman said: "I have not named many states. The Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, decided to set up a port at Vadvan, but Maharashtra's name was not included in the budget yesterday. Does this mean that Maharashtra feels ignored?"

## TREE-FELLING: SC BENCHES IN RARE DISAGREEMENT ON CONTEMPT PLEA

Abraham Thomas

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**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday witnessed a rare clash between two benches with one raising questions of judicial impropriety against the other for taking up the contempt matter against the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) for tree-felling in the Delhi Ridge and referred the matter to the Chief Justice of India (CJI) to determine which bench should continue hearing the case.

A three-judge bench headed by justice BR Gavi, the specially designated forest bench, questioned the manner in which hearing was initiated on the contempt plea against DDA by a bench led by justice AS Oka. On April 24, the justice Gavi-led bench issued contempt notice against DDA while hearing the TN Godavarman batch matters. The same issue arose in a separate contempt petition by a public-spirited person, Bindu Kapurea. In this case, Justice Oka issued contempt notices against DDA on May 14.

## Bonjour, Paris: India look to raise the bar

"Welcome, Beautiful India." That's the first thing anyone landing from back home is likely to see, courtesy a man holding a placard outside the Charles de Gaulle international airport.

India's athletes are soaking in the warm welcome for the 2024 Paris Olympics, which will be declared open on Friday, while exuding quiet optimism. Many from the country's contingent of 117 athletes have trickled into the Games Village, and already ticking a few to-do boxes — selfies with Rafael Nadal and Carlos Alcaraz, for instance.

They are here to do more than just that, though. Hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh — the photo of him sitting atop the goalpost after the



The Eiffel Tower Stadium in Paris.

men's team won bronze was a standout moment of the Tokyo Games of 2021 — is eager to sign off on his international career with even finer memories. "When we entered the Village, everyone was like 'let's do something better than last time'," Sreejesh, gearing up for his fourth Games, told HT on Wednesday. "Earlier, we were

there to participate in the Olympics. Now, every player here has

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READ: Scan the QR code to read HT's Olympics coverage

## Soldier, terrorist die in Kupwara

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**SRINAGAR:** A soldier and a terrorist were killed in an ongoing gun battle in the Kupwara district of Jammu & Kashmir, officers familiar with the matter said on Wednesday, the latest in a series of terror strikes in the Union territory, which has raised concerns about the security situation in the region.

The encounter near the army's Divar camp in Kashmir's Trimukha Top forests broke out on Tuesday, the same day the army foiled an infiltration bid in the Poonch district of Jammu. Lance Naik Subhash Chander was killed in the Poonch operation.

"Based on specific input regarding presence of terrorists, a Joint Search Operation was launched by Indian Army and @JmuKmrPolice on days leading up to 23 July 24," the Srinagar-based Chinara Corps posted on X. It added that the forces noticed "suspicious movements" on Tuesday in the Lolab area, and established contact with the terrorists, who resorted to indiscriminate firing.

## MISSING SAILOR'S BODY FOUND NEAR LISTING WARSHIP

Rahul Singh

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**NEW DELHI:** The body of the sailor who went missing after warship INS Brahmaputra tipped over at the naval dockyard in Mumbai on July 22, was on Wednesday pulled out from the water after intensive search operations, as navy chief Admiral Dinesh Tripathi ordered necessary actions be taken immediately.

## SC flags trust deficit between farmers, govt; proposes panel

Utkarsh Anand

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**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday underscored the "deep trust deficit" between the central government, states and farmers, and proposed the establishment of an independent committee to address the farmers' various demands, including a legal guarantee of minimum support price (MSP) for crops.

A bench, headed by justice Surya Kant, directed the Centre and the states of Haryana and Punjab to suggest names for the

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### What the top court said

**ON TRUST DEFICIT**

You have to take some initiatives to reach out to farmers. Why would they otherwise want to come to Delhi or agitate? You are sending ministers from here and despite their best intentions, there is a trust deficit.

**ON NEUTRAL PANEL**

We have impressed upon the parties to have instructions regarding the constitution of an independent committee, comprising eminent persons who can reach out to farmers and other stakeholders, in order to find out viable solution to their demands...

## RAJ COURT ORDERS MURDER CHARGE AGAINST COPS OVER ANANDPAL'S KILLING

Dinesh Bothra

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**JODHPUR:** A Rajasthan court on Wednesday rejected the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) closure report in the 2017 Anandpal Singh encounter case and said all seven policemen suspected of extrajudicial killing will face murder charges. A gangster, Anandpal was shot dead by police in 2017. Officers at the time said that they cordoned off the house in which Anandpal was hiding and asked him to surrender. He, however, began firing at the police and was killed in the ensuing encounter, they had said.

## CHOICE BETWEEN FREEDOM, CHAOS, SAYS HARRIS AT WISCONSIN RALLY

WISCONSIN: A roaring crowd of Wisconsin voters greeted Vice President Kamala Harris on Tuesday as she opened her public case against Republican former President Donald Trump by declaring November's election "a choice between freedom and chaos".

"In this campaign, I promise you, I will proudly put my record against his any day of the week," Harris said.

## India, UK launch joint tech security initiative

Rezauil H Laskar

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**NEW DELHI:** India and the UK on Wednesday launched a Technology Security Initiative aimed at ensuring telecommunications security and collaboration in key areas such as critical minerals, semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum computing and health technology.

The launch of the initiative was announced following visiting UK foreign secretary David Lammy's meetings with Prime



UK's foreign secretary David Lammy, PM Narendra Modi.

Minister Narendra Modi, NSA Ajit Doval and external affairs minister S Jaishankar.

## JUDICIAL ORDERS PART OF RIGHT TO BE FORGOTTEN? SC TO EXAMINE

Utkarsh Anand

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**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday deliberated whether the right to be forgotten be applied to judicial orders. A bench, headed by CJI Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, was addressing a challenge by Indian Kanoo, a legal database website, against a Madras HC order, directing it to remove an order that revealed the identity of a person acquitted in a sexual assault case.

{ SAURYA AIRLINES } PATCHY AIR SAFETY RECORD

## 18 killed as Nepal plane crashes, goes up in flames minutes after taking off



The wreckage of the plane that crashed in Kathmandu.

**KATHMANDU:** A passenger plane crashed and exploded in flames minutes after take-off in Kathmandu on Wednesday, killing 18 people, even as the pilot was rescued from the raging inferno that consumed the aircraft.

The Saurya Airlines flight was carrying two crew and 17 staff members, Nepali police spokespeople said, adding that the plane was headed to Pokhara for regular maintenance service when the accident took place at 11.11am local time (10.56am IST).

A statement from the airport said the aircraft, a 50-seater CRJ-200ER, "veered off to the right and crashed on the east of the runway" shortly after take-off.

The cause of the accident was unclear and Nepali authorities kicked off an investigation, though the focus turned on the country's poor air safety record. "One injured person (Captain Manish Ratna Shakya) was rescued and taken to hospital," said a separate statement by Nepal's aviation authority.

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PAGE ONE PLUS PARIS OLYMPICS

VINESH PHOGAT

The weight of expectations from wrestling to earn India a medal is riding on the shoulders of the 29-year-old who will be competing in her third Olympics.

NIKHAT ZAREEN

The 28-year-old from Nizamabad has won successive World Championship gold medals in the last two years and is expected to continue her brilliant run in the French capital.

NEERAJ CHOPRA

The golden boy of Indian sports is the reigning Olympic and world champion and is among the favourites to finish on the podium in men's javelin throw.

SIFT KAUR SAMRA

Sift Kaur Samra could end India's wait for a shooting medal, the last one coming in London 2012. The 22-year-old rifle shooter is one of India's brightest prospects in Paris.

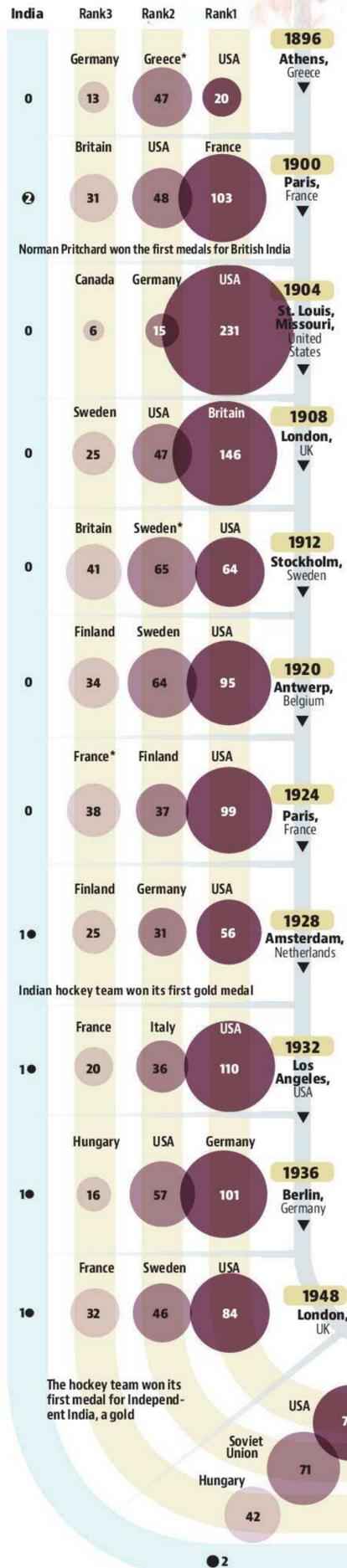
SATWIK AND CHIRAG

The dynamic duo of Indian badminton has won medals in all major events in the past couple of years; only the Olympics remain. The Asian Games gold medalists are one of the favourites to win a medal for India.

- Neeraj Chopra won the first athletics gold for India
- PV Sindhu became the first Indian woman to win two individual Olympic medals
- Indian hockey team won its first Olympic medal in 41 years

○ Total medals

Medals tracker: Olympics over the years and India's returns



# THE HOPES OF A NATION

As India begin action at the Paris Olympics, a country starved of consistent sporting glory waits to celebrate its next big star

Ashish Magotra

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How does one measure success for India at the Olympics? Is it by the population-to-medals ratio? Is it in comparison to previous efforts? Is it by gold medals won? Is it by a far more basic 'how much money was spent for each medal earned' metric? As India's 117-member contingent begins action at Paris 2024, the athletes will be focused on glory but for the majority in a country starved of sporting success at the quadrennial event, success will be measured in very certain terms — you win or you don't.

If you do win — as Neeraj Chopra, five others and the hockey team did in Tokyo — the perks are aplenty. Neeraj, for instance, was awarded ₹6 crore by the Haryana government, ₹3 crore by Indian Railways, ₹2 crore by the Punjab government and Edtech major BYJU'S, ₹1 crore by BCCI, Manipur government and IPL franchise Chennai Super Kings. And that was just the start. But if you lose, you can sink out of the public eye faster than a stone in water. That is why the big events mean so much to the athletes. They have short careers and they are going up against the best in the world. So, when the opportunity presents itself, they must strike. That thought alone brings a different kind of pressure — that one event could make or break could be stifling unless you are prepared to shrug it off and simply do what you have been trained to do. Doing what you have done in training on the big stage is not easy but that is precisely when the top athletes trust in the science of repetition.

Athletics Federation of India president Adile Sumariwalla tempers expectations. "You have to master the process if you want to achieve excellence," he said during an event at the Alliance Francaise de Delhi this month. "If the process is right, results will come. Sports is a science, if you don't have biochemistry, you can't understand biomechanics. It takes two, three or sometimes even four Olympic cycles to get this right. That is the progression you need to look at when you follow the process, don't look at medals. Medals will happen when they have to."

Neeraj's success has meant the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has looked at athletics in a new light. The union government has spent close to ₹470 crore on India's preparation for Paris 2024, with ₹96.08 crore allocated to athletics alone. In the previous Olympics cycle, athletics received ₹5.38 crore from the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). The idea that success can be found in athletics was long dismissed in India but now there is a new hope.

Manisha Malhotra, Head - Sports Excellence and Scouting, JSW Sports, has worked with both of India's individual Olympic gold medalists — Abhinav Bindra and Neeraj — and for her, the difference is all in the mind. "The common things between the two were the passion and how sorted in the head they are about themselves," she said. "The amount of belief they have and what goes into it is incredible. It is important to know the commonalities because they come from such different sports — one is completely static and one is brute strength, speed and power — and yet there is so much that binds them. Work ethic is one of them."

"What sets these guys apart is that on that day they have enough belief and they have left no stone unturned. So, you go in with some sense of peace, of confidence that there has not been a single practice session that they have cut corner; That is true of Abhinav and Neeraj."

Bindra feels the Indian athlete of today cannot be compared to yesteryear counterparts. "The new breed of Indian athletes is different," said Bindra. "I came from a generation that was chicken-hearted, but these athletes come from a generation

that is much more confident. They want to go and win, and not just win, they want to go out there and win gold medals. And that is a reflection of not just our athletes but also our society."

But while things have changed, they also remain the same. Bindra added: "They still have to go out there and perform on the day, and that is not going to change. They have to live in the moment, learn to be adaptable, learn to soak up the pressure — not run away from it and focus on the process that they have perfected over the years. The most important thing is to remain in the present. One of the biggest mistakes athletes, or we as human beings, make is that either we are living in the past or we are thinking about what the future holds. We forget about the only reality that exists here."

Change is in the air

A lot has changed in India. The government's financial support to athletes is huge now. "It has almost come to a point where we are spoiling our athletes," said Malhotra. "There are very few athletes around the world who are getting the kind of support that ours are. I think we have come to a point where we are at the crossroads for Indian sport. We are sitting on the launching pad, so to speak, to take it to the next level."

Sumariwalla, who is also a vice-president at World Athletics, points to the rise of the relays team as an example. In August 2023, the men's 4x400m relay team broke the Asian record, gave the USA team a tough fight and qualified for the World Championships final for the first time. They finished fifth in the final, but the bar had been raised. "It actually happened four years later than it should have. We had more talented athletes in the past, but they did not perform. The thought process then was that we have to go there, compete and come back. Now we have a breed of athletes who want to go there, compete and win. If it is USA, we don't care. We will fight them, shoulder to shoulder."

The next step is to create an ecosystem which will allow sports to thrive and that means we will need good coaches at the grassroots level and infrastructure too. That will ensure good talent comes through but then it is important to get sports science into the picture early. You need recovery experts, physios, expertise at every level and at every juncture. The assistance that is going to the elite will eventually need to filter down to the grassroots level as well.

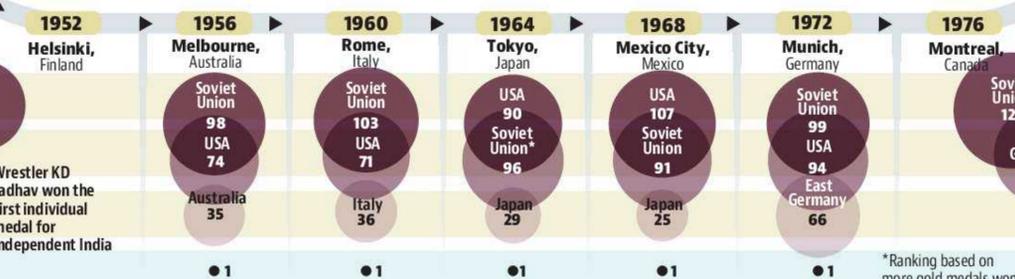
Kunal, Joint Secretary, (Sports-Development), said the government isn't spoiling athletes. "Rather we are trying to do whatever is feasible," he said. "For sports, you require a whole ecosystem. We are building a culture of excellence slowly and money is not an issue anymore."

Bindra, however, feels it is not just about the medals but also about what it takes to get to the Olympics. So, the athletes need to hold their heads up, take pride in representing India. "At a pure, athlete-to-athlete level, I just want them to hold their head high and be proud of themselves... look themselves in the mirror and say they have done their best," said Bindra. "But if you talk about it from a government or federation perspective then you are also looking for certain outcomes, which is also fair. And then we are talking about converting all the work into medals. Tokyo was our best and I am hopeful we will surpass that and enter the double-digit era of our Olympic performances. The athletes have got everything they have asked for and now they need to put their head down and get the job done."

## Spending and squad strength

■ Overall funding (in ₹ crore)  
★ Number of athletes

The totals include ACTC funding + TOPS + CSR expenditure in the Paris cycle — 2021-24



Led by Vasudevan Baskaran, the hockey team won gold in Moscow. This was the last time India won the men's hockey title

\*Ranking based on more gold medals won

{ RIDGE MATTER } CJI TO DECIDE

# Rare impasse in SC on tree-felling case

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**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday witnessed a rare clash between two benches with one raising questions of judicial propriety against the other for taking up the contempt matter against the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) for tree-felling in the Ridge area in Delhi and referred the matter to the chief justice of India (CJI) to determine which bench should continue hearing the case.

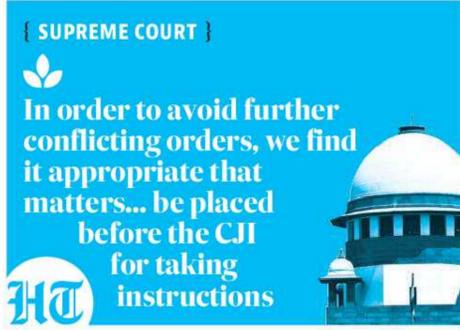
A three-judge bench headed by justice BR Gavai on Wednesday said, "On the question of propriety when one bench is seized of the contempt proceedings, should the other bench have proceeded in contempt? The other bench has not adhered to judicial propriety," questioning the manner in which hearing was initiated on the contempt plea against DDA by a bench led by justice AS Oka.

The justice Gavai-led bench is the specially designated forest bench that issued the notice of contempt against DDA for alleged felling of trees in the ridge on April 24 this year while hearing an application in the TN Godavarma batch matters relating to protection of forests and wildlife.

The same issue arose in a separate contempt petition filed against DDA by a public-spirited person, Bindu Kapurea, and was entertained by another bench headed by justice Oka. On May 14, this bench issued contempt notices and hauled up the land-owning agency for felling trees in ridge area for widening of a road leading to SAARC University and a hospital for central armed paramilitary forces in Satbari. It was in these proceedings the court also called in question the role of the Delhi lieutenant governor VK Saxena in ordering the felling of trees and examined lapses on part of the Delhi government and the Tree Authority in failing to check the chopping of over 800 trees even as permission was sought by DDA for felling only 422 trees.

The forest bench headed by justice Gavai, also comprising justices PK Mishra and KV Viswanathan, kept the matter before it in abeyance and said, "In order to avoid further conflicting orders, we find it appropriate that matters pertaining to the ridge area which are being monitored by this court in the TN Godavarma case be placed before the CJI for taking instructions for the matter to be decided by one and the same bench."

Advocate K Parmeshwar,



assisting the court as amicus curiae, informed the bench that the contempt matter before the bench led by justice Oka made substantial progress, and orders were passed stalling further road construction, recovery of cut trees, and inquiry to determine number of trees cut and fixing of responsibility on authorities for floating court orders.

Additional solicitor general (ASG) Aishwarya Bhati, who appeared for Centre, confirmed that she had informed the other bench about a similar matter pending before the forest bench.

The court said: "It would have been more appropriate for the other bench to seek clarification from the CJI before initiating contempt proceedings for the same course of action to ascertain which bench should continue hearing the contempt proceedings."

₹2,200 crore was spent on its construction.

The petitioner in the other matter, Kapurea, represented by senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, also intervened by pointing out that before the other bench, DDA categorically stated that it has withdrawn the road-widening project. The counsel said it was open for the authority to raise these arguments before the other bench where the matter has been argued, and the next date of hearing is July 31.

Justice Gavai said, "Since the time I have started presiding over this bench, I have been passing orders with regard to the Delhi ridge for the past two years. Why are you averse to getting a clarification from the CJI? It does not matter to us which bench hears the matter. We only want judicial propriety."

In a related case, the court dealt with a recent report filed by a central empowered committee (CEC), assisting the forest bench in environment protection cases, that detailed a shocking situation about depletion of ridge forest cover in Delhi. In May, the court had sought responses from DDA, the Union government and the Delhi government on the report, but none of the authorities filed any reply.

The report pointed out that notification was issued in 1984 to classify 7,784 hectares as the Ridge forest area but the final notification under Section 20 of Indian Forest Act (notifying the land as reserved forest) was issued for an area of 103.48 hectares, roughly 1.33% of the total ridge forest area. The notified area of 103 hectares includes 14.18 hectares in Chattarpur and 89.30 hectares in Rangpuri.

CEC also raised questions on the management of ridge land as 5% of ridge area was under encroachment and rate of diversion of land for non-forest purposes was on the rise.

Posting the matter in August, the bench took exception to lack of responses filed by the concerned authorities and governments, and gave four weeks as a "last chance". The court warned that in the event no responses are filed, it will not hesitate from summoning the chief secretary of Delhi and vice-chairman of DDA.

The Ridge in Delhi is the tail end of the ancient Aravalli Hills, extending from Gujarat all through Rajasthan and Haryana before ending in Delhi. It is the "green lung" of the city, home to a variety of flora and fauna, and plays a crucial role in cutting down the effects of pollution.

# Three cops booked for extorting ₹19.5 lakh

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi Police has booked three policemen who allegedly detained four people and extorted them of ₹19.5 lakh last year, officers said on Wednesday. The accused — sub-inspector Brijesh Redhu, head constable Satish Kumar and head constable Anil Yadav — are now being probed by the police vigilance department, the officers said.

Police said the 19-year-old complainant who runs an online delivery portal alleged that he

and two friends were called to the Hari Nagar police station on March 10, 2023, where one of his delivery executives was detained. There, the complainant said, the three policemen demanded money, threatened to implicate the four in an OTP fraud case, and also assaulted them.

A senior officer said, "Police too lodged a cheating case against the company. The matter even went to court where the student applied for anticipatory bail." **HTC**

{ 150-YR-OLD MONUMENT } DELHI HC CASE

# NDMC will hear objections over masjid removal

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**NEW DELHI:** The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) on Wednesday told the Delhi high court that public objections against the proposed removal of the 150-year-old Sunehri Masjid will be considered by the law.

Additional solicitor general (ASG) Chetan Sharma, representing NDMC, informed a bench of justice Purushendra Kumar Kaurav that the authority had received thousands of objections, and it will not only consider the mosque's imam's objections but also those of the public.

The law officer made submissions in a plea filed by the masjid's imam, Abdul Aziz, challenging NDMC's notice inviting objections.

The December 24, 2023, notice was published in the newspaper days after the high court closed the Delhi Waqf Board's (DWB) plea seeking to restrain the NDMC from demolishing or razing portions of the historical mosque near the Udyog Bhawan Metro station at the roundabout where Maulana Azad Road, Motilal Nehru Marg, and Kamraj Road meet.

Aziz, in the plea, had claimed that the notice was issued with "malafide intentions without any application of mind and that the structure was being targeted

without any research, data, statistics, or demonstration to show that there was any traffic congestion due to its existence".

During the hearing on Wednesday, the imam, represented by senior advocate Viraj R Datar, submitted that he will withdraw the petition, provided the court directs the authorities concerned to consider the objections according to the law.

The ASG also raised objections regarding the maintainability of the imam's petition. ASG Sharma said that only the DWB could have filed the petition.

Consequently, the court disposed of the petition after taking the ASG's statement on record that the public objections would be considered according to the law. The judge added that "the authority concerned at this stage had to dwell upon the objections and suggestions received by the public and the court was thus not inclined to pass any positive directions in the matter".

The Delhi traffic police had in February informed the court that the matter regarding the demolition of the masjid had been referred to the Heritage Conservation Committee (HCC).

NDMC had proposed removing the mosque, designated as a grade III heritage structure by the Delhi government in a 2009 notification, alleging that it is obstructing the safe and smooth flow of traffic.

{ 20K PILGRIMS EXPECTED }

# Atishi inspects govt's camps for kanwars

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**NEW DELHI:** Delhi revenue minister Atishi on Wednesday inspected the preparedness at kanwar camps the government is setting up for the devotees.

Atishi said the government has set up 185 such camps across the city, with the largest at Maharaja Agrasen Park at Kashmere Gate, which can accommodate 20,000 kanwars.

She added that all district administrations will be on alert during the kanwar yatra so that the devotees do not face any kind of problem and get all the necessary facilities in the camp.

"The camps set up by the government have waterproof tents, dining areas, bedding, toilets, water, and 24-hour medical facilities. 185 such camps have been set up. We are working with the kanwar committees to facilitate the yatra," she said.

"This camp (Maharaja Agrasen Park) is one of the largest kanwar camps in the country... Here, separate halls have been prepared, where male and female kanwariyas can rest. A large dining hall has also been prepared to distribute 'prasad',



Atishi at a camp in Kashmir Gate on Wednesday. **PTI**

among other facilities," she said. She added that a medical team will be on standby in case any injuries occur due to the rain. "An ambulance has also been deployed outside the camps. Local dispensaries have been linked to the camps and CATS ambulances have been connected for handling any emergency," she said.

Meanwhile, a senior police officer said the yatra is expected to pick up in the coming days, and all arrangements are in place to help facilitate the pilgrimage. Nearly 1,500 police personnel will be deployed on routes that the devotees are likely to take, the officer said.



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Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

# Rain lashes parts of Capital, waterlogging triggers snarls

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Severe waterlogging and traffic snarls were the order of the day across city roads on Wednesday morning, as parts of Delhi recorded their first spell of heavy rainfall this month. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast light to moderate showers on Thursday, before a reduction in rain intensity as the monsoon trough — presently close to Delhi — moves away, officials said.

Northwest and west Delhi were the worst hit, with 80mm of rainfall recorded at the Pusa weather station in the 24 hours till 8.30am on Wednesday, followed by 73mm of rainfall recorded at the Pitampura station in the same period. Between 8.30am and 5.30pm on the day, the Pusa station recorded a further 7mm of rainfall.

Moderate rainfall was recorded in parts of north, central and south Delhi, with the Narela station recording 34mm of rainfall, the Delhi University station recording 29mm and the Safdarjung station — considered the standard for Delhi — recording 27mm. Between 8.30am and 5.30am, the Safdarjung and DU stations recorded further rainfall of 9mm and 1mm, respectively.

As of Wednesday evening, the Safdarjung station received 154.2mm of rainfall in July, just short of the normal mark of 156.4mm till July 24.

An IMD official said rain intensity increased in the capital since Tuesday, after the monsoon trough, which was closer to central India, got closer to Delhi-NCR. "The movement of the trough and moisture due to a western disturbance led to creation of thunderclouds in the early hours of the day, with rain observed mostly between 7am and 9am. The second half of the day was clear," the official, who did not wish to be named, said.

**Roads inundated**

Following the downpour, Delhi Traffic Police advised motorists to avoid the Zakhira underpass,



Children use the Zakhira underpass as a makeshift pool, following severe rainfall and subsequent barricading. SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTOS

Outer Ring Road stretch from Vikaspuri towards Peeragarhi, Ring Road near Indira Gandhi Stadium, Rohtak Road, Ring Road stretch from Punjabi Bagh to Dhaura Kuan, Syama Prasad Mukherjee Marg, Mahatma Gandhi Marg and Anand Parbat. Instances of trees being uprooted were also reported from Rajdhani College and areas near the Haryana Maitri Bhawan in Rani Bagh.

An official with the Public Works Department control room said there were 35 complaints of waterlogging registered on the day. "Fifty-one calls were received at the control room but many of these were repeat complaints and the ones pertaining to other agencies. Around 35 complaints are related to PWD roads. Major waterlogging was observed at Zakhira underpass, Rohtak Road and Lawrence Road. Dewatering pumps are operational at all these sites."

An official with the New Delhi Municipal Corporation said nine complaints of waterlogging were received, mostly from the north-

ern and western parts. Worst-affected roads were in central Delhi, near Zakir Hussain Marg, Krishi Bhavan, ITO and Karol Bagh.

MCD, in its monsoon report, said 30 complaints of waterlogging and 15 cases of trees being uprooted were reported.

**Humidity reigns**

The rain gave way to sultry weather in the second half of the day, with humidity oscillating between 74% and 100%. Delhi's maximum temperature was 33.8°C, which was a degree below normal and around three degrees down from the 36.2°C recorded a day earlier.

The heat index or "real feel" of the weather was, however, 47°C. The wet-bulb temperature, another indicator of thermal discomfort outside, was 29.3°C.

Delhi's minimum temperature was 24.8°C, three degrees below normal and down from 27.4°C recorded a day earlier. Delhi's maximum and minimum are forecast to hover around 34 and 26°C respectively.



A fast-moving vehicle splashes water, at inundated Rohtak Road.

# Several violations at E Delhi clinic: Police

{ VIVEK VIHAR FIRE } COPS FILE CHARGE SHEET

Hemani Bhandari  
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**NEW DELHI:** Underqualified nurses taking care of the babies, ayurvedic practitioners running a NICU centre and a lack of basic safety — these were some of the several issues listed by the Delhi Police in the 796-page chargesheet submitted to a Delhi court detailing the circumstances that led to a massive fire at a neonatal centre in Vivek Vihar, east Delhi, killing six newborns on May 25.

The chargesheet, seen by HT, listed 81 witnesses, including police officers, fire department officials, staff of the hospital, and residents of the area, among others. Police mentioned two ayurvedic practitioners who were working at the hospital as suspects, but there was no evidence against them on record.

The document added that there were no safety measures installed in the hospital for emergencies. Police also said in the chargesheet that the "structural design of the nursing home was not safe", adding that the number of oxygen cylinders stored was beyond permissible limits.

While the chargesheet did not mention the source of the fire, the document said that the report of the electrical inspector was collected which said: "... on physical examination of the burnt out electrical installation, no sign of short-circuiting could be noticed in the electrical installation".

**'3 ayurvedic practitioners were resident doctors'**

According to the regulations, one resident medical officer (RMO) with a valid Delhi Medical Council certificate mentioning their PG degree specialising in ICU-NICU is a requirement at neonatal care centres. However, only ayurvedic practitioners were deployed at the centre. Similarly, nurses should have a minimum qualification of General Nursing and Midwifery along with an experience certificate of working in a 10-bed ICU for a year, but "no such qualified nurses have been found deployed," the chargesheet said.

Quoting the police, the document said the nursing staff on duty said the owner had allowed the

## Charges against hospital

A look at the long list of lapses listed in the chargesheet

- NO SAFETY MEASURES installed at hospital**
- NO SPACE FOR NICU:** Hospitals, to operate NICUs, are required to have 50sq ft of space per bed. Since the hospital has 12 NICU beds, it was required to have 600sq ft of space. The nursing home had two rooms totalling only 347sq ft — meaning the hospital had a little over half the space it was required to
- UNQUALIFIED DOCTORS:** To run a NICU, hospitals are required to have an RMO with a valid DMC certificate with a post-graduate specialisation in ICU/NICU. It had only deployed ayurvedic practitioners (BAMS degree holders) at the NICU
- NO QUALIFIED NURSES:** Nurses in NICU facilities are required to have General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) qualifications and year+ experience in ICUs. There were no such nurses there
- OVERLOADED WITH O2 CYLINDERS:** In licence application, hospital was allowed to store a maximum of 20 oxygen cylinders (5 of 'Category B' and 15 of 'Category D'). On the night of the fire, 31 cylinders were in the hospital
- HAZARDOUS CYLINDER STORAGE:** Cylinders were stored in 'hazardous manner'
- ROOFTOP USED FOR COOKING:** Nursing staff said the owner let staff cook on rooftop — an issue they flagged to the owner, but to no avail
- FILLED WITH FLAMMABLE MATERIAL:** Accused kept flammable material i.e. stacks of papers, wooden debris which aggravated the fire
- LICENCE WAS ISSUED BY DGHS,** or the Directorate General of Health Services, despite a case pending against nursing home's owner



other staff to cook on the rooftop. The chargesheet had detailed statements of the staffers, including nurses. A nurse, identified as Raksha, in her statement said that she had been working at the hospital since 2023 as a receptionist.

Giving a breakup of staffers, she said that Khichi and Dr Abhiman (single name) were both paediatricians and three people identified as Akash Singh, Shubham Singh and Sachin Singh were ayurvedic practitioners who were working as RMOs. Two of the housekeeping staff and a driver stayed there to "operate the oxygen cylinders... the hospital did not have trained technician to operate the cylinders," she told police.

Nurse Megha Mukherjee said that on the day of the incident, she, along with two other nurses, were on duty along with Dr Singh as in-charge. She said that around 11.15pm, she saw a fire but "Dr Akash was not spotted at all". Of the 12 babies admitted to the centre at the time, only four survived — six due to the fire and two due to respiratory problems unrelated to the fire. A report prepared by the anti-corruption branch showed the nursing home was functioning with an expired health license and had no fire exits, equipment or measures. The hospital owner, Dr Khichi, and Dr Singh were arrested a day later and are in judicial custody.

# TRAFFIC ADVISORY

from 22.07.2024 to 02.08.2024

## DUE TO MOVEMENT OF KANWARIAS

Every year during the Hindu lunar month of "Shravan", devotees (Kanwarias) travel on-foot from Gau Mukh, Gangotri Dham and Haridwar carrying holy "Ganga Jal" for offering the same at Shiva Temples on "Shravan Shivratri". The holy expedition called Kanwar Yatra commences on the first day of Sawan (Shravan) i.e. **22.07.2024**. It culminates on the Chaturdashi Tithi i.e. **02.08.2024** as holy Ganga water will be offered to Lord Shiva. A large number of Kanwariyas reach Delhi and some of them go to Haryana & Rajasthan via Delhi borders. This year the expected number is about 15-20 Lacs.

**MAP SHOWING KANWARIAS' & HTV / MGV DIVERSION ROUTE - 2024 IN DELHI**

- KANWARIAS' ROUTE
- KANWARIAS' CAMP
- HTV & MGV DIVERSION ROUTE
- ★ TRAFFIC DIVERSION POINTS (AS & WHEN REQUIRED)

**These devotees carrying kanwars will pass through below mentioned routes:**

- Apsara Border - Shahdara Flyover - Seelampur 'T' Point - ISBT Flyover Boulevard Road - Rani Jhansi Road - Faiz Road - Upper Ridge Road - Dhaura Kuan - NH-8 and exit from Rajokri Border for Haryana.
- Bhopura Border - Wazirabad Road - Loni Flyover - Gokulpuri 'T' Point - 66 Foota Road - Seelampur 'T' Point - NH 1 and further towards new ISBT Bridge.
- Entry/Exit from Loni Border to Loni Flyover from UP or Entry/Exit from Sonia Vihar Border - Pusta Road - Khajoori Flyover - Wazirabad Road from UP.
- Bhopura Border - Wazirabad Road - Wazirabad Bridge - Outer Ring Road - Mukarba Chowk - NH 1 and exit/entry from Singhu Border or Mukarba Chowk - NH 1 - Bawana Road and exit/entry from Auchandi Border or Madhuban Chowk - Peeragarhi and exit/entry from Tikri Border for Haryana.
- Maharajpur Border, Road No.56, Ghazipur Border - NH 24 - Ring Road - Mathura Road and exit from Badarpur Border for Haryana.
- Kalindi Kunj - Mathura Road - Badarpur Border.
- Kalindi Kunj - Mathura Rd - Modi Mill - Maa Anand Mai Marg - M.B. Road.
- New Rohtak Road (from Kamal T-Point to Tikri Border).
- Najafgarh Road (from Zakhira to Najafgarh).
- Rohtak Road from Zakhira to Madipur to Peeragarhi Chowk to Nangloi Chowk to Mundka to Tikri Border.
- Najafgarh Road from Zakhira to Uttam Nagar to Najafgarh Firdi Road to Jharoda Border.
- Outer Ring Road from Madhuban Chowk to Peeragarhi Chowk to Keshopur Mandi to District Centre Janakpuri.
- Dev Prakash Shastri Marg from Rattanpuri Chowk To Loha Mandi.

**Diversion plan during the days of heavy rush hours:**

- HTVs will be diverted by UP Police from Mohan Nagar towards NH-24 and no such traffic will be allowed towards Wazirabad Road via Bhopura and/or towards GT Road via Apsara Border.
- HTVs except city buses will not be allowed on GT Road towards Shahdara and Wazirabad Road.
- Heavy Commercial transport vehicles except city buses coming from GT Karnal Road at Outer Ring Road will be diverted straight towards NH-24 and will not be allowed to move on Wazirabad Road and GT Road towards Shahdara.
- Heavy commercial transport except city buses coming from Loni Road (Shahdara side) will be diverted on Wazirabad Road to exit from Outer Ring Road.
- Heavy commercial transport except city buses coming from internal area as like Sonia Vihar, PTS Wazirabad Pusta, Pusta Road will be diverted towards Outer Ring Road via Wazirabad Road to take NH-24.

During these days, due to the movement of Kanwarias and setting up of "Kanwaria Camps" on road side, traffic congestion/obstruction is experienced at several places. Generally heavy traffic congestion occurs on **Najafgarh Firdi, Rohtak Road, Pankha Road, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Nangloi-Najafgarh Road, Outer Ring Road, Rani Jhansi Road from Baral Khana Chowk to Fire Station, Boulevard Road and at Azad Market Chowk, Gokul Puri Fly Over, 66 Foota Road, Maujpur Chowk, Badarpur T Point, Mathura Road**. Similarly, traffic congestion is experienced on **NH-08 from Dhaura Kuan Metro Station up to Rajokri Border**. Due to diversion of vehicular traffic, bound for **Apsara Border and Maharajpur Border to Ghazipur**, by UP Police, **there will be congestion on NH-24** as well.

Motorists and road users are advised to plan their movement in advance to avoid inconvenience and delay. In addition to these important roads and intersections, Kanwarias movement is observed in smaller numbers in several locations all over Delhi. Delhi Traffic Police has made elaborate arrangements to segregate the movement of Kanwarias and other road users and to minimize inconvenience to the general public and devotees. The devotees and road users are advised to follow the traffic rules and obey the directions of Policemen on duty. During this period of Kanwarias movement, traffic violation will be checked by on the spot prosecution and by photography/videography of violations which will be followed by prosecution.



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# A shocking truth: Exposed wires, rains, and the apathy that follows

**Jasjeev Gandhiok**  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** A narrow backlane in Patel Nagar is inundated with water after a brief spell of rain. To enter this lane, one needs to cross a black metal gate, beside which lies an electricity pole. A tangled maze of wires – a web of power lines, broadband and TV cables – dangle from this pole.

But the otherwise innocuous spot is blocked off, with line after line of police tape keeping people away. A 26-year-old man was electrocuted to death here on Tuesday after he tripped while crossing a puddle and grabbed the gate, which was charged after coming in contact with a live power line.

Less than 24 hours later, another man – this time a 30-year-old labourer – was killed after he was electrocuted in northeast Delhi's Karawal Nagar at a construction site on Wednesday.

These were the fifth and sixth deaths from electrocution in Delhi so far this monsoon.

Days ago, on June 28, when over 200mm of rain lashed Delhi, a 39-year-old man was electrocuted in Rohini after brushing past a live wire on a waterlogged road. On July 13, a 34-year-old woman was electrocuted on a waterlogged road in Bhajanpura.

These deaths come not long after a woman was electrocuted last June at the New Delhi Railway Station after she touched a live wire during a spell of rain.

A walk in a residential street nearly anywhere in Delhi will yield sights similar to the one in Patel Nagar, especially during monsoon – a potentially lethal combination of waterlogging with loose, exposed wires that millions of residents cross daily.

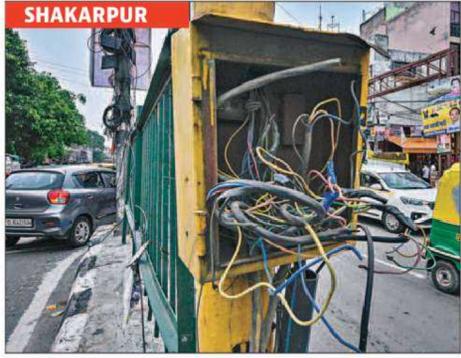
These incidents bring into focus, yet again, how authorities are unable to get their act together when it comes to ensuring the safety of citizens from what is an easily preventable accident.

Other electrocution deaths this monsoon, but not directly linked to waterlogging, included the death of a BSES employee in Dwarka on June 14, while he was trying to fix an electricity pole. On Monday, a constable died after



**NEW FRIENDS COLONY**  
Clockwise from top-left: Exposed wiring on a fuse box in New Friends Colony; electric wires protrude from a pole in Shakarpur; and tangled cables lie in on the street in Patel Nagar on Wednesday.

RAJK RAJ/SANCHIT KHANNA/HT



## Govt orders probe in Patel Ngr death

**NEW DELHI:** Power minister Atishi on Wednesday ordered an inquiry into an incident of death by electrocution of a man in Patel Nagar on Monday.

She also directed chief secretary Naresh Kumar to suggest policy measures to ensure there is no recurrence and provide ex gratia to the family of the victim. **HTC**

coming in contact with a high-tension wire on a terrace in Najafgarh.

HT took a walk around the city in the past week, finding out that not much appears to have changed despite these deaths. While walking through most footpaths in the city is a challenge in its own right – one has to navigate vendors, encroachments, among other hurdles – people, especially around monsoon, also have to avoid loose, dangling wires from poles and electrical installations.

Loose wires were seen sticking out of electricity poles at Minto road and DDU Marg. At New Friends Colony, exposed wires were seen sticking out of fuse boxes. Similarly, HT saw tangles of wires sticking out from poles at West Patel Nagar, Rani Bagh, Saraswati Vihar and Shakarpur,

many of which were exposed. Tuesday's death, Delhi Police said, occurred when the victim slipped on a waterlogged street and grabbed the gate for support, getting electrocuted due to an exposed motor wire. HT on Tuesday saw the gate itself was covered in a bundle of wires, each of which could equally be a risk.

**A problem too common**  
Such poles were in front of every four or five houses in the lane across the city.

Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had said in 2021 that the government intends to move all power cables underground. Though it is possible to move them underground, the process will require cavernous amounts of space, planning and will – all of which authorities seem to lack.

"It is possible, but there is a tremendous cost involved. One will also need a lot of space at the neighbourhood level to lay them underground, space which is lacking now in most parts of the city," a Delhi Transco Ltd (DTL) official, who did not wish to be identified, said, adding that cables are underground in Greater Noida, where the planning was done in advance.

A civic official, aware of the matter, said the problem is even worse in unauthorised colonies, where power thefts are common. "Not only does it lead to tripping, but it is also a huge safety hazard," the official said, adding in several cases, internet cables and other local wires are also added to poles, without taking the requisite permissions.

RWAs said the risk of electrocution is always there, but increases

exponentially in the monsoon, and blame authorities for continuously passing the blame.

"It becomes more dangerous when there is waterlogging or when electrical installations get wet. However, seeing such wires is not a rare sight. In fact, in every street, one will be able to come across a few wires that may be loose, are cut or are simply hanging dangerously... The idea should be to carry out safety audits regularly," said Sanjeev Bhatnagar, a former RWA president from Prasad Nagar, adjacent to Patel Nagar. "We also need a mechanism to periodically check private meters and wires in people's homes. In the monsoon, electricity leakage can easily occur."

BS Vohra, the joint front president of east Delhi RWAs echoes these fears. "We see that almost

every other pole has a wire hanging dangerously. The first goal must be to fix waterlogging, particularly around electricity poles and installations. The second, we need regular drives and the RWAs can help any agency involved to identify dangerous poles," he said.

Delhi's power distribution companies (discoms), however, insist their teams ensure any exposed wires or dangerous installations – prone to waterlogging, are fixed immediately.

BSES, which supplies electricity to south, west, east and central Delhi, said the monsoon brings its own challenges, with waterlogging, strong winds and falling branches often damaging electrical infrastructure.

A BSES spokesperson said safety drives are being carried out across the city, as is done before monsoon as well.

"Safety Inspections are being carried out on electrical equipment, including sub-stations, feeder pillars, distribution boxes, and fencing across BSES areas to identify and rectify hazardous conditions, if any, and ensure the safety of the infrastructure," the spokesperson said.

Tata Power DDL, which supplies power around north and northwest Delhi, also said it was carrying out special drives to identify and fix leakage of electricity.

"To minimise incidents related to electrocution, Tata Power-DDL has implemented several proactive measures. One of the key initiatives is our leakage check drive is conducted across our area of operations. Every year, we undertake a special leakage testing drive that covers public installations such as poles, fencing and grills of MCD/DDA parks, street-light panels, and ATMs," said a TPDDL spokesperson.

It said for the financial year 2023-24, the drive was carried out across 206,273 points, identifying leakage at 144 locations and damaged earthing in 33 cases. "All identified discrepancies were repaired on the spot. Continuing with this drive, as of July 2024, we have inspected 55,221 points, finding current leakage in 36 cases, which were rectified immediately," the spokesperson added.

# HC tells govt to shift dairies from Bhalswa

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**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi high court has directed the Delhi government and statutory authorities, including the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), to extend sanctions required for the shifting of all dairies from Bhalswa to Ghoga Dairy Colony near Narela within four weeks. The court also expressed its displeasure over inability of authorities to stop milch cattle from feeding on garbage from the city's landfills.

The court was considering a plea filed by three people – Sunayana Sibal, Asher Jessudoss and Akshita Kukreja – who alleged dairy colonies located near landfills are wrought with violations of central and state-level statutes.

A bench of acting chief justice Manmohan and justice Manmeet PS Arora directed the shifting of dairies after noting that dairies needed 30 acres for relocation, while Ghoga Dairy Colony has 83 acres of unused land.

The court considered standing counsel Kirtiman Singh's submission that the Union ministry of housing and urban affairs (MoHUA) had written to the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) to locate approximately 185 acres of land to shift

dairies at Bhalswa and Ghazipur, and DDA was seeking time for the same. Singh submitted that though the Centre had written to the Uttar Pradesh and Haryana governments for the allotment of land to shift the dairies, it was yet to hear from those states.

"...having considered the submissions of the counsel and having perused the correspondence of MoHUA, we find merit in the submission that since estimate of land needed for shifting of Bhalswa Dairy Colony is 30 acres and admittedly, unutilised land to the extent of 83 acres is available in Ghoga Dairy Colony, we hereby direct all these statutory authorities including MCD, DUSIB (Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board), GNCTD and MoHUA to the extent their sanctions are required to take immediate steps for shifting all the dairies from Bhalswa to Ghoga Dairy Colony within four (4) weeks," the court said in its July 19 order, which was made available on Wednesday.

The court, in a nine-page order, also directed the MCD commissioner to hold a meeting with DUSIB officials and other stakeholders to draw up a detailed layout plan for Ghoga Dairy Colony, and file the same before the court within two weeks.

# Man held in multiple cases of rape, sodomy

**Leena Dhankhar**  
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**GURUGRAM:** A 50-year-old man was arrested on Wednesday for allegedly raping and sodomising minors across different states over the past 10 years, since he was released from jail after serving a 10-year sentence for raping a five-year-old girl in Madhya Pradesh, police said.

Police said they ascertained details about at least four crimes when investigating the alleged rape of a three-year-old

girl in Ritohj village, Sohna, on April 25. The girl's mother, in her complaint, said the accused was working as a labourer and stayed near their house in Ritohj. "Late night, they found their three-year-old daughter and the person missing. They found their daughter in an unconscious state nearly 300 metres from their room," Varun Dhayia, assistant commissioner of police (crime), said.

Dahiya said the accused was booked under the PoCo Act and held from Ratlam in MP.

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Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813  
Website: www.pspcl.in  
Mobile No. 96461-55525

Short Term E-Tender Enq. No. 7580/P-3/EMP-12736 Dated 23.07.24

Dy. Chief Engineer/Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024\_POWER\_124342\_1 for Procurement of Spares for HP Bypass system (Steam side). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 24.07.2024/01.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RTP-65/24 36000

**UJVN LIMITED**  
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprise)

Tender No.633 Tender Notice Date: 24.07.2024

Office of the Executive Engineer (Test), Vidyut Bhawan, Dakpathar invites sealed tenders from interested parties.

(1) Tender No. 02/EE(Test)/DKP/2024-25: Supply and fixing of insulation mat around LV and HV panels in Khodri and Chibro Power Station.

(2) Tender No. 03/EE(Test)/DKP/2024-25: Replacement of current transformer 2000/5A on 11 kV generator side busbar at Khodri Power Station. Estimated cost: (1) ₹4,79,861/- + GST Extra & (2) ₹8,28,000/- + GST = Extra, respectively

Date of availability of tender on website: 25.07.2024 from 10:00Hrs

Last date for submission of tender: 14-08-2024 up to 13:00 Hrs.

For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

EE(Test), Dakpathar

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**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Ashish, S/o: Parmanand Patel, R/o C-203, Laxmi Park, Nihal Vihar, Delhi Permanent Add.: Kurmi Tola Village, Gopal Pur, PS Daroli, Distt.-Shivan, Bihar and D-213, Laxmi Park, Tall Chock, Bhuto Wali Gali, Nangloi, Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 021/2017 Dt. 13.01.2017, U/s 354D/324/509/506/34 IPC & 8/12 POCSO Act, P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Ashish** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Ashish** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that **Ashish** the said accused of FIR No. 021/2017 Dt. 13.01.2017, U/s 354D/324/509/506/34 IPC & 8/12 POCSO Act, P.S. Sultanpuri, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 02.09.2024.

By Order  
Sh. Virender Singh  
Addl. Session Judge (FTSC) (POCSO)  
(North West), Room No. 318,  
3rd Floor, Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/9643/0D/2024  
(Court Matter)

**Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited**  
(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise), 4, Meena Marg, Udaipur - 315001, Phone: (0294)02421777, 2428763-67, Fax: (0294) 2428768, 2428779, Email: [contractor@rajmin.com](mailto:contractor@rajmin.com)

**Detailed Notice Inviting Tender** Date: 22.07.2024

NIT No. & Date	Description of Work
e-Tender no. Cont-08(i-v)/2024-25 dated 22.07.2024 UBN No. MML2425WLO800073-77	Long Term Supply of ROM Gypsum from following Five Options Option-I (Bharu Gypsum Mine, Bikaner) Option-II (Kishanpura-2 Gypsum Mine, Bikaner) Option-III (Deharia Gypsum Mine, Bikaner) Option-IV (Baller Gypsum Mine, Bikaner) Option-V (Siyar ka koshita Gypsum Mine, Sanchores) Contract value Rs. 4200.00 Lakh, EMD in Rs. 11.94 Lakh each 23.88 Lakh (i-v), Tender Fees Rs. 4720/-
e-Tender no. Cont-09(i-ii)/2024-25 dated 22.07.2024 UBN No. MML2425WLO800078-79	Long Term Supply of Selenite by dedicating in following Two Options Thob-I & Thob-II Selenite Mines (Option-I) Lunkaransar Selenite Mines (Option-II) Contract value Rs. 765.00 Lakh EMD in Rs. 07.65 Lakh each Lakh (i-ii), Tender Fees Rs. 4720/-
e-Tender no. Cont-10/2024-25 dated 23.07.2024 UBN No. MML2425WLO800080	Long Term Appointment of Mines developer and operator for Mining and Marketing of Mineral Sandstone from B-Block of Lease area near village Paharpur, Tehsil: Roopwas, Distt: Bharatpur, Rajasthan Area- 98-9741 Hectare. Contract value Rs. 42300.00 Lakh, EMD in Rs. 848 Lakh, Tender Fees Rs. 4720/-

Other terms & conditions have been given in detailed tender for which please visit us at our website [www.rsmml.com](http://www.rsmml.com) or [www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) or [eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) or Manager (Contract) at above address.  
Raj.Samwad/C/24/2709 Dy. General Manager (P&A)

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Amit Kumar, S/o: Vinod Kumar, R/o H.No. S-57/45, Street No. 8, Gandhi Camp, Sri Niwas Puri, New Delhi**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 465/2017, U/s 279/304A IPC, P.S. Govind Puri, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Amit Kumar** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Amit Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that **Amit Kumar** the said accused of FIR No. 465/2017, U/s 279/304A IPC, P.S. Govind Puri, New Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 03.10.2024.

By Order  
Ms. Devanshi Janmeja  
Ld. Metropolitan Magistrate-04,  
South-East Distt. Court No.-10  
Saket Court Complex, New Delhi

DP/9627/SE/2024  
(Court Matter)

## GZB: 3-YR-OLD DIES MONTH AFTER DOG BITE, HEALTH DEPT SUSPECTS RABIES

**Peeyush Khandelwal**  
peeyush.khandelwal@htlive.com

**GHAZIABAD:** A three-year-old boy in Ghaziabad died nearly a month after he was bitten by a community dog near his house in Badiyala near Masuri, district health department officials said on Wednesday, adding that they are treating the case as that of suspected rabies.

However, officials said, they cannot confirm the same as a day after the boy died on July 19, his family cremated the body.

The boy's family said the three-year-old was bitten by a dog on June 25, and was administered the anti-rabies vaccine. However, on July 19, he started frothing from his mouth, and became fearful of water.

"We are treating it as a case of suspected rabies, since the infection can only be confirmed through autopsy, which did not take place," said district surveillance officer Dr Rakesh Gupta.

## Fire at Narela factory



Firefighters douse a blaze at a plastic factory in the Narela Industrial Area on Wednesday. No one was injured in the incident, said officials. According to the fire department, the blaze was first reported at 6.34am, and 25 fire tenders were pressed into service to douse the flames. SANCHIT KHANNA/HT PHOTO

## MUSEUM OPENS AUG 1 | TELLING THE STORY OF EMPEROR'S LIFE AND TIMES

# Humayun's journey to be shown via 700 relics at his tomb museum

**Snehil Sinha**  
snehil.sinha@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Over 700 artefacts, and five large galleries visually narrating the life and journey of Mughal emperor Humayun, the sunken museum at Humayun's Tomb, spread across a sprawling 100,000 square feet, is all set to open for the public from August 1, after its formal inauguration by culture minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on July 29.

The museum is a facility of the Archaeological Survey of India but has been designed and built by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) – at the culmination of 25 years of conservation effort at the 300-acre Humayun's Tomb, Sunder Nursery and Nizamuddin Basti area of Delhi, as part of which over 60 monuments have been conserved.

"The purpose of this museum is to tell a story and in that sense the collections and displays here are complete. The artefacts displayed here are just about 5% of



A drone shot of the museum. AKTC

the total volume of research done on Humayun. However, it is enough to tell people the story of his life and time and the story of the area of Nizamuddin," said Ratish Nanda, CEO of AKTC.

There is a layering of information at the museum through multiple original and replicated artefacts, texts, videos, animation and other technologies, Nanda said.

"Few people know that Humayun travelled over 34,000km, which is over three times that of Marco Polo. There are records of his travel across 122 cities from beyond Dhaka in the east to beyond the Caspian Sea in the west, spanning across 27 battles. He did not just travel for work or for acquisitions, but just as a traveller to explore new areas," added Nanda.

## NGT notices to govt bodies over groundwater use

**NOIDA:** Taking suo motu cognizance of an HT story published on June 11 this year, the national green tribunal issued notices to the Noida authority, the Uttar Pradesh pollution control body and the Gautam Budh Nagar district magistrate asking them to file replies over the misuse of precious water resources in Noida. The three bodies are told to file their replies against the allegation of 'misuse of ground water' one week before the hearing date scheduled on August 16, 2024.

## Man on video call with wife beaten to death by two

**GURUGRAM:** Two suspects were arrested in Gurugram on Wednesday for allegedly beating their 24-year-old roommate to death while he was on a video call with wife, said police. The deceased was identified as Sanjay Kumar, of Saharsa in Bihar who lived in Sirhala, Gurugram Sector 18. The arrested suspects were identified as Ajay Kumar and Sanjay Kumar. Police said Ajay suspected the deceased of having an affair with his wife which is why he killed him.

## Eatery owner stabs man over no. of rotis served

**GURUGRAM:** A 24-year-old man was stabbed multiple times by an eatery owner early Monday morning and critically injured after an argument between them over the number of chapatis served, in Gurugram Sector 90, police said on Wednesday. The injured man, Rohit Kumar, is undergoing treatment at a private hospital. **HTC**

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## Changed, unchanged

On the shifting world of a lane

**PUBLIC INTEREST**

Things change profoundly. Yet, they stay the same. This is a brief sketch of a lane, a small stretch of it.

Let's go back to a long-ago July afternoon in the pre-Covid era. Barber Ish-tiaq's stall, on a lane off central Delhi's Chelmsford Road, would briefly become among the city's most picturesque shaving spots. It lay under a dense shrubbery of pink bougainvilleas, which for some reason, always bloom most gloriously during the rainy season (unlike many summertime bougainvilleas elsewhere in the city). The flowers would make such an overwhelming impression that astonished eyes would register the modest stall underneath only a moment later.

The middle-aged barber had been manning the booth since 1980. His father, Ishaq, had founded the stall more than 40 years ago, long before the bougainvilleas were planted in the lawn behind the pavement wall. Ishitaq's family lived in a Bulandshahr village in UP; he himself slept on the pavement close to the stall. During breezy days, the bougainvillea petals would fall like a monsoon shower from their branches; one or two petals landing into the shaving bowl on which his scis-

sors and a razor lay crossed.

This July afternoon in 2024, the stall is missing—no mirror on the pavement wall, no barber's chair on the pave (each leg would stand atop a piece of brick). Instead, a man is sitting under the bougainvilleas with a glass of chai. Through sign language, he explains that the barber is no longer here. (In fact, neither was he seen the previous year when the pink flowers were in their customary flush.)

Whatever, the bougainvilleas are again in bloom, cheerily indifferent to the absence of something that was so integral to the place.

And now the gaze moves to another stall, towards the left of the bougainvilleas—Umesh's tea stall has been serving for 25 years. The barber went back to his village, Umesh says, preparing chai for two customers.

The exit of a neighbour has made the place a little lonesome, Umesh admits, but he has a long-time friend. He points to Sonia, the shaggy dog snoozing on a rickshaw. "Flowers come and go, people come and go, Sonia has remained with me." The customers lightly giggle. Umesh turns to this reporter—"Will my life change if my name is printed in the newspaper?"

Meanwhile, the man under the pink flowers is looks meditative, sitting where Ishitaq's stall was.



**READ:** For more stories by Mayank Austen Soofi, scan the QR code

## MAINTENANCE OF MCD PARKS TO BE OUTSOURCED TO PVT PLAYERS

Paras Singh  
paras@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), in a pilot project, will outsource the maintenance of municipal parks to private concessionaires to improve their upkeep, senior civic officials said on Wednesday. The pilot is expected to be undertaken in the Karol Bagh zone, which has 762 parks.

A senior MCD official said the horticulture department has prepared a project report for outsourcing maintenance work in the Karol Bagh zone, which will entail upkeep, pruning, waste removal and maintenance of greenery.

"We are working on outsourcing park maintenance to Delhi Bagh to a specialised agency. It is likely to cost around ₹5 crore every year. If the project is successful, we may extend it to other zones," the official said.

## POLICE BUST FAKE SAKET CALL CENTRE THAT CHEATED PEOPLE ON LOANS

Jignasa Sinha  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi Police has busted a fake call centre operating from Saket that cheated more than 400 people on pretext of providing them with loans under government schemes, officers said on Wednesday, adding that around 20 people have been arrested in connection with the case.

Deputy commissioner of police (south) Ankit Chauhan said the fake call centre was operating on Old MB Road. He said the mastermind of the gang, Vikesh Singh, 27, had earlier worked with a call centre linked to an e-commerce company and allegedly "arranged" customer data to start his own centre.

Last week, officers said, a police team led by inspector Girish (goes by one name) conducted a raid at the Saket office and arrested them. Police also seized their laptops and 32 mobile phones.

## Govt explores sites for PUC centres

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi government is exploring locations to establish new pollution under control (PUC) checking centres, as a large number of such units are currently lying non-operational due to an ongoing strike, the government said in an official statement on Wednesday.

The statement said that the transport department has requested the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL) to open new PUC checking centres at their sites. This decision came after the transport department recently found that many PUC checking centres at petrol pumps were non-operational

due to the strike. On July 15, the Delhi Petrol Dealers' Association (DPDA) called for a strike leading to the closure of several PUC centres at fuel pumps as the pump owners were not happy with the recent proposal to hike the rates of issuing pollution certificates, which it deemed "inadequate".

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PALIKA KENDRA: NEW DELHI  
SECRETARY ESTABLISHMENT

**ADDENDUM**

**Subject: Filling up Three (03) posts of Director in NDMC on deputation basis in the Pay Level-12 under 7th CPC Pay Matrix**

In continuation of vacancy Circular No. A-12034/8/2020-Secy-Est dated 10.06.2024 for filling up Two (02) posts of Director in the Pay Level-12, under 7th CPC on deputation basis, it is intimated that:

- The vacancy position has been increased to Three (3)
- The last date for receipt of application is extended till 31.07.2024.
- Further details regarding age, qualification, experience and other conditions of eligibility etc, shall remain the same.

The application form can be downloaded from NDMC website i.e. <https://www.ndmc.gov.in/vacancy.aspx> Director (P-I)

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**APPOINTMENTS**

Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is hiring contractual staff for Program Monitoring Unit Skill Development (PMUSD) for the post of Project Associate and Executive Assistant.

S.No	Name of Post	No. of Positions	Requisite Qualifications and Experience
1	Project Associate	01	Qualification: Full time MBA in any discipline preferably in Tourism and Travel and Management. Experience: Minimum 5 Years. Typing Speed: A minimum typing speed of 30 words per minute. Age Limit: 30yrs-45yrs. Remuneration: Rs.45,000/- PM.
2	Executive Assistant	01	Qualification: Graduate and One Year Diploma in Computers. Experience: Minimum 2 years' experience of working in any Sector preferably in public sector. Typing Speed: A minimum typing speed of 30 words per minute. Age Limit: 21yrs -35 yrs Remuneration: Rs.35,000/- PM.

Applicants have to furnish a non-refundable application fee of Rs.500/- (Rupees Five Hundred Only). Interested candidates may apply with by filling application form along with testimonials in the prescribed format available on [www.iitmtm.ac.in](http://www.iitmtm.ac.in) and send it by post to Director-IITM, Govindpuri, Gwalior-474011 or by email at [director@iitmtm.ac.in](mailto:director@iitmtm.ac.in) on or before 05.08.2024 by 5:00 PM

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**OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER, Gwalior Municipal Corporation**  
No.-148/24/3/6/PIU (NIT) Date : 22/07/2024

Gwalior Municipal Corporation, Gwalior Invites online for the following work: जनसंख्या RO क्रमक 326, दिनांक 23-07-2024

S. No.	E-Tender No.	Tender Name	Probable Amount of Contract (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Period of completion	Date & Time
01.	2024_UAD_358571_1	Construction of Cement Concrete pavement of M 30 grade at Transport Nagar, Gwalior (M.P)	15,96,83,488.00	7,99,000.00	15,000.00	180 Days	20/07/24, 10:30 Am to 14/08/24, 5:30 Pm

Full detail of the above tenders can be seen on [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in) Amendments to NIT, if any shall be published on website only. Excluding GST.

Nodal Officer (PIU), Gwalior Municipal Corporation

**कार्यालय उपग्रह पशु प्रबंधन नगर निगम जयपुर हेरिटेज**  
(पुस्तक प्रतिलिपि कुलपत्रारण की सेवा, सहायक जयपुर)

प्रकार-सं: ( ) उपग्रह पशु प्रबंधन (सं.01) न.दि.सं./24/221 दिनांक - 23/07/2024

**अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना सं. उपग्रह (पशु प्रबंधन) 07/2024-25**

नगर निगम, जयपुर द्वारा नगर निगम हेरिटेज जयपुर शहर से आवादा पशु गाय, बैल, सायब, भैंस, भेड़ा, घोड़ा, घोड़ी, ऊँट, ऊँटनी, गधा, गधे, खच्चर, बकरी, बकरी, भेड़, भेड़ा, बछड़ा, बछड़ी, (सायबी, केवडा) पांडा, पांडी एवं अर्ध संचालित पशु डेयरियों से पशुओं को पकड़ कर गोपुर्नवास हितोपिया में जमा कराने का कार्य हेतु वार्षिकी अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा दिनांक 23/07/2024 को साय 08 बजे से आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित शर्तें व अन्य जानकारी नगर निगम जयपुर हेरिटेज की वेबसाइट [www.jaipurheritage.org](http://www.jaipurheritage.org) व राजस्थान सरकार के पोर्टल [www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) तथा [www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) पर देखी व डाउनलोड की जा सकती है।

UBN No.: JMC2425WS080371 उपग्रह पशु प्रबंधन नगर निगम जयपुर हेरिटेज

**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE**

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1.	HARYANA STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION PANCHKULA	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT OF 71 NOS WEIGHBRIDGE OF HSWC INSTALLED IN THE STATE OF HARYANA.	22.07.2024 31.07.2024	-	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	01722567200 socyhwc@hry.nic.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)  
RO No. 13/2025/40/28164/19/7

**GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE**

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1.	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BAHADURGARH	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF STREET LIGHT IN ZONE NO. 01 (WARD 01 TO 10) IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL BAHADURGARH. + 3 WORKS	27.07.2024	1.64 CRORE	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9416188946 eo-bahadurgarh@ulbaharyana.gov.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in](http://www.haryanaprocmnt.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)  
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S N	Tender Notice No. & Date	Name of work with its location	Approx. Cost of work	Amount of Earnest Money	Completion Period of the work	Date & time for submission of tender & opening tender
1.	32-W-BR-1259-1252-MB Date 23.07.2024	Provision of side path way over Br. No. - 1252 UP (10X22.40m), 1252 DN (10X23.20m), 1259 UP (8X45.75), 1259 DN(16X21.65m) on MB - SRE Section under AXEN/BL/MB over MB-Division.	Rs. 33911072.05/-	Rs.319600/-	(08) Eight Months	Upto 15:00 hrs on 16.08.2024 Opening of tender after 15:00 hrs on same day

Note: Above tender is available on website, IREPS site i.e [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in), where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded.

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**PUNJAB CRICKET ASSOCIATION**  
I.S. BINDRA STADIUM, SECTOR-63, SAS NAGAR, MOHALI

**NOTICE**

The Punjab Cricket Association has validated the identity of its Category - A Members through external agency and they were not able to identify certain persons. Therefore, it is hereby requested that the following persons may come forward and contact the Punjab Cricket Association to validate their credentials and contact details as Category - A Members of PCA:-

Sr. No.	Name of Person	City	Sr. No.	Name of Person	City
1.	Om Narain Bansal	Lucknow	14.	Parmod Kumar Aggarwal	New Delhi
2.	Om Parkash Khanna	Ludhiana	15.	Rajinder Nanda	Jalandhar
3.	Surjit Singh Grewal	Patiala	16.	Harish Chander Chawla	Patiala
4.	Krishan K. Chhabbara	Mandi	17.	Anil D Mehta	Jalandhar
5.	Vinod Kumar Aggarwal	Ludhiana	18.	Madan Lal Puri	Jalandhar
6.	Ashok Gupta	Ludhiana	19.	Vijay Bahadur Singh	Patiala
7.	R.P.S. Oberoi	Patiala	20.	Wazir Chand Sayal	Ludhiana
8.	Roshan Lal Sharma	Bathinda	21.	P.L. Batish	Solan
9.	Mohinder Singh Narula	New Delhi	22.	P.G. Lal	Patiala
10.	Sajan Kumar Bagaria	Thane	23.	Arvind Suri	Jalandhar
11.	I.M.Khosla	Kolkata	24.	Lalit Kumar	Not known
12.	Varinder Lal Mehta	Jalandhar	25.	Amarjit Singh Barnala	Not known
13.	Vinod Kumar	Jalandhar			

The above listed person may contact PCA on [pca@cricketpunjab.in](mailto:pca@cricketpunjab.in), Landline No. 0172-3532291-300 or Mr. Ajay Thakur +91 7696116659.

Sd/-  
Manager Corporate Affairs

**PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF RUB/LHS AT RAILWAY**  
E-TENDER NOTICE NO. -09-ENGR-RNY-2024-25. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work:  
Sl. No. 1: Brief Description of Item: Proposed construction of RUB/LHS at Railway Km-106/B-9 & Km-114/B-7 between section Dhuadhara-Singra & Singra-Boko under the jurisdiction of DEN/II/Rangiya Tender Value: ₹9,91,10,569.81; Earnest Money: ₹6,45,600.00. E-tenders will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 12-08-2024 and Opened at 15:00 hrs. on 12-08-2024 at office of the Divisional Railway Manager (Works), Rangiya. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
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## SPOTLIGHT | MONSOON SESSION

## INDIA bloc intensifies attack over 'discriminatory' budget

HT Correspondents

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) on Wednesday sought to corner the Centre over the budget that it alleged discriminated against states ruled by opposition parties and contained few provisions to tackle inflation, unemployment or income disparity.

Members of the INDIA bloc staged a walkout from both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha and held a protest inside Parliament premises.

Soon after the Houses met on Wednesday, a day after finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget, opposition lawmakers tried to raise the issue of budgetary allocations.

Speaking on the budget in the Rajya Sabha, Congress member P Chidambaram said the finance minister failed to mention the words Tamil Nadu, where she was born and educated, and even didn't quote any great poet from the state, such as Thiruvalluvar.

"I don't grudge the schemes for Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. But what about other states? If you pick and choose, it will be a death knell for federalism," Chidambaram said, referring to the announcements for Andhra Pradesh and Bihar on Tuesday. "How were Andhra Pradesh and Bihar treated before April and in the last



Congress MP Sonia Gandhi, Lok Sabha LoP Rahul Gandhi and Samajwadi Party MP Akhilesh Yadav with other INDIA bloc lawmakers during a protest on Parliament premises on Wednesday. HT PHOTO

10 years?" He put forth five key demands, from higher floor wages to guaranteed crop prices, on which he sought the finance minister's response. The former finance minister said although the government had painted a rosy picture of the economy, people did not "feel high growth" due to high unemployment and inflation.

"Is inflation such a trivial subject (that) you can deal with it casually and dismiss it in 10 words?" he asked, arguing that in the interiors and hinterland of India, "inflation is much higher" than data collected mostly from towns and villages that are along

national and state highways and district roads.

Highlighting unemployment as the biggest challenge, he cited several instances of people applying in excess for limited vacancies across different states, and lamented that the RBI, about two-three weeks ago, said: "There is no jobs crisis in India". "Why didn't anyone from the minister or any officer stand up and say we reject the statement? RBI is supposed to be cautious, conservative and neutral, but you are cautious, you are conservative, and you are not neutral at all," he said.

On the proposed employment-

linked incentive (ELI), he said: "Earlier, there was a production-linked incentive. When you introduced the ELI, it must be for some reason. And I suspect the reason was that the PLI scheme did not create the kind of jobs that you wanted to create."

Sitharaman was present in the House when Chidambaram spoke.

In the Lok Sabha, Trinamool Congress (TMC) lawmaker Abhishek Banerjee said the budget was "anti-people" and aimed at "appeasing and compensating" allies of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

"The budget has no vision and

agenda. There is no relief to the common people and the budget has neglected 140 crore people of the country," he said.

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, who also spoke in the Lower House, said: "This underwhelming Budget is a woefully missed opportunity. After all, this was the government's chance to prove to the citizens that after the colossal setback the BJP suffered in the recently concluded general election, the finance minister and the prime minister have actually listened to the people of the country."

Before the Houses convened, opposition leaders including Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, senior party leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and several lawmakers of INDIA bloc partners, including the TMC, DMK, Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Left, gathered on the steps leading up to the Makar Dwar (one of the entrance gates) of Parliament to protest against the budget.

"We all were demanding that farmers should get MSP but the support price is given to the alliance partners who are saving their government, rather than the farmers," Akhilesh said. "The government could not take any concrete step regarding inflation. Uttar Pradesh did not get anything. UP should have got a double benefit from the double-engine government..."

## LEADERS SPEAK



The budget is really good and everyone has welcomed it. The Opposition is trying to mislead by saying that it is only for two states

**KIREN RIJJU**,  
Parliamentary  
affairs minister

The budget in many ways is an emblem of this govt's economic mismanagement and financial recklessness made all the worse by its divisive policies

**SHASHI THAROOR**,  
Congress MP

...a budget without any clarity or vision which has been rolled out to satisfy the allies of BJP.. it was planned by two individuals to keep another two in good faith

**ABHISHEK BANERJEE**,  
Trinamool  
Congress MP

There is nothing for the farmers despite promises made to them... Punjab has not been paid attention to for the last six budgets...

**HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL**,  
SAD lawmaker



Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. ANI

## Oppn allegations immature, govt tells Parliament

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Wednesday lashed out at the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) over their "immature and negative reactions" to the Union Budget, with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman dismissing the "outrageous allegation" that states ruled by opposition parties were discriminated against in her speech.

The government's pushback came after the INDIA bloc accused the government of presenting a "discriminatory" budget, referring to the announcements for Andhra Pradesh and Bihar on Tuesday.

After Congress chief and Leader of Opposition in the Upper House Mallikarjun Kharge reiterated the allegation and walked out on Wednesday morning, Sitharaman rejected the charge.

"I am saying with responsibility that this is a deliberate attempt of the opposition parties led by the Congress to give the people the wrong impression that their states were not allocated funds or schemes," she said. "I would challenge the Congress party... for all the budget speeches they have delivered... have they named every state of the country in each of their budget speeches? This is an outrageous allegation," she added.

Citing an example to refute the allegation of discrimination, Sitharaman said: "...between the vote on account which was presented on February 1 this year and the full budget that was presented yesterday for this year, I have not named many states. The Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, decided to set up a port at Vadvan, but Maharashtra's name was not included in the budget yesterday. Does this mean that Maharashtra feels ignored?"

She added: "And I can take the name of so many different states that have so many major projects. If the speech does not mention the name of a particular state, does that mean the schemes and programmes of the government of India, the externally aided assistance that we obtain from the World Bank, ADB, AIB and so on, do not go to these states?"

Union parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijju accused the Opposition of "misleading the people". "The budget is really good and everyone has welcomed it. The Opposition is trying to mislead by saying that it is a budget for only two states," he told reporters outside Parliament.

Participating in the general discussion on the budget in the Lok Sabha, BJP lawmaker from Tripura Biplab Deb said the interests of all states and all sections were taken care of by the Union government. "A budget of about ₹48 lakh crore has been presented. This includes about 18.2% more capital expenditure than the year 2023-24... This budget is for everyone... Every section has been taken care of by Sitharaman," he said.

BJP MP Bhatruhari Mahtab, who also addressed the House, said the budget will empower the "neo-middle class" and asserted that the general election results have not "ruffled" the government. "Many opposition members have already spoken as if the government of the party in power is totally ruffled because of the (election) results. The government is totally unruffled and is continuing its long-term approach," he said.

Addressing reporters at the BJP headquarters, BJP Rajya Sabha MP GVL Narasimha Rao said the budget was welcomed by "one and all" but the opposition parties are coming out with "immature and negative reactions" against it. "It is a budget which has actually laid out a vision for 'Viksit Bharat'."

## 47.8 MILLION RURAL RESIDENTS DIGITALLY LITERATE UNDER PMGDISHA, LS TOLD

Aditi Agrawal

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**NEW DELHI:** Under the now-concluded Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA), a total of 47.8 million people in rural households were certified as digitally literate, the ministry of electronics and information technology informed the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

The PMGDISHA scheme was launched in February 2017 to provide basic digital literacy training to 60 million people across rural India within two years, targeting at least one person from every rural household to account for about 40% rural households. The scheme concluded on March 31.

"As on 31st March 2024, around 7.35 crore (73.5 million) candidates were enrolled and 6.39 crore (63.9 million) were trained, out of which 4.78 crore (47.8 million) candidates were certified under the PMGDISHA Scheme," minister of state, electronics and IT, Jitin Prasada said in written responses to two questions, one each from Congress lawmaker Sudha R and BJP MP Kalaben Mohanbhai Delkar.

This means that 88.8% of enrolled candidates were trained of which 74.4% were certified. In all, 66% of the enrolled candidates were eventually certified.

Under the scheme, which was operational for eight financial years, people were trained to operate digital devices (computers, tablets, smartphones), use internet in daily life, perform digital transactions, and to access digital government, healthcare and financial services. Candidates who successfully completed the assessment were certified as digitally literate.

## parl snippets

## DEVE GOWDA'S ATTACK ON CONG SPARKS ROW IN RS

**NEW DELHI:** Janata Dal (Secular) lawmaker HD Deve Gowda on Wednesday accused the Congress-led Karnataka government of not providing assistance and ignoring the death of nine people due to a natural calamity in the state, which sparked a row in Rajya Sabha. He blamed the state government for apathy and pointed out that authorities acted only after Union minister for steel HD Kumaraswamy, Gowda's son, visited the site of the disaster, where a landslide happened. Opposition members, including from the Congress and the Trinamool Congress, raised objections to Gowda's remarks, stating that Gowda had made a political speech, which he could not do because he was making a special mention. Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar indicated he did not agree with the Opposition's objections. "Prima facie, I find no transgression. I will give my ruling day after tomorrow."

## 'RLY'S FUND ALLOCATION TO BENGAL AT RECORD HIGH'

**NEW DELHI:** Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnav asserted Wednesday that West Bengal is getting more money from the Centre now than when Mamata Banerjee held the portfolio in the Congress-led UPA government, stressing that train accidents have now come down by 60%. On a day TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee slammed the BJP-led NDA government in the Lok Sabha over recent train accidents, Vaishnav said his ministry has focussed on technology, operational changes and training to significantly improve safety. "Compared to the UPA, train accidents have reduced by 60%," he said. He also said that the Railway's allocations related to the three eastern states of Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal are at a record high. He, however, added that issues like land acquisition have been a roadblock for development of some projects.

## LADAKH LAWMAKER RAISES STATEHOOD DEMAND IN LS

**NEW DELHI:** Ladakh MP Mohammad Haneefa on Wednesday raised in the Lok Sabha the Union Territory's demands for safeguards under the sixth schedule and statehood. During the Zero Hour, the Ladakh MP highlighted the key demands of the Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance - the two groups from Buddhist-dominated Leh and Shia Muslim-dominated Kargil - which have been negotiating with the home ministry. After the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, Ladakh, which shares its border with both Pakistan and China, was carved out as a Union Territory without legislature. "Ladakh is the biggest (Lok Sabha) constituency, it is strategically important as it shares borders with both China and Pakistan. The people of Ladakh are peace-loving, and true patriots. They have made sacrifices for the nation," Haneefa said.

## Rahul meets farmers to discuss MSP law

HT Correspondent

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**NEW DELHI:** Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said the Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) will pressure the Centre for a legal guarantee on minimum support price (MSP), as he met a delegation of farmer leaders, who apprised him of issues being faced by cultivators across several states.

Gandhi met the delegation, comprising farmers from Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, at Parliament House complex.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, the former Congress chief recalled that the Congress had promised a legal guarantee for MSP in the run up to the Lok Sabha elections. "We have done a



Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi with the farmers at Parliament House on Wednesday. CONGRESS-X

full assessment and it is feasible. We had a meeting and it was decided that we will have a discussion with INDIA bloc leaders and will try to put pressure on the government to ensure that the farmers get a legal guarantee for MSP," he said.

The development came as

former Union minister P Chidambaram, while speaking in the Rajya Sabha, urged finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to "copy" five ideas from the Congress manifesto, including a law for MSP.

Later in a post on X, Gandhi said: "Legal guarantee for MSP is the right of farmers. INDIA will

ensure that they get this right."

After meeting Gandhi, Sarvan Singh Pandher, a farmer, said: "He gave us a patient hearing. A long discussion took place on our demand for a legal guarantee for MSP. INDIA bloc partners have assured us that they will raise the issues of the farmers."

The development came as former Union minister P Chidambaram urged finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to "copy" five other ideas from the Congress manifesto, including a legal guarantee for MSP. Congress general secretary KC Venugopal, former Punjab chief minister Charanjit Singh Channi, Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Waring, Congress leaders Sukhinder Singh Randhawa, Gurjeet Singh Aujla, Dharamvir Gandhi, Amar Singh, Deepender Singh Hooda and Jai Prakash were also present.

## Panel refuses to include extreme heat on list of natural disasters

Jayashree Nandi

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**NEW DELHI:** The 15th finance commission did not find much merit in the request to expand the scope of disasters eligible for financial assistance and hence, extreme heat is not yet considered to be a natural disaster or calamity eligible for assistance, the earth sciences ministry informed the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Responding to another question, the ministry added that heatwave deaths are reducing in the country due to better weather prediction.

Congress leader from Jharkhand and MP Sukhdeo Bhagat asked the minister of earth sciences, Jitendra Singh, details of

the deaths caused due to heatwaves from 2013 till date, by state, and steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the government to tackle heatwaves, and whether there is any proposal to classify heatwaves as a national calamity.

"Presently the notified list of disasters eligible for National Disaster Response Fund/State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) assistance, includes 12 disasters namely cyclone, drought, earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, cloud burst, pest attack and frost and cold wave. The issue of inclusion of more calamities in the existing notified list of calamities, was considered by the 15th Finance Commission. The Commission in

para 8.143 of its report had observed that the list of notified disasters eligible for funding from State Disaster Response Mitigation Fund (SDRMF) and National Disaster Response Mitigation Fund (NDRMF) covers the needs of the state to large extent and thus, did not find much merit in the request to expand its scope," Singh responded.

However, a state can use up to 10% of the annual funds allocation of SDRF, subject to fulfilment of certain conditions, to provide immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be disasters within the local and immediate context, and which are not included in the centrally notified list of natural disasters, he added.

## Nitish's sexist remark triggers controversy

Anirban Guha Roy

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**PATNA:** Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar on Wednesday sparked a controversy through his remarks he made at a woman legislator after he lost his cool at the Opposition in the assembly.

Kumar's outburst came as the Opposition trooped to the well of the House, demanding that the state's amended reservation laws be incorporated in the 9th schedule of the Constitution to make it immune from legal scrutiny.

Despite repeated efforts from speaker Nand Kishore to send the protesting MLAs back to their seats, the Opposition continued to raise slogans against the chief minister. As Kumar lost his cool, he waved his fingers at RJD legislator Rekha



Nitish Kumar

Devi and said: "You are a woman. Do you realise that it was only after I assumed power that women started getting their dues in Bihar? You are a woman, you do not know anything. If you say hai hai to me, then it's hai hai for all."

RJD leader and former chief minister Rabri Devi said: "It's an old habit of the chief minister to speak against women. He only talks big about women empowerment but in reality, his behaviour towards women is different. We know it."

## Bihar assembly passes bill to curb paper leaks

Arun Kumar

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**PATNA:** The Bihar assembly on Wednesday passed a bill to curb instances of paper leaks and malpractices in government recruitment exams, stipulating penalties of three to five years of imprisonment and a fine of up to ₹10 lakh, even as the Opposition staged a walkout over the non-implementation of a law that enhanced caste-based reservation before it was struck down by the Patna high court earlier this year.

The passage of the Bihar Public Examinations (PE) (Prevention of Unfair Means) Bill, 2024 by voice vote in the House came at a time when Bihar is embroiled in a raging controversy over paper leaks during key examinations, including the NEET-UG, which has led to the arrest of 25 people in the state.

The legislation was moved by state parliamentary affairs minister Vijay Kumar Chaudhary amid



INDIA bloc during a protest outside the assembly.

a walkout by the Opposition.

Speaking in the House, Chaudhary said the legislation was introduced "with the future of lakhs of young men and women in mind".

He also hit out at the Opposition, saying: "What problem can the Opposition have if such elements who tamper with the exam system are booked? This is sad, but the people are watching."

Speaking to reporters later, Chaudhary said: "We have said in the House that there is a need to make a strict law against the malpractice or use of unfair means in

examinations..."

As per the bill, those found involved in malpractices can face a prison term of three to five years and a penalty of ₹10 lakh. Service providers, a term used to describe agencies entrusted with conducting such tests, could be slapped with a fine of ₹1 crore besides debarment of services for up to four years and even attachment of properties, Chaudhary said in the House. A portion of the total cost of conducting such an exam will be recovered from the offending service provider, he added. The bill also provides for up to 10 years of prison, ₹1 crore fine and confiscation of property if the involvement of organised gangs is established.

RJD MLA and former minister Lalit Yadav said: "We did not participate in the passage of the bill, though we had moved amendments. When the government was not ready to listen to our demand on reservations, there was no point participating in the debate."

## Bengal House passes anti-NEET resolution

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**KOLKATA:** The West Bengal assembly on Wednesday moved a resolution to scrap the National Eligibility Entrance Test-Undergraduate or NEET and demanded that the government resume conducting Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) in the state.

The moves days after the Karnataka cabinet gave its nod to bring a resolution in the assembly against NEET. "Previously for the state quota of undergraduate and postgraduate seats in medical colleges in West Bengal, JEE was conducted by the Joint Entrance Board, which has since been abolished due to the NEET coming into force," the resolution, tabled by

state parliamentary affairs minister Sovande Chattopadhyay, said. The resolution alleged that the National Testing Agency is unable to conduct a free and fair entrance test for students interested in a career in medical science.

"We feel that JEE should be returned to states as it was before 2016-17. Other states such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have already demanded this. The Centre should immediately take a decision," state education minister Bratya Basu said.

Last month, chief minister Mamata Banerjee had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging him to abolish NEET and revert to the old system wherein such entrance examinations were conducted by states.

## FUND ALLOCATION FOR HIGHER EDU HAS INCREASED, CLARIFIES MINISTRY

**NEW DELHI:** The budget allocation for the higher education department in 2024-25 has increased by more than 6.4% from last year's revised estimate, to ₹47,619.7 crore, the Union education ministry said on Wednesday.

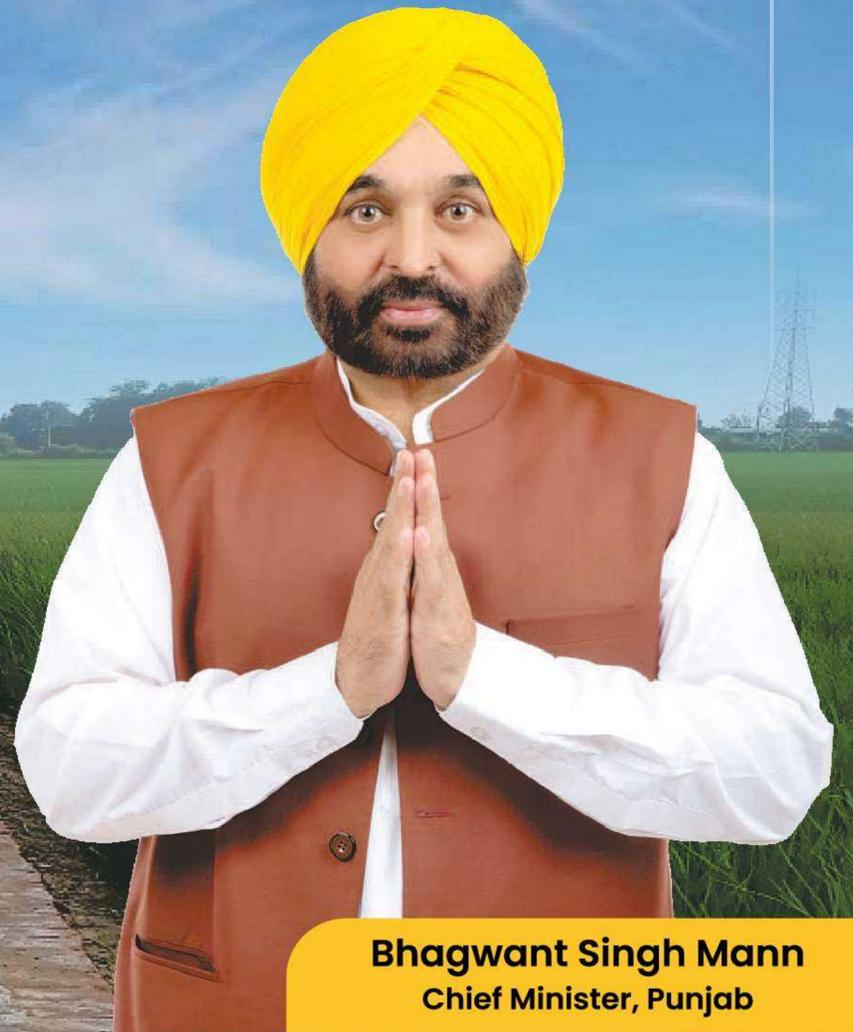
The ministry issued a clarification a day after the Union Budget was announced, and it was reported that the allocation of higher education has decreased this year when compared to the revised estimate (RE) of 2023-24, which was ₹57,244.48 crore.

In a statement, the ministry said: "...the actual RE allocation in the FY 2023-24 for higher education was ₹44,744 crore. Therefore, the budget for the Department of Higher Education for the Financial Year 2024-25 is ₹47,619 crore, an increase of ₹2,875 crore (6.43 pc) over RE 2023-24." HT



Punjab Land of  
Unlimited  
Opportunities

Whether it's crop prices or natural calamities  
Chief Minister  
**Bhagwant Singh Mann**  
is always standing  
**with farmers**



**Bhagwant Singh Mann**  
Chief Minister, Punjab

- Over **28% surge** in direct paddy sowing area
- Farmers received **₹1,500 per acre** as financial assistance
- Restored **15,914 watercourses** to ensure canal water reaches the tail-end areas
- **124.56 lakh** metric tons of wheat purchased and **₹28,289.57 crores** paid to farmers **within 24 hours**

### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that one male namedly **Aadesh s/o Rajinder Prasad R/O H.No. 10/22 Gali No. 1, Karan Singh Chauhan ka Makan Jasola Sarita Vihar Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from his house since: 04.06.2024 In this regard, a case FIR No. 222/24 dt. 05.06.2024 has been registered at P.S. Sarita Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing male is as under.

**Age:** 16 years, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Gray color shirt and Black color jeans. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing male then please inform P.S. Sarita Vihar, Delhi at following Tel No./e-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) and Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>, providing clue about the person.

**Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**Fax No. 011-24368639**

**Sd/- S.H.O.**  
**Sarita Vihar, Delhi**  
**Tel No. 011-26825553**

DP/8710/SE/2024

### RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPURTHALA

#### Tender Notice

On behalf of the President of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Production, Rail Coach Factory Kapurthala is inviting open e-tender, based on single packet system from eligible and capable tenderers through Indian Railways portal [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for the under mentioned work on prescribed tender format. 1. **Open E-Tender No.:** RCF-KXH-DYCEEP-2024-25-04; 2. **Name of Work:** Installation commissioning and testing of WSP system at RCF, Kapurthala; 3. **Place of work:** Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. 4. **Approx. cost:** Rs. 09,90,000/- (Rs. Nine lakhs ninety thousand only); 5. **Cost of tender documents:** Free of cost; 6. **Earnest money:** Rs 19,800/- (Rs. Nineteen Thousand eight hundred only); 7. **Quantity of Coaches:** 500 Nos. 8. **Period of completion:** 12 months; 9. **Availability of Tender Documents for Viewing & downloading:** From 19.07.2024 (15:00 Hrs) to 22.08.2024 (11:00 Hrs) on Website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in); 10. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** 22.08.2024 at 11:05 Hrs; 11. **Date & Time of Opening of tender:** 22.08.2024 at 12:00 Hrs; 12. **Validity of tender:** 1. 60 days from the date of opening of tender. 2. Participation by Association of Partnership (AOP)/Joint Venture (JV) firms are not allowed for this tender. 3. (a) Advance to contractor is not applicable. (b) Purchase preference clause is not applicable. (c) Price variation clause is not applicable. **Website Particulars:** [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) Eligibility Criteria and Credentials of Bidders for Apply/Installation including Handling, Testing, Commissioning of Readymade Cable Harness in LHB AC/NON AC Coach Variants and Other Special Coaches at RCF. The following Eligibility Criteria including Credentials for Apply/Installation, Testing, Commissioning of Readymade Cable Harness (es) in LHB AC/NON AC Coach variants & Other Special Coaches being manufactured at RCF, shall be applicable: 1.0 Similar Nature of Work; (Not Applicable); 2.0 Technical Eligibility Criteria; (Not Applicable) 3. Special Technical Criteria; 3.1 Class "A" Electrical Licence. Bidder shall have valid Class "A" Electrical License issued by the Competent Authority. **Note:** 1. For submission of electronic offers, bidders will have to get themselves registered one time on ireps website, online without any payment. 2. Bidders are required to obtain the class III digital signature certificate with company name from certifying authorities, as per the list available on website [www.cca.gov.in](http://www.cca.gov.in); 3. Helpdesk details: [helpdesk.ire@cris.org.in](mailto:helpdesk.ire@cris.org.in). Phone: 011-23370704, 24102855; 4. The tender notice is also available on website [www.ref.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ref.indianrailways.gov.in) Sr. EE/EP

PCER/RCF acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) closing date 14/08/2024 at 11:00 a.m. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. **Contract Type:** Works; **Tender No.:** (1) RCF-CE-WA-EOT-40-24-25 (2) RCF-CE-WA-EOT-41-24-25; **Name of Works:** (1) Improvement work in MRS stadium main building and Golf club building complex RCF, Kapurthala (2) Construction of DPRS testing shed (280M X 10M) RCF, Kapurthala. **Date of opening:** (1) 14.08.2024 at 11:05 a.m. (2) 22.08.2024 at 11:05 a.m.; **Tender Closing Date & Time:** (1) 14.08.2024 at 11:00 a.m. (2) 22.08.2024 at 11:00 a.m.; **Bidding Start:** (1) 31.07.2024 (2) 08.08.2024; **Advertised Value:** (1) Rs. 62,36,814.22 (2) Rs. 4,95,58,360.35; **Validity of offer:** (1&2) 60 days; **Bidding Style:** (1&2) Single rate for each schedule; **Period of completion:** (1) 04 months (2) 06 months; **Earnest Money:** (1) Rs. 1,24,800.00 (2) Rs. 3,97,800.00; **Tender Document cost:** (1&2) Rs. 00/- **Dy. CE**

PCMO/RCF acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) closing date 16/08/2024 at 11:00 a.m. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender documents cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. **Contract Type:** Service; **Tender No.:** RCF-MED-KXH-EOT-02-24-25; **Name of Work:** Service contract for collection, transportation, treatment, and disposal of Bio Medical waste of LLR Hospital, RCF, Kapurthala (2024-27); **Date of opening Normal Tender:** 16.08.2024 at 11:00 AM **Bidding start date:** 02.08.2024; **Advertised Value:** Rs. 9,68,544/-; **Validity of offer:** 60 days; **Bidding Style:** Single rate for each schedule **Period of completion:** 36 Month; **Earnest money:** Rs. 19400/-; **Tender Document Cost:** Rs. 2360/- **Note:-** Credentials/documents received from the tenderer after opening of the tenders shall not be given cognizance. **Acmo/Med**

#### Corrigendum

We would like to issue a correction to our press note titled "Open E-Tender Notice No. RCF-EL-MTC-68-ET-24-25 for Repair of high mast No. 06 Near of Scrap Yard in Workshop area RCF, Kapurthala.

#### Correction in Eligibility Criteria

An electrical contractor license with a supervisor competency certificate and a person holding a permit (Wireman etc.) as per Regulation 29 of the Central Electricity Authority (Measure relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulation 2010 or latest / as per Rules 45 of the Indian Electricity Rules 1956. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused. **Dy.CPE-II**

NO. 48-M/2024-25 Dated: 24.07.2024

## उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लि.

### कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल चम्पावत।

पत्रांक : 926/वि.वि.म.(च.) निविदा दिनांक : 24.07.2024

### ई-निविदा सूचना

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

क्र.सं.	ई-निविदा संख्या	कार्य का विवरण	ई-निविदा ऑनलाइन तथा ऑफलाइन (हार्ड प्रिंट) क्या करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा बिड पार्ट-1 ऑफ लाइन खुलने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा बिड ऑन लाइन खुलने की तिथि एवं समय
1.	विओमो(च) 20/2024-25	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड- चम्पावत के अन्तर्गत घन्शुल से बनावसा के मध्य 3.5 कि०मी० 33 के०वी० लाइन में एंशुल एंशुलआर० जॉइं कण्डक्टर को Insulated Covered Conductor (AACC) से बदलने का कार्य (कैपिटल (एस. आई.) मद में)। निविदा धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 3,59,000/- व निविदा क्य मूल्य ₹ 11,800/-।	08.08.2024 12:00 बजे तक	09.08.2024 11:00 बजे	09.08.2024 13:30 बजे
2.	विओमो(च) 21/2024-25	विद्युत वितरण उपखण्ड टनकपुर में 132 के०वी० उपसंस्थान लोहाियाहड की उपलब्ध वे से 33 के०वी० सर्किट का निर्माण का तथा डीओपीएच० लोहाियाहड 33 के०वी० उपसंस्थान यार्ड के विस्तार से सम्बन्धित कार्य कैपिटल (एस.आई.) मद में) धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 1,50,000/- एवं निविदा शुल्क ₹ 5,900/-।	08.08.2024 12:00 बजे तक	09.08.2024 12:00 बजे	09.08.2024 14:00 बजे
3.	विओमो(च) 22/2024-25	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड सितारगंज के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के०वी० विद्युत उपसंस्थान सितारगंज के 04 नग शहरी पोषकों के अनुसूक्षण एवं उपभोक्ता शिकायत निवारण का वार्षिक कार्य (ओ एण्ड एम मद में) धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 68,000/- एवं निविदा शुल्क ₹ 1180/-।	08.08.2024 12:00 बजे तक	09.08.2024 13:30 बजे	09.08.2024 16:00 बजे
4.	विओमो(च) 23/2024-25	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड सितारगंज के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के०वी० विद्युत उपसंस्थान नानकमता परिसर में सुचारुकरण कण्ट्रोलरूम का विस्तार एवं मरम्मत का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 1,10,000/- एवं निविदा शुल्क ₹ 5,900/-।	08.08.2024 12:00 बजे तक	09.08.2024 14:00 बजे	09.08.2024 16:00 बजे
5.	विओमो(च) 24/2024-25	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड सितारगंज के अन्तर्गत 33/11 के०वी० विद्युत उपसंस्थान नानकमता में नया 12.5 एम०वी० पावर परिवर्तक एवं सम्बन्धित इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर आदि की स्थापना का कार्य। धरोहर धनराशि ₹ 1,10,000/- एवं निविदा शुल्क ₹ 5,900/-।	08.08.2024 12:00 बजे तक	09.08.2024 14:00 बजे	09.08.2024 16:00 बजे

नोट - निविदा भाग 01 में पीओएचआर की शर्त पूर्ण करने वाली निविदाकार का ही भाग -02 अलग से तिथि निर्धारित करते हुये खोला जायेगा एवं कार्य, मंदा एवं शर्त उत्तराखण्ड सरकार की वेब साईट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर देखी जा सकती है।

"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये"

विद्युत बिलों के 24 x 7 ऑनलाइन भुगतान हेतु [www.upcl.org](http://www.upcl.org) पर जाएं  
Customer Toll Free No-1800 419 0405

अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

### 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-2024-148 **Approx. Cost:** 38995895.88

**Description of work:** Khairar-Bhimsen section : Provision of Cover over of approach road at LHS no. S-34, S-41A and S-77 under ADEN/BNDA jurisdiction.

**Earnest Money:** 345000.00, **Date of closing Tender:** 16.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs., **Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter:** 08 Months. • Tender online can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs on 16.08.2024. • For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

1293/24 (D)  
North central railways | [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) | @northcentralrailway | CP/NCRC

### KISHAU CORPORATION LIMITED

(A JV Of G.O.U & G.O.P)  
H.O.: LAKHWAR BHAWAN, TONS COLONY, DAKPATHAR, DEHRADUN-248125  
(Telephone: 01360-222779 Fax: 01360-222799)  
CIN No. U79990UR2017SG07521

पत्रांक सं. 629 **Tender Notice** दिनांक 23.07.2024

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil), Kishau Project, Dakpathar invites bids from the interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below- **Tender No-03/EE(CIVIL)/KISHAU/2024-25**

Name of work- Repair of existing dirt portals at dam site of Kishau Multipurpose Project in District - Sirmour (Himachal Pradesh). Estimated value of Tender- Rs. 19,37,958.00 (Excluding GST)

Date & Time of availability of bid document on website- From 17:00 Hrs of 24.07.2024

Last Date & Time for submission of tender- Up to 13:00 Hrs of 16.08.2024

For fuller & further detail, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the rigam's website [www.kishau.co.in](http://www.kishau.co.in).

**Executive Engineer (Civil)**  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

### GURU ANGAD DEV VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA, PUNJAB

#### APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHANCELLOR OF GURU ANGAD DEV VETERINARY AND ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, LUDHIANA

Last date for submitting the application: August 16, 2024

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU) has been established by an Act No. 16 of 2005 for the purposes of affiliating and teaching and ensuring proper and systematic instruction, training, research and extension in modern systems of veterinary, animal and fishery sciences.

Applications are hereby invited for the post of Vice-Chancellor, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences, University, Ludhiana. The Vice-Chancellor, being Academic and Administrative Head of the University, should be:-

- A visionary with proven leadership qualities, administrative capabilities as well as teaching and research credentials.
- A person possessing the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment.
- A distinguished academician, with a minimum of ten years of experience as Professor in a University or ten years of experience in a reputed research and/or academic administrative organization with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership.

**Salary and Service Conditions**

- The appointment shall be for a period of four years.
- The emoluments and other conditions of service of the Vice-Chancellor shall be such, as may be prescribed by the competent authority.

**Procedure for Appointment of Vice-Chancellor**

- The appointment will be made from a panel of names recommended by the Search-cum-Selection Committee.
- Reputed academicians may also nominate the name of the candidates for the post of Vice-Chancellor.
- The Search-Cum-Selection Committee may consider the name of any academicians who may not have even applied and who fulfills the requisite qualifications for the post of Vice-Chancellor.
- Applications of eligible individuals received by post should reach in a closed envelope on or before August 16, 2024 upto 5.00 pm by Registered/Speed Post -  
Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab, Department of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries & Dairy Development, Room No. 414, Fourth Floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh.
- "Application for the post of Vice-Chancellor, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana," should be superscribed on the envelope carrying the Application. Applicant should attach self-attested copies of certificates/supporting documents/testimonials.
- The applications may also be sent upto the prescribed last date by e-mail to [fcab@punjab.gov.in](mailto:fcab@punjab.gov.in) with complete documents attached to the email.
- Applications received after due date will not be considered.
- The advertisement is available on the website of the University (<http://www.gadvasu.in>).
- The Department will not be responsible for any postal delays.

(Vikas Pratap)  
Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab  
Department of Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Dairy Development  
Room No. 414, 4th Floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh 160018  
(on behalf of Search-cum-Selection Committee)

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

#### PROCUREMENT, JAMMU POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED, JAMMU, RAIL HEAD, NARWAL, JAMMU

J&K PIN -180012  
PHONE NO. 0191-2473402, TELEFAX- 0191-2472350  
E-mail: [epc1@jmu@gmail.com](mailto:epc1@jmu@gmail.com)

No: SE/PRJ/TS/359 Dated: 23.07.2024

#### NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

e- NIT No. SE/PRJ/03/2024-25 Dated: 23.07.2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Superintending Engineer, Procurement, JPDC, Jammu invites online e-bids from original Govt. registered manufacturers for supply of material as under for the requirement of JPDC:

NIT No.	SE/PRJ/03/2024-25 dated 23.07.2024
Description of Material & Quantity (In Nos.)	<b>PURCHASE OF DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS OF EEL-II(New) OF RATING:</b> 1. 63 KVA (Al.Wound) =102 2.. 100 KVA (Al Wound)-90 3. 250 KVA(Cu.Wound)-60

Detailed MIT may be downloaded from the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> upto 16th of August 2024 till 1400 Hrs. The tender shall be accepted through online mode only. In case, the tender process does not get completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in the newspapers. The details regarding corrigendum may be seen on the above mentioned website.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer  
Procurement, JPDC  
Jammu  
DIP-J-1263-P-24

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

#### OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Engineer-Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tender on the prescribed form for the under noted work.

Name of work with location	Approx. Cost	Earnest Money
1. Crossing of 1x400 mm dia water pipeline through 1x600 mm dia casing pipe under railway track at km. 11/12-13 between Pandu Pindara station on JP section under ADEN/PNP.	1. ₹38,66,562.29	1. ₹77,300/-
2. Crossing of 1x355 mm dia water pipeline through 1x500 mm dia casing pipe under railway track at km. 54/55 between Asan & Madlauda near crossing No. C-42/2 on JP section under ADEN/PNP.	2. ₹29,16,802.04	2. ₹58,200/-
3. Repair of Staff Qtrs at SFDE, PKDE, MLDE, BKDE, Section on JP Line in the section of SSE/W/PPN under ADEN/PNP.	3. ₹94,70,184.04	3. ₹1,89,400/-
4. Repair/replacement of existing doors, Window, flooring, roofing, pathways, replacement of worn-out existing pipe lines and other misc. works in railway colony at BHD, KHKV, HUK & GNU in the section of SSE/W/SNP under ADEN/PNP.	4. ₹93,24,810.90	4. ₹1,86,500/-

Earnest Money should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-IC/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016

**Completion period** 1 to 2 | 04 Months | 3 to 4 | 12 Months

**Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender** Upto 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024 opening of e-tender at 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024.

**Website particulars, completed-tender, notice location etc. complete details of tender can be seen and website where the tender form can be downloaded** Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

**Similar Nature of work** For S.No. 3 & 4 Any Civil work other than Track work

Note: 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-XXIV is compulsory.  
No.: 128-W/280/OET/2024-25/W-V/NIT-07-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, & K  
Dated: 24.07.2024 2261/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

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

NIT No. 07 - A, B, C, D, E - 2024-25-W-V

Name of work with its location	Approx. Cost of work	Earnest Money
A. Balance work of ROB/LHS 31 at KM 40/14-18 between GGN-GHH in the section of SSE/W/PPN under ADEN/PNP.	(A) Rs.1127871.28 (B) Rs.234134267.51 (C) Rs.60075717.83 (D) Rs.47833048.99 (E) Rs.6864385.04	(A) Rs.22600.00 (B) Rs.1320700.00 (C) Rs.450400.00 (D) Rs.389200.00 (E) Rs.493200.00
B. Provision of Anti Crash Barrier, Chain link type & Sleeper Fencing boundary wall on DLI-RE section under Sr.DEN-VIDLJ		
C. Provision of Precast/Cast-in-situ boundary wall on DLI-RE section under Sr.DEN-VIDLJ		
D. Construction of Chain link type & Sleeper Fencing boundary wall at trespassing locations around HN/MZ (HN/MZ-TKJ, HN/MZ-2-YB, HN/MZ-OKA, OKA-JNC), Alignment line & DAL under ADEN/HNZM		
E. Construction of Precast & Cast-in-situ RCC boundary wall at trespassing locations around HN/MZ (HN/MZ-TKJ, HN/MZ-2-YB, HN/MZ-OKA, OKA-JNC), Alignment line & DAL under ADEN/HNZM		

**Completion period of Work** For S.No. A, B, C, D, E: 06 Months

**Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender** Upto 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024

**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](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

No. 128-W/280/OET/2024-25/W-V/NIT-07-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, & K  
Date: 24.07.2024 2249/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

### SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that a girl namedly **Mehek Jahan, D/o AsgarAli, R/O: 9612, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gali No. 13, Multani Dhanda, Near Richmond Hotel, Paharganj, Delhi** has been missing since 16.07.24 at 05:30PM from her home. In this regard DD No. 17A, Dated 17.07.2024 has been lodged at Police Station Paharganj, Delhi. The description of missing girl is as under: **Name: Mehek Jahan, Age: 19 Years, Height: 4'3", Complexion: Fair, Built: Normal, Face: Round, Wearing: Satey Colour Kurta and Black Colour Jeans.**

If anyone has any information about this missing girl please inform P.S. Paharganj, Delhi.

**Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in)**  
**Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639**

**SHO**  
**Police Station Paharganj, Delhi**  
**DP/9645/CD/2024 Ph: 011-23520787, 8750870427**

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that a Male person Namedly: **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/O: Unknown** was found dead at National Club, SPM Marg, Fatehpuri, Delhi. In this regard vide DD No: 23A dated 22.07.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Lahori Gate, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved in Subzi Mandi Mortuary.

The description of the deceased is given as below: **Name: Unknown, Sex: Male, Age: 60-65 years, Height: 5'3", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Long, Built: Thin, Wearing: Green Color T- Shirt and Grey Color Lower with bare feet.**

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

**SHO**  
**P.S Lahori Gate, Delhi**  
**Ph. No.: 011-23953776, 23958234**

DP/9609/N/2024

### OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

#### PROCUREMENT, JAMMU POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LIMITED, JAMMU, RAIL HEAD, NARWAL, JAMMU

J&K PIN -180012  
PHONE NO. 0191-2473402, TELEFAX- 0191-2472350  
E-mail: [epc1@jmu@gmail.com](mailto:epc1@jmu@gmail.com)

No: SE/PRJ/TS/359 Dated: 23.07.2024

#### NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

e- NIT No. SE/PRJ/03/2024-25 Dated: 23.07.2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Superintending Engineer, Procurement, JPDC, Jammu invites online e-bids from original Govt. registered manufacturers for supply of material as under for the requirement of JPDC:

NIT No.	SE/PRJ/03/2024-25 dated 23.07.2024
Description of Material & Quantity (In Nos.)	<b>PURCHASE OF DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS OF EEL-II(New) OF RATING:</b> 1. 63 KVA (Al.Wound) =102 2.. 100 KVA (Al Wound)-90 3. 250 KVA(Cu.Wound)-60

Detailed MIT may be downloaded from the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> upto 16th of August 2024 till 1400 Hrs. The tender shall be accepted through online mode only. In case, the tender process does not get completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in the newspapers. The details regarding corrigendum may be seen on the above mentioned website.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer  
Procurement, JPDC  
Jammu  
DIP-J-1263-P-24

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

#### OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Engineer-Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tender on the prescribed form for the under noted work.

Name of work with location	Approx. Cost	Earnest Money
1. Crossing of 1x400 mm dia water pipeline through 1x600 mm dia casing pipe under railway track at km. 11/12-13 between Pandu Pindara station on JP section under ADEN/PNP.	1. ₹38,66,562.29	1. ₹77,300/-
2. Crossing of 1x355 mm dia water pipeline through 1x500 mm dia casing pipe under railway track at km. 54/55 between Asan & Madlauda near crossing No. C-42/2 on JP section under ADEN/PNP.	2. ₹29,16,802.04	2. ₹58,200/-
3. Repair of Staff Qtrs at SFDE, PKDE, MLDE, BKDE, Section on JP Line in the section of SSE/W/PPN under ADEN/PNP.	3. ₹94,70,184.04	3. ₹1,89,400/-
4. Repair/replacement of existing doors, Window, flooring, roofing, pathways, replacement of worn-out existing pipe lines and other misc. works in railway colony at BHD, KHKV, HUK & GNU in the section of SSE/W/SNP under ADEN/PNP.	4. ₹93,24,810.90	4. ₹1,86,500/-

Earnest Money should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-IC/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016

**Completion period** 1 to 2 | 04 Months | 3 to 4 | 12 Months

**Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender** Upto 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024 opening of e-tender at 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024.

**Website particulars, completed-tender, notice location etc. complete details of tender can be seen and website where the tender form can be downloaded** Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

**Similar Nature of work** For S.No. 3 & 4 Any Civil work other than Track work

Note: 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-XXIV is compulsory.  
No.: 128-W/280/OET/2024-25/W-V/NIT-07-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, & K  
Dated: 24.07.2024 2261/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

### NORTHERN RAILWAY

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

NIT No. 07 - A, B, C, D, E - 2024-25-W-V

Name of work with its location	Approx. Cost of work	Earnest Money
A. Balance work of ROB/LHS 31 at KM 40/14-18 between GGN-GHH in the section of SSE/W/PPN under ADEN/PNP.	(A) Rs.1127871.28 (B) Rs.234134267.51 (C) Rs.60075717.83 (D) Rs.47833048.99 (E) Rs.6864385.04	(A) Rs.22600.00 (B) Rs.1320700.00 (C) Rs.450400.00 (D) Rs.389200.00 (E) Rs.493200.00
B. Provision of Anti Crash Barrier, Chain link type & Sleeper Fencing boundary wall on DLI-RE section under Sr.DEN-VIDLJ		
C. Provision of Precast/Cast-in-situ boundary wall on DLI-RE section under Sr.DEN-VIDLJ		
D. Construction of Chain link type & Sleeper Fencing boundary wall at trespassing locations around HN/MZ (HN/MZ-TKJ, HN/MZ-2-YB, HN/MZ-OKA, OKA-JNC), Alignment line & DAL under ADEN/HNZM		
E. Construction of Precast & Cast-in-situ RCC boundary wall at trespassing locations around HN/MZ (HN/MZ-TKJ, HN/MZ-2-YB, HN/MZ-OKA, OKA-JNC), Alignment line & DAL under ADEN/HNZM		

**Completion period of Work** For S.No. A, B, C, D, E: 06 Months

**Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender** Upto 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 16.08.2024

**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](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

No. 128-W/280/OET/2024-25/W-V/NIT-07-A, B, C, D, E, F, G, & K  
Date: 24.07.2024 2249/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

# India, UK announce new tech security initiative to boost ties

**Rezaul H Laskar**  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** India and the UK on Wednesday launched a Technology Security Initiative aimed at ensuring telecommunications security and collaboration in key areas such as critical minerals, semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum computing and health technology.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy in New Delhi on Wednesday.

The launch of the initiative was announced following visiting UK foreign secretary David Lammy's meetings with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval and external affairs minister S Jaishankar. As in the case of a similar initiative with the US, the India-UK Technology Security Initiative will be coordinated by the NSAs of the two countries.

The Technology Security Initiative will refresh and deepen the India-UK comprehensive strategic partnership, focusing on boosting economic growth in both countries. The initiative was agreed by the Indian and UK NSAs following negotiations between both countries to expand collaboration in critical and emerging technologies across priority sectors, officials said.

Jaishankar and Lammy, during their meeting, reviewed the Roadmap 2030 for bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction at the progress achieved so far. They also agreed to look at renewing the roadmap to heighten the ambition for bilateral cooperation, the external

affairs ministry said. Both sides agreed to finalise details for the renewal of the roadmap in line with contemporary realities in a time-bound manner to intensify bilateral collaboration in priority areas such as trade, investment, defence, security,

migration and mobility, information technology, artificial intelligence and technology, science and technology, innovation, and green energy.

India and the UK also appreciated the "substantial progress" made in negotiations for a free trade agreement (FTA) and "looked forward to its early conclusion to achieve a mutually beneficial" trade deal, the external affairs ministry said. The two sides agreed to deepen defence and security cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and to enhance capacities to address "growing threats from non-state actors", the ministry said.

Jaishankar and Lammy also discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest, including the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the situation in West Asia and the Red Sea, the Commonwealth and the UN Security Council.

A joint fact sheet on the Technology Security Initiative said the move is aimed at elevating the India-UK strategic partnership to the next level. The initiative builds on the cooperation agenda set out in the Roadmap 2030 and will bring into sharper focus collaboration in critical and emerging technologies. It will also reinforce

existing collaborative efforts in various technologies, broaden the mandates of existing mechanisms, and establish new mechanisms for cooperation.

Besides the Technology Security Initiative with the UK, India has the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (ICET) with the US and the Trade and Technology Council with the European Union. All three initiatives are aimed at setting standards and collaborating in research on cutting edge technologies.

Under the Technology Security Initiative, India and the UK will build an enhanced "Future Telecoms Partnership" that will focus on joint research, including on open radio access network (open RAN) systems, testbed linkups, telcoms security, spectrum innovation, software and systems architecture.

In the field of critical minerals, India and the UK will expand collaboration and policy exchanges on their critical mineral strategies and jointly work to improve supply chain resilience, explore research and development and technology partnerships in the complete critical minerals value chain and develop a roadmap for cooperation.

# 7 cops to face murder trial in 2017 Anandpal Singh encounter case

**Dinesh Bothra**  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**JODHPUR:** A Rajasthan court on Wednesday rejected the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) closure report in the 2017 Anandpal Singh encounter case and said all seven policemen suspected of extrajudicial killing will face murder charges.

The court order came on a petition by Anandpal's wife Raj Kanwar, challenging the clean chit given by CBI to the then Churu superintendent of police (SP) Rahul Barhat, Kuchaman City circle officer Vidhya Prakash, inspector Suryaveer Singh, head constable Kailash Chandra, and constables Sohan Singh, Dharampal, and Dharamveer.

"The facts presented in the CBI's closure report, the various investigation reports available, contradictions in witness statements, and the evidence presented by the complainant's side, prima facie, show that Anandpal Singh had surrendered and was captured alive by the police. He was then beaten up and shot at [from] close range," additional chief judicial magistrate Yuvraj Singh said in the court order.

A dreaded gangster, Anandpal was shot dead by police at Mala-

# THE COURT ORDER CAME ON A PLEA BY ANANDPAL'S WIFE AGAINST THE CLEAN CHIT GIVEN BY CBI TO SEVEN POLICE PERSONNEL

sar village in Churu on June 24, 2017. Police officers at the time said that they cordoned off the house where Anandpal was hiding and asked him to surrender. He, however, began firing at the police and was killed in the ensuing encounter, the officers had said. The killing led to protests by Anandpal's family and his community members across the state, prompting the BJP government of the time to hand over the probe to CBI in 2017. In its closure report filed two years later, CBI held that the encounter was legitimate.

The court ordered on Wednesday that a case be registered against the accused police officers under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) sections 302 (murder), 147 (rioting), 326 (Voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means) among others.

# SHUT DUE TO RISING VIOLENCE, INDIAN EMBASSY REOPENS IN LIBYA AFTER 5 YRS

**Rezaul H Laskar**  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** India has reopened its embassy in Libya a little more than five years after it was closed because of the worsening security situation in the north African country, which continues to have about 3,000 Indian nationals.

The reopening of the mission, which was maintained by a skeletal staff that included a consular clerk, was announced during a news conference on Monday by the foreign ministry under Libya's National Unity Government based in Tripoli. India's new chargé d'affaires for the mission, Mohammed Aleem, was present at the event.

Libya's foreign ministry said in a statement on its Facebook page that the director of its department of Asia and Australia affairs, Nouri Fadel Al-Kaseh, met Aleem on Monday and discussed the resumption of work at the Indian embassy in Tripoli. Since the closure of the embassy in April 2019, the Indian envoy to Tunisia was handling relations with Libya.

Among the activities that will be resumed at the Indian embassy are the granting of visas to Libyan citizens and checking the employment conditions for Indian expatriates, the statement said.

"During the meeting, the two sides expressed the desire of Libya and India to activate friendly relations and cooperation in all spheres, which is an important step for both friendly countries," the statement, issued in Arabic, said. The National Unity Government will continue its efforts for more countries to reopen their embassies in Libya.

Prior to the uprising against Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, about 18,000 Indians worked in the country. Amid the fragile security situation in Libya in 2014, some 3,800 Indian nationals were repatriated, including six who had been kidnapped by the Islamic State.

The mission in Libya was temporarily relocated to Tunisia and then Malta, before it resumed its operations in Tripoli in 2012. The embassy was closed down in 2019 because of the worsening security situation, and it was maintained by staff comprising just a consular clerk and a gardener.

# ROW OVER UNION MIN'S PROPOSAL ON NORTH BENGAL

**KOLKATA:** Union minister Sukanta Majumdar on Wednesday said that he proposed the inclusion of north Bengal under the ministry of DoNER to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the development of the region. However, his suggestion sparked controversy as Trinamool Congress labelled it an attempt to separate the region from the state.

In a video statement, Majumdar said, "I met PM Modi and proposed that if north Bengal, while still being part of West Bengal, could be included in the Northeast under DoNER."

Reacting to his statement, senior TMC leader Sukhendu Sekhar Roy said, "This is a separatist move, violating the oath of office under the Constitution." PTI

# Labourer finds ₹80L diamond in MP mine

**Anupam Pateriya**  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**BHOPAL/SAGAR:** A labourer has found a 19.22-carat diamond worth more than of ₹80 lakh in a shallow mine in Panna district of Madhya Pradesh, district collector Suresh Kumar said on Wednesday, adding that the gem-quality diamond will be put for sale in the next auction.

Raju Gaud, who has been taking small mines on lease during the rains for the past 10 years in the hope of getting lucky someday, said he never imagined he would strike a fortune. "When I saw the diamond, I was surprised. I am on cloud

nine. All my financial problems will be ended soon. I'll spend the money on my children's education and buy farmland," he said, adding that he has deposited the diamond with the government authorities.

Kumar said the 19.22-carat diamond Gaud uncovered in a shallow mine could fetch ₹80 lakh or more.

He added: "The gemstone would be put up for open bidding at the next diamond auction."

The Panna district, located in MP's Bundelkhand region, is estimated to have diamond reserves of 12 lakh carats. The district mining department gives 8x8-metre land on lease for diamond mining.

# YSRCP vows issue-based support to Oppn bloc

**HT Correspondent**  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The YSR Congress Party's first protest in national capital after losing the Andhra Pradesh assembly polls last month, became the latest rallying point for some Opposition parties as Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, Shiv Sena (UBT) leaders Sanjay Raut and Priyanka Chaturvedi, and TMC lawmaker Nadimul Haque joined the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's programme on Wednesday.

The YSRCP, along with BRS and BJD, has maintained equidistance from the Congress and the BJP since the Lok Sabha polls. But the participation of Opposition INDIA bloc partners in the YSRCP's protest at Delhi's Jantar Mantar against "increas-



YSRCP chief Akhilesh Yadav with YSRCP chief Jagan Mohan Reddy during the latter's protest at Jantar Mantar on Wednesday.

ing violence" and "worsening law and order" in Andhra Pradesh under the chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu, opened the possibilities of a new alignment in the Opposition grouping. "As my leader has already

or not in the state in the alleged absence of "equitable justice." SP chief Yadav, who joined Reddy at the photo exhibition displayed by the YSRCP against alleged atrocities by the TDP government, said: "I would not have known the truth had I not seen the photographs and videos. Those in power should maintain simplicity, listen to others, and not take their lives."

Raut called for an independent probe into attacks on political workers in the Telugu state. However, TDP MPs accused Reddy of "diversion politics". "Jagan has come to Delhi to do diversion politics. The Jagan government was engaged in targeted violence on TDP members during its tenure," TDP MP B Nagaraju told reporters at a press conference.

YSRCP chief Jagan Reddy alleged that "democracy is limping" in Andhra and questioned whether democracy is prevalent

Advertisement No. 66/2024  
Government of India  
Public Enterprises Selection Board  
invites applications for the post of  
**Director (Technical)**  
In  
**Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)**  
Last date of submission of application  
by the applicant is by 15.00 hours on  
**16/08/2024**  
Last date of forwarding of applications by the  
Nodal officers to PESB is by 15.00 hours on  
**26/08/2024**  
For details login to website  
<https://pesb.gov.in>

**IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**  
Navratna Company  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)  
CIN-L45203DL1976SO000171. Website: [www.ircon.org](http://www.ircon.org)

**e-Procurement Notice**  
e-Tender No.: IRCON/2034/ROB-BIHARIE-TENDER/2024/03 Date: 24.07.2024  
e-Tender for and on behalf of East Central Railway is invited from bidders meeting qualifying requirements for the work of "Construction of Light ROB with ramp facility for light vehicle at LC No. 72 between Gulzarbagh- Patna Sahab Stations of Danapur Division of East Central Railway in state of Bihar".  
Estimated Cost of the work : ₹ 9,00,84,621/- with GST @ 18.0%.  
Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission : 16.08.2024 at 13:30 Hrs. (IST)  
For further details, visit website <https://e-tenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>. Corrigendum, if any, would be posted only on the website.

General Manager (Civil)  
IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED  
Sone Bhawan (1st Floor), Daroga Prasad Rai Path, Patna - 800001

**Municipal Council Chikhli**  
Chikhli, Tal. Chikhli, Dist. Buldhana

**E-Tender/NIT/1/2024-25**

On-line tenders for Augmentation of Piped Water Supply Scheme under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme are invited by Chikhli Municipal Council Chikhli. The details are available in tender Document.

The detailed Tender Document with Terms and Conditions will be available on website <https://mahatenders.gov.in> from Dt 25.07.2024 to Dt 09.08.2024 upto 17.30 hrs. Online tender shall be received as per schedule will be opened on Dt 12.08.2024 at 11.00 hrs. if possible  
Sd/-  
(Dr. Ajay kurwade)  
Chief Officer, Municipal Council Chikhli

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, PROCUREMENT, JPDCL, JAMMU**  
RAIL HEAD Narwal, JAMMU J&K PIN - 180012  
PHONE NO. 0191-2473402, TELEFAX - 0191-2472350  
E-mail: [epc1jmu@gmail.com](mailto:epc1jmu@gmail.com)

No.: SE/PRJ/TS/334 Dated: 22.07.2024

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER** Dated: 22.07.2024

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Superintending Engineer, Procurement, JPDCL, Jammu invites online e-bids from original Govt. registered manufacturers for supply of material as under for the requirement of JPDCL.

NIT No.	SE/PRJ/01/2024-25 dated 22.07.2024
Description of Material & Quantity (in Kms.)	PURCHASE OF Squirrel, Weasel, Rabbit and Dog Conductor.
	1. ACSR Squirrel conductor-200 km
	2. ACSR Weasel conductor-190 km
	3. ACSR Rabbit conductor-125 km
	4. ACSR Dog conductor-100 km

Detailed NIT may be downloaded from the website <http://ktenders.gov.in> upto 16.08.2024 till 1400 Hrs. The tender shall be accepted through online mode only. In case, the tender process does not get completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in the newspapers. The details regarding corrigendum may be seen on the above mentioned website.

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer  
Procurement, JPDCL, Jammu

## Performance Highlights Q1 FY25

### Consolidated profit after tax ↑ 14%

Consolidated Results		₹ In Crore		
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	FY24	
Total income	148	119	1,713	
Share of profits of associates	1,540	1,360	5,955	
Profit before tax	1,618	1,434	7,493	
Profit after tax	1,610	1,416	7,267	

Standalone Results		₹ In Crore		
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	FY24	
Total income	139	114	3,176	
Profit before tax	90	73	3,021	
Profit after tax	66	55	2,896	
Investments (at cost)	12,680	10,711	12,559	
Investments (at market value)	2,13,060	1,57,823	2,10,707	

**BAJAJ HOLDINGS & INVESTMENT LIMITED** | CIN: L65100PN1945PLC004656 | Website: [www.bhil.in](http://www.bhil.in)  
Registered Office: C/o Bajaj Auto Limited Complex, Mumbai - Pune Road, Akurdi, Pune - 411 035  
Corporate Office: 6th Floor, Bajaj Finserv Corporate Office, Off Pune - Ahmednagar Road, Viman Nagar, Pune - 411 014

This is an abridged representation of the unaudited financial results of Q1 FY25 and is not for the purpose of legal compliance. As required by regulations, the results have been prepared as per Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS).

**GOODS AND SERVICES TAX NETWORK**  
Corporate Office: 4th Floor, East Wing, World Mark-1, Aerocity, Delhi-110 037. Tel: 011-49111200. [www.gstn.org.in](http://www.gstn.org.in)

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN), a Government Enterprise, invites bids from eligible Companies for the following goods/services:

Particular(s)	Pre-Bid Meeting Date & Time	Last Date & Time for Submission of Bid
RFP for Selection of Managed Service Provider (MSP) for Managed IT services for GSTAT Benches	Date : 06 Aug. 2024 Time: 03:00 PM	Date : 20 Aug. 2024 Time : 3:00 PM

Tender / RFP document & related necessary information may be downloaded from GSTN website: [www.gstn.org.in](http://www.gstn.org.in) and CPPP Portal. Any amendment/corrigendum shall be uploaded on GSTN website and CPPP Portal.  
**Dr. Shilohu Rao (Sr. VP - P&C)**

**राजस्थान टूरिज्म डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड**  
(राजस्थान सरकार का उपक्रम)  
पर्यटन वस्त्र, सूतीय वस्त्र, विमानस्थली माने के सामग्री, एन.आई.टी. रोड, जयपुर-302001  
फोन:- 01-141-2381140, 2371441-42 | Email: [crco@rdc.in](mailto:crco@rdc.in)

क्रमांक: 1405 ई-निविदा सूचना सं. 02/2024-25 दिनांक: 23.07.2024

राजस्थान पर्यटन विकास निगम लि. जयपुर की ओर से राज्य सरकार/केन्द्र सरकार के विभागों एवं सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकृत संवेदकों से Online NIB आमंत्रित की जाती है। इन कार्यों की अनुमानित लागत, निविदा बेचे जाने व प्राप्त करने की दिनांक, निविदा शर्तें आदि संपूर्ण विवरण वेबसाइट [www.rdc.tourism.rajabhawan.gov.in](http://www.rdc.tourism.rajabhawan.gov.in) & [sppp.rajabhawan.gov.in](http://sppp.rajabhawan.gov.in) & <http://eproc.rajabhawan.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती है।

Tender ID  
1. TDC2425WS0800057 2. TDC2425WS0800058 3. TDC2425WS0800059 4. TDC2425WS0800060  
राज.सं.सं.सं. / 24 / 2722 निवेदक-संकेतिक

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, WATER RESOURCES ZONE, UDAIPUR**  
Near Akashvani, Chetak Circle, Udaipur (Rajasthan) - 313001  
Phone No.: 0294-2414794, Email: [aceudaipur2019@gmail.com](mailto:aceudaipur2019@gmail.com)

No. ACE/Actt./Bh/Nwara.F./2024-25/5994 E-NIT No. 01/2024-25  
NIB CODE - WARD2425A0133 Dated: 16.07.2024

Bids for the following work are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 PM, dated 28.08.2024

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost of Work (Rs. In lacs)
1.	Rehabilitation of Bhopal sagar Medium Irrigation Sub-Project District Chittorgarh-RWSPJ	1534.77

Other particulars of bid may be visited on the Procurement portal <http://eproc.rajabhawan.gov.in> <http://sppp.rajabhawan.gov.in> & [www.water.rajabhawan.gov.in/twr](http://www.water.rajabhawan.gov.in/twr)  
URN: WRD2425WLB000449  
Additional Chief Engineer  
Water Resources Zone, Udaipur  
Diprc/6381/2024

# Top court to address right to be forgotten in judicial orders

Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday deliberated whether the right to be forgotten, a subset of the right to privacy, could be applied to judicial orders, which are typically public documents.

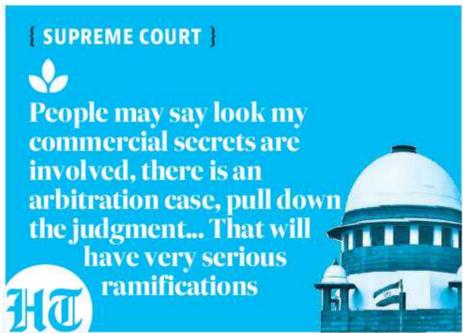
A bench, headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, was addressing a challenge by Indian Kanoo, a legal database website, against a Madras high court order. This order dated March 3 directed the portal to remove a judgment that revealed the identity of a person acquitted in a sexual assault case.

The bench, also comprising justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, raised significant concerns about the implications of the high court's directive, questioning how a publicly accessible judgment could be mandated to be taken down.

"Once a judgment is delivered, it becomes part of the public record. Assuming you are acquitted, how can the high court direct him (Indian Kanoo) to pull down the judgment?" the bench wondered.

The bench acknowledged that while redaction of names in sensitive cases, such as those involving child sexual abuse, could be justified, removing an entire judgment was excessive.

Warning of the potential slippery slope, it remarked: "People



may say look my commercial secrets are involved, there is an arbitration case, pull down the judgment in the arbitration case. That will have very serious ramifications."

Advocate Apar Gupta, representing Indian Kanoo, highlighted the conflicting positions of various high courts on the right to be forgotten. While the Kerala and Gujarat high courts have held that there is no right to be forgotten, the Madras high court's impugned order suggests otherwise, he pointed out.

"There is a genuine question of law emerging from contradictory judgments from different high courts," Gupta argued, prompting the CJI to acknowledge the necessity to settle the law.

"We will have to settle the law," remarked the bench as the

bench issued a notice in the petition and put the Madras high court's order in abeyance. "Issue notice. In the meantime, the directions of Madras high court shall remain stayed," it directed.

The case before the Supreme Court stemmed from the proceedings before the high court initiated by a man who challenged an order rejecting his request to redact his name and other details from a judgment acquitting him in a sexual assault case. The man argued that the right to be forgotten and privacy are inherent in Article 21 of the Constitution, emphasising that judgments containing personal details can perpetuate stereotypes even after legal exoneration. The high court held that while courts are expected to maintain records, it is within their discretion to make such

data publicly available.

The Supreme Court's intervention highlights the need for a delicate balance in defining and protecting individual rights within the broader spectrum of public interest and transparency. The apex court's disposition to settle the law comes at a time when the growth of the Internet and social media has increasingly blurred the boundaries of privacy, putting out in public domain the most intricate details of human lives. Besides, the right to be forgotten entails a delicate balance between one's right to privacy and the right to information in the larger public interest or for the State's legitimate needs.

To be sure, the current data protection regime in India, under the 2000 Information Technology Act and 2023 Digital Personal Data Protection Act, do not accord statutory force to the right to be forgotten.

The right to be forgotten is considered to be part of the right to privacy under Article 21, as established in the landmark *K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union of India* (2017) case. This right seeks to empower individuals to have their personal information removed from public access, particularly when it no longer serves its original purpose or is no longer relevant. The nine-judge 2017 judgment consisted of six opinions. Three of these opinions, authored by justices Chandrachud, Rohinton F. Nariman and Sanjay Kishan Kaul, underscored the right of an individual to control personal information.

Zone of privacy is but an acknowledgement that each individual must be entitled to chart and pursue the course of development of their personality, justice Chandrachud had held while adding that "privacy protects the individual from the searching glare of publicity in matters which are personal to his or her life".

Justice Nariman (since retired), in his opinion, recognised the concept of "informational privacy", emphasising an individual may have control over the dissemination of material which is personal to them.

Justice Kaul (since retired) acknowledged the new threats in an age of digital footprints while emphasising the significance of the right to be left alone and the right to be forgotten. According to him, an individual's privacy needs to be protected both from the State and the non-State actors, which can gather and analyse data to shape behaviour or influence the decision-making process. In July 2022, justice Kaul's bench asked the top court registry to work out a mechanism so that details of a couple embroiled in a bitter marital discord can be removed from search engines and the Internet, expanding the ambit of the right to privacy and the right to be forgotten.

## { INS BRAHMAPUTRA FIRE }

# Body of missing sailor recovered after 2 days

Rahul Singh

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**NEW DELHI:** The body of the sailor who went missing after Indian warship INS Brahmaputra tipped over at the naval dockyard in Mumbai on July 22, was on Wednesday pulled out from water after intensive search operations, even as navy chief Admiral Dinesh Tripathi ordered necessary actions to be taken immediately to make the vessel combat-ready again, the Indian Navy said.

It identified the sailor as leading seaman Sitendra Singh.

Singh was among the multi-role frigate's crew involved in its repairs when the incident occurred. While most of the men exited the warship using the gangway, some others jumped into the water and swam back to safety, except Singh who drowned, a navy official said, asking not to be named.

The 3,850-tonne INS Brahmaputra, an Indian-made warship commissioned in April 2000, rolled over after a fire broke out on board on July 22. The cause of the vessel tipping over towards port, or the left, is still not known. Firefighting units had pumped huge quantities of water to douse the flames.

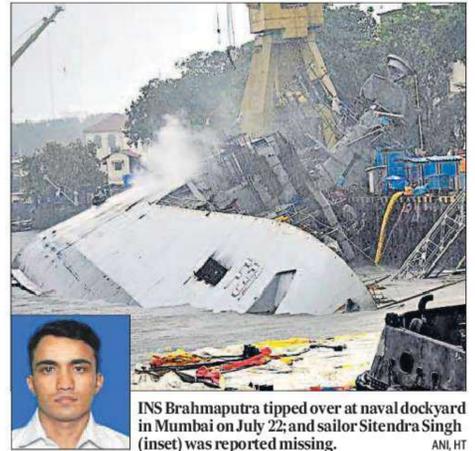
The frigate, the lead warship of the Brahmaputra class, suffered extensive damage and is likely to be out of action for several months, as previously reported by HT. It was at the dockyard for a refit.

The crippled frigate is still lying flat on its side at the berth.

Tripathi visited Mumbai on Tuesday to assess the damage. He reviewed the sequence of events leading to the accident and steps undertaken to locate the missing sailor.

He was briefed on the mitigating actions taken to limit the extent of the damage, and steps being taken to recover the vessel and repairs planned to restore its functionality at the earliest, the navy said in a statement.

"The CNS (chief of naval staff)



INS Brahmaputra tipped over at naval dockyard in Mumbai on July 22; and sailor Sitendra Singh (inset) was reported missing.

Command (Mumbai-based Western Naval Command) and Naval Headquarters to make INS Brahmaputra seaworthy and combat ready are to be initiated immediately," it added.

The priority will be to get the ship in its upright position before the navy can carry out a detailed damage assessment and initiate follow up action, including extensive repairs. During an interaction, Tripathi asked INS Brahmaputra's crew to work towards early operationalisation of the ship, the statement added.

In December 2016, INS Betwa, a Brahmaputra-class guided missile frigate, slipped on the dock blocks in Mumbai while undergoing repairs and the freak accident left two sailors dead and 14 injured.

It was salvaged to its upright position at a cost of ₹20 crore in two-and-a-half months. It returned to service six months thereafter.

The navy had then sought the help of foreign experts to salvage the warship as it did not have a crane big enough to lift a ship of Betwa's size. It is likely to do that again.

The contract was then awarded to the Indian arm of US-based Resolve Marine Group to bring INS Betwa to level position, before repairs began. The group specialises in salvage and emergency response.

INS Brahmaputra experienced severe "listing" to port (left) side, and despite all efforts, it could not be brought to the upright position, the navy announced on Monday. "Listing" refers to a vessel tilting to one side after taking water in.

The fire was brought under control by the ship's crew with the assistance of firefighters from the naval dockyard and other ships in harbour by Monday morning.

The navy has ordered an investigation into the incident under a rear admiral. The "listing" could have been caused by the huge amounts of water pumped in to douse the fire, as reported earlier.

INS Brahmaputra is the first of the locally built Brahmaputra-class guided missile frigates. It has a length of 125 metres, a beam of 16 metres and is manned by a crew of 370, including 40 officers.

## Sukhbir appears before Akal Takht amid friction

Surjit Singh

letters@hindustantimes.com

**AMRITSAR:** Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Wednesday appeared before the Akal Takht, the highest temporal seat of Sikhs, and submitted his written explanation to rebel leaders' allegations that he did not "represent the sentiments of the panth".

Badal, who was accompanied by senior party leaders Daljit Singh Cheema, Balwinder Singh Bhundar and Harcharan Bains, offered prayers at the Golden Temple in Amritsar at 1.20pm and thereafter appeared before Akal Takht Jathedar Giani Raghbir Singh.

According to an Akal Takht spokesperson, Badal met the Jathedar in the presence of Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) president Harjinder Singh Dhumi. The meeting lasted for 20 minutes, during which Badal sub-



Sukhbir Singh Badal

mitted his written explanation on the allegations.

"The explanation letter will be discussed at a meeting of the Sikh clergy in the coming days," the spokesperson said.

There was no immediate comment from Badal.

On July 15, the Jathedar had directed the SAD president to appear in person before the Akal Takht and submit a written explanation on the allegations within 15 days. On Tuesday, Badal dissolved the SAD's core committee amid rebellion by a section of senior leaders.

## { IN JAMMU DIVISION }

# Search for cross-border tunnels upped amid rise in terror attacks

Prawesh Lama

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Security forces in Jammu division have stepped up efforts to search for possible tunnels that terrorists from across the border might be using to infiltrate into the Indian territory, people familiar with the matter said, adding that the move was discussed in a recent high-level meeting of chiefs of various forces deployed in Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) amid surge in terrorist attacks in Jammu region.

While no evidence of tunnels in the forested areas has been found yet, security forces have roped in Gujjar shepherds — they have historically helped forces with tip-offs — in the mountains as part of their operations. Forces are specifically focusing on the jungles of Doda, Rajouri, Kathua and Poonch districts in



Security forces have been working on ground to identify the infiltration points.

the division where highly trained terrorists might be hiding or stocking weapons, an official aware of the counterterror operations in the Union Territory said, requesting anonymity. "In the meeting it was discussed if the infiltrators could be using a tunnel in Jammu to enter the Indian side. For this the J&K police, CRPF and BSF are working on the ground to identify the infiltration points," the official said. "It was also discussed if the

number of active foreign terrorists is decreasing as many of them have been killed in encounters with joint forces."

On July 20, a high-level security meeting was chaired by army chief General Uday Kumar Singh and attended by the director generals of the BSF, CRPF, J&K Police, heads of intelligence agencies and other security officials.

People aware of the matter said that BSF personnel in Punjab have also been tasked to check for any possible infiltration points in the state, which shares the international border with Pakistan. The official cited above said during the July 12 meeting, the possibility tunnels along Indo-Pakistan border in Punjab sectors being used by foreign terrorists was discussed.

## { HALDWANI RLY LAND ENCROACHMENT ROW }

# SC asks Centre, U'khand to rehabilitate those affected

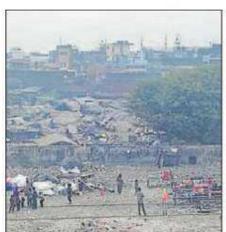
Utkarsh Anand

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday underscored the need for compassion and due process in eviction cases, instructing the Centre and the Uttarakhand government to develop a comprehensive rehabilitation plan for over 50,000 residents facing displacement over land claimed by the Railways in Haldwani.

Highlighting the humane considerations that must be taken into account when dealing with such sensitive issues, a bench led by justice Surya Kant expressed strong reservations about the approach taken by the authorities. The bench, also comprising justices Dipankar Datta and Ujjal Bhuyan, criticised the use of a public interest litigation (PIL) as a mechanism for ordering the eviction, emphasising that proper legal procedures under the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act should have been followed.

"Why a PIL for eviction? You can proceed under the PP Act. You issue notice and proceed in terms of the law. Is it that you acted under the guise of a PIL... You rode on the back of a PIL and got an order. You didn't issue a notice on your own. You can't use a PIL to get it done... Why this via media of a PIL and get this done," the bench told additional solicitor general (ASG) Ashwarya Bhati, who appeared for the Railways, and the state government's counsel.



Banbhoolpura area in Uttarakhand's Haldwani.

importance of considering the human impact of such actions. "We are dealing with human beings here. Ultimately, the high court cannot decide in a writ jurisdiction that a family has no claims. Some reasonable opportunity had to be given to those who were claiming some titles... Even assuming they are encroachers, they are all human beings. They have been there for decades," it observed.

The case originates from a December 20, 2022 Uttarakhand high court order that authorised the "use of force" to evict 4,365 families from 78 acres of land in Haldwani's Banbhoolpura area. The high court's directive, which stemmed from a PIL filed in 2013, put more than 50,000 people, predominantly Muslims, at risk of homelessness during the harsh winter. This decision sparked protests from the occupants and became a contentious issue, drawing criticism from Opposition leaders who alleged that the eviction was an attempt to target the Muslim community. On January 5, 2023, the Supreme Court

stayed the high court's order, emphasising the need for a balanced and humane approach.

Subsequently, the Railways moved a plea, urging the court to modify its previous order so that dwellings from the disputed land could be removed to enable the Railways to shift the station and augment other facilities.

Pulling up the state government's counsel for arguing that only 13 out of over 4,300 families were able to show some title over their land, the bench asked why the district collector failed to adjudicate the notices issued to the encroachers by the Railways under the PP Act.

The bench proceeded to direct the Centre and the state to present a rehabilitation plan within four weeks.

Hailing the top court's directions, Banbhoolpura locals said like the Supreme Court, the state government and railways should also show a humane approach.

Sharafat Khan, one of the petitioners and a resident of Banbhoolpura said the order has brought much awaited relief.

"We are not against development but we wanted the railways to first identify their land so that it would mitigate the problems of the locals. The railways should disclose their expansion and rehabilitation plan for the affected people. We are happy that the Supreme Court is moving in that direction. The Uttarakhand government and railways should also show a humane approach towards the residents."

## { AFTER UNNAO ACCIDENT }

# 1/4th buses unfit, scrap them if not fixed: UP govt

**Brajendra K Parashar**

letters@hindustantimes.com

**LUCKNOW:** Almost one in every four buses registered in Uttar Pradesh does not have a valid road worthiness certificate, according to a government order issued by chief secretary Manoj Kumar Singh, who has directed commissioners, district magistrates and other officials to ensure these vehicles are scrapped if their owners do not remedy the situation.

The fresh directions come in the wake of the bus-tanker collision in which at least 18 people were killed in Unnao on July 10.

The double-decker bus involved in the accident did not have valid registration, fitness, insurance and tax documents.

## { AFTER UNNAO ACCIDENT }

# BJP to start its 4-day organisational meeting from today

**NEW DELHI:** The BJP has called a four-day organisational meeting that begins from Thursday and comes ahead of assembly elections in Haryana, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. The first two days will focus on meeting between the party's organisational secretaries, which will be followed by a meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with all chief ministers and their deputies of the BJP-ruled states. A meeting, chaired by PM Modi, was held on Wednesday, and had in attendance Union ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, among others.

## { AFTER UNNAO ACCIDENT }

# Ranchi court jails 5 Jamtara cyber criminals for 5 yrs

**NEW DELHI:** A special PMLA court in Jharkhand has sentenced five Jamtara district residents to five years of rigorous imprisonment under the anti-money laundering law for duping numerous individuals through vishing, the Enforcement Directorate said on Wednesday. In vishing or voice phishing, callers impersonate legitimate companies to steal money or trick victims into providing their personal and financial information. A Netflix series titled "Jamtara" is based on real-life incidents of vishing and bank account scamming.



The fresh directions come in the wake of the bus-tanker collision in which at least 18 people were killed in Unnao on July 10.

In view of recent road accidents in the state involving buses operating without valid documents, chief minister Yogi Adityanath recently directed officials to take effective action against

## People have become more sensitive about religion: HC junks case

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**MUMBAI:** People have become more sensitive about religion nowadays, the Bombay high court said on Wednesday as it quashed a case against two people for allegedly hurting religious sentiments on a WhatsApp group.

As WhatsApp messages are encrypted and cannot be accessed by a third person, it should be seen whether they can have the effect of outraging religious feelings as contemplated under the Indian Penal Code, the Nagpur bench of the court said in its ruling.

A division bench of justices Vibha Kankarwad and Vrushali Joshi quashed a 2017 First Information Report (FIR) registered against an army soldier and a medical practitioner for outraging religious sentiments, intentional insult to breach public order, and criminal intimidation.

Complainant Shahbaz Siddiqui had accused army soldier Pramod Shendre and medical practitioner Subhash Waghe of posting offensive messages against the Muslim community on a WhatsApp group.

The accused raised questions about Prophet Muhammad and said the Muslims who refuse to say "Vande Mataram" should go

**COURT SAID THE POLICE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVE THAT THE ALLEGED INSULT WAS MADE WITH DELIBERATE BID TO OUTRAGE THE RELIGIOUS FEELINGS**

to Pakistan, Siddiqui claimed in his complaint.

The bench, while setting aside the FIR and charge sheet, said as WhatsApp chats are end-to-end encrypted, the messages posted in the group could not have been seen by any person who was not a member.

"We are constrained to observe that nowadays people have become more sensitive about their religions may be more than before and everybody wants to impress as to how his religion/God is Supreme," the HC said.

The bench noted that the police should be able to prove that the alleged insult was made with a deliberate intention to outrage religious feelings.

It should be seen if a chat in a WhatsApp group has the effect of outraging religious feelings as contemplated under section 295A of the IPC, the HC said.

## K'TAKA ASSEMBLY OKAYS BILL LEVYING CESS ON MOVIE TICKET, OTT PLANS

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

**BENGALURU:** The Karnataka assembly unanimously approved the Cine and Cultural Activists (Welfare) Bill of 2024, which introduces a new cess on cinema tickets and subscription services to fund welfare initiatives for cine and cultural workers in the state.

According to the bill, "A Cine and Cultural Activists Welfare Cess" will be imposed on cinema tickets, subscription fees, and related establishment revenue in the state. The cess will range between 1% to 2%, as notified by the government. The rate will be revised every three years."

In a post on X, Karnataka labour minister Santosh Lad announced, "The Karnataka Cinema and Cultural Workers Welfare Bill - 2024 was introduced in the Assembly on Tuesday. During the session, numerous members expressed their support, offering valuable suggestions and feedback on the bill. The assembly passed the bill unanimously."

"I am thankful to the honourable chief minister, deputy chief minister, honourable president of the assembly, cabinet colleagues, and all the members who consented to provide such a unique service to the servants of Kannada Goddess," the labour minister added in his social media post.

buses in the state , 13,661 vehicles do not have valid registration, fitness, and insurance papers.

"Road safety campaigns have been conducted in the state from time to time, along with drives against unauthorised passenger buses. However, from the result point of view, as such campaigns have not been as effective as expected, the operation of unauthorised passenger buses continues unabated. As a result, the expected reduction in road accidents is also not visible," the government order issued on Tuesday added.

The order asked transport department and other officials at the district level to obtain details of passenger buses plying in their district without proper

papers from the database, and conduct a special campaign against each, by communicating/meeting with the owners of passenger buses and various organizations and their officials associated with the transport sector. It has set August 15 as the deadline for this.

Vehicle owners that do not meet this deadline will see their buses scrapped.

"Otherwise, ensure scrapping action through RVSF (Registered Vehicle Scrapping Facility) as per rules against unauthorised passenger buses operating without valid documents, so that the number of passenger buses shown on the vehicle portal operating without valid documents is reduced to zero," the chief secretary said in the order.

# Performance Highlights Q1 FY25

Consolidated total income: ₹ 31,480 crore ↑ 35%

Consolidated profit after tax: ₹ 2,138 crore ↑ 10%

Consolidated Results		(₹ In Crore)			
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	% Change	FY24	
<b>BAJAJ FINSERV LIMITED</b>					
Total income	31,480	23,280	35%	1,10,383	
Profit before tax	5,968	5,125	16%	21,375	
Profit after tax (attributable to owners of the Company)	2,138	1,943	10%	8,148	

Consolidated Results		(₹ In Crore)			
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	% Change	FY24	
<b>BAJAJ FINANCE LIMITED</b>					
Total income	16,102	12,500	29%	54,983	
Profit after tax	3,912	3,437	14%	14,451	
Net NPA	0.38%	0.31%		0.37%	
Return on average equity (annualised)	19.9%	24.5%		22.0%	
Assets under management	3,54,192	2,70,097	31%	3,30,615	

Standalone Results		(₹ In Crore)			
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	% Change	FY24	
<b>BAJAJ HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED</b>					
Total income	2,209	1,765	25%	7,618	
Profit after tax	483	462	5%	1,731	
Assets under management	97,071	74,124	31%	91,370	

Standalone Results		(₹ In Crore)			
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	% Change	FY24	
<b>BAJAJ ALLIANZ GENERAL INSURANCE CO. LTD.</b>					
Gross written premium	4,761	3,834	24%	20,630	
Profit after tax	576	415	39%	1,550	
Combined ratio	103.7%	100.7%		99.9%	
Return on average equity (annualised)	21.3%	17.2%		15.2%	
Assets under management	31,651	28,611	11%	31,196	

Standalone Results		(₹ In Crore)			
Particulars	Q1 FY25	Q1 FY24	% Change	FY24	
<b>BAJAJ ALLIANZ LIFE INSURANCE CO. LTD.</b>					
Gross written premium	5,018	4,058	24%	23,043	
New business premium	2,541	2,159	18%	11,494	
Net new business value	104	94	11%	1,061	
Shareholders' profit after tax	97	155		563	
Assets under management	1,16,966	95,317	23%	1,09,829	

**S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER**  
**e-Tender Notice No. 4517-GR-C-CEC-HQ-52-2024, dated 23.07.2024.** e-Tender is invited by Chief Engineer(Con)/HQ/Garden Reach, S.E. Railway for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work. Following tender has been uploaded on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). The tender will be closed at 12.00 hrs. on due date. **Brief Description of Works:** Comprehensive Geological Survey Using Modern Technologies for Geological Characterization and Genesis of Strata in Tunnel & Bridge Alignment Locations for New Railway Line Projects, including obtaining Environmental, Forest clearances & design of approach roads to the major work sites along the alignment for the projects under the jurisdiction of South Eastern Railway Construction Organization: 1. New Railway Line for connecting unconnected major iron ore mines in Sundargarh & Keonjhar districts of Odisha state. 2. New Railway Line between Burumara and Chakulia. 3. New Railway Line between Gourmahisani and Bangriposi. 4. New Railway Line between Badampahar and Keonjhar. 5. Any other location under the jurisdiction of Chief Administrative Officer/C/S.E. Railway as per the requirement. **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 16.23 Crore. **Bid Security:** ₹ 9,61,400/- **Completion period:** 09 months. **Closing Date:** 14.08.2024. Interested tenders may visit website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective Bidders may regularly visit [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) to participate in all other tenders. (PR-414)

**Centre For Railway Information Systems**  
 Chanakyaipur, New Delhi-110021  
**Tender No.01245072A**  
**Subject:** Procurement of Comprehensive Monitoring & SECURITY SOLUTIONS FOR GRAC AND APPLICATION SECURITY. **Date of Closing:** 20.08.2024 (Tuesday) at 15:30 Hrs. **Pre Bid Meeting -** 01.08.2024 (11.00hrs) at CRIS ITP Building, Conference Hall 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Near ITO New Delhi-110002. Tender Documents Can Be Downloaded From Website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). For Future Modification/ extensions Pl. See [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

**PROVISION OF BALANCING CULVERT**  
**E-Tender Notice No. 30-ENG-RNY-2024-25.** E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Name of work:** Provision of balancing culvert - 2 Nos. of span (1 x 6.0 m) RCC BOX against bridge no. 431UP (1 x 3.66m) and bridge no. 301 DN (1 x 3.66m) box between Dangtal-Basugaon km 2432-3. **Tender Value:** ₹ 7,34,27,020.19. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 5,17,100/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** 15.00 hrs. of 12-08-2024 & opening at 15.00 hrs. of 12-08-2024 at DRM (W), Rangjia office. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
 DRM (W), Rangjia  
**NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY**  
 Serving Customers With A Smile

**Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR**  
 ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 072/2024-25  
 निविदा को भरने के लिए निम्नलिखित कार्य के अतिरिक्त निम्नलिखित एवं उनके अधिकारकारी को संतुष्ट करने के लिए आवश्यक सभी दस्तावेजों को निम्नलिखित रूप में प्रस्तुत करना आवश्यक है:-  
 कार्य का विवरण कार्य की कुल राशि  
 SITD of various Electrical works at Hospital Building of Govt. Medical College, Sirohi, (04 works) (1) UBN: RRC2425WS0800172 (2) UBN: RRC2425WS0800173 (3) UBN: RRC2425WS0800174 (4) UBN: RRC2425WS0800175 1257.00 Lakh  
 निविदा के अतिरिक्त प्रत्येक कार्य के लिए निम्नलिखित कार्य के अतिरिक्त निम्नलिखित एवं उनके अधिकारकारी को संतुष्ट करने के लिए आवश्यक सभी दस्तावेजों को निम्नलिखित रूप में प्रस्तुत करना आवश्यक है:-  
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 कार्य का विवरण कार्य की कुल राशि  
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**Appeal for Identification**  
 General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: Badal Raj, S/o Awadh Kishore, R/o: Apna Ghar Ashram, Age: about 50 Yrs, Height: 57", Complexion : Shallow, Wearing: Sky Blue Color Shirt & Pant. He was admitted by care taker Chandram vide MLC No.3779/24 in M.V. Hospital where Dr. declared him Brought dead. In this regard, DD No. 57A Dated 17.07.2024 has been lodged at PS Bawana, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this male but no clue has come to light about the relatives of deceased so far. Any person having any information or clue about the relatives of deceased may kindly inform to the following.  
**SHO P.S., Bawana, Delhi Ph.: 011-27751949 27756090**  
 DP/9697/ON/2024

**MORARJI DESAI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOGA**  
 Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India  
 68, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110 001  
 Ph: 011-23730418, 23351099, 23721472, Telefax: 011-23711657  
 E-Mail: [dir-mdniy@nic.in](mailto:dir-mdniy@nic.in), Website: [www.yogamdniy.nic.in](http://www.yogamdniy.nic.in)

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for engagement on Deputation to work at Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), in the positions given as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts/Category	Pay Scale
1	Accountant	01 (OBC)*	Level-6 (Rs. 35400-112400)
2	Assistant	01 (UR)*	Level-6 (Rs. 35400-112400)

\* Method of Recruitment for the above posts - By Deputation  
 The details of qualifications, experience, age etc. and other terms and conditions for filling up of the post can be obtained from the Institute's website [www.yogamdniy.nic.in](http://www.yogamdniy.nic.in) & Ministry of Ayush website [www.ayush.gov.in](http://www.ayush.gov.in)  
 The complete application should be sent to Director, Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, 68, Ashok Road, New Delhi-110001 in a sealed cover superscribed "Application applied for the post of \_\_\_\_\_". The last date for receipt of hard copy of application in MDNIY is 45 days from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News Advt. No. CBC 17213/11/0002/2425 i.e 13-19 July, 2024 published in MDNIY website.  
 CBC 17213/11/0003/2425 Administrative Officer

**यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण**  
 प्रथम तल, कॉमिश्नरियल कॉम्प्लेक्स, ओगेश-1 (पी-2), गेट नो.एड, Toll Free No. 18001808296 वेबसाइट: [www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com](http://www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com)

**सार्वजनिक सूचना**  
 दिनांक: 23.07.2024

पत्रांक - वाई.ई.ए/मूलेख/807/07/2024

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की विभिन्न योजनाओं हेतु परियोजना विभाग की आवश्यकतानुसार आम धनोरी के अन्तर्गत आने वाले खसरे जिसके सापेक्ष 64.7 प्रतिशत अतिरिक्त प्रतिकर का वितरण किया जाना प्रस्तावित है:-

ग्राम का नाम	सेक्टर	खसरा संख्या
धनोरी	ग्राम धनोरी के अन्तर्गत	1455, 1483, 1487

1. भूमि के अतिरिक्त प्रतिकर वितरण किये जाने में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित रूप में प्रकाशन के 15 दिनों के अन्दर सीआरओ सेल/तहसीलदार, यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे प्राधिकरण के समक्ष अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।  
 डिप्टी कलेक्टर, यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

पत्रांक - वाई.ई.ए/मूलेख(तह)/808/2024 दिनांक: 23.07.2024  
 निम्नलिखित भूमि यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा अतिरिक्त प्रतिकर वितरण किया जाना प्रस्तावित है:-

क्रम संख्या	योजना का नाम	अतिरिक्त प्रतिकर वितरण हेतु प्रस्तावित खसरा संख्या	टिप्पणी
1	सेक्टर-25 के 07 प्रतिशत आबादी भूखण्डों के अन्तर्गत	100, 135, 229, 230, 231, 232, 245, 248, 249, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 290, 291, 296, 304, 305 व 324	

उपरोक्त भूमि के अतिरिक्त प्रतिकर वितरण किये जाने में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित रूप में प्रकाशन के 15 दिनों के अन्दर सीआरओ सेल/तहसीलदार, यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के समक्ष अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।  
 डिप्टी कलेक्टर, यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान के अतिरिक्त प्लॉटिंग/हाउसिंग/कॉलोनी या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह से अशुद्ध है। सामाजिक इस प्रकार की खरीदोफरोख्त से पूर्णतः सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनी/हाउसिंग के आमक विधानों से बचें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट [www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com](http://www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com) देखें।

**HIMACHAL PRADESH AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED**  
 (A Government Undertaking)  
 GROUND FLOOR, NIGAM VIHAR COMPLEX, SHIMLA-2 (H.P.)  
 Email ID: [hpaicdt@gmail.com](mailto:hpaicdt@gmail.com)  
 Telefax: 0177-2623811, Telephone Nos.: 0177-2623792, 2623794, 2623803

No. AIC. 15-18(RC)/2018-19-X- Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHORT NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

E-tender is hereby invited by the HP Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (HPAIC), Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002 for the purchases of Agri-Cannon on behalf of Department of Agriculture of Himachal Pradesh on Annual Rate Contract basis for the year 2024-25. The detailed tender document alongwith schedule of item will be available on the e-procurement website of HP Govt. <https://www.ireps.gov.in> & the Corporation website <https://hpaicdt.com>. The bidder should be required to register on the e-procurement website of HP Government <https://www.ireps.gov.in> for submission of bid. Further, the bidder is also required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from certifying authority. For more information, please visit website: <https://www.ireps.gov.in>.  
 The tender is to be submitted only through e-procurement platform at <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. Tender submitted in any other form will not be accepted. However hard copy of uploaded tender alongwith other documents will have to be submitted in the HPAIC H.O. Shimla-2 well before the last date. The tender will be visible on e-procurement website from 25.07.2024 & can be submitted/updated on 07.08.2024 upto 11.00 AM.  
 The items wise detail is as under:-

Sr. No.	Code No.	Tender Items	Date of opening	Cost of Tender Document (non refundable) & EMD (refundable)
<b>Agriculture Department</b>				
1.	AIC.006	Agri-Cannon	08.08.2024 at 11.30 AM	Cost of tender document is Rs. 5,000/- & EMD of Rs. 50,000/- in the form of Demand Draft in the name of Managing Director, Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla to be submitted on or before above scheduled date & time.

The Managing Director, HP Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. reserves the right to reject/accept any or all tenders without assigning reason. Sd/-  
 DPR HP-0213 Marketing Manager

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH CHANDIGARH**  
 E-Tender Notice No. PI(EP)/24-25/G/01 Phone No. 0172-2756469

Tender applications are invited for purchase of various items against tender No. 1-5 from the Manufacturers or their sole authorized distributors/agents. The bidders can place their bids as per terms & conditions contained on <https://procure.gov.in/eprocure/app>

S. No	Equipment/Item Name	Qty.	EMD	Bid submission Date	Bid Opening Date	Dept Name
<b>Pre Bid case</b>						
1.	Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Chamber	01 No.	Rs. 1,04,000/-	13.08.2024	14.08.2024	CGRYN
<b>Non-Pre Bid case</b>						
2.	Replacement of Cooling System of the existing Cold Room	01 No.	Rs. 20,000/-	-do-	-do-	Biochemistry
3.	Ionic, Non Ionic CT Contrast Media and MRI Contrast Media	As per technical Specification	Rs. 1,00,000/-	-do-	-do-	Radiology
4.	Online Examination (Computer Based Test)	As per Tender Document	Rs.12,00,000/-	-do-	-do-	Academic Section
5.	Table Top Casting Machine (Buy Back)	01 No.	Rs. 24,000/-	-do-	-do-	OHSC

Tender document can also be downloaded from website [www.pgi.ac.in](http://www.pgi.ac.in) and can be applied on website <https://procure.gov.in>. Bid Security (EMD) should be for the amount as per the instruments defined in tender documents having its validity at least for one year & duly pledged in favour of Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh. The tenders will be opened on the dates given above at 12:00 PM in the presence of the authorized intending tenderers. Tenders not submitted on the prescribed form, not accompanied with Bid Security shall be summarily rejected.  
 The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason therefor.  
**"PRE-BID CONFERENCE" WITH INTENDING BIDDERS FOR ITEM Sr. No. 01** shall be held on 29.07.2024 from 03.00 P.M. ONWARDS IN THE PI(EP), OFFICE, PGI(MER), CHANDIGARH. The intending bidders are free to join Pre bid Conference through video conference. For more details contact: 0172-2756469 at Procurement Branch (Import).  
**NOTE 1.** The terms and Conditions of the original Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) available on PGI(MER) Website will remain same. However on switching over to e-tendering on e-Procurement, the bids will be received in electronic form on e-Procurement website and no bid will be received in Physical form. **The EMD will be received in Physical form in Procurement Branch (Import) and scan copy to be uploaded in electronic form on e-procurement website, CPPP Portal (Central Public Procurement Portal).**  
**NOTE 2.** If any of the tender opening dates happens to be a holiday in PGI(MER), Chandigarh, then the same shall be opened on next full working day.  
**Additional Terms and Conditions.**  
 1. The Institute has adopted amended Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) which is available on e-Procurement website (<https://procure.gov.in/eprocure/app>) and Website: [www.pgi.ac.in](http://www.pgi.ac.in). Therefore the bidders are requested to go through the instructions Carefully before submitting bids.  
 The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason therefor.  
 PGI RC Advt. 2024 HR-00390 Professor in-Charge (EP)

**CENTRE FOR RAILWAY INFORMATION SYSTEMS**  
 Chanakyaipur, New Delhi-110021  
**Tender No. 01245004A Subject:** Procurement of Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of Enterprise Service Bus Infrastructure for 1 year i.e. 02-Aug-2024 onwards at CRIS(HQ), Chanakyaipur, New Delhi. **Date of Closing:** 14.08.2024 (Wednesday) at 15:30 hrs. Tender Documents can be downloaded from Website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). For future modification/ extensions pl. see [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

**WESTERN RAILWAY-BHAVNAGAR DIVISION**  
**TENDER DOCUMENT**  
 Chief Workshop Manager's office, Carriage Repair Workshop, Bhavnagar Para, Bhavnagar - 364003, Western Railway; For and on behalf of the President of India Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop, Bhavnagar Para, Western Railway invites E-tender for below work: **E-Tender No. BVPW-2023-24-Corr-31-R3; Name of the Work:** Corrosion repair in BG Coaches at Bhavnagar Workshop as per scope of work for 2 years; **Approximate cost of work:** ₹ 5,81,28,537.79/-; **Bid Security:** ₹ 4,40,700/-; **Tender Document Fees:** ₹ 0.00/-; **Validity of tender offer:** 60 Days; **Completion Period of work:** 24 months from the date of issue of LOA; **Last date & time for submission of tender:** 09/08/2024, 15:00 Hrs; **Date & Time for opening of tender:** 09/08/2024, 15:30 Hrs; **Issued by:** Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, Office of Chief Workshop Manager, Carriage Repair Workshop, Bhavnagar Para, Western Railway; **Important Note:** The tender shall be submitted only Electronically on <https://www.ireps.gov.in> and no manual offers are allowed against this E-tender, and any such manual offer received at this office shall be ignored and not opened. 60  
 Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

**OFFICE OF CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION WING, UTTARAKHAND PEYAL SANSADHAN VIKAS EVAM NIRMAN NIGAM**  
 3rd Floor, Kamla Nagar (Opposite ONGC Hospital), Dehradun-248001  
 E-mail : [cgmnmrmanwing@yahoo.com](mailto:cgmnmrmanwing@yahoo.com), [gmnirmanwing@gmail.com](mailto:gmnirmanwing@gmail.com)

Letter No: 2798 / Nivida (Garhwal) Electrical, D.Dun/20 Dated: 24.07.2024

**PRESS NOTE**

**Government of Uttarakhand "B" procurement Notice**  
 Bid Identification no: 2797 / Nivida (Garhwal) Electrical, D.Dun/19 Dated: 24.07.2024

S. No.	Name of works	Estimated Cost	Period of Completion
1	REMAINING WORKS OF EXISTING SWIMMING POOL AT INDIRA GANDHI INTERNATIONAL SPORTS STADIUM, GOLAPAAPA, HALDWANI, DISTT. NAINITAL	752.46 Lakh Excluding G.S.T.	04 Months

2 Name and Address of Officer Inviting the Bid :- Chief General Manager, Construction Wing, Uttarakhand Peyal Nigam, Third Floor (Opposite ONGC Hospital), Kamla Nagar, Dehradun

3 Date and Time of Availability of bid documents in the portal :- 26/07/2024-17.00 Hrs.

4 Pre Bid Meeting :- 29/07/2024-12.00 Hrs.

5 Last Date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal :- 12/08/2024-17.00 Hrs.

Details of subsequent addendum/ corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from the website.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "<https://www.uktenders.gov.in>"  
 General Manager (Garhwal)

**BIADA BIHAR INDUSTRIAL AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
 FIRST FLOOR, UDYOG BHAWAN, EAST GANDHI MAIDAN, PATNA-800 004  
 Website [www.biadabihar.in](http://www.biadabihar.in), Email [biada@rediffmail.com](mailto:biada@rediffmail.com)  
 Phone : 0612-2675998/2675991/2675889(fax)/2675296

**NOTICE INVITING E- RETENDER**  
 Ref: 3944

For Design, Construction, Testing, Commissioning and Supply of all Electromechanical Equipment of 100KLD Sewage Treatment Plant including 5 Years Operation and Maintenance for BIADA Mega Food Park at Motipur, Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

**NIT No. :-05/BIADA/2024-2025 (Through e-procurement mode only-  
[www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in))**

Sl. No.	Description of Items	Date & Time
1	Start Date of Tender	30.07.2024, 10.00 AM
2	Pre-Bid Meeting Date, Time, & Place	01.08.2024, 3.00 PM at BIHAR INDUSTRIAL AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FIRST FLOOR, UDYOG BHAWAN, EAST GANDHI MAIDAN, PATNA-800 004
3	Last Date & Time of submission of Tenders online	12.08.2024 from 05.00 pm
4	Last Date, Time & Place for Submission of Hard Copy of Sealed Tender Documents to BIADA Office	14.08.2024 from 03.00 PM at Technical Section BIHAR INDUSTRIAL AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FIRST FLOOR, UDYOG BHAWAN, EAST GANDHI MAIDAN, PATNA-800 004
5	Technical Bid Opening Date, Time & Place	14.08.2024 from 03.30 PM
6	Financial Bid Opening Date Time Place	After Evaluation of Technical Bid
7	Validity Period of Tender	180 Days

Sl. No.	Estimated Amount	Rate	EMD Money (Rs)	Tender Fees (Rs)	Processing of tender fees online to BSECC	Work Completed on time (in months)
1	Design, Construction, Testing Commissioning and Supply of all Electromechanical Equipment of 100KLD Sewage Treatment Plant including 5 Years Operation and Maintenance for BIADA Mega Food Park at Motipur, Muzaffarpur, Bihar	Rs.1,07,25,822.00	Rs 250 lakhs	11,800.00 (Including 18% GST)	As appears on eproc <a href="https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/">https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/</a>	6 Months

**DGM (Technical) BIADA Patna**  
 PR. No. 004574 (B&C) 2024-25  
 For further details please visit : [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbr](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbr)  
 नया से बदन का है एक ही उपचार, दूढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

# India tests second phase of key ballistic missile defence system

**HT Correspondent**  
 letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Wednesday successfully flight-tested the second phase of India's ballistic missile defence system off the Odisha coast to thwart threats from missiles with a range of 5,000 km, the defence ministry announced.

"The target missile was launched from LC-IV Dhurma (a launch site in Odisha) at 1620 hrs, mimicking (an) adversary ballistic missile, which was detected by weapon system radars deployed on land and sea, and activated the interceptor system," it said in a statement.

India is pursuing its ballistic missile defence programme in two phases - the first phase has been completed while the second is underway for validating intercept systems in a new range category.

"The phase-II AD endo-atmospheric missile" was launched from LC-III at ITR, Chandipur at 1624



**Phase-II 'AD endo-atmospheric missile' was launched from LC-III at ITR, Chandipur.** HT

hrs. The flight test fully met all the trial objectives," it said, adding that the test demonstrated indigenous capability to defend against ballistic missiles of 5000-km class.

The performance of the missile was monitored from the flight data captured by range tracking instruments.

Defence minister Rajnath Singh complimented DRDO for the successful flight test, stating it has again demonstrated India's ballistic missile defence capability.

In April 2023, DRDO and Indian Navy carried out the maiden flight trial of sea-based endo-atmospheric interceptor missile off the coast of Odisha, displaying the country's naval ballistic missile defence capabilities to intercept long-range missiles.

India has made significant advances in developing endo-atmospheric and exo-atmospheric intercept systems to destroy incoming hostile missiles within and outside the atmospheric limits, respectively. The two systems have been integrated for a multi-layered defence against ballistic missiles.

In November 2022, DRDO successfully tested for the first time a long-range interceptor missile, called AD-I, designed for both exo-atmospheric and endo-atmospheric interception of ballistic missiles.

# CANADA'S PROMPT ACTION ON ONLINE THREATS TO PM TRUDEAU IRKS INDIA

**Rezaul H Laskar**  
 letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Action by Canadian authorities against two men for online threats against Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, especially after the failure to act against pro-Khalistan elements targeting Indian diplomats in a similar manner, has led the Indian government to conclude that Ottawa has adopted "double standards".

The action by the Integrated National Security Enforcement Team (INSET) of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) comes at a time when the Indian side has taken up threats by pro-Khalistan leaders and groups against Indian diplomats and political leaders in the form of online posts and banners or posters at public events, only to be told that such matters are covered by Canadian regulations related to freedom of expression.

According to a statement issued by RCMP on Monday, a 67-year-old man from Edmonton is facing three charges under Canada's Criminal Code for allegedly posting threats on YouTube to kill Trudeau, deputy prime minister Chrystia Freeland, and New Democratic Party leader Jagmeet Singh. These threats were reported to INSET on June 7 and the man was charged on June 13.

In a separate case, a 23-year-old man from Calgary was charged on June 6 for allegedly posting threats to kill Trudeau on X. Both men were scheduled to appear in separate courts this week.

People familiar with the matter said on condition of anonymity that Canada's "hypocrisy" regarding freedom of speech had been exposed with two social media users being charged by the Trudeau government for threats against Canadian political leaders.

"We have witnessed Canadian authorities turning deaf ears dozens of times over the last few years to the glorification and celebration of violence against Indian diplomats and political leaders," said an Indian government official who asked not to be named.

Photographs of the Indian Prime Minister, external affairs minister, high commissioner and consuls general have been displayed by pro-Khalistan elements on posters in some parts Canada, along with violent slogans and imagery, the people said.

# 1 year on, FSI yet to release the crucial State of Forest report

**Jayashree Nandi**  
 letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The release of the State of Forest report by the Forest Survey of India has been delayed by more than a year now. The last such report, which is supposed to be released biennially, came out in 2021.

There is speculation that the report will have to factor in certain provisions under the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act of 2023 although Forest Survey of India officials maintain that this isn't the case and that the collection of information took time.

"We want to give information about forest cover in all newly formed districts. Getting boundaries of these districts took some time. The report will be released soon. The report doesn't need to factor the new provisions because the mandate is different," a senior official of Forest Survey of India said on condition of anonymity.

The ministry of environment, forests and climate change did not

**EXPERTS SAID THE REPORTS NEED TO GIVE ACCURATE DETAILS OF 'UNCLASSIFIED' OR 'DEEMED' FORESTS**

respond to HT's queries on when the report would be released, and the causes for the delay.

The FC Amendment Act or the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 2023 which was passed last year exempts unrecorded deemed forests, paving way for their diversion for infrastructure and other projects.

Last year, 11 retired government officials, including some from the forest and environment departments and two environmental activists challenged the new amendment in the Supreme Court. The apex court gave an interim order on February 19 upholding the order of the 1996 Godavarman judgement which

defined forests as per the dictionary meaning of the word irrespective of ownership.

Experts said the State of the Forest reports need to give accurate details of "unclassified" or "deemed" forests in each district as per the state expert committee reports, something which has not been done.

"Deemed forests identified by state expert committees should be reflected in the State of Forest report. While the SEC reports are flawed they also do not have any information on the on-ground identification of unclassified forests. We have also found several discrepancies in the data on unclassified forests in the FSI reports with area changing in different years for different states. This reflects that unclassified or deemed forests haven't been mapped properly..." said Prakriti Srivastava, retired IFS officer who served as the former principal chief conservator of forests (PCCF), Kerala and is one of the petitioners in the ongoing SC case.

**GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR**  
 Office of the Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Jammu

**TENDER DOCUMENT**  
**E-NIT No. :- 17 of 2024-25 Dated: 22.07.2024**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, E-tenders are invited, on item rate basis, in two cover system from Govt. registered/GEM approved OEM's (ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS ONLY) having valid BIS/CM/license for said NB of G.M.S Tubes & have supplied such items in India and possess Satisfactory Performance and excellent track record in the said field, with documentary evidence from Respective Govt./Semi Govt. Departments/PSU/Corporations/State or National level Undertakings for the subject item.

**Subject of supply:**  
 Supply of ISI Marked Galvanized Mild Steel tubes conforming to IS: 1239(Part-1) 2004 Sixth Revision read with up-to-date amendments 95 % quantity of Pipe in length of 6 mtrs. ± 3% and 5% quantity of pipe should be in length 4 to 7 mtrs screwed on both ends as per IS: 554/1990, socketed at one end & other end Protected with plastic protector. The socket conforming to IS: 1239 (Pt.11/1992-4th revision) with amendment No. 1 to 3 and latest as on date as per specifications/details enclosed in Section "IV" to this E-NIT, from Govt. registered/GEM approved OEM's (ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS ONLY) having valid BIS/CM/license for said NB of G.M.S Tubes. The GMS Tubes are required for execution of works under Jal Jeevan Mission in Jammu province of UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

<b>General</b>	
Client Name	Chief Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department Jammu
IFB No.	Tender Notice No. 17 of 2024-25 dated: 22.07.2024
Bidding Type	Open
<b>Amount Details</b>	
Estimated Cost approx	Rs. 335.379 Crore
Bid Document Fee (Non-Refundable)	Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousand only) in the shape of treasury Challan/e-transfer to J&K Bank A/c No. 0097010100002093 (other than Micro and Small Enterprises)
Bid document fee payable in the shape of treasury Challan under major head 0215 or e-transfer to J&K Bank A/c No: 0097010100002093 IFSC: JAKA0TNHAL in favour of Chief Accounts Officer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Jammu	
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 35.00 Lac (Rupees Thirty five Lac Only) (Lump-sum), in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG from nationalized/scheduled banks only having an operational branch in Jammu. The EMD shall be valid for a period of 45 days beyond the final bid validity period (other than Micro and Small Enterprises). (MSEs shall have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form, as per the Annexure-I enclosed, notarized on a Rs. 100.00 Non-Judicial Stamp Paper).
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) pledged to	Chief Accounts Officer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Jammu.
<b>Tender Dates</b>	
Bid Document Downloading Start Date.	22.07.2024 (1800 Hrs.)
Bid Document Downloading End Date	05.

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

HOUSE FACE-OFF

justice in the Union Budget. We are fighting for justice," said Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge.

In the 85-minute budget speech on Tuesday morning, Sitharaman listed several schemes and sops aimed at Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, two states governed by allies Janata Dal (United) and Telugu Desam Party. Sitharaman announced a cluster of projects and packages — roads and highways, airports, flood control, irrigation schemes, tourist hubs, industrial nodes and power projects — totalling roughly ₹59,000 crore for Bihar, which goes to the polls next year.

For Andhra Pradesh, the finance minister announced ₹15,000 crore for the construction of the state capital Amaravati and additional funds if required, completion of the Polavaram dam project and two industrial nodes.

In the Rajya Sabha, Leader of Opposition Kharge said that barring states ruled by NDA members, major provinces received nothing in the budget.

"In the budget presented yesterday, nobody got anything. Everyone's plate was empty and only two plates had pakoda and jalebi. Neither Tamil Nadu, Kerala or Karnataka got anything. Neither Maharashtra or Punjab or Rajasthan or Chhattisgarh. Even Delhi did not receive anything nor did Odisha. I have not seen this kind of budget until now. This budget has been presented only to keep some people happy and to save their chairs," he said.

Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar interrupted him, asking him to let the finance minister respond, but Kharge didn't relent. "Mataji bolne mai toh expert hai mujhe maloom hai (she is an expert in speaking, I am aware of that)."

"I condemn all this. In the states where opposition parties have been elected, you have neglected. You have not provided anything to them. How will development happen if there is no balance? We will protest," he said, before leading the opposition parties in walking out of the House.

After the walk-out, Dhankhar said that democracy will be seriously threatened if disruption and disturbance are weaponised as a political strategy. "Honourable members, discussion on the budget was listed today and I gave the floor to the

Leader of the Opposition in the expectation that rules will be followed. I find it has been used as a ploy and a strategy," he said.

Sitharaman hit back after Kharge left the House. "It is unfortunate that the Opposition, particularly a senior leader, Mallikarjun Kharge, stood up to say what he heard of the budget yesterday...The Congress party has been in power for a very long time in this country and they have presented so many budgets that they would know clearly that in every budget, you don't get an opportunity to name every state of this country," she said.

"I'll take this example: between the vote on account which was presented on February 1 this year and the full budget that was presented yesterday for this year, I have not named very many states. The Cabinet, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, decided to set up a port at Vadhan, but Maharashtra's name was not included in the budget yesterday. Does this mean that Maharashtra feels ignored?" she asked.

In the Rajya Sabha, Chidambaram criticised the government's schemes for job creation — the government announced five schemes with an aggregate spend of around ₹2 lakh crore for roughly 41 million young people — and said picking and choosing states for relief was destroying federalism.

"I don't grudge at all that you are giving relief to Andhra Pradesh, or Bihar, but what about the other states? We are a federal country. This is the death knell of federalism if you pick and choose among states," he said, initiating the discussion in the Upper House.

He also underlined the importance of tackling inflation, he asked if the proposed employment-linked incentive (ELI) was mooted as the existing production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes failed to generate employment, and alleged that Sitharaman lifted the idea from the Congress manifesto.

On Tuesday, the government announced it will pay one month's wage up to ₹15,000 in three instalments to every new person entering the workforce, incentivise employers up to ₹3,000 a month for two years towards their EPFO contribution for new employees, direct incentives to both employer and employee for their EPFO contri-

bution for the first four years, in a bid to propel jobs for young people.

In the Lok Sabha, Banerjee said the budget was "anti-people" and aimed at "appeasing and compensating" NDA partners. "The budget has no vision and agenda. There is no relief to the common people and the budget has neglected 140 crore people of the country," he said.

The government hit back with ruling party benches dismissing the Opposition's allegations.

"I am of the opinion that barring a few sops for allies, its policy priorities suggest no change in the government's approach, and the approach that was there in the interim budget has been magnified in the present one," Mahtab said. "We have a long-term goal to achieve and we have to reach 2047 as Viksit Bharat... Many opposition members have already spoken as if the government of the party in power is totally ruffled because of the (election) results. The government is totally unruffled and is continuing its long-term approach," he said. Deb echoed him, asserting that the NDA will take India to newer heights.

BONJOUR, PARIS

some sort of motto!"

That motto, from the larger Indian perspective on the back of the country's best-ever seven-medal show at Tokyo 2020, would be to match that at least, or better, surpass it. A double-digit medal haul in Paris would be an ideal extension to their "sau paar" (100-plus) Hangzhou Asian Games exploits of last year.

It will, make no mistake, take some doing.

Like it has for the Paris Games to reach this point. The build-up was a tad shaky and a touch political. Snap elections in France, protests against staging the Games, and concerns around the safety of the River Seine, which will not only host some swimming events but also the opening ceremony, have darkened the countdown clock for the first Olympics of a post-Covid world.

The banners and flags, and the increased presence of security give Paris the Olympics feel, though the buzz is yet to fully resonate across the French capital. On most streets, it's business as usual, and a fair share of Parisians (known, after all, to be grumpier than most) say they would

rather leave the city for these two weeks. A dedicated traffic lane for Games-specific vehicles has frustrated the city's cabbies.

Even as the finishing touches are still being applied along the Seine for the opening ceremony, a college-going volunteer says reassuringly that it will work out just fine. "Here in Paris, things take some time," he said, smiling.

Almost none of Olympics set-up has been built from scratch for these Games. From venues to the Village, refining, repackaging and repurposing have been the buzzwords to go with the larger green theme of Paris 2024. Of the 35 venues put into action, from those in the heart of Paris to faraway cities of Marseille and Chateauroux, a majority were either pre-existing or are temporary.

The Yves-du-Manoir Stadium, in which Sreejesh and his team mates trained on Wednesday, for instance, wears the rare badge of honour of playing host twice in Olympic history. In 1924, it stood witness to the glitz of the opening ceremony and speed of the Flying Finn (Paavo Nurmi swept to five gold medals in that edition) during the athletics events. A century on, slick dribbles and ferocious flicks will be on show here.

Some of Paris's most iconic structures will also be in play. Beach volleyball will be held by the Eiffel Tower, and equestrian events will take place at the Palace Versailles.

The Aquatics Centre hosting artistic swimming, diving and water polo is the only permanent structure built specifically for Paris 2024. In the summer of 2025, however, the 6,000-seat facility will become a massive multi-sports facility open to all in the neighbourhood.

The green carpet extends to the design of the athletes Village, erected across three communes. The 54-hectare space, which holds 82 buildings, will turn into office spaces and homes for thousands of people post the Olympics and Paralympics.

Then, some existing structures have been revamped. The Halle Maxwell, a large gymnasium stacked with over 350 pieces of equipment for athletes to use inside the Village, is at a site that was an industrial hub which pumped in electricity to the heart of the city in the 20th century. And the Cite du Cin-

ema, a film studio founded by auteur Luc Besson, is now used as a training ground within the Village for weightlifters, wrestlers and fencers.

So, as real life makes way for drama in real life, this connection sums up the look and feel of the Paris Olympics. The city of art, culture and love is decorated with a distinctly sporting makeup. And, within it's glorious confines, India will look to paint the town rouge.

TRUST DEFICIT

committee while ordering a status quo for a week on protests at the Shambhu border near Ambala, where farmers have been camping since February 13 with border sealed.

"We have impressed upon the parties to have instructions regarding the constitution of an independent committee, comprising such eminent persons who can reach out to farmers and other stakeholders, in order to find out viable solution to their demands that can be fair, just and in the interests of one and all. The states of Punjab and Haryana can suggest some names or else they can leave it to us to find out some suitable persons," the court order recorded. It will hear the matter again after a week.

During the hearing, the bench made several critical observations. "You have to take some initiatives to reach out to farmers. Why would they otherwise want to come to Delhi or agitate? You are sending ministers from here and despite their best intentions, there is a trust deficit. They will think you are only thinking about self-interests and ignoring local issues," the bench, also comprising justices Dipankar Datta and Ujjal Bhuyan, told solicitor general Tushar Mehta.

In February, the Haryana government set up barricades on the Ambala-New Delhi national highway in response to a march announced by the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha. The march aimed to push various demands, including a legal guarantee of MSP for crops. The barricades were a preventive measure, anticipating the large-scale movement of farmers towards the national capital.

The Supreme Court was hearing a plea by the Haryana government challenging a March 7 Punjab and Haryana high court decision. The high

court had set up a committee headed by a former high court judge to probe the death of farmer Shubhakaran Singh during a clash between protesting farmers and Haryana security personnel in February. The apex court refused to stay the high court's order on April 1. Last week, the Haryana government filed another petition challenging the Punjab and Haryana high court's July 10 order directing the opening of the highway within seven days. Seeking a stay of the high court's order on removing the barricades at the Shambhu border, SG Mehta, representing the Haryana government, expressed concerns about the farmers' protest tactics. He described the presence of 500 to 600 trolleys converted into what he termed "warlike armoured tanks" at the border.

Responding, the bench questioned the necessity of such measures and urged the SG to make efforts to reach out to the farmers. Mehta reiterated the government's position that the farmers' demand to enter Delhi with tractors and trolleys posed a law and order risk.

However, the bench pointed out the existing trust deficit, suggesting the involvement of neutral mediators. "As a welfare state, you have to make efforts. Some of the demands could be genuine, some may not be acceptable. Some neutral persons, who could communicate when they are wrong and when they are right, are needed," it remarked.

It went on to add that a state cannot block a national highway indefinitely. "You also can't block a national highway for all times to come. It's been almost a year. Various high court orders have said you can't block national highways...it's a case of deep trust deficit," the court told Mehta.

Mehta replied that pertinent regulations prohibit tractors and JCBs from plying on the national highways. "They protested earlier too, and the Centre withdrew the three farm laws. They are protesting again now. We have the apprehension that some untoward incident can take place. Even as an experimental basis, we can't take chances when it's about law and order. JCBs and tractors have been converted into virtual war tanks," said Mehta, adducing some photographs.

But the bench retorted asking if his statement was an "exag-

eration". "Some of them also use such vehicles in farming...They will have to stay somewhere if there is rain," it observed.

While the SG replied that he had no quarrel where the farmers stayed, including "air-conditioned rooms", the court lamented that his statement may be emblematic of the existing trust deficit between the government and farmers. "This is how trust deficit happens. Your argument shows there is a trust deficit," it said.

During the proceedings, the bench also sought the views of the Punjab government. Represented through advocate general Gurminder Singh, the state supported the high court's order on opening the Shambhu border, subject to relevant regulations. Singh said that the highway blockade is resulting in huge ramifications for Punjab economically.

Responding, Mehta said that if the Punjab government was willing to open the borders on their side, Haryana would also do so.

The court, however, stressed the need for dialogue and mutual trust in resolving contentious issues. "We do not want a fight between Punjab and Haryana... We are proposing a committee to reach out to farmers with consensus of states and the Union of India...to talk to them, get their viewpoints, know and tell them where they are right and wrong," it said.

The court ordered the Centre and the states to come back with their suggestions within a week. Until then, both Punjab and Haryana are to maintain the status quo at the Shambhu border.

Singh, 21, a native of Bathinda, was killed and several police personnel were injured in clashes at Khanauri on the Punjab-Haryana border on February 21. The incident occurred when some protesting farmers tried to move towards barricades at the border and were stopped by security personnel from marching to Delhi.

KUPWARA

Dilwar Khan, succumbed to his injuries.

"All Ranks of the Chinar Corps salute the supreme sacrifice of our Braveheart Nk (Gnr) Dilwar Khan who laid down his life in the line of duty. Chinar Warriors salute his immense valour and sacrifice, express deepest condolence and stand in

solidarity with the bereaved family, Chinar Corps said in another post.

The Trimukha forest area connects Lolab with Bandipora and Baramulla districts and is often used by terrorists to sneak from one district to another after infiltrating from across the Line of Control (LoC), people aware of the matter said.

The Kupwara encounter broke out days after the army foiled an infiltration bid in the Keran sector of Kashmir and killed two terrorists. On July 7, security forces killed six militants in two separate gunfights in south Kashmir's Kulgam district, a day after two soldiers were killed in the separate anti-terrorist operations.

This was the third gunfight between forces and extremists in Kupwara in a month. This year, 28 terrorists and three defence personnel have died in separate gunfights in Kashmir. In Jammu, 28 people, including 12 security personnel and five terrorists, have been killed in terror strikes and gunbattles this year.

The terror attacks have put J&K on alert and prompted the country's political and defence brass to review the security situation in the UT. Last Thursday, the increase in terrorist activities was discussed at a meeting of the crucial Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi. On Saturday, army chief General Upendra Dwivedi held a meeting with top officers of paramilitary forces, intelligence agencies, and Jammu & Kashmir Police in Jammu as he took stock of the situation on the ground.

Jammu and Kashmir lieutenant governor (LG) Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that those trying to disrupt the peace in the region will be given a befitting reply.

"Those who cannot digest [peace in the region] should be [ready] for their end. People here have given a befitting response to them before also. The situation demands it. I think the situation will be back to normal again in a few months," he said.

Minister of state (MoS) for home affairs Nityanand Rai said the government will take strict action against the terrorists. "Modi government has zero tolerance for terrorism. We will end terrorism. They [terrorists] will be either in jail or jahannum (hell)... I want to assure the House," Rai said in the Rajya Sabha.

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## OPINION

The  
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{ OUR TAKE }

## NEET verdict is not a clean chit

The apex court may have stopped short of ordering a retest, but the gaps highlighted in the hearing should force a review of NEET

Authorities in the central government and the National Testing Agency (NTA) might be tempted to rest easy after the Supreme Court refrained from ordering a retest of the undergraduate edition of this year's National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET). The court rejected multiple petitions demanding a NEET-UG 2024 retest because of alleged paper leaks and other malpractices, underlining that the material on record did not show any "systemic breach" that vitiated the exam's sanctity. "At this stage, there is an absence of material on record to lead to the conclusion that the result of the exam is vitiated or that there is a systemic breach of the sanctity of the exam... Data on record is not indicative of a systemic leak of the question paper, which would indicate a disruption of the sanctity of the exam," held the bench, headed by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud and comprising justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra.

This would be a mistake. The futures of 2.4 million NEET candidates may have weighed on the minds of the judges who found no conclusive proof of a widespread leak. But the hearings in the court and a string of revelations by the media, Bihar Police and the Central Bureau of Investigation have underscored a pattern of malpractice and flouting of norms that allowed several localised leaks, benefitting scores of students. In addition, NTA and the ministry faced further embarrassment when their decision to award marks to two options for a physics question was reversed by an expert panel — set up by the court — which found that contrary to NTA's finding, only one option was correct.

The conclusion of the case only indicates that there is no conclusive proof of a widespread leak, but after confirmed leaks at least two places, and the unearthing of organised groups called solvers, there is enough to suggest that the system needs a complete overhaul.

The top court's decision draws the curtain on this year's NEET imbroglio. The authorities have got off lightly. But they must refine the process before the next edition of the exam, conduct a thorough and transparent review to plug the gaps, and implement fixes as quickly as possible, including in other upcoming examinations such as UGC-NET. It cannot be business as usual.

## Need for pragmatism, not ad hocism, on GM

A two-judge bench of the Supreme Court delivered a split decision on the environmental release of indigenously developed genetically modified (GM) mustard but was unanimous on India's need for a national policy on bio-safety protocols for genetically modified organisms. This should serve as yet another reminder to the government of the need for well-considered pragmatism on GM crops. A deep suspicion of GM crops has thrived in India alongside the rising need to turn to technological solutions, including genetic modification, to ensure agricultural productivity and nutrition security as the climate crisis unfolds.

The government's — present and past dispensations alike — hesitations have contributed the most to this. To be sure, GM crops must be assessed for bio-safety and other impacts, and each prospect must be reviewed carefully before being permitted. But this shouldn't mean ad hocism in the overall approach towards the technology. To illustrate, even as Bt brinjal and other edible GM crops have not been approved in India, the country's food safety regulator, in its reply to an RTI query last year, was unable to give a definitive answer on whether imported fresh produce sold in India was GM-free or not. A similar situation likely prevails for processed foods despite the regulator's labelling norms, since establishing the provenance of ingredients such as plant-origin oils remains difficult.

The country needs a scientific approach to GM crops and food products, with a robust policy focussed on the rigour of monitoring and bio-safety assessment. The court has set a four-month timeline for the Union government to consult stakeholders including scientists, farmers, and state governments, and draft a national GM safety policy. It would serve the nation better to have the needed framework to ascertain safety rather than continuing with an on-paper GM-sceptic approach.

## Labour's FTA zeal may hit India's labour wall

India has insisted labour standards can't be enforced on it through FTA whereas the UK's Labour Party government won't likely deviate from the country's historical condition that partner nations must ratify ILO standards

The electoral shift in the United Kingdom (UK), which brought the Labour Party back to power after 14 years, has triggered intense speculation about the likely trajectory of the India-UK economic ties under the Keir Starmer government. Attention, in particular, has been focused on the future of the free trade agreement (FTA) that India and the UK have been negotiating since 2021. So far, there have been encouraging signs of the Labour Party siding with continuity in the policies initiated by the Conservative government. Labour gave these signals in its election manifesto, stating that it was committed to "seek a new strategic partnership with India, including a free trade agreement". While this seems to suggest that the Starmer government would be keen to ink the trade deal with India at the earliest, it is important to pay some attention to the details in the Labour Party's election manifesto, as well as

the legacy issues to understand the reality and be able to visualise the larger backdrop that would govern progress here.

India-UK economic relations reached a high during Boris Johnson's premiership, which culminated in the agreement between the leaders of the two countries in 2021, to launch an Enhanced Trade Partnership (ETP). An important component of the ETP was the intent to negotiate a comprehensive FTA that would help double bilateral trade by 2030. The leaders of both countries agreed to remove trade barriers "through a balanced and beneficial market access package under the ETP" that would include "agriculture, health care, education, legal services, seafarers, marine, health care, and social security".

One of the key priorities for India in its bilateral FTAs thus far has been temporary movement of people — short-duration migration to the partner countries for taking up jobs, which in WTO-speak is known as "Mode 4". On the other hand, the UK, in all the FTAs it has signed thus far, has insisted that its partner countries must ratify and enforce fully all the Fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO). The relevant provisions are included in a standalone chapter on "labour".

On the labour question, two important developments had taken place even before the FTA negotiations commenced. In what was a decidedly positive augury for India, the two countries agreed to "implement the comprehensive Migration and Mobil-

ity Partnership covering movement of students and professionals as well as irregular migration keeping in view the UK's new skills based immigration policy". This agreement included a young professionals scheme that would allow 3,000 young Indians to travel to the UK every year.

The second development posed several piquant questions to India. These emerged through the process of consultations that the UK's department of international trade had initiated with a wide range of domestic stakeholders, seeking help to "craft a deal that boosts economic growth creating high-value jobs across the country". The issue of labour standards figured prominently with the stakeholders insisting on the need to ensure that the "labour chapter [in the FTA] does not weaken or reduce the level of protection afforded by labour laws in order to encourage trade or investment". Stakeholders were concerned over the differences between the two countries in labour standards in domestic laws as well as on the enforcement mechanisms, and the potential impact that these differences could have on "workers and business, particularly with regards to open and fair competition". Importantly, the UK government supported the high priority that the stakeholders had accorded to safeguarding labour rights, pledging not only to not compromise on its position but also to ensure that its trade partner reaffirms its "commitment to international labour protections".

The UK and India have long differed on this issue on two counts. First, India has always insisted that labour standards cannot be enforced through trade agreements — in other words, trade agreements cannot be given the authority to dictate to it the ideals of labour laws. Secondly, and following from the above, India has insisted that it would continue to exercise independence while defining labour rights. In keeping with this stand, India had chosen not to ratify the ILO Fundamental Conventions on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (C087) and Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (C098). India has consistently argued that the ratification of these Conventions would imply granting of certain rights that are prohibited under the statutory rules for government employees, namely, to strike work, to openly criticise government policies, to freely accept financial contribution and to freely join foreign organisations, among others. With the Starmer government insisting on continuity, it would have to be seen how these existing differences between the two governments on the question of India ratifying ILO Conventions C087 and C098 are addressed.



Given the UK and India's entrenched positions, it is clear that no less than an intervention from the top leadership will be required to settle differences

As mentioned earlier, India's inter-

est in enabling temporary movement (temporary) of its people through the FTA seemed to have resonated well with the UK's Conservative government while it was in power, especially through the MoU on Migration and Mobility Partnership. In contrast, the Labour Party seems to have sounded a discordant note on this issue in its election manifesto. The Party argued that "under the Conservatives, [the UK] economy" had become overly dependent on workers from abroad to fill skills shortages as the level of net migration was more than three times higher than that in 2019. The Party emphasised that the overall level of migration must be properly controlled and managed since failure to do so reduces the incentives for businesses to train locally and it would therefore strive to reduce net migration. Given their entrenched positions, it is clear that no less than an intervention from the top leadership will be required to settle the differences between the two countries on labour rights in India or the movement of labour from India to the UK.

Biswajit Dhar is distinguished professor, Council for Social Development, and retired professor, JNU. The views expressed are personal



Biswajit Dhar

## What it takes to build a lasting university brand

At the heart of every institution lies a profound responsibility — to shape minds and the futures of generations. A university brand is not merely a logo and a tagline on a brochure. It is about crafting a legacy, creating a sense of belonging, and instilling a culture of excellence. It is a promise to a multitude of stakeholders. Students and parents prioritise career outcomes. Faculty need an environment that fosters intellectual freedom and research opportunities while staff seek a workplace that values their contributions. Recruiters seek graduates with the right skill set. Donors and grant-makers need reassurance that their resources are being used efficiently and effectively to create positive change.

A strong university brand speaks to the specific needs and aspirations of all these stakeholders. "You can trust us with your future" is what it tells students and their parents. "You can trust us with your resources," it tells its donors. "You can trust us with your time, talent and future," it tells its faculty, staff and recruiters.

These are not empty promises. So, building a strong university must start by defining "Who are we?" And this goes beyond brick-and-mortar facilities and historical anecdotes. A strong university brand is built on the very essence of the institution, its core values and the educational philosophy that guides it. Is the university a bastion of rigorous liberal arts, or does it champion professional specialisation? Does it prioritise ground-breaking research or immersive experiential learning? The brand clearly articulates the tenets on which the university has built its reputation.

Both students and faculty need a guarantee of quality education. A valued brand ensures that the university has passionate educators who are leaders in their fields, actively engaged in research and committed to nurturing young minds. There is evidence of strong peer-reviewed research outputs that demonstrate the institution's intellectual rigour and its contribution to global knowledge. Beyond these metrics, it ensures a relentless pursuit of academic excellence fostering a culture of inquiry and discovery that benefits all stakeholders.

A university brand must also reflect the outcomes it generates. What kind of graduates does it produce? Are they critical thinkers, adaptable and well-rounded individuals equipped to tackle the challenges of the 21st century? Do they possess the communication skills and global perspective coveted by employers? Measuring and highlighting successful alumni careers, post-graduation fellowships and innovative student initiatives become testaments to the institution's transformative effect.

Universities have a responsibility to be inclusive and equitable. The opportunities are endless: Commitments of merit and need-based scholarship programmes catering to learners from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, investment in accessibility that promises a safe, nurturing environment — ranging from infrastructure for different mobilities, assistive technologies addressing diverse learning styles and needs, tailored

tutoring, counselling services and even peer support networks.

The truth is prioritising all of these opportunities plays an important role in building the brand. Building a university on these standards with the promise of a learning environment rich in diverse perspectives only strengthens the institutional identity.

Trust in a university brand extends beyond the present. Students and parents want to know that their investment is secure and that the institution they choose will be a force for good for years to come. A sound financial footing, strategic planning and a commitment to continuous improvement demonstrate the university's long-term vision. Alumni, too, want to be associated with a brand that continues to break new ground and uphold its values. A flourishing alumni network speaks volumes about the enduring impact that the university has on the lives of its students.

Ashoka University, for example, recognises the increasing need for interdisciplinary learning so it is actively fostering collaborations across departments and centres, encouraging students to tackle complex problems through diverse lenses. This commitment to continuous improvement ensures that the brand remains relevant and attractive to future generations. It also wants to build a community of leaders who can foster excellence across all walks of life — from the corporate sector to academia to the social sector and the creative arts.

Rankings and accolades hold value, but a university brand cannot solely rely on external validation. Success also lies in showcasing a unique learning environment that empowers students to become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

Universities have a wealth of stories waiting to be told. The narrative of passionate faculty members inspiring the next generation of thinkers, the journey of a student from shy freshman to confident leader, and the pioneering research that tackles a global challenge — these are the lifeblood of a university brand.

By proactively crafting a compelling narrative and then actively sharing these stories through various platforms, universities can connect with diverse audiences, fostering trust and a sense of community. These stories become living endorsements, showcasing the unique value proposition a university offers.

Ultimately, a strong university brand is an embodiment of the pledges made to all its stakeholders. It includes the promise of quality education to students, the assurance offered to parents, the vision shared with faculty and staff, the value proposition presented to recruiters, the legacy it offers to alumni and the commitment demonstrated to donors.

Universities with well-defined brands become magnets for talent, catalysts for innovation, and beacons of hope for a better future.

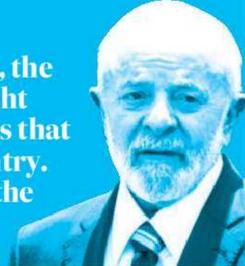
Pramath Raj Sinha is founder and trustee at Ashoka University. He is also the founder and managing director of the 9.9 Group. The views expressed are personal



Pramath Raj Sinha

{ LULA DA SILVA } BRAZIL'S PRESIDENT

The fight against inequality, the fight against hunger, the fight against poverty are all fights that cannot be done by one country. It has to be done by all the countries



## Budget leans on resilience, paves path for Viksit Bharat

Budget 2024 is a significant milestone in India's journey towards becoming a developed nation, or Viksit Bharat, by 2047. It builds on the resilience established over the last two terms of the government led by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi. The Economic Survey clearly laid out how the economy is on a strong footing while identifying challenges. Finance minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman has skillfully navigated these important aspects of the economy. Despite the Opposition's political reservations, it is evident that the provisions in this budget are far-reaching and transformative. The primary focus is on employment generation, support to the middle class, agriculture growth, MSMEs and urban infrastructure development. The budget also talks about next-generation reforms and improving factors of production.

We have to keep in mind that budget announcements are based on the demand of the Union ministries and the states and the assessment of their requirements by the finance ministry. These allocations can be increased during the year. Also, states not mentioned in the speech still get their due under the schemes.

Employment generation is a critical area. The budget ensures that job creation is directly and indirectly supported. The introduction of an internship programme for 10 million youth at 500 top corporations, financed and supported by the government, is a notable initiative. It is designed to bridge the gap between education and industry requirements. Support for first-time employees through the first month's salary being paid by the government and Provident Fund (PF) and National Pension System (NPS) contributions are welcome steps. Upgrading of the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and training two million youth will further empower the workforce, including women workers.

The FM has also focused on the MSME sector with enhanced credit guarantees, reworking the Non-Performing Assets (NPA) identification process, and raising the Mudra loan limit to ₹20 lakh. Most importantly, the credit assessment model has been improved to ensure that deserving enterprises receive the necessary financial support. The manufacturing sector will benefit significantly from the allocation of ₹1 lakh crore for innovation and research, as well as funds for start-ups. The abolition of the angel tax, a major demand of start-ups, will bring a new line of capital investment, fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

The budget also provides much-needed tax relief to the middle class. The increase in the standard deduction limit and reduced tax rates across all slabs will provide respite to millions of households. This demography will also benefit from infrastructure development, with an impressive allocation of ₹11.1 lakh crore aimed at enhancing the ease of living.

Agriculture and the rural population have received special attention. The government has allocated funds for the construction of 30 million new houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. These initiatives aim to improve living conditions and provide much-needed relief to rural communities. The government's exemplary work in delivering social welfare through digital infrastructure is evident in this budget. The Viksit Bharat vision entails welfare schemes reaching every section of the population. The allocation to the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and the initiation of the Janjatiya Unnat Abhiyan are steps towards achieving saturation in tribal villages.

The budget also emphasises sectors such as tourism, energy, urban development, manufacturing and support for women and youth empowerment. Each of these areas has found a place in the budget, with targeted initiatives aimed at boosting growth and improving the standard of living. The comprehensive approach ensures that every segment of society benefits from the nation's progress.

Innovation and research are key components of this budget, with substantial funds allocated to foster a culture of creativity and technological advancement. Next-generation reforms, including a new economic policy framework, new tax levies, and easing of tax compliance, have been thoughtfully implemented. These measures aim to improve overall productivity, creating a more efficient and competitive economy.

In conclusion, the budget is a significant step towards building Viksit Bharat. It lays a solid foundation for a prosperous and resilient economy where all segments of society are taken care of. The government's focus on employment generation, infrastructure development, and social welfare is commendable. Together, we will build a prosperous and resilient India, ensuring that every citizen benefits from the nation's progress.



Gopal Krishna Agarwal

Gopal Krishna Agarwal is national spokesperson of the Bharatiya Janata Party on economic affairs. The views expressed are personal

# Nepal's plane crash leaves 18 dead, pilot sole survivor

The cause of the accident remained unclear and Nepali authorities have started an inquiry into the incident

Agencies  
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**KATHMANDU:** A passenger plane crashed and exploded in flames minutes after take-off in Kathmandu on Wednesday, killing 18 people, even as the pilot was rescued from the raging inferno that consumed the aircraft.

The Saurya Airlines flight was carrying two crew and 17 staff members, Nepali police spokespeople said, adding that the plane was headed to Pokhara for regular maintenance service when the accident took place at 11.11am local time (10.56am IST).

The cause of the accident remained unclear and Nepali authorities kicked off an investigation into the incident.

A statement from the Kathmandu airport said the aircraft, a 50-seater CRJ-200ER, "veered off to the right and crashed on the east of the runway" shortly after take-off.

"One injured person (Captain Manish Ratna Shakya) was rescued and taken to the hospital, and 18 people were found dead," said a separate statement by Nepal's civil aviation authority.

The crash again focused attention on the poor air safety record of the landlocked Himalayan country, which is heavily dependent on air connectivity due to its limited road network.

Nearly 360 people have died in plane or helicopter crashes in the country since 2000. At least 72 people were killed in a Yeti Airlines crash in January 2023 that was attributed to the pilots mistakenly cutting off power.

In 2019, a Bangladeshi airliner crashed at Tribhuvan airport, killing 51 people while 20

## Mountainous Nepal and air crashes

In Nepal, several airlines fly to airports in remote hills and mountains shrouded in clouds and cut off from roads.

**What do we know so far?**  
18 Killed | 1 Survived | 50 Capacity

- A Saurya Airlines flight crashed during takeoff from Kathmandu Airport, killing 18 people. The 18 people were among 19 airline employees on board, with the plane heading to Pokhara for maintenance.
- One of the passengers on the flight was from Yemen with the rest from Nepal. The crash happened after the tip of one of the plane's wings hit the ground during takeoff at Tribhuvan International Airport.
- The aircraft crashed at 11:11am, the aviation authority said.

**Pilot was lone survivor in the crash**



on board survived. An investigation confirmed the plane was misaligned with the runway and its pilot was disoriented and tried to land in "sheer desperation" when the plane crashed.

In 2015, a Turkish Airlines jet landing in dense fog skidded off a slippery runway at the airport. The plane was carrying 238 people but there were no serious injuries.

Prime minister KP Sharma Oli, who took charge last week, visited the crash site and asked

people to "be patient" in a social media post, without elaborating.

Videos posted online showed the plane being enveloped in fire and smoke. Fire engines and ambulances were rushed to the spot after the incident.

Of the deceased, 15 died on the spot while three died during treatment at a local hospital, authorities said.

Shakya, 37, is being treated at Kathmandu Medical Hospital.

According to Tribhuvan

International Airport chief Jagannath Niraula, the plane turned in the wrong direction.

"As soon as it took off, it turned right instead of turning left," Niraula was quoted as saying by BBC News Nepali.

However, "the cause of the accident has not been revealed yet," he said.

The Kathmandu airport, the main airport serving Nepal, is inside a valley surrounded by mountains that make take-offs and landings challenging for

pilots. The airport is right next to the city, and is surrounded by houses and neighbourhoods.

The bodies were taken to the T.U. Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu for autopsy. The airline manifest showed there were two pilots and 17 passengers on board.

Grieving relatives gathered at the hospital forensics department to collect the bodies of their loved ones, though they are not likely to be released for a day or two.

## { U.S. PRESIDENTIAL POLLS }

# Kamala Harris says 'choice between freedom, chaos'

Agencies

letters@hindustantimes.com

**WEST ALLIS, WISCONSIN:** A roaring crowd of battleground state voters greeted Vice-President Kamala Harris on Tuesday as she opened her public case against Republican former President Donald Trump by declaring November's election will be "a choice between freedom and chaos".

"In this campaign, I promise you, I will proudly put my record against his any day of the week," Harris said. "We believe in a future where every person has the opportunity not just to get by, but to get ahead."

Harris arrived in the Milwaukee area having locked up nomination support from Democratic delegates after President Joe Biden dropped his re-election bid on Sunday. It was her first campaign rally since she jumped into the race just two days ago with Biden's endorsement.

The event reflected a vibrancy that had been lacking among Democrats in recent weeks, and Harris was intent on projecting a sense of steady confidence about the November election. She's pulled in \$100 million in donations since Sunday afternoon and on Tuesday picked up the backing of more Democratic officials and political groups, including congressional leaders Charles Schumer and Hakeem Jeffries.

Harris led Trump 44% to 42% among registered voters in the national Reuters/Ipsos poll,



**US Vice-President and Democratic Presidential candidate Kamala Harris speaks at West Allis Central High School during her first campaign rally in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Tuesday.** AFP

conducted on Monday and Tuesday after Biden dropped out of the contest on Sunday and endorsed Harris as his successor.

By stopping in Wisconsin, Harris was putting down a marker in one of the "blue wall" states along with Michigan and Pennsylvania that Democrats see as essential for securing a presidential victory.

The visit comes a week after the Republican National Convention wrapped up in the city and as Harris works to sharpen her message against the GOP nominee with just over 100 days until Election Day.

Harris' trip to the state was a sharp contrast to Biden's July 6 visit, when he was trying to

reassure Democrats who were wary after his troubling performance in the June 27 debate against Trump. Sen. Tammy Baldwin, who is up for re-election this year, had skipped the Biden event, but she spoke before Harris on Tuesday.

Harris is leaning into her resume as a former district attorney and California attorney general, seeking to draw a contrast with Trump who is the first former president to be convicted of felony crimes.

"She's prepared to meet this moment because she was professionally trained to prosecute a criminal, and unfortunately that's who the Republicans have put forward," said Sen. Laphonza Butler, D-Calif.

## How Harris brought fun back to election, and young back to her party

Prashant Jha

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**WASHINGTON:** She is the brat. She has redefined coconut in the zeitgeist. She can dance. The pop stars love her. She has her own online fan base. And the young are lapping it up.

As Van Jones, a CNN commentator put it, Kamala Harris has gone from cringe to cool. In the world of memes, her statements, often divorced from the context, and her laughter, often due to misogyny, evoked derision. Now, her one-liners are seen as funny and wise, and her full-throated laugh is seen as a sign of strong and expressive women who can be themselves.

And in that lies the story of not just the rapid and remarkable turnaround in Harris's image, but a possible turnaround in the fortunes of the Democrats among the young. In a memo on Wednesday, the Harris campaign chair Jennifer O'Malley Dillon claimed that the presumptive Democratic nominee led Donald Trump among younger voters by 25 points and that a preliminary survey had shown the intent of college students to vote increased the highest in this election cycle after Harris entered the race. Remember, this is the demographic that propelled Joe Biden to a victory in 2020 and increasingly turned away from him, both due to his age and American support for Israel's war in Gaza.

The turning point was singer Charli XCX's endorsement on X, "kamala is brat". The post, referring to the singer's last album released this summer, went viral, the aesthetics of the album cover

formed the backdrop of Harris's campaign handle, and US media outlets devoted prime time to understanding what it really meant.

As the singer, whose mother incidentally is of Gujarati descent, explained, "You're just like that girl who is a little messy and likes to party and maybe says some dumb things sometimes. Who feels like herself but maybe also has a breakdown. But kind of like parties through it, is very honest, very blunt. A little bit volatile. Like, does dumb things. But it's brat. You're brat. That's brat."

And Harris owned it, and with it, she showed grace and a willingness to laugh at herself. KHive, the name for online fan following that dates back to her days in the Senate and her first presidential run in 2020, reappeared. And this fan base is "coconut piller".

That reference owes its origin to a speech Harris was making at White House last year. Explaining that everyone operated in a context, Harris had then said, "My mother would give us a hard time sometimes, and she would say to us, 'I don't know what's wrong with you young people. You think you just fell out of a coconut tree? You exist in the context of all in which you live and what came before you."

To many young voters, the election between an 81-year-old incumbent who they saw as disconnected from their reality and a part of the old establishment versus a 78-year-old ex-president whose politics of nativism they detested was depressing. Harris appears to have brought fun back to contest, and with it, the young back to politics and her party.



**Thomas Matthew Crooks** AFP

## 'TRUMP RALLY GUNMAN LOOKED ONLINE FOR INFO ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION'

Associated Press

letters@hindustantimes.com

**WASHINGTON:** FBI director Christopher Wray told lawmakers on Wednesday that a laptop tied to the Trump rally gunman included a Google search of "How far away was Oswald from Kennedy?"

That is a reference to Lee Harvey Oswald, the shooter who killed President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

The Google search, apparently by rally gunman Thomas Matthew Crooks, was done on July 6, a week before the shooting of Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump in Butler, Pennsylvania.

Wray disclosed the new details in a hearing before the House Judiciary Committee.

Wray's testimony before the House Judiciary Committee represents his most detailed comments to date about the July 13 shooting in Butler, Pennsylvania.



**US House Speaker Mike Johnson (top left), Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu and Senator Ben Cardin (top right) during a joint meeting of Congress at the US Capitol in Washington, DC on Wednesday.** BLOOMBERG

## Israeli prime minister seeks support for Gaza war in Congress speech

Associated Press

letters@hindustantimes.com

**WASHINGTON:** Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sought to bolster US support for his country's fight against Hamas and other Iran-backed armed groups in a speech to Congress on Wednesday that sparked boycotts by some top Democrats and drew thousands of protesters to the Capitol to condemn the war in Gaza and the humanitarian crisis it has created.

"America and Israel must stand together," said Netanyahu, who wore a yellow pin expressing solidarity with the Israeli hostages held by Hamas. "When we stand together something really great happens: we win, they lose."

With criticism against him rising in Israel, too, Netanyahu also aims to portray himself as a statesman respected by Israel's most important ally. That task is complicated by Americans' increasingly divided views on Israel and the war, which has emerged as a key issue in the US presidential election.

Tall steel barriers ringed the Capitol on Wednesday, and police deployed pepper spray as thousands of protesters rallied near the Capitol, denouncing Netanyahu as a "war criminal" and calling for a ceasefire.

Netanyahu received a warm welcome from House Speaker Mike Johnson and other Republican lawmakers who arranged his speech in the House chamber. "Today and every day, America must stand shoulder to shoulder with Israel," Johnson said shortly before Netanyahu began speaking. He received a bipartisan standing ovation.

Noa Argamani, an Israeli hostage who was freed in a rescue mission in Gaza, was in attendance. The appearance makes Netanyahu the first foreign leader to address a joint meeting of Congress four times, surpassing Winston Churchill.

More than 50 Democrats and political independent Bernie Sanders boycotted Netanyahu's speech. The most notable absence was right behind him: Vice-President Kamala Harris, who serves as president of the Senate, said a long-scheduled trip kept her from attending.

The next Democrat in line, Sen. Patty Murray of Washington, declined to attend, so Sen. Ben Cardin, the chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, served as "senator pro tempore" in place of her.

Netanyahu is scheduled to meet with President Joe Biden and Harris on Thursday, and with Donald Trump at Mar-a-Lago on Friday.

## Salman Rushdie attacker charged with supporting terrorist group

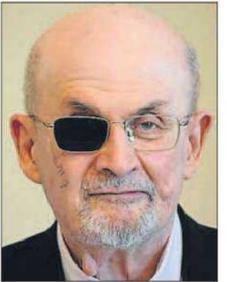
Associated Press

letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW YORK:** A man who severely injured author Salman Rushdie in a frenzied knife attack in western New York faces a new charge that he supported a terrorist group.

An indictment unsealed in US District Court in Buffalo on Wednesday charges Hadi Matar with providing material support to Hezbollah, a militant group based in Lebanon and backed by Iran. The indictment didn't detail what evidence linked Matar to the group.

The federal charge comes after Matar earlier this month rejected an offer by state prosecutors to recommend a shorter prison sentence if he agreed to plead guilty in Chautauque County Court, where he is charged with attempted murder and assault. The agreement also would have required him to plead guilty to a federal terrorism-related charge, which hadn't been filed yet at the time.



**Salman Rushdie** AFP

Instead, both cases will now proceed to trial separately. Jury selection in the state case is set for October 15. Matar's lawyer, Nathaniel Barone, didn't immediately return a phone message seeking comment.

Matar, 26, has been held without bail since the 2022 attack, during which he stabbed Rushdie more than a dozen times as the acclaimed writer was onstage about to give a lec-

ture at the Chautauque Institution. Knife wounds blinded Rushdie in one eye. The event moderator, Henry Reese, was also wounded.

Rushdie detailed the attack and his long and painful recovery in a memoir published in April.

The author spent years in hiding after the Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran issued a fatwa, or edict, in 1989 calling for Rushdie's death over his novel "The Satanic Verses". Khomeini considered the book blasphemous. Rushdie re-emerged into the public the late 1990s.

Matar was born in the US but holds dual citizenship in Lebanon, where his parents were born. He lived in New Jersey prior to the attack. His mother has said that her son became withdrawn and moody after he visited his father in Lebanon in 2018. The attack raised questions about whether Rushdie had gotten proper security protection, given that he is still the subject of death threats.

## OPEN TO TALKS IF MOSCOW ACTS IN GOOD FAITH: UKRAINE TO CHINA

BEIJING/KYIV:

Ukraine's top diplomat told China's foreign minister at talks in the southern city of Guangzhou on Wednesday that Kyiv was open to talks with Russia if Moscow was prepared to negotiate in good faith, something he said he saw no evidence of for now.

Foreign minister Dmytro Kuleba is the highest ranking Ukrainian official to travel to China since Russia's February 2022 invasion and held talks with foreign minister Wang Yi for more than three hours.

"Kuleba restated... that (Kyiv) is ready to engage the Russian side in the negotiation process at a certain stage, when Russia is ready to negotiate in good faith, but emphasised that no such readiness is currently observed on the Russian side," Ukraine's foreign ministry said. REUTERS

## { ACCLAIMED MUSICIAN } DUBBED 'THE GODFATHER OF BRITISH BLUES'

# UK blues legend John Mayall dies aged 90

Agence France-Presse

letters@hindustantimes.com

**LOS ANGELES:** John Mayall, the British blues pioneer whose 1960s music collective the Bluesbreakers helped usher in a fertile period of rock and brought guitarists like Eric Clapton to prominence, has died at 90, his family said on Tuesday. Mayall, a singer and multi-instrumentalist who was dubbed "the godfather of British blues", and whose open-door arrangement saw some of the greats in the genre hone their craft with him and his band, "passed away peacefully in his California home" on Monday, according to a statement posted on his Facebook page.

"Health issues that forced John to end his epic touring career have finally led to peace for one of this world's greatest road warriors," it said. "John

Mayall gave us 90 years of tireless efforts to educate, inspire and entertain."

Mayall's influence on 1960s rock and beyond is enormous. Members of the Bluesbreakers eventually went on to join or form groups including Cream, Fleetwood Mac, the Rolling Stones and many more.

At age 30, Mayall moved to London from northern England in 1963. Sensing revolution in the air, he gave up his profession as a graphic designer to embrace a career in blues, the musical style born in Black America. He teamed up with a series of young guitarists including Clapton, Peter Green, later of Fleetwood Mac, and Mick Taylor who helped form the Rolling Stones.

Stones frontman Mick Jagger said Mayall was "a great pioneer of British blues". He "had a wonderful eye for



**John Mayall performs with his band the Bluesbreakers in Munich, West Germany on June 5, 1969.** AP

talented young musicians, including Mick Taylor — who he recommended to me after Brian Jones died — ushering in a new era for the Stones." Jagger wrote on social media platform X.

In the Bluesbreakers' debut album in 1966, "Blues Breakers With Eric Clapton", John Mayall enthralled music aficionados with a melding of soulful rock and gutsy, guitar-driven American blues featuring covers of tunes by Robert Johnson, Otis Rush and Ray Charles.

The blues music he was playing in British venues was "a novelty for white England," he told AFP in 1997. That album was a hit, catapulting Clapton to stardom and bringing a wave of popularity to a more raw and personal blues music.

Mayall moved to California in 1968 and toured America extensively in 1972. He recorded a number of landmark albums in the 1960s including "Crusade", "A Hard Road", and "Blues From Laurel Canyon". Dozens more followed in the 1970s and up to his latest, "The Sun Is Shining Down", in 2022.

## N KOREAN TRASH BALLOONS LAND NEAR S KOREA'S PREZ OFFICE

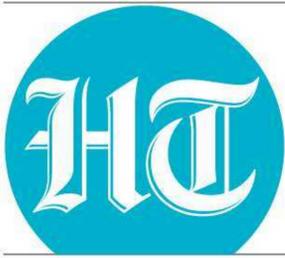
Reuters

letters@hindustantimes.com

**SEOUL:** North Korean balloons carrying trash have landed near South Korea's presidential office, the Presidential Security Service said on Wednesday.

Trash carried by the balloons was identified in the area around the government complex in the Yongsan area, the security service said in a statement. The objects in the balloons contained no contaminants or other risks, it added. It was not clear if President Yoon Suk-yeol was in the complex.

Since May, North Korea has periodically sent hundreds of balloons carrying trash across the heavily fortified border with the South, prompting South Korea's military to restart loudspeaker broadcasts targeting the North.



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**buzz**

**Saxena becomes Director (Market Operation), GRID-INDIA**

Samir Chandra Saxena was appointed as Director (Market Operation) of GRID-INDIA, wef July 20. Previously, he was contributing as Executive Director at the NLDC, GRID-INDIA. Saxena holds a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Aligarh Muslim University, along with other achievements.

**Doshi's "The Art and Science of Cricket Commentary" to be released**

Educationist and the Chairman of National Book Trust, India Prof Milind Sudhakar Marathe and noted Cricketer and Coach Chandrakant Pandit released the book "The Art and Science of Cricket Commentary" at Dr MK Bhargava Hall located inside Holkar Stadium Complex, Indore, at 6.30 pm on July 23. It was done in the presence of other dignitaries.

**NIOS announces October 2024 exam dates**

NIOS will conduct public examinations for Secondary, Senior Secondary, and Vocational courses in early October. To accommodate the high number of students, NIOS is seeking reputable schools and institutions in Delhi and NCR to serve as exam centres. Applications are open online from July 11 to 31, on the URL: <https://exams.nios.ac.in>. The website comes with the norms for the centres to abide by.

**SCOPE hails a growth-oriented and inclusive budget**

SCOPE complimented the Finance Minister in presenting a visionary budget aimed at pushing the growth trajectory of the country. Atul Sobti, Director General SCOPE and Member, of the Governing Body ILO appreciated the Budget as it focussed on long-term growth thereby giving impetus to inclusive development. "The Budget 2024 is a forward-looking budget, prioritising areas for a self-reliant nation giving thrust to manufacturing," he said.

**NHRC takes suo moto cognisance of patient being shot**

NHRC, India has taken suo moto cognisance of a media report that a patient was shot dead by the assailants inside a ward of the GTB hospital in Dilshad Garden, Delhi on July 14. According to the media report, carried on July 15, anyone can enter the hospital wards without any restrictions. The Commission has observed that the contents of the media report, if true, raise serious issues of lack of safety and security in the government hospitals in Delhi.

**Firefighting still rages on merchant vessel Maersk Frankfurt, ICG at the helm**

ICG continues to lead firefighting efforts onboard the merchant vessel Maersk Frankfurt. The vessel last seen, was 35 Nautical Miles southwest of Mangalore. Firefighting operations led by ICG ships Sujeet and Sachet are ongoing. Although the fire has reduced in scale, heavy smoke persists, obscuring the flames. The fire has extended to the starboard side of the vessel, particularly affecting lower stacked containers. The vessel's master has confirmed the presence of flames on the starboard side. ICGS Samrat and



Sujeet are deploying their firefighting capabilities with Direct Injection (DI) and Direct Regulation (DR) systems actively engaged. ICGS Varaha arrived the scene at 0800 hours on July 21 and assisted in fire fighting and containment efforts. ICGS Samudra Prahar, positioned 26 Nautical Miles southwest of Wagapur Light, was expected to arrive on scene by afternoon on July 21. Emergency towing vessel Water Lily, positioned 8 Nautical Miles southwest of Aguada Light, is also en route.

**BIS honours IS: I-1968 on National Flag Day**



BIS celebrated National Flag Day with pride, shining a spotlight on the iconic Indian Standard Specification for the National Flag (Cotton Khadi) IS: I-1968. This standard, first unveiled in May 1951, has been the bedrock of preserving the integrity of our revered national emblem.

**Indian Oil expands initiative for a better society**

Uplifting the lives of prison inmates and juveniles, Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, Chairman, of Indian Oil launched Phase VIII of Indian Oil's 'Parivartan - Prison to Pride' and Phase V of 'Nayi Disha - Smile for Juvenile'. In this phase, Indian Oil will touch the lives of over 1000 individuals across 22 prisons and juvenile homes. With this roll-out, Indian Oil is set to transform the lives of over 7300 inmates and juveniles across 150 institutions, including 15 female juvenile centres, offering sports coaching and equipment across 23 States and 6 Union Territories.

**Uttarakhand Tourism launches homestays portal**

Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board launched an online booking portal for homestay bookings in the state. Bookings can now be made through [www.uttarastays.com](http://www.uttarastays.com). This is probably the first such initiative by any state tourism department where a state-sponsored homestay booking portal has been launched. The homestay owners can integrate their homestays on the platform by providing information about the homestay and signing an agreement. The homestay owners will not be required to pay any integration charges or platform fees.

**ITBP launches mountaineering expedition**

On July 23, the flag-off ceremony of the mountaineering expedition was organised at ITBP Headquarters, New Delhi. Force Chief Rahul Rasgotra, IPS flagged off the expedition by handing over the flag to the expedition team leader, Anup Kumar, Deputy Commandant. This expedition will be undertaken on the mountain peaks of 'Kamet' (height- 7756 m) and 'Abi Gamin' (height- 7355 m) in the Uttarakhand state. Twenty-five mountaineers of the force are participating in this expedition.



Addressing this occasion, Rasgotra said that ITBP has successfully conducted hundreds of national and international mountaineering expeditions.

**NSIC New Training inaugurated by Ministers**

The Minister of MSME, Jitan Ram Manjhi, and the Minister of State, Sushri Shobha Karandlaje, inaugurated the New Training at the NSIC Technical Service Centre (NTSC) in Okhla, New Delhi. The event witnessed the presence of SCL DAS, Secretary (MSME), Dr Rajneesh (AS & DC), Mercy Epaou, JS-SME, Vipul Goel (JS-ARI), and Dr SS Acharya, CMD, NSIC.

The inauguration ceremony began with a warm welcome by Dr SS Acharya, who emphasised the critical role of skill development in bolstering the MSME sector.

**PM congratulates student in IMO 4th rank**

Sri Chaitanya student MV Aditya brought immense pride to India by winning a gold medal at the prestigious 65th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) held in Bath, United Kingdom. Aditya clinched the 4th position globally, marking a significant milestone for India on the world stage. He also emerged as the top performer in India with an impressive world rank of 5. In 2001, India's top individual performance was 7th place by Shashank Sharma. After 23 years, MV Aditya has achieved 4th place individually at the IMO in 2024.

**DTU and CEA harbour NCEET for energy transition**



Achieving Net Zero Emissions by 2070 presents a major challenge with rising energy demands. CEA and DTU joined hands to develop technologies, solutions, and policies. They aim to build a skilled workforce and support domestic manufacturing in renewable energy, hydrogen production, advanced batteries, etc.

**NHRC holds meeting with HRDs and NGOs**

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India convened a meeting of its core group of HRDs and NGOs at its premises in New Delhi. Chairing the meeting, Acting Chairperson Vijaya Bharathi Sayani highlighted the crucial role that human rights defenders play in raising the issues of human rights violations of different segments of society at the grassroots levels often risking their safety. She said that they can play an important role in promoting the culture of respecting human rights and educating the public about them.



ICG evacuated a critically ill patient from the Motor Tanker Zeal, flagged under the Gabon Republic, located off the Mangrol coast in Gujarat. The mission was carried out in severe weather conditions, by the skillful personnel of ICG.



South Asian University to establish an Interdisciplinary Centre on climate change, and sustainability at its Maidan Garhi campus, addressing the region's fragile ecosystem, announced university president Prof KK Aggarwal.



REC Ltd signed an MoU with the Indian Red Cross Society, pledging Rs 10 cr for nine MMUS. The agreement was signed in the presence of CMD Vivek Kumar Dewangan and senior officials.



MDNY organised a CPR training session for students and staff on July 19. Dr Kashinath Samagandi, Director MDNY underscored the importance of CPR awareness, stating, "Knowledge of CPR can save a life."



12 students from KIIT, Bhubaneswar have qualified for the Paris Olympics 2024 beginning July 26. KIIT is the first university in the country to be sending the largest contingent of athletes among all universities in India.



On July 23, BEL signed a tripartite MoU with joint stock company Rosobornexport, Russia, and MSK Business Solutions Pvt Ltd for co-operation in the licensed production and supply of indigenised ammunition.



OIL signed a contract with DDL, Norway, for the hiring of the 'Anchor Moored Semi-Submersible Drilling Unit Blackford Dolphin' on July 22. It was signed by the CEO of DDL and the GM (C&P) OIL in the presence of several eminent dignitaries.



Indian Oil handed over a hydrogen fuel cell bus to the Indian Navy. This event was marked by the signing of an MoU between Indian Oil and the Indian Navy to pioneer the deployment of hydrogen fuel cell technology.



Indian Oil announced the launch of STORMX, a high-octane fuel for racing cars, at the Madras International Circuit during the Indian National Car Racing Championship, celebrating a strategic partnership with MMSC.



Team Neervana from TERI SAS, guided by Prof Naqui Anwer, won 2nd place at the Indian Oil Sustain-a-thon, featuring MSc Biotechnology students Brahmajit Kaur Grewal, Jahnvi Varma, and Scholar Souryaadeep Bask.

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that a unidentified dead body of a male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown** found dead on 22.07.2024 at 16:30 hrs at Km Pole No. 3/4G to 3/6G Down Line NDLS to GZB Near Mandawali Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 18A, dated 22.07.2024 has been lodged at Police Station Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved in GTB Hospital mortuary for 72 hrs. Identification of unidentified male is as under:  
**Name: Unknown, Age: About 40-45 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Crushed, Built: Strong, Injury: Head Crushed, Leg Cut, Wearing: No Clothes on dead body.**  
If anyone have any information or clue about this male may kindly be inform undersigned.  
**SHO**  
**P.S. Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi**  
**DP/9597/Rly/2024 Ph.: 8750371314**

**AGRICULTURAL AND PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (APEDA)**  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
3rd FLOOR, NCUJ BUILDING, 3 Siri Institutional Area, August Kranti Marg, (Opp. Asiad Village), New Delhi  
Dated 23rd July 2024

**ADVERTISEMENT**  
**Subject:** Filling up of the posts of General Manager (for Finance & Accounts) and Deputy General Manager (for Finance & Accounts) in APEDA on deputation (including short term contract) basis  
**1. APEDA intends to fill up the following posts on deputation (including short term contract) on an urgent basis:** (1) General Manager for Finance and Accounts (1 Post) (Pay Level — 12) (Rs. 78800-209200) (2) Deputy General Manager for Finance and Accounts (2 Posts) (Pay Level — 11) (Rs.67700-208700)  
**2. The required qualifications and eligibility criteria for the posts are as under:** (1) For General Manager post: Officers of the Central Government or State Government/ Union Territory Administration or Public Sector Undertakings (including Public Sector Banks) or Universities or Recognized Research Institutions or Semi Government or Autonomous Bodies or Statutory Organizations:- (a) (i) holding analogous posts (including organized Accounts Service/Audit/Audit and Accounts service or equivalent) on regular basis in the parent cadre or department, dealing with financial matters/accounts and/ or audit matters ; or (ii) With five years service in the grade/post (including organized Accounts Service/Audit/Audit and Accounts service or equivalent) rendered after appointment thereto on regular basis in Pay Level-11 or equivalent in the parent cadre or department, dealing with financial matters/ accounts and/ or audit matters; and (b) Possessing the following Educational Qualifications and experience:- Degree/Master's degree from Recognized University/Institution (Preference will be given to finance, accounting, business administration in finance,) or having completed CA from ICAI (2) For Deputy General Manager post: Officers of the Central Government or State Government/Union Territory Administration or Public Sector Undertakings (including Public Sector Banks) or Universities or Recognized Research Institutions or Semi Government or Autonomous Bodies or Statutory Organizations:-(a) (i) holding analogous posts (including organized Accounts Service/Audit/ Audit and Accounts service or equivalent) on regular basis in the parent cadre or department, dealing with financial matters/accounts and/ or audit matters ; or (ii) With five years service in the grade/post (including organized Accounts Service/Audit/ Audit and Accounts service or equivalent) rendered after appointment thereto on regular basis in Pay Level-10 or equivalent in the parent cadre or department, dealing with financial matters/ accounts and/ or audit matters; and (b) Possessing the following Educational Qualifications and experience:- Degree/Master's degree from Recognized University/Institution (Preference will be given to finance, accounting, business administration in finance,) or having completed CA from ICAI  
**3. For further information and application format, please refer to the circular uploaded on APEDA's website at the following link:** <https://apeda.gov.in/apedaweb/site/Appointm ent/Engagement/appointmentengagement.htm>  
**4. Interested applicants may submit their applications through proper channel so as to receive the completed application in this office by 14th August 2024.**  
**SECRETARY**

**PACE NEWS | Hindustan Times MEDIA MARKETING INITIATIVE**

**Taking forward Mandela's Legacy: Joining Hands, Connecting Communities**  
Springdales School, Pusa Road partnered with the South African High Commission to mark and honor Nelson Mandela's remarkable contributions for equality, world peace and the long struggle against Apartheid. Aligning with the Nelson Mandela Foundation theme for this year "Joining Hands, Connecting Communities" to commemorate Mandela's 106th birth anniversary, students, teachers, Principal, Dr. Mala Gupta, Deputy High Commissioner Cedrick C. Crowley and other dignitaries from the High Commission visited the adopted villages of Dasghara and Todapur and made meaningful contributions to community. Resonating with his values, the outreach program aimed to pay tribute to the 67 years of Mandela's struggle for justice by giving 67 minutes of service by ration distribution, tree plantation and cleanliness drive within the community. The initiative has been a step towards sensitizing the students to our collective duty of building a more dependable, cohesive and equitable community — ideals that Madiba held close to his heart.

**Mount Carmel School Celebrates 52 Years of Excellence**  
Mount Carmel School, Anand Niketan, reverberated with pride and joy as it celebrated its 52nd founding day. The school was graced by the presence of Dr. Michael Williams, Director of Mount Carmel Schools, and the chief guest, RVN Vishweshwar. Dr. Ritesh Nayar and N.R. Rayalu joined as guests of honour. The momentous occasion commenced with the hoisting of the school flag, followed by the solemn rendition of the school song. A sense of tradition and respect filled the air as the school colours received a salute. The Vice Principal (pastoral care) then led the gathering in a prayer, seeking blessings for the continued success of the institution. The spiritual atmosphere transitioned into a celebration of faith with the uplifting English hymn 'To God Be the Glory'. A captivating performance ensued, with students presenting a shadow dance titled 'Journey of Mount Carmel School'. The dance, a visual narration, beautifully depicted the reminiscences of the school's founder, VK Williams. The audience was further enthralled by a Western music medley performance, featuring the powerful hymn 'How Great Thou Art'. Nostalgia took centre stage with the screening of a special video titled 'Footprints on the Sands of Time - Remembering Our Founders'. The video undoubtedly evoked a sense of gratitude for the legacy established by the school's visionaries. The Director's address followed, highlighting the school's achievements and outlining its future aspirations. The event then witnessed a well-deserved recognition ceremony, with prizes being awarded to super achievers. Their accomplishments were met with resounding applause from the proud audience. The day culminated in a vibrant and energetic fusion dance performance by the students, marking a fitting conclusion to the celebration. Mount Carmel School's 52nd founding day celebration served as a testament to its rich history, academic excellence, and vibrant school spirit. It was a day that honoured the past, celebrated the present, and paved the way for a bright future.

**Bharati Vidyapeeth PUNE - 411030**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
Sealed item rate tenders are invited by the undersigned from Contractors of repute and approved experience for the work of **Supply & installation of Modular Furniture, Chairs & Loose Furniture for Bharati Vidyapeeth's Engineering College, A4 Paschim Vihar, Rohtak Road, New Delhi -110063.**

Name of the Work	Estimated Cost in Rs. (Without GST)	Security Deposit	EMD 1%	Time Limit
Supply & installation of Modular Furniture, Chairs & Loose Furniture for Bharati Vidyapeeth's Engineering College, A4, Paschim Vihar, Rohtak Road, New Delhi-110063.	Rs. 2,00,00,000/-	5%	Rs. 1,00,000/-	45 days

Blank tender forms will be available in the office of the **Bharati Vidyapeeth's Engineering College at A4, Paschim Vihar, Rohtak Road, New Delhi - 110063. Tel No. 01125250120. Email: coeddelhi@bharatvidyapeeth.edu** with effect from 26/07/2024 to 01/08/2024 during office hours on all working days on payment of Rs. 2,500/- by cash (non-refundable). Prebid meeting will be held on 02/08/2024 at 11 A.M. at **Bharati Vidyapeeth Engineering College A4, Paschim Vihar, Rohtak Road, New Delhi -110063.** Sealed tenders will be received in the office of **Bharati Vidyapeeth Engineering College A4, Paschim Vihar, Rohtak Road, New Delhi -110063.** on or before 05/08/2024 up to 1 P.M. and will be opened on the same day at 4 P.M in the presence of attending tenders, if any. The Earnest Money should be paid by Demand Draft only payable at Pune drawn in favor of **Secretary, Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune.** Contractors who have done a similar type of works (At least one completed work costing not less than 2,00,00,000/-) will only be issued tender forms after submittal of adequate proof. **Bharati Vidyapeeth reserves the right to open, negotiate or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.**

**Architect Address**  
Design Works,  
607, Bhumi Raj Costarica, Sector 18,  
Plam Beach Road, Sanpada,  
Navi Mumbai, India -400705  
Email: amita.sherkar@design.works.in  
Contact No: 9773272703

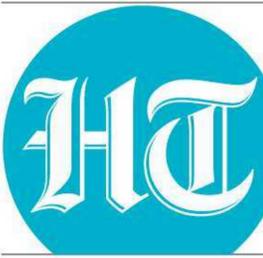
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**Bharati Vidyapeeth,**  
Bharati Vidyapeeth Bhavan,  
L.B.S. Marg, Pune -411030  
Tel. No. 24325701/24325509  
Email: buildingsection@bharatvidyapeeth.edu  
Contact No: 011-25278443/444

**Little Flowers Public Sr. Sec School Felicitated At Indo - Norway International Education Summit-2024**  
honoured transformative education they can thrive by embracing excellence by recognizing high-impact educational practices with a sustained human touch. The event gathers leaders, policymakers and educators from around the world along with esteemed guests including Chief Guest Himanshu Gulati, a prominent Member of Parliament in Norway, Kingdom of Norway; Guests of Honour Ole Jacob Johnsen, Minister of state for Akershus, Dr Acquino Vimal, Indian Ambassador to the kingdom of Norway and Anne Lindboe, Mayor of Oslo. Rohit Dua Patel affirmed to continue the school's dedication to fostering an environment that is not just about preparing learners for the future but also about creating a world where

Little Flowers Public Sr. Sec. School, Shivaji Park, Shahdara Delhi was felicitated at Mind Mingle's Indo - Norway International Education Summit held at the Parliament of Norway in Oslo in recognition of the school's marvellous contribution in the field of education under the leadership of Managing Director, LFGS, Rohit Dua Patel. The summit

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Principal

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# Watching its wallet, cutting tax cobweb

Centre to focus on fiscal consolidation, axe outdated tax rules

**Gulveen Aulakh**  
gulveen.aulakh@livemint.com  
**NEW DELHI:** Top government officials on Wednesday vowed to keep India's fiscal deficit under check and scrap archaic tax rules, even as they made it clear that privatization is no longer a priority, and that tariffs cannot protect the industry forever.



Nirmala Sitharaman, Union finance minister. PTI

In a series of interviews with Mint a day after the Union budget, officials explained its various facets, and the rationale for some of the new initiatives. The Centre will stick to fiscal consolidation and keep FY26 fiscal deficit below 4.5% of GDP, finance secretary T.V. Somanathan said, just as it did in the past two fiscal years. "From 2026-27 onwards, we will endeavour to keep the fiscal deficit each year, in a way, that the central government debt will be on a declining path as a percentage of GDP," he said. The Centre has bettered its fiscal deficit targets in the past two years, from 5.8% (revised estimates) to 5.6%

in FY24 and from 5.1% to 4.9% in FY25. Revenue secretary Sanjay Malhotra said the government will form a panel to overhaul the Income Tax Act, with an aim to scrap outdated provisions and enhance clarity. The exercise, may begin within six months. "There are a number of sections which perhaps are procedural and perhaps can be removed from the Act so that it becomes concise, readable and understandable," Malhotra said. Meanwhile, Tuhin Kanta Pandey, secretary of the depart-

ment of investment and public asset management said that privatization was not on hold, but not a priority under the calibrated approach of disinvestment. He said under the changed strategy, the focus will be on 'value creation' from disinvestment, dividends and returns for shareholders. On a separate note, higher customs duties to protect the domestic industry, cannot continue perpetually, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs chairperson Sanjay Agarwal said.

# LTCG tax simplified: 12.5% rate without indexation benefit

**Rajeev Jayaswal**  
rajeev.jayaswal@htlive.com

**NEW DELHI:** The budget has reduced the long-term capital gains tax rate from 20% with indexation to 12.5% without indexation for simplification, treating all asset classes as equal while protecting 88% of the middle class who constitute the bottom of the pyramid, a senior official said on Wednesday.

"Our intention is not to raise revenue but to treat all of them (different asset classes such as real estate, gold and securities) as equal," said the official who did not wish to be named. The indexation benefit allowed taxpayers to calculate gains by the sale of capital assets after adjusting for inflation. The effective tax rate has gone down, a second official working in the finance ministry said, who has been involved in the proposal. "The announcement was made in the budget after elaborate research. The move will not affect the majority of the middle class," the official said, quoting the finance secretary and the revenue secretary. "Actually there is either a reduction or no change in respect of the effective rate of tax on property and gold. As regards equity, yes, it has gone up from 10% to 12.5%, but



The budget lowered the LTCG from 20% to 12.5% without the indexation benefits. ISTOCKPHOTO

you will also find that unlisted equity has gone down from 20% with indexation to 12.5% without indexation... So yes, short-term has gone up, and yes, long-term has been rationalised," finance secretary TV Somanathan said at the post-budget press conference on Tuesday. Adding to that, revenue secretary Sanjay Malhotra cited a pre-budget analysis of the 2022-23 period and said: "We found that about 88% of the tax is actually coming from people who have an income of more than ₹15 lakh, 61% of that income is actually coming from people who have an income of more than ₹1 crore," he said. The budget lowered the LTCG from 20% to 12.5% without the indexation benefits, with the

move coming into effect from Tuesday, and the government has no plan to review it as it is part of the tax simplification process and does not affect most of the middle-class people. "Indexation has been done away with for ease of computation with simultaneous reduction of rate from 20% to 12.5%," a list of FAQs released by the income-tax department said. It also simplified the holding period. Earlier, there were three holding periods for considering an asset to be a long-term capital asset. Now, there are only two holding periods - for listed securities, it is one year and for all other assets, it is two years, it said. Taxpayers will continue to get rollover benefits on capital gains as earlier, it said. "Invest-

ment of capital gain in 54EC bonds (up to ₹50 lakh) and in other cases, the capital gain is exempt from tax, subject to certain specified conditions," it added. The previous regime is beneficial in the case of capital gains through real estate only when returns are less (about 9-11% per annum). But such low returns in real estate are rare affecting only less than 10% of the cases, the official quoted in the first instance said. Tax experts and legal consultants said the move is in the right direction. "Simplification of income tax provisions, especially the removal of indexation for LTCG, will make buying and selling immovable properties less cumbersome, thus promoting ease in real estate transactions," Ketan Khare, partner at Saraf and Partner, said. "The finance minister's decision to remove the indexation benefit for long-term capital gains tax on real estate marks a significant shift for the sector. While the intention to simplify and rationalise the tax regime is clear, the removal of the indexation benefit, despite the reduction in the LTCG tax rate to 12.5%, could lead to a higher tax burden on real estate transactions," Dhruv Agarwala, Group CEO, Housing.com & PropTiger.com, said.

# SENSEX, NIFTY END LOWER ON PROFIT TAKING IN BANKS AFTER BUDGET

**Press Trust of India**  
feedback@livemint.com  
**MUMBAI:** Extending the losing streak to the fourth day, benchmark BSE Sensex declined by 280 points on Wednesday due to profit booking in financial and banking shares after the government announced a hike in securities transaction tax and short term capital gains tax in the budget for 2024-25. The 30-share BSE Sensex declined 280.16 points or 0.35% to settle at 80,148.88 with 19 of its components closing lower and 11 with gains. During the day, it tumbled 678.53 points or 0.84% to 79,750.51. The NSE Nifty dropped 65.55 points or 0.27% to 24,413.50. From the SENSEX pack, Bajaj Finserv declined by 2% after its first-quarter earnings failed to cheer investors. Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Unilever, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Adani Ports, Axis Bank and State Bank of India were the other big laggards. However, Tech Mahindra, ITC, NTPC, Tata Motors and Sun Pharma were among the gainers. Conglomerate ITC surged to 52-week highs before closing higher by 0.42% in its second straight day of gains after the budget proposed no new tax on tobacco products. "The budget event has gone by leaving a mixed bias while reshuffling of capital gain tax is only a short-term negative surprise. The broad market seems to be losing momentum due to lack of further traction," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said. Nair added that investors are biased but strong government fiscal and growth policy is attractive for FIIs, which will help to hold ground. The recovery noticed from today's low will be evident only post the monthly expiry on Thursday. "Profit-taking continued as investors cut their position in banking and automobile stocks, which led to a fall in key benchmark indices. However, markets ended off their lows on selective buying support although concerns of higher valuations continue to weigh," Prashanth Tapse, senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities, said.

# Government may review restrictions on FDI from China

**Rajeev Jayaswal**  
letters@hindustantimes.com  
**NEW DELHI:** The government is holding discussions on whether to review the Press Note 3 (PN3) that restricted foreign direct investments (FDI), particularly from China, in April 2020 after some Chinese entities attempted "opportunistic" acquisitions of Indian companies taking advantage of financial stress caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, two officials said on Wednesday.



Through the PN3 of 2020, DPIIT closed door on automatic approval for Chinese FDI.

"No final call has been taken on it," said a senior official with direct knowledge of the matter who did not wish to be named. "Yes, a discussion is on," the official said, adding that this has been a demand from the domestic industry, particularly from those having Chinese plants and equipment as they are facing technical and other challenges due to restrictions on visas for skilled manpower from China.

A second official, working in an economic ministry, confirmed that on demand of the industry, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is looking into the matter. On Monday, the Economic Survey prepared by chief economic adviser (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran proposed a China-specific strategy for India's growth that welcomed Chinese investments instead of imports of Chinese merchandise, which was contrary to New Delhi's tough stance against Beijing since 2020.

Addressing a press conference after the full Union Budget for FY25, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman distanced the government from the views expressed in the survey, which conventionally represents the views of the CEA and are said to have been drafted at an "arm's distance". "But that doesn't mean that I'm disowning the solution," she said while replying to a specific

question on this matter on Tuesday. Through the PN3 of 2020, the DPIIT closed the door on automatic approval for Chinese investments in India and made it compulsory for such investments to take prior government approval, which also involved security clearances. "A non-resident entity can invest in India, subject to the FDI policy except in those sectors/activities which are prohibited. However, an entity of a country, which shares land border with India or where the beneficial owner of an investment into India is situated in or is a citizen of any such country, can invest only under the government route," the PN3 issued on April 17, 2020 said. The restrictions became stringent on the ground after the violent brawl between Chinese and Indian soldiers on June 15 that year along the Line of Actual Control in the Galwan Valley (eastern Ladakh) in which 20 Indian army personnel were killed.

Subsequently, on June 29, 2020, New Delhi banned 59 mobile applications, mostly Chinese, such as Tik-Tok, citing concerns that these are "prejudicial to sovereignty of India, defence of India, security of state and public order". Later, next month, on July 23, India barred Chinese firms from bidding for public procurement of goods and services on grounds of national security.

"In fact, the study showed that lower the age group, higher was the proportion of loss-makers. "In FY23, traders under the age group of more than 60 years had lowest loss-makers (53%), while those under 20 years of age had highest proportion of loss-makers (81%)," the study highlighted. "Intraday trading is becoming

# July business activity rises to 61.4 from 60.9 in June

**Auhona Mukherjee**  
auhona.mukherjee@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** India's private sector business activity, as seen in the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), may have accelerated to a three-month high in July, driven by an uptick in both manufacturing and services sector. The HSBC Flash India Seasonally Adjusted Composite PMI rose to 61.4 in July from 60.9 in June, according to data released by S&P Global. The index measures output growth in manufacturing and

services sectors, with readings above 50 indicating expansion over previous month's activity levels. Flash PMI values are released a few days ahead of the actual PMI numbers and include 80%-90% of the responses used in the calculation of the final PMI readings. India became the eighth country to have a Flash PMI indicator in January. The manufacturing flash PMI rose to a three-month high of 58.5 in July from 58.3 in June. Flash services PMI business activity rose to 61.1 from a final reading of 60.5 in June.

**MANUFACTURING FLASH PMI ROSE TO A 3-MONTH HIGH OF 58.5 IN JULY FROM 58.3 IN JUNE**

"The Flash Composite Output Index signalled continued robust growth in India's private sector. The rise in output in July was led by a further increase in business activity in the manufacturing sector, while the pace of expansion in services output also accelerated and remained well above its long-run average.

As a result, companies turned more optimistic in July, following a moderation in business confidence in June", Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC said in a note issued by S&P Global. The S&P note also talks about "anecdotal evidence" pointing towards "favourable market conditions" and "buoyant market appetite". The improvement in sentiment, the note says, has led to a rise in backlog of work "prompting the best upturn in employment in over eighteen years". To be sure, the strengthening

sentiment in the economy could also be leading to a rising pressure on prices. "The latest results also revealed that rising material and labour costs added to inflationary pressures. In particular, selling prices rose to the greatest extent since February 2013", the S&P note says. "We note that the rate of input cost inflation continued to trend higher in both sectors, which has driven firms to keep raising sales prices", Bhandari said in her note. The actual manufacturing PMI numbers will be released on August 1, and services PMI on August 5.

# Sebi: 70% intraday trade in cash segment made losses in FY23

**Neha Joshi**  
neha.joshi@livemint.com

**MUMBAI:** You're young, ambitious. Daring enough to venture into the slippery lanes of intraday equity trading at the stock markets. And you're losing money. If the above description fits your profile, you're not alone. A study by India's capital markets regulator said that a staggering 76% of loss-making intraday traders were under 30 years of age.



The share of under-30 intraday traders in India shot up to 48% in FY23 from 18% in FY19. MINT

That's a lot, considering that seven out of 10 (or 71%) of intraday traders in the cash segment made losses in FY23. The study by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) noted that overall, the share of under-30 intraday traders in India's stock markets shot up to 48% in FY23 from 18% in FY19. In fact, the study showed that lower the age group, higher was the proportion of loss-makers. "In FY23, traders under the age group of more than 60 years had lowest loss-makers (53%), while those under 20 years of age had highest proportion of loss-makers (81%)," the study highlighted. "Intraday trading is becoming

bias, meaning the pain of losing is psychologically more intense than the pleasure of gaining. Traders who have incurred losses might engage in more trades to avoid the emotional discomfort of those losses, often without proper analysis or strategy," he said. Harsh Roongta, founder of Fee Only Investment Advisers LLP, said that the Sebi study supplements an earlier study by the regulator that highlighted the perils of derivatives trading and how 90% of such traders made losses. He added that despite the study findings, derivatives volumes only shot up thereafter.

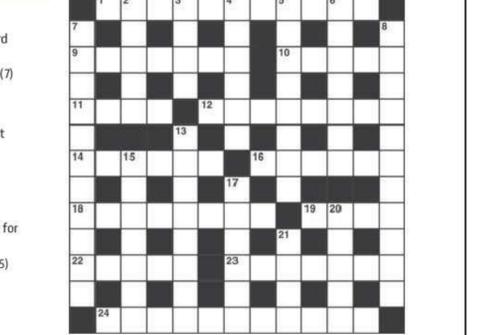
To be sure, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in the Union budget for FY25 announced on Tuesday, sharply increased the securities transaction tax (STT) on both futures and options trading. "This study may also meet a similar fate," said Roongta, adding that a multi-pronged solution was needed involving tighter regulations, onerous taxations and behavioural interventions. "This will be on the line of the anti-smoking campaign which was fought on multiple fronts and took years before it made an impact."

## { THE CROSSWORDS }

### CRYPTIC CLUES

- ACROSS**
- Version of carol Silent Night is heard (3,8)
  - I am going around in torn clothing (7)
  - A long time to muse (5)
  - Puts away in great style (4)
  - He writes television play that is put out (8)
  - One is not keen to show it (6)
  - Master tricky current (6)
  - How to beat the streaker? (8)
  - Initial description of the Harrier jet for example (4)
  - A fringe gathering of lace makers (5)
  - Let bank arrange overall cover (7)
  - A tape recording? (11)
- DOWN**
- I do it when playing the fool (5)
  - Idle doodle gave a false impression (4)
  - This idea will get you into no trouble (6)
  - Weather men caught in a flurry of study (8)
  - Ape and lion come to like milk (7)
  - Priceless stonework found in lodges (11)
  - Arrange comet and planet study (11)
  - Put up with the closed shop (8)
  - The case of the diplomat's aide (7)
  - Row about Dr Wood (6)
  - Captured and shot (5)
  - Mother, I'm seriously hurt (4)

### PUZZLE 16921 © Gemini Crosswords 2018 All rights reserved



### QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS**
- No longer a laughing matter (6,1,4)
  - Considered view (7)
  - Claw (5)
  - Responsibility (4)
  - Diabolical (8)
  - A bivalve mollusc (6)
  - Cease to think of (6)
  - Ancestor (8)
  - Incentive (4)
  - Competing (5)
  - Laugh quietly (7)
  - Rely on one's instincts (4,2,2,3)
- DOWN**
- Maintain life (5)
  - Roman poet (4)
  - Domesticated ass (6)
  - Throw overboard (8)
  - Large financial gain (7)
  - Poor consolation (4,7)
  - Struggling (2,3,6)
  - By word of mouth (8)
  - Contract into wrinkles (7)
  - Talisman (6)
  - Genuine (5)
  - Feeble (4)

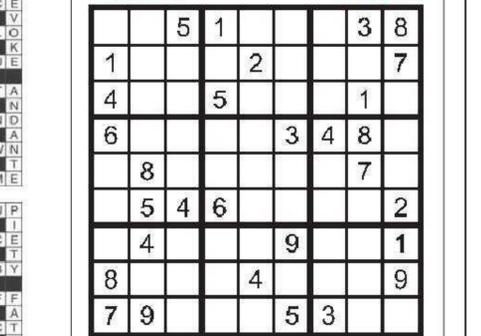
### MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS (16919)



### QUICK



### { SUDOKU } DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9X9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

# User development fee hikes at 16 airports push fares

**Anu sharma**  
anu.sharma@livemint.com

**NEW DELHI:** Flying out from Bengaluru, Kochi or Ahmedabad? You may be paying more than a year ago, even if your favourite airline has not raised fares. The reason: Higher airport charges, which have kicked in at these and 13 other major airports. Since the beginning of FY25, 16 airports have raised user development fees (UDF), a levy designed to bridge revenue shortfall and ensure fair returns for airports. The fees, which vary from airport to airport, are collected by the airline, and passed on to the airport operator. Airports at Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mangaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Kannur, Kochi, Chennai, Kozhikode, Kolkata, Goa, Bhubaneswar, Patna, and Srinagar have raised UDF in a range of 2% to 200% this fiscal year, the civil aviation ministry said in response to a question in parliament. The increase in airport charges comes as an additional burden to fliers facing higher airfares this year, as airlines



Airports at Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Kolkata, etc have raised UDF in a range of 2% to 200% this fiscal year. MINT

struggle to find enough aircraft to serve soaring demand. On 16 July, Mint reported that airfares may rise further during the September quarter due to a flurry of holidays. It is the passenger who will end paying more due to the airport fee hike, said Rajiv Mehra, president of the Indian Association of Tour Operators. "Any user fee increase should be reasonable and justified. Also, airfares are a function of multiple factors like demand, competition and fuel costs. Rise in airport fees is now an additional factor," said Mehra, who expects fares to rise further. A passenger taking a domestic flight from the Patna airport is now paying ₹660 as UDF, up 223% from FY24. Corresponding numbers for Kannur is ₹750 (up 135%) and Jaipur ₹805 (up 104%). At Ahmedabad, Thiruvananthapuram and Chennai airports, departing passengers pay 80%, 52%, and 34% more in UDF, at ₹450, ₹250 and ₹770 respectively. Similarly, the UDF has been hiked by 25% at Mangaluru, 22% at Bengaluru, 15-17% at Kochi and Goa, 13% each at Srinagar

and Lucknow, 7% at Hyderabad and over 2% at Kozhikode and Kolkata. Higher airport charges support operations, maintenance and expansion, as well as help enhance infrastructure and safety, but they also drive up fares and may depress air travel, said Jyoti Mayal, vice-chairperson of the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism & Hospitality. "Countries with robust economies impose higher airport taxes, while those with weaker economies keep fees lower to attract tourists and business travellers. India has recently post-covid seen a surge in domestic travel and this should not become a reason for a decline." Mayal said that airfares in India are anyway higher since there are no concessions for jet fuel.

## { WEATHER }

**TEMPERATURE HIGH \* LOW**

**THURSDAY** Generally cloudy sky with moderate rain  
34°C | 26°C

**FRIDAY** Generally cloudy sky with light rain  
35°C | 27°C

**SATURDAY** Generally cloudy sky with light rain  
34°C | 28°C

## ALMANAC

Today is 25th July 2024  
• 8 Maharam, 1446  
• 5 Shrawana, Krishna Paksha, 5  
• Samsat: 2021  
\* Sunset: Thursday at 07:16 p.m.  
\* Sunrise: Friday at 05:39 a.m.  
\* Moonset: Thursday at 09:36 a.m.  
\* Moonrise: Thursday at 10:11 p.m.

## TEMPERATURE IN FOUR METROS

**Delhi** 34°C | 26°C  
**Mumbai** 27°C | 24°C  
**Kolkata** 32°C | 27°C  
**Chennai** 36°C | 26°C

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, MALKANGIRI (R & B) DIVISION, MALKANGIRI  
E-Procurement Notice  
Bid Identification No. S.E.(R&B)-MLK-01/2024-25  
No. 3039 Date: 22.07.2024

**B-107**

- Name of the work: Building Work, 01Nos.
- Total No. of Works: Rs. 133.18 lakhs
- Estimated cost: 06 (Six) months
- Period of completion: From 11.00 hrs. of 29.07.2024 to 16.00 hrs. of 07.08.2024
- Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal: 16.00 hours of 07.08.2024
- Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal: 11.00 hours of 08.08.2024
- Date of opening of tender: 11.00 hours of 08.08.2024
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid: Superintendent Engineer, Malkangiri (R & B) Division

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal <https://tendersosisa.gov.in/>

Additional Chief Engineer  
I/C Superintending Engineer  
Malkangiri (R & B) Division  
OIPR - 34063/11/0003/2425

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER,  
SUBANAREKHA IRRIGATION CIRCLE,  
AT/PO: LAXMIPOSI, DIST: MAYURBHANJ, PIN: -757107  
Mail Id: [acesic24@gmail.com](mailto:acesic24@gmail.com)

**A-172**

Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
Bid Identification No. 01 / 2024-25 of A.C.E, S.I.C, LAXMIPOSI

1	Name of Work	"Construction of Cement Concrete Road at Khadasole Self Rehabilitation Colony."
2	Estimated Cost for put to tender	Rs. 104.70 Lakh
3	Bid Security/E.M.D	Rs. 1,05,000/-
4	Period of Completion	04 (Four) Calendar Months
5	Class of Contractor	"B" Class & "A" Class
6	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the Portal	29.07.2024 at 10:00 AM
7	Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal	14.08.2024 up to 5:00 PM
8	Opening of Bid	16.08.2024 at 11.00 AM
9	Name & Address of the O.I.T	Additional Chief Engineer, Subanarekha Irrigation Circle, Laxmiposi

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal "<https://tendersosisa.gov.in/>"

Additional Chief Engineer,  
Subanarekha Irrigation Circle  
Laxmiposi  
OIPR - 32129/11/0001/2425

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,  
PROCUREMENT, JAMMU POWER DISTRIBUTION  
CORPORATION LIMITED, JAMMU, RAIL HEAD, NARWAL,  
JAMMU, J&K PIN -180012  
PHONE NO. 0191-2473402 TELEFAX- 0191-2472350  
E-mail: [epcjtjmu@gmail.com](mailto:epcjtjmu@gmail.com)**

**No: SE/PRJ/TS/ 346 Dated: 23.07.2024**

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

**e- NIT NO. SE/PRJ/02/2024-25 Dated: 23.07.2024**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, Superintending Engineer, Procurement, JPDC, Jammu invites online e-bids from original Govt. registered manufacturers for supply of material as under for the requirement of JPDC.

NIT No.	SE/PRJ/ 02/2024-25 dated 23.07.2024
Description of Material & Quantity (In Nos.)	PURCHASE OF DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS OF EEL-II (New) OF RATING : 400 KVA (Cu Wound) - 35 Nos

Detailed NIT maybe downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> upto 16th of August 2024 till 1400 Hrs. The tender shall be accepted through online mode only. In case, the tender process does not get completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in the newspapers. The details regarding corrigendum may be seen on the above mentioned website.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer  
Procurement, JPDC  
Jammu

DIP/J/1265/P/24

**WESTERN RAILWAY-  
RATLAM DIVISION**

**E-Tender Notice**  
E-Tender Notice No. M247GLRSGR 2420 Date: 23.07.2024 Name of Work: Dismantling, Repair, Rehabilitation/Conditioning, Testing and supply of Tap Changer type N-32 for Electric Locomotives and re-fitting. Location: Office of CWM/Dahod W.Rail Estimated Cost of the Work: ₹.19,52,880/- Bid Security: ₹.60,000/- Date & Time of Submission & Opening of E-Tender: Submission of E-Tender upto 14:30 Hrs. on 14.08.2024 and Opening of E-Tender at 15:00 Hrs. on same day. Tender Notice and documents available at: [www.ireps.gov.in/](http://www.ireps.gov.in/) E-Tenders/Works/IR Electrical

Sr. Elect. Engg.  
W. Rly, DHD  
SPA/17/1/59  
Like us on: [facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

**HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH : JABALPUR  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Tenders are invited by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh from experienced and reputed firms/ organizations for "Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance for the setup of Judicial Data Repository (JDR)". The pre-bid meeting of the tender is scheduled on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at 11:30 A.M. The last date of online tender submission is 07<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 before 06:00 P.M. (mandatory). The sealed tender complete in all respect addressed to "Registrar General, High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur" must be submitted before 05:00 P.M. on 08<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 (mandatory). The technical bids of the tender shall be opened on 09<sup>th</sup> August, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. The detailed tender document is available in the official website of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh [www.mphc.gov.in](http://www.mphc.gov.in) and Government e-procurement portal [www.mptenders.gov.in](http://www.mptenders.gov.in).

Sd/-  
REGISTRAR GENERAL  
G-13775/24

**Office of Superintending Engineer,  
Rampur Circle, P.W.D. Rampur**

**Short Term E-Procurement Notice Inviting Tenders**

Ref.No. 3560 /E-Nivida-Rampur/24-25 Dated: 18/07/2024

- The Superintending Engineer Rampur Circle, U.P.P.W.D. Rampur on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites the Itemwise rate bids online from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UPWD and Licensed by Electrical Safety Directorate, Govt. of UP. The Bidder may submit bids for any or all of the works. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in the Instructions to Bidders to qualify for the award of the contract.
- 

Sl. No	DISTRICT	Name of Work	Estimated cost (Rs.in Lac) (Ex.GST)	Bid Security (Rs.in Lac)	Time of completion of the work (Including rainy season)	Cost of tender documents including GST (RS.)	Category of contractor eligible
1	Rampur	Work of Utility Shifting (Removing of Electricity Poles etc.) at Bilaspur Mitak Road Km-18 Rasandaria to Silauba Bhojipura Road from Ch. 0.000 to 11.300	162.00	3.24	03 month	2354.00	Category 'A' (Licensed by Electrical Safety Directorate)

Bids must be download online from 10:00 AM on date 27.07.2024 to 12:00 PM on dated 02.08.2024 and the technical bids will be opened online date 02.08.2024 at 12:30 PM in Office of Superintending Engineer Rampur Circle PWD Rampur and Financial bids of the qualified bidders will be opened on date & time as notified. According to the provisions of Government Order no. 1/2018/3070/78-2-2018/42.17/2017 (22) Date 03-01-2018 after opening of the technical and financial bids, the qualified bidder has to submit original documents personally in department office. In the event of non submission of original documents by the bidder, the appropriate action will be taken in accordance with provisions of G.O.

All terms & conditions can be seen on website <http://etender.up.nic.in>.  
Rules/conditions & details of the tender are available at website <http://etender.up.nic.in>.

(K.V. Singh) Executive Engineer Construction Division PWD, Rampur  
(R.A. Dohare) Superintending Engineer Rampur Cir., P.W.D, Rampur

**INDIAN RAILWAYS  
PATIALA LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**  
(Formerly Diesel Loco Modernisation Works)  
PATIALA -147003  
Tel: 0175-2396000, 2396001 Fax: 0175-2306413, 2306370

**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
Visit us at [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Elect. Services & Plant, Patiala Locomotive Works, Patiala (Pb.) for & on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) for the following work. Tenderer may upload their original offer on website upto prescribed closing time & date. The offers will be uploaded up to 15:00 hrs. of closing date and uploaded offers will be opened on same day at 15:30 hrs for the under noted work. No tender will be accepted manually.

Tender Notice No.	Name of work	Approx. cost of work (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)	Completion period	Closing date & Time of Tender
PLW/EL-395/R/23	Provision of 04 Nos. 11 KV HT VCB Panels of Main Receiving Station (MRS) Control Room of PLW, Patiala.	Rs. 23,89,200/-	47,800/-	03 Months	On 16.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs.
PLW/EL-399/R/23	Work required for "Cleaning of Solar Panels for 5 years of 2.15 MWp roof top Solar Power Plant installed in Workshop & Colony Area, PLW/Patiala	Rs. 1251975/-	25,000/-	05 Years	On 16.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs.

Tender documents are available on Railway website i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) and the same can be downloaded from there. All terms & conditions may be seen and downloaded from Railway website i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Payment of Earnest Money (EMD) in respect of e-tendering shall be accepted through Net Banking or only payment modes available on IREPS portal only. Note: Tenderers shall submit valid Electrical Contractor license issued by any State Govt./UT for any State/UT. Tender without Electrical Contractor license will be summarily rejected. 2255/2024

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-30,  
कंसल्टन्ट एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विस  
उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय)  
(30 उप सरकार का उपक्रम)  
मकान नं-02/43 आवास विकास निकट  
एन.आई.सी. बिल्डिंग, शाहजहांपुर।  
E-mail id: [pmunit30spn@gmail.com](mailto:pmunit30spn@gmail.com)**

फ़ॉक : 927/E-Tender/125  
दिनांक : 24.07.2024

**अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना**

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय), की ओर से अचलवासी द्वारा Dmx Controlled Facade Lighting With Energy Efficient And Dmx Controlled Plumbing Less Technology Water Shooter At Shaheed Museum Distt. Shahjahanpur अनु.लागत रु. 386.44 लाख, हेतु दिनांक 08.08.2024 की अपरान्त 15:00 बजे तक ई-निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। उक्त कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 25.07.2024 से दिनांक 08.08.2024 के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement ची वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा दिनांक 08.08.2024 को अपरान्त 17:00 बजे कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-30, सी. एण्ड डी.एस., उ.प्र. जल निगम (नगरीय), शाहजहांपुर में खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रु. 10,000 +GST (18%) अतिरिक्त देय होगा। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.udsnp.org](http://www.udsnp.org) एवं प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त शुक्ति पत्र (Corrigendum) <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर ही अपलोड किये जायेंगे, इनका पृथक से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाइट का समय-समय पर अक्लोजन करते रहें।

**Govt. of Bihar**

**BIHAR STATE POWER TRANSMISSION CO. LTD., PATNA**  
(GST No. :- 10AAFCB2393H121, CIN -U74110BR20125GCO1889)  
Head Office, Vidvut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna- 800021  
(Department of Project-I of BSPTCL)  
Email address- [ce.trans664@gmail.com](mailto:ce.trans664@gmail.com) Mob. No. 7763817701  
Website- [www.bsptcl.in](http://www.bsptcl.in)

**Tender Notice (NIT) NO.-26/PR/BSPTCL/2024**  
(Through e-procurement mode only -www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

Online e-Tenders are invited by Chief Engineer(Project-I) for the following:-

Description of work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Cost of B.O.Q. (Non-Refundable) (Rs.)	Bid Processing Fee(Rs.)	Completion period
Supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 05 Nos. of 80 MVA Power Transformer and its associated works in different GSSs of BSPTCL	53.27 Cr	53.27 Lakh	11,800	5900	12 (Twelve) months from N.O.A.

Bid submission Start Date and Time: From 15:00 Hrs. of 06.08.2024  
Bid submission End Date and Time: Up to 15:00 Hrs. of 28.08.2024  
Date of opening of Techno-Commercial Bid (Part-I): After 16:00 Hrs. of 30.08.2024

“विवादों के निपटारण के लिए लोक अदालत का काम उद्योग परस्पर सहमति से न्यायिक निर्णय प्राप्त करने समय एवं खर्च की बचत करें।”

E-tendering introduced in BSPTCL for tenders above Rs. 25 lacs. For registration log in to [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and e-Procurement Help Desk Toll free No: 1800 572 6571, Email Id: [eproc2support@bihar.gov.in](mailto:eproc2support@bihar.gov.in)  
Working Hours: 8AM to 7PM (All days in week except few selected state holidays).  
While participating in e-tendering process, the contractor shall have to get them registered to get user ID, Passwords and digital signature. This will enable them to access the Website: [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in).

For further details please visit : [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar)

(Ratan Kumar)  
PR. No. 004505 (B & C) 2024-25 नरो की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार। Chief Engineer (Project-I)

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001  
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813  
Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in), (Contact No. 96461-22185)

**Tender Enquiry No. 317/SS(D)-368/RBSS/Spares Dated: 23.07.2024**

Dy. CE/Substation (Design)/TS Organization, C-1, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites Short Term Tender for Design, Manufacture, Testing, Supply and Delivery (F.O.R.) Destination at any place in Punjab) of 105 Nos. 60 KV, 10KA Station type Heavy Duty, Class-III, Zinc Oxide (Gapless Type) Lightning Arresters suitable for 3 Phase, 50 Cycles, 66 KV Solidly Grounded Neutral System. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://gem.gov.in> from 25.07.2024 (11.00 AM onwards).

Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at <https://gem.gov.in> C47724 35985

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**No. PLW/WWW/AA/CS/979/Vol-III Dated : 23.07.2024**

Dy. Chief Engineer/PLW, Patiala acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

N.I.T. No. & Name of Work	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Closing date & time of tender	Opening date & time
CE/PLW/T-16/2024-25/PTA Dt. 23.07.2024	6599066/-	132000/-	05 Months	23.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs.	23.08.2024 at 15:05 hrs.

Strengthening of damaged RCC columns, flooring, plastering and other allied works in KV-II (school) in colony-II at PLW, Patiala. (2024-25)

**CORRIGENDUM**

The following tender published in various newspapers has been withdrawn on administrative ground as under:-

Tender No.	Existing date of opening of tender	Remarks
CE/PLW/T-16/2024-25/PTA Dt. 18.07.2024	20.08.2024 at 15:05 hrs.	Withdrawn on Administrative ground till further orders

2248/2024

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**दक्षिणांचल विद्युत  
वितरण निगम लिमिटेड**

ऊर्जा भवन, 220 के.वी. विद्युत उपसंस्थान, बाई-पास रोड, सिकन्दरा आगरा

ई-निविदा सूचना- 1. ई-निविदा विशिष्टीकरण सं 001/वीएनएल-एमएम / 3577-2024: आपूर्ति- Single Phase SMC Distribution Box मात्रा 4000 नम्, धरोहर राशि: रु 60,000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य: 3540.00 (तीन हजार पांच सौ रुपये)। 2. ई-निविदा विशिष्टीकरण सं 001/वीएनएल-एमएम / 3578-2024: आपूर्ति- Three Phase SMC Distribution Box मात्रा 2000 नम्, धरोहर राशि: रु 38,000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य: 3540 (तीन हजार पांच सौ रुपये)। 3. ई-निविदा विशिष्टीकरण सं 001/वीएनएल-एमएम / 3579-2024: आपूर्ति- Different Sizes of Clamps for Clamps for 8.5 Mtr. PCC Pole मात्रा 2,15,000 नम्, धरोहर राशि: रु 3,16,000.00, निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य: 5900.00 (पांच हजार नौ सौ रुपये)। निविदा प्रपत्र उ0प्र0 शासन के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर अपलोड की जायेंगी, जहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं। उपरोक्त निविदाओं के सापेक्ष निविदादाताओं द्वारा बिड दिनांक 27.08.2024 को समय 13:00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन अपलोड की जा सकेंगी तथा उक्त निविदायें निर्धारित दिनांक 28.08.2024 को सांय 16:00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। निविदा शुल्क केवल ऑनलाइन, DVVNL, AGRA की वेबसाइट [www.dvvn1.org](http://www.dvvn1.org) के माध्यम से ही स्वीकार किया जायेगा। विवरण के लिए कृपया निविदा प्रपत्र ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें। निविदा प्रपत्र उ0प्र0 शासन के ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्टल <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर अपलोड की जायेंगी, वहाँ से निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड किये जा सकते हैं। अधीक्षण अभियन्ता (सा0प्र0-1) द0डि0डि0डि0डि0, आगरा। "राष्ट्रहित में बिजली बचायें" पत्रांक-2198/अधी0अधी0 (सा0प्र0-1) /आगरा/ डिजाइन दिनांक 24.07.2024

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**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I. VRSHA** Arora R/o 50-51, Shivji Marg, Westend Greens, Rajokari, Delhi-38, has changed my minor son name Yashvi Arora (DOB 04.09.2006) to Yash Arora for all future purposes.

**I. KUMARI** Usha w/o Raj Kumar Prasad R/o - 328/1, MataChowk, Rangpur, New Delhi-37 declare that the mother's name Usha Ram & Usha in my son Aayush Raj's birth certificate & school certificate respectively refer to the same person as myself.

**I. AKANKSHA** Koli D/o Karam Chad R/o 56 E, Pocket-K, Sheiksh Sarai Phase-2, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017 declare that Akanksha & Akankshi Koli both are one and same person. In future know as Akanksha Koli for all purposes.

**I. K Chandhira** M/O JC-384558W Sub Raghavatharan K residing at 2/354A, VPO-Banur, Teh-Pochampalli, Dist-Krishnagiri, State-Tamilnadu have changed my name to K Chandhira vide affidavit dated 19 July 2024 at Delhi.

**I. ZEENAT** Firoudsh Hoda, W/o. Shahid Husain, R/o. 301, 3rd Floor, AkAn Apartment, W-31/22A, Abul Fazel Enclave-L Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-25 have changed my name to Zeenat Firoudsh Hoda for all future purposes.

**I. HAVNE** changed my previous name from Rekha Ram to the name on Aadhar Card no. 920590952508 to Rekha Agarwal W/o Ajay Kumar R/o H.No. 991, New Shri Nagar, Hapur (UP)-245101 for all future purposes.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I. TANIA** Gurdeep Singh W/O. Earl Gaganjit R/o M-20, Main Road, Greater Kailash Part I, New Delhi-110048 has changed my name to Tanu Singh.

**I. SABINA** W/O Akhilar Rahman, D/O Mohamad Husain, R/o RZ 141/253 Gali no 2 Masjid Road West Sagar Pur South West Delhi, Delhi-110046, have Changed my Name all documents as Anharcard, Voter id, Sabina Khatun & Pan Card Sabena Khatun. Office Carc. MS. Sabina Change my name Sabina Khatun, Sabena Khatun, Sabina to Sabena for all future Purposes.

**I. K Baby** M/o No-16114215F Hav Shijin Kakkoth R/o VIII-Pathrayad, Pinarayi, PO-Mambaram, Dist-Kannur, Kerala-670741, declare that I have change my name from K Baby to Kakkoth Baby and also changed my date of birth from 01-07-1964 to 12-06-1964 for all future purposes shall Public Notary Delhi affidavit dt 23-07-2024.

**I. VIKAS** Gianchand Khurana, resident of Flat no-14100, Block-M, 16th Avenue, Gaurditya-2, Greater Noida West, declare that I have changed my name from Vikas Gianchand Khurana to Vikas Khurana for all future purposes.

**I. SHILPA** B Surchdev W/o Aashish Surchdev R/o Flat 405, New Sathi CGHS, Plot 92 Sec 54 Gurugram 122003, has changed my name and shall Public Notary Delhi affidavit dt 23-07-2024.

**I. RANESH** Kumar Sharma S/o S.K. Sharma, R/o 249/6A, P.K. Road, Railway Officer Flats, New Delhi-110001, declare that my name & my father's name is wrongly mentioned in my marriage record as Ranesh Sharma & S.K. Rai. My and my father's actual & correct name is Ranesh Kumar Sharma & S.K. Sharma.

**I. ROTAS** Kumar S/O, Aasha Ram R/o WS Gali No West Jigar Nagar Gokal Pur Shahdara Delhi 110094 have changed my name to Rohitash Kumar.

**I. KALIPADA** Das S/O- Chetama Das R/o- C-2025F, Block-C, Pocket-A-14, Kalkaji Extn. ND-19 have changed my name to Kall Das for all future purposes.

**I. GAJALA** W/O, Maqbool R/o A212, Df New Town Heights, Sector 86, Gurgaon, 122004 have changed my name to Gazala.

**I. KARAN** S/o Rakesh R/o A-528/1, Krishna Basti, Nahi Karim, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055 have changed my name from Karan to Karan Bagri, for all future purposes.

**I. RAVI** S/o Krishan Lal R/o F-204, Second Floor, Sushant Lok-2, Sector-57, Gurgaon Haryana 122003 have changed my name to Ravi Kathuria for all future purposes.

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**No. PLW/WWW/AA/CS/979/Vol-III Dated : 23.07.2024**

Dy. Chief Engineer/PLW, Patiala acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.

N.I.T. No. & Name of Work	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Closing date & time of tender	Opening date & time
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Strengthening of damaged RCC columns, flooring, plastering and other allied works in KV-II (school) in colony-II at PLW, Patiala. (2024-25)

**CORRIGENDUM**

The following tender published in various newspapers has been withdrawn on administrative ground as under:-

Tender No.	Existing date of opening of tender	Remarks
CE/PLW/T-16/2024-25/PTA Dt. 18.07.2024	20.08.2024 at 15:05 hrs.	Withdrawn on Administrative ground till further orders

2248/2024

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Head Office, Vidvut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna- 800021  
(Department of Project-I of BSPTCL)  
Email address- [ce.trans664@gmail.com](mailto:ce.trans664@gmail.com) Mob. No. 7763817701  
Website- [www.bsptcl.in](http://www.bsptcl.in)

**Tender Notice (NIT) NO.-25/PR/BSPTCL/2024**  
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Online e-Tenders are invited by Chief Engineer(Project-I) for the following:-

Description of work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D. (Rs.)	Cost of B.O.Q. (Non-Refundable) (Rs.)	Bid Processing Fee (Rs.)	Completion period
Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 10 Nos. of 50 MVA Power Transformer and its associated works in different GSSs of BSPTCL	64.78 Cr	64.78 Lakh	11,800	5900	12 (Twelve) months from N.O.A.

Bid submission Start Date and Time: From 15:00 Hrs. of 06.08.2024  
Bid submission End Date and Time: Up to 15:00 Hrs. of 28.08.2024  
Date of opening of Techno-Commercial Bid (Part-I): After 16:00 Hrs. of 30.08.2024

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Working Hours: 8AM to 7PM (All days in week except few selected state holidays).  
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(Ratan Kumar)  
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SPORT  PARIS OLYMPICS

In this series, we look at the bond between some of India's Olympics-bound athletes and their coaches and find out what makes them click

# Neeraj's world: Music, Kohli and aliens

Banter, trust and the occasional movie nights keep the Olympic champion and his trusted men — bio-mechanics expert Klaus Bartonietz and physio Ishaan Marwaha — in a closed circle

**Shantanu Srivastava**  
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** There's a long-running joke between Neeraj Chopra and his German coach Klaus Bartonietz. During the previous Olympic cycle, shortly after they had started travelling together, Neeraj would often implore Klaus to "adopt" him. "Neeraj would say, 'Coach, you stay in a beautiful village, you have a wonderful life. Why don't you adopt me?' And the coach would just laugh," recalls Ishaan Marwaha, Neeraj's physiotherapist.

After Neeraj's Tokyo gold, Klaus turned the tables on his ward. "Now, the coach tells him, 'You are a rich man now. Why don't you adopt me?' It's been so many years but the joke still cracks them up," Ishaan adds.

In many ways, this sums up the relationship between the reigning Olympic champion and his coach. It's not one of dutiful reverence or dispassionate coexistence. Despite half a century separating them in age, they find common ground to connect and still have enough room for gentle ribbing and leg-pulling.

"There's no generation gap. We listen to each other, that's the secret of our relationship," the 76-year-old says. Their lives intersected at NIS Patiala in late 2019 when Klaus, at Neeraj's behest, was appointed his coach. It was barely a year after Klaus was roped in by the Athletics Federation of India as an assistant to the then javelin coach Uwe Hohn.

Hohn guided Neeraj to gold medals at the Commonwealth and Asian Games in 2018, but his insistence on heavy training left Neeraj caged. "Hohn was a very East German style of training, which meant going heavy. Neeraj felt the training was putting him at an injury risk, so he decided to move on. The great thing about Neeraj is that he is a very self-aware athlete. Right from the start, he knew what would work for him," Ishaan says.

**There's no generation gap. We listen to each other, that's the secret of our relationship**  
**K BARTONIETZ, coach**

While he is open to experimenting, Neeraj straddles the fine line between innovation and complication. "These days, you have a lot of things — advancements in training techniques, food and more. But if we talk about athletes earlier, like Jan Zelezny, who holds the javelin world record with a 98.48m throw, they had simple training and it worked. So I try not to over complicate things. I try to focus on the simple things," he had said at the HT Leadership Summit last November.

Once during his early days at NIS, a young Neeraj was not convinced with the training methods of one of the coaches, and so he convinced the authorities to let him train alone. By the time he moved from Gary Calvert to Hohn and finally Klaus, Neeraj was a finished product.

"I didn't have to do much with him. He was already throwing 85-87m consistently," says Klaus. "He came across as a modest and shy boy. Changing coach was a very tough decision for him but he knew what he needed. Our relationship started to develop right from the first day, from the moment we met. It evolved step by step, day by day without our realisation. It's like getting old...you don't realise you get old every day. You realise these things only when you reflect."

A renowned biomechanics expert, Klaus believes in sharing little nuggets rather than long-winded explanations. "I prefer to let the athlete decide for himself. Neeraj is quite inquisitive and if he is interested in a particular input, he wants to know everything about it," he says.

Post his Tokyo high, Neeraj made a conscious decision to shift his training base overseas. While Europe has been a preferred choice, he has also trained in USA and South Africa in the three years leading up to Paris. The training plans are carefully curated with Neeraj, Klaus, and Ishaan brainstorming over their objectives, logistics, and competition schedule.

"After Tokyo, I found out how international athletes plan their schedule and choose their training centres so that there is minimum travel, quicker acclimatisation, and proper diet leading up to a major event. These are finer details that I discuss with my coach and a decision is made," Neeraj had said in March, before the start of his competition cycle.

"Success depends on teamwork. My coach and physio make immense contribution. The coach reviews my technique and we talk on what's the best style for me. We also have a specialist for strength training. Planning has been the key," he added.

"These are very democratic discussions," says Ishaan. "There are disagreements and debates, but the idea always is to decide what's best for Neeraj. Once everyone is onboard, we go head-on."

Serious as it sounds, their training and workout sessions are usually interspersed with healthy banter. Neeraj's go-to workout music is Punjabi and it's not out of character for him to pull Klaus into an impromptu jig. He has even taught the coach a few Hindi words. "I tell him to block like a *pahad* (mountain) and stretch like a *dhanush* (bow)," Klaus says.

"Both my children are elder to Neeraj. I am 50 years older than him. But I don't look at him as my son or a grandson. I am his coach and he is my athlete. We have a lot of fun, but the professional dynamics of the relationship never change." Which means that Neeraj is the boss of the triad and all their plans — from training to shopping to dining out — are tailored to his preferences. On days when Neeraj is unusually intense in training, they know something is amiss.

"We know how and when to keep a distance. He is super fun to be with but when he goes silent, we back off a little. You get to understand these things with time," adds Ishaan, who has been associated with Neeraj since 2017 through JSW Sports.

"I am around 10 years elder to Neeraj, which means we have a lot of things in common, but I make a conscious effort not to get too personal with my athletes. It is in their best interest," he says. That, however, hasn't stopped Neeraj from exchanging funny Instagram reels with him or regularly checking on Ishaan's nine-month-old son. When the mood hits him, Neeraj reads about outer space and after having his fill on the subject on YouTube, approaches Ishaan with queries ranging from aliens to spaceships.

"We once found ourselves passionately deliberating on the differences between Swiss and Polish societies. We love to talk about everything under the sun," says Klaus.

Neeraj followed the recent general election results in India closely and even attempted to explain the workings of the Indian political system to Klaus, a history buff. Days later, when the T20 World Cup took place in the US and the Caribbean, the reigning world champion followed India's progress through Ishaan.

"Neeraj is a Virat Kohli fan, and he kept telling me that Kohli will fire in the final. He likes to follow all sports, wherever Indians are competing."

Their off days are usually spent recovering and planning for the week ahead, and on the odd occasion when there is no competition lurking, the trio indulges in a rare movie night on the projector that Neeraj carries along.

"We once watched a movie involving snakes and coach Klaus was quite freaked out. It was hilarious," recalls Ishaan. Eating out is usually out of the question, but Neeraj has developed a liking for an Italian pizzeria close to their German training base in Saarbrücken.

"He made me try some tikkas at an Indian restaurant once...it was too spicy for me," laughs Klaus.

Their dinner table discussions usually revolve around sharing family updates and "silly nonsense stuff" while competition mornings involve a short pep talk from Klaus. "We don't discuss technical details during competitions. I try to keep his mind uncluttered, and tell him to trust his training," the coach says.

While Klaus unsurprisingly counts Neeraj's Tokyo gold as his most memorable moment with his athlete, Ishaan fondly remembers the endless walks with Neeraj while he was recovering after his elbow surgery in 2019. "He had zeroed in on a shopping mall and we would just walk there the entire day, listening to his insecurities and dreams. I feel those conversations have deeply strengthened our bond," says Ishaan.

A podium finish is most certainly on their Paris wish list, but they don't discuss opponents or medal probabilities too much. "He is a gifted athlete, not just because of his physical prowess but also his clear head," says Klaus. "He knows how to win on the big day."

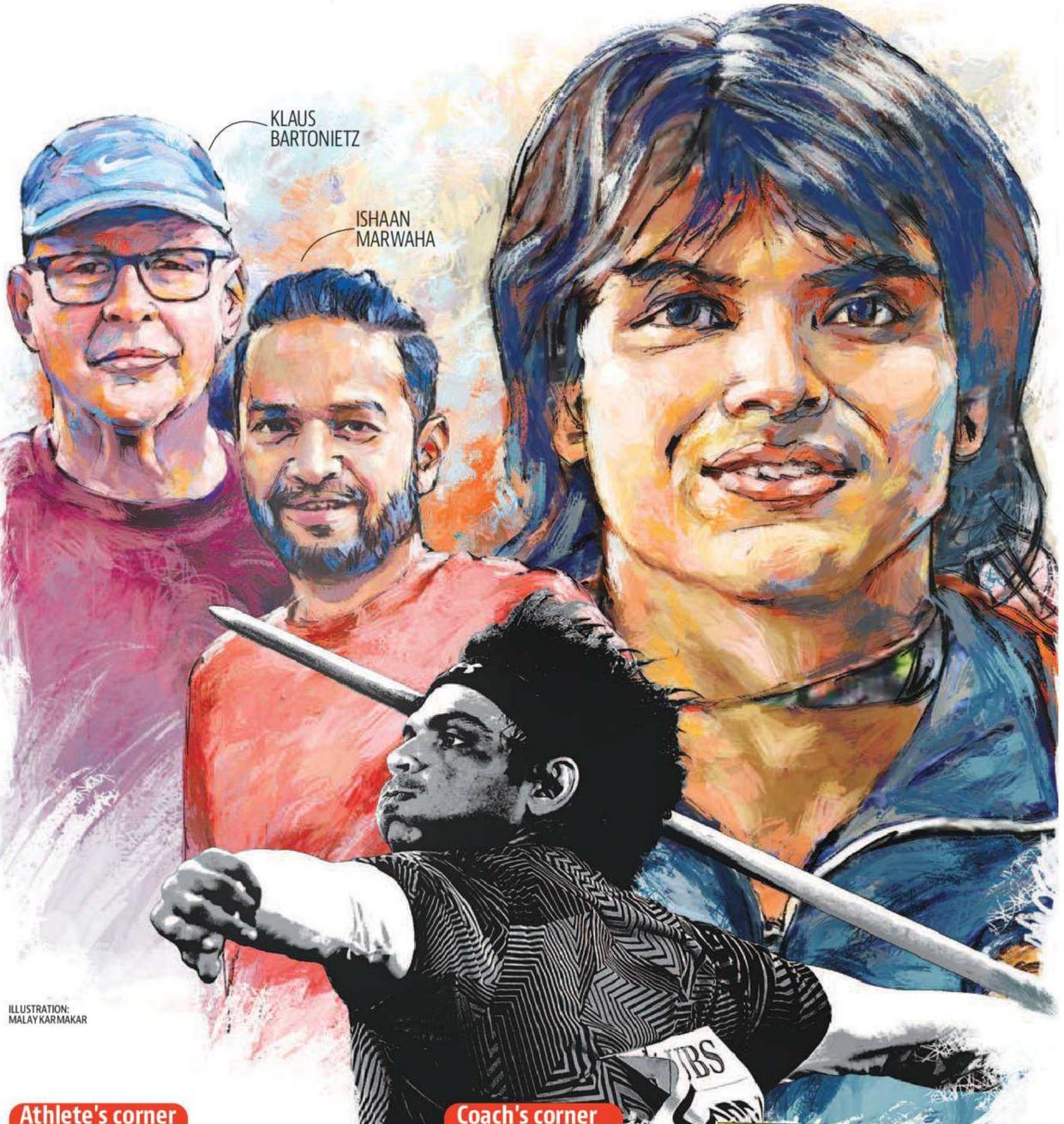


ILLUSTRATION: MALAY KARMAKAR

**Athlete's corner**



**NEERAJ CHOPRA**  
Emerged in 2016 with a record 86.48m throw to win the World U-20 title  
**Did a golden double** in 2018, winning Commonwealth Games-Asian Games gold  
**Became the first Indian** track and field athlete, and the second Indian, to win an individual Olympic gold at Tokyo in 2021  
**Became the first Indian** to win a World C'ships gold, at Budapest 2023  
**Only Indian** to win 2 World C'ship medals, having won silver in 2022 and gold in 2023

**Coach's corner**

**KLAUS BARTONIETZ**  
Joined AFI as an assistant coach to fellow German Uwe Hohn in 2018  
**Took over as Neeraj's coach in 2019** after the thrower decided to part ways with Hohn  
**A renowned biomechanics expert**, Klaus has worked for more than 15 years at the German Olympic Training Centre in Saarland  
Helped German javelin thrower Boris Henry breach the 90m barrier in 1997  
Renowned for his 2008 work for IOC's 'Hammer Throwing: Problems and Prospects'



**Over the years**

Neeraj and Klaus go back six years when the German joined AFI as an assistant to Uwe Hohn

Wary of Hohn's heavy training methods, Neeraj decided to work under Klaus's tutelage

Klaus excelled in his first major assignment with Neeraj — Tokyo Olympics — and ended India's wait for an athletics medal with gold



The two have never looked back, with Klaus guiding Neeraj to 2 World C'ship medals and Diamond League and Asian Games titles

With physio-therapist Ishaan Marwaha, the trio spends most of the year in Europe's various training facilities

## 'Neeraj has handled success well; the perfect person to succeed in an imperfect scenario'

**Abhinav Bindra**



Three years after India's athletes delivered their best-ever Olympics in Tokyo, here we are, just days away from yet another Olympic Games. The pressure on the Indian contingent will be immense, and rather than fighting it, my advice to them is to accept it. Develop the ability to stomach pressure, that's the only way to deal with it.

For Neeraj Chopra, our only gold medalist in athletics, it will be a different challenge. Going in as a defending champion must feel different to him, but he has had a taste of that feeling at last year's Asian Games where he defended his crown. Having said that, each campaign is a new campaign. In sports, yesterday doesn't count, only consistency does. And Neeraj has been supremely consistent over the past few years.

He has handled his success very well. He has remained motivated, humble and grounded. In terms of performance, he has proved to be a cut above the rest in this

cycle. A close look at the Paris-qualified javelin throwers suggests he may not have too many hurdles on his way to the medal, but that doesn't mean he will have it easy at the Olympics.

Neeraj will do well if he takes Paris as a new competition. The baggage of the past doesn't need to be brought to the now. If he approaches these Games with that mindset, I am sure he will come back with a medal. What colour, it will also depend on the day, but we can safely say he starts a favourite, not just because he won in Tokyo but also because he has remained the most consistent javelin thrower over the past two years.

What sets him apart is his very good work ethic and the ability to adapt. The fact that he decided not to compete in the Paris Diamond League (on July 7) tells me he is a very self-aware athlete. He knows what's happening with his body, which is very crucial in an injury-prone sport such as javelin. It is a very rare quality in an Indian athlete. Listening to the body is a very important aspect of the performance and I feel more and more Indian athletes and coaches must develop and promote that.

In my interactions with him, Neeraj has

come across as an open-minded athlete. Some athletes don't even listen to ideas, but not Neeraj. He is flexible and open to newer ways of training. Sometimes the danger of success is that since you have succeeded in a particular way, you tend to repeat that cycle hoping it will bring success again. Nothing can be farther from the truth. It's the athlete's ability to keep an open mind, strive to improve and innovate, try new things, be receptive to changing techniques, and translating all those learnings into performance is what spells success.

The way Neeraj thinks comes as a breath of fresh air. For instance, it is not common for an Indian athlete to change coaches. Neeraj did that when he had tasted only a small fraction of the success

he has now. Just that ability to think for himself and understand what's best for him makes him truly world class, apart from his performances. It's a lesson for all Indian athletes.

I had a very fruitful meeting with Neeraj at my place a few days after he won the Olympics gold. It was a nice afternoon. I think I had met him once earlier when he had come to my centre in Mohali when he was injured. It was nice to chat with him, just talk about how his experience in Tokyo was. He came across as a process-oriented person. I gave him a little pup because he was looking for one. He met my parents with genuine respect. I have met him a couple of times again, including once at the Olympics museum in Lausanne when he

donated his javelin. Later, I went and watched him at the Lausanne Diamond League.

I have always found him to be very simple and humble. We shared ideas about how to get better as athletes. There was a time when there was a lot of talk about that 90m thing. He was very interested in breaching that mark. My suggestion to him was that sometimes as athletes, we tend to train to get better in training. But at the end of the day, we need to get better in competitions. He would have probably touched 90m in training but how do you convert that into performance in competitions? We discussed that aspect in detail. I told him I shot perfect scores multiple times in training but the challenge remained to replicate that in matches.

Also told him that sometimes we make the mistake of making things too easy in training because we want to improve our specific skills. But competitions will be imperfect and you will be asked to produce a perfect result in an imperfect scenario. To me, he appears the perfect guy to succeed in an imperfect scenario.

**Neeraj has come across as an open-minded athlete. Some athletes don't even listen to ideas, but not Neeraj. He is flexible and open to newer ways of training.**

**ABHINAV BINDRA**, India's first individual Olympic gold medalist

As told to Shantanu Srivastava

SPORT  PARIS OLYMPICS

## India's archers and their quest for an elusive Olympic medal

The archery team has more than a good chance but it will come down to nerves

Minutes before India's male archers were to take aim in their final practice session before Thursday's ranking rounds, coach Purnima Mahato took out her phone and snapped a photo with Tarundeep Rai. There were smiles all around, even as Dhiraj Bomma-deva was scribbling away notes in his diary seated next to Rai.

A few distractions have sprinkled this Indian archery squad's preparatory phase in the leadup. Korean chief coach Baek Woong Ki was excluded from the contingent, while their psychologist Gayatri Madkekar is still awaiting her visa to join the group here, said Mahato on Wednesday. And then there's the history with Indian archery, the "bhaar" (weight). It's a term Rai used more than a couple of times in a chat after their practice session, and on which Indian archers have crumbled over the last few Games. "Olympics aate hi medal ka bhaar aajata tha (The moment the Olympics come, we feel the weight of a medal)," Rai, in his fourth Olympics, said.

The Olympics are upon the archers again, and Rai swears the "bhaar" feels lighter this time. The first test of that statement will arrive on Thursday, when the three men and women line up for the ranking rounds. How the Indians shoot there could give an indication on how their Games, once it opens on Friday, goes.

More so in the team events. The top four seeded teams — taking into account combined individual scores of the three archers in the ranking round — will get a direct spot in the quarter-finals. Eyeing that spot will be the men's team, on which added spotlight rests. Ranked world No.2 with fairly consistent results in the recent past, it won gold stunning powerhouses South Korea in the final of the Shanghai World Cup in April. In that World Cup, the same trio of Rai, B Dhiraj and Pravin Jadhav finished second in qualification, and carried the momentum into

the elimination rounds.

The ranking rounds will also determine the seedings in the individual event and which pair will combine for the mixed team event (the top male Indian from the ranking round, for example, will team up with the top female). The women's team of experienced Deepika Kumari, young Bhajan Kaur and Ankita Bhakat carry more subdued expectations this time. And women's coach Mahato prefers it that way.

"Let them go about their thing quietly," she said.

Deepika has lived through her share of Olympic hopes built dizzyingly high and shattered into dramatic pieces at rock bottom. First round shocks, quarter-final near-misses. It mirrors Indian archery's past few Olympics, and it all comes back to how this bunch can handle that

"bhaar". "Earlier, we would invest a lot of our minds in thinking about medals at the Olympics. We wouldn't think like that in training, or in other tournaments like World Cups," Rai said. "But come the Olympics, we would take it (the weight) upon ourselves — no one else would put it on us."

The archery squad has been in France for about a fortnight now. It's a lesson from the previous Olympic experiences, a member of the contingent said, where archers would often tail off closer to the start of the Games on the back of World Cup medals.

At Esplanade des Invalides where archery will be held, Indians have had two practice sessions in the competition arena, which is different in design and wind resistance compared to the adjacent training venue. Even though weather and wind can be quite fickle in Paris, acclimatization objective has been met, said Rai.

The addition of Dhiraj — Jadhav and Rai also competed in Tokyo — adds solidity to the men's team, with his growth and consistency over the last year reflecting on the team performances that included a silver medal at the Hangzhou Asian Games (the women's team also won bronze there).

"This year's medals have kept the team's self-belief high. And also sent across a message to the other teams that the Indian team can also be a contender," Rai said.

**RUTVICK MEHTA**  
HT IN PARIS



## The ranking round

Archers will kick off India's Paris campaign on Thursday with the qualification rounds at the Les Invalides gardens. For the first time since London 2012, India will have a full six-member squad after both the men's and women's teams

THE TEAMS	WOMEN'S	MEN'S
	• Deepika Kumari	• Pravin Jadhav
	• Ankita Bhakat	• Tarundeep Rai
	• Bhajan Kaur	• Dhiraj Bomma-deva
	COACH: PURNIMA MAHATO	COACH: SONAM SINGH BHUTIA

EVENTS WHERE INDIA WILL PARTICIPATE	BEGINS
TEAM MEN'S	Begins July 29
TEAM WOMEN'S	Begins July 28
MIXED TEAM	Begins Aug 2
INDIVIDUAL MEN'S	From July 30
INDIVIDUAL WOMEN'S	From July 30

**IN NUMBERS**

**4th**  
This will be the fourth Olympics appearance for Tarundeep Rai and Deepika Kumari

**1/8**  
Indian archers have never been able to go past the quarter-final hurdle. The script has been the same all these years, barring in Sydney 2000 where India could not qualify for the Games.

**WHAT IS A RANKING ROUND?**

- Each archer will shoot 72 arrows from a distance of 70m and the scores in the qualification round of 128 men and women archers from 53 countries will decide the seeds for the knockout competition
- In the knockout individual event, the top ranked archer will face the 64th, the 2nd faces the 63rd and so on
- Teams finishing among the top four in men's and women's categories will get direct entry into quarter-finals

**"It's the fourth time. It's a now-or-never situation for me, and that's what I tell my teammates too. You have to put in an effort as if it's going to be your last"**  
— TARUNDEEP RAI, India's 40-year-old archer

## Sindhu's focus on peaking now: Padukone

Rutvick Mehta  
rutvick.mehta@htlive.com

PARIS: Prakash Padukone, a legend of Indian badminton and sport, is enjoying the "cham" as he puts it, of the Games Village like a rookie. "The very first day we got to meet, I at least saw, (Carlos) Alcaraz and (Rafael) Nadal," Padukone said. He is looking forward to sharing the same dining table with more such stars more than half his age.

The 1983 World Championships bronze medalist finds himself in the Village as part of the coaching group of PV Sindhu, the two-time Olympic medallist going for her third (Lakshya Sen too trains at his academy in Bengaluru). Padukone's role in Team

Sindhu, even as Agus Dwi Santoso remains her full-time coach, is more tactical. While the Indonesian works on adding more bite and variety to Sindhu's strokes, Padukone chips in with when to deploy them through particular patterns of play.

"My expertise would be more on when to use those strokes, which has always been my strength... to use the right strokes at the right time. I have always emphasised on that. So, he (Agus) is making her create the strokes and my (role comes in with) when to use those strokes at the right time, so that you get a point. And maybe, introduce a little more of deception in her game, which is again part of using the right stroke at the right

time," Padukone said.

Padukone joined forces with Sindhu last year as mentor, and has since travelled with her to a few tournaments. The high-profile association came at a time when Sindhu was struggling to recreate her old game and confidence on court. Although there have been sporadic flashes of it at times this year, they've remained just that. Padukone wished he had more time with Sindhu.

"She's always, always had the right strokes. So, using deception and trying to score points, that's where I have been focusing on. You can probably see some of it. I wish I had a little more time, because it's not easy to do in six to nine months. And even out of that, she's been playing tourna-

ments. Except for these last six weeks where we had a lot of time, she's been in and out," he said.

Few, however, can match Sindhu's marquee tournament medal CV. And Padukone is banking on her big moment mentality to show up again in Paris.

"It is how you handle pressure and how you peak. Her whole focus has been in trying to peak in this one week," he said. "I think overall, I'm happy with the way she has progressed. Of course, nobody can guarantee a medal, but I can confidently say that she'll definitely be one of the contenders."

Sindhu won silver at the 2016 Rio Games and finished with bronze in Tokyo three years ago.

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## Ledecky hopes for clean races after China doping issue

Agencies

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

PARIS: Katie Ledecky hopes for clean races at the Olympics. Hope was just about as far as she was willing to go on Wednesday.

The US swimming star is looking to add to her six individual gold medals when she races in the 400, 800 and 1,500 meters at the Paris Games.

Her schedule begins with the loaded 400 on Saturday, including Ariarne Titmus and Summer McIntosh.

The 27-year-old Ledecky is competing in her fourth Summer Olympics. But, it's the first one since a doping scandal involving nearly two dozen Chinese swimmers who tested positive for a banned substance ahead of the Tokyo Games — and were allowed to compete with no ramifications. The controversy has raised major concerns about the seriousness of anti-doping efforts.

"I hope everyone here is going to be competing clean this week," Ledecky said. "But, what really matters also is: Were they training clean? Hopefully, that's been the case. Hopefully, there's been even testing around the world." There is an ongoing US investigation of the suspected



Katie Ledecky.

REUTERS

doping by the Chinese swimmers — drawing the ire of the International Olympic Committee.

While awarding the 2024 Winter Olympics to Salt Lake City on Wednesday, the IOC pushed Utah officials to do what they could to stop the FBI probe.

"I think everyone's heard what the athletes think," Ledecky said.

"They want transparency. They want further answers to the questions that still remain. At this point, we're here to race. We're going to race whoever's in the lanes next to us.

"We're not the ones paid to do the testing, so we hope that the people that are follow their own rules. That applies now and into the future."

## GAMESWATCH

## Off-site, not out of mind



Tahiti welcomed the Paris Olympics through surfing's second Games appearance. Tahiti, some 16,000km from Paris, is hosting the surfing events because it is home to one of the world's greatest waves and because beaches in France are typically flat at this time of year.

REUTERS

## SINNER PULLS OUT DUE TO TONSILLITIS

World No.1 Janik Sinner has withdrawn from the Paris Olympics due to tonsillitis, the Italian said on Wednesday. "I am saddened to inform you that unfortunately I will not be able to participate in the Paris Olympic Games," Sinner wrote in a post on X. "After a good week of clay training I started to feel unwell. I spent a couple of days resting and during a visit the doctor found tonsillitis and strongly advised me against playing."

## RUSSIAN 'CHEF' ARRESTED

The arrest of a Russian man in Paris, reportedly a former reality-TV chef, over a suspected "destabilisation" plot targeting the Paris Olympics underscores French concerns that Moscow is looking to undermine the event from afar. The man, born in 1984, was detained at his home in Paris



Boxer Nikhat Zareen poses on the Olympic rings in Paris.

NIKHAT ON X

this week and is suspected of "passing intelligence to a foreign power in order to arouse hostilities in France," a statement from prosecutors said. Le Monde newspaper said police had found documents "of diplomatic interests" at his apartment and he was suspected of working for the

Russian FSB intelligence service after appearances in reality TV shows and a stint as a chef in a French ski resort.

## AMBIANI RE-ELECTED ASIOC MEMBER

Nita Ambani was re-elected unanimously as member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), ahead of the Paris Olympics. Ambani won unanimously with 100 per cent of vote at the 142nd IOC session.

## STAFF SENT HOME OVER DRONE SPYING

An assistant coach and an analyst with the Canadian women's football team were sent home for their part in a spying scandal. Head coach Bev Priestman also announced she will take no part in the opening game against New Zealand. The decisions come after a staff member was detained for flying a drone over a New Zealand training session this week in Saint-Etienne.

## Chaos, fan trouble as Morocco defeat Argentina in opener

Agencies

sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

SAINT-ÉTIENNE: Chaos and confusion reigned on Wednesday as Morocco beat Argentina 2-1 in their opening game of the men's Olympic football tournament, but only after a late equaliser for the South American side was disallowed and the final minutes were played out in an empty stadium following crowd trouble.

Argentina thought they had escaped from the Group B match in Saint-Etienne with a 2-2 draw when Cristian Medina scored in the 16th minute of added time.

But as their players celebrated, projectiles including bottles and plastic cups rained down from the stands and several spectators entered the pitch, with the referee promptly blowing the whistle.

The teams left the playing area, but the referee had not blown for full-time and the outcome of the match was completely unclear until the sides finally reappeared two hours later to play out three more minutes in a stadium that was by now empty of spectators.

Medina's goal was eventually disallowed for offside following a VAR review, and Morocco held on to claim all three points.

It was an undignified start to the sporting action at the Paris Games, and a bad day all round for Argentina, whose players were booed as they emerged onto the pitch and during the national anthems by the crowd, most of whom were supporting Morocco.

Argentina are looking to win men's football gold for the third time after success in 2004 and 2008, but Javier Mascherano's side trailed 2-0 following a brace by Soufiane Rahimi.

Morocco captain Achraf Hakimi, the Paris Saint-Germain full-

back set up Rahimi for the opener at the end of a fine move in first-half stoppage time. The reigning African Under-23 champions doubled their lead six minutes into the second half from the penalty spot, UAE-based forward Rahimi stroking in the spot-kick after Ilias Akhomach was brought down.

Argentina coach Mascherano, who starred in the teams that won gold in Athens and Beijing, had at one point hoped to persuade Lionel Messi to feature among the three permitted overage players in his squad otherwise limited to those under 23.

Messi opted not to come to the Paris Games, and the biggest names in their side here were Manchester City striker Julian Alvarez and captain Nicolas Otamendi, the Benfica defender.

Someone, son of former Argentina star Diego, came off the bench to pull one back midway through the second half.

Medina then thought he had saved a point in the 106th minute as he nodded in after Otamendi and Bruno Amione had both hit the woodwork in a frantic few seconds of action, only for Argentina to be denied.

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