

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**Vice-President & RS chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar defends RSS, saying it has 'unimpeachable credentials' and is doing 'national service', triggering a furore in Upper House, P 15**

**Road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari urges finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to consider suggestions for removing GST on life and health insurance, P 15**

**Fifty-three police officers & three police dogs were injured during riots in UK's Southport on Tuesday night, just yards away from where a peaceful vigil took place hours ago for 13 people stabbed in a yoga & dance class, P 22**

**Former India cricketer Anshuman Gaekwad passes away after losing a long battle with cancer. The 71-year-old played 40 Tests and 205 first-class matches in a career spanning 22 years, P 26**

## Hamas chief killed in Iran; Khamenei 'orders Israel attack'

Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in Tehran, Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard said early Wednesday.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the assassination. But Iran and Hamas have accused Israel of the assassination. Israel, which is at war with Hamas in the Gaza Strip, has neither acknowledged nor denied killing Haniyeh, who was in Tehran for the inauguration of Iran's new president.

Soon after the attack, Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, issued an order for Iran to strike Israel directly, in retaliation

**EDIT: Who killed Haniyeh?**

for the killing in Haniyeh, according to three Iranian officials briefed on the order, reports NYT.

Khamenei gave the order at an emergency meeting of Iran's Supreme National Security Council on Wednesday morning, said the three Iranian officials, including two members of the Revolutionary Guards. They asked that their names not be published because they were not authorised to speak publicly.

Soon after the assassination, Israel's minister of heritage Amichai Eliyahu was quoted by local media as saying, "This is the right way to clean the world of this filth... Haniyeh's death makes the world a little better." P 22

## Infy under probe for ₹32k cr GST evasion

Infosys is under the scanner of directorate general of GST intelligence for alleged evasion of over Rs 32,400 crore from July 2017 to March 2022 for non-payment of integrated GST on import of services from overseas branches. Infosys contested the allegations. P 23

## Ransomware strike hits bank services

Customers of around 300 small-sized lenders across the country have not been able to withdraw cash at ATMs or use UPI due to a ransomware attack at technology service provider C-Edge Technologies. The issues are being faced for the last two days. P 23

## NEET big scorer fails boards, again

The girl from Gujarat who had scored 705 out of 720 in NEET-UG but later failed Class 12 boards has also failed the supplementary exams, leaving her ineligible for college. Her result had caused an uproar due to the implausibility of a NEET topper failing the board exams. P 14

## ED searches in Ayushman probe

ED carried out searches in 19 locations across Delhi, Chandigarh, Punjab and Himachal Wednesday in a probe related to alleged embezzlement of Rs 25 crore through the Ayushman Bharat scheme. Two Congress functionaries in Himachal have been tied to the fraud. P 14

# Wayanad toll rises to 173; 225 still missing after 48 hours

## Rescue Efforts Hit By Rain, 1.6k Saved in 2 Days

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Wayanad:** More bodies were extricated from the debris of landslide-ravaged Wayanad's sodden landscape Wednesday, taking the officially confirmed death toll in the disaster to 173. Hopes of finding survivors among the 227 people reported missing dimmed as the clock ticked on a rescue

operation made more challenging by intermittent rain. CM Pinarayi Vijayan said 1,592 people have been rescued in two days and efforts would continue till the last possible survivor is saved.

**EDIT: Escape To Where?**

Unofficial estimates peg

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Rescue workers lift a body to Chooralmala in Wayanad as the bridge from Attamala has collapsed. The toll has risen by almost 50 since Tuesday

**Centre sent alerts: Shah; baseless, says CM, P 28**

the death toll at 250-odd, bringing home the scale of devastation wrought by the two landslides early Tuesday that almost wiped out Mundakkai and two neighbouring villages. More than 200 people have been hospitalised with injuries.

The Wayanad district administration said the deceased include 23 children. Till late evening, 96 bodies had been identified and 75 of these handed over to families.

**Bailey bridge, P 16**

## Cong moves privilege notice against PM, BJP calls it a joke

**New Delhi:** Even as Congress on Wednesday filed a notice of breach of privilege against PM Modi for tweeting BJP MP Anurag Thakur's speech with content that had alluded

to the assassination of Haniyeh, there was little likelihood of the move making any headway, report Akhilesh Singh & Subodh Ghildiyal. Congress notice submitted by Charanjit Singh Channi, ex-CM and a Dalit, claimed PM Modi had shared expunged parts of Thakur's speech. A BJP functionary called the Congress move a "joke".

**Expunge parivarvaad remark, says Kharage, P 18**

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## Near-collision in city sets off heated row, chase; woman killed in firing

**New Delhi:** Horror unfolded for a couple heading to a bank with their two children on Wednesday afternoon in east Delhi when their bike nearly collided with a scooter, setting off a violent confrontation.

It culminated in the scooter rider chasing the couple and firing at them, killing the woman, in an apparent case of road rage.

The 25-year-old woman, identified as Simranjit Kaur, was the wife of a gurdwara manager, Hira Singh, who also used to run an ambulance service. The incident happened under Gokalpuri flyover between 2.45 pm and 3 pm when the family, residents of Bhalswa, was going to Jyoti Nagar on an Enfield motorcycle.

A scooter rider, driving in a reckless manner, passed their

vehicle at a very high speed. This dangerous manoeuvre triggered a heated argument between Singh and the scooter rider who apparently passed some lewd comments at Simranjit. Eyewitness accounts suggest that the situation deteriorated rapidly with the enraged scooter rider pursuing the family, waving a firearm.

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Govt. of Haryana



# Mhara Haryana

# Non-Stop Haryana

# We Haryanvis

## Our panchayats are educated and empowered

Minimum educational qualification for panchayat candidates – 10th for men, 8th for women

50% reservation for women in the Panchayati Raj Institutions

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Continuous development by educated panchayats





PWD issues new SOP to minimise monsoon risks | 6

**TIMES CITY** 096  
 AQI IN DELHI ON WEDNESDAY (SATISFACTORY CATEGORY)  
 THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2024  
 IIT-M to check stability of newly built portion of IGI's T1 | 9

096  
 AQI IN DELHI ON WEDNESDAY (SATISFACTORY CATEGORY)

Air you breathed overshoot annual 'quota' in Jan itself | 12



# Why No MCD Official Hauled Up For Students' Deaths: HC

## Calls Police Probe 'Strange', Hints At Handing It Over To CBI

Abhinav.Garg @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Wednesday made it clear that accountability must be fixed for the death of three UPSC aspirants in a flooded basement on July 27 and wondered why no MCD official had been "hailed up" till now.

The bench also termed the police investigation into the deaths at Rau's IAS Study Circle "strange" as the law enforcers had arrested a man who had driven past the coaching centre, but not yet acted against anyone from MCD.

The court summoned the corporation commissioner and local deputy commissioner of police to appear before it on Friday and said it intends to hand over the probe to CBI.

"Has any official been caught or interrogated? Who is being interrogated from MCD? Did someone get the drain desilted on time and properly? Have they questioned the official who failed to desilt the drain?" the bench of acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela asked the counsel who were representing MCD and police.

About the police probe, the court said: "Every passerby you are taking action (against) but you are not acting against MCD officials who didn't remove the encroachments on the drain. How did the water enter the basement and why did it accumulate? Has the investiga-



Students fall over one another while wading through a waterlogged area near Old Rajender Nagar on Wednesday

ting officer (IO) seen the drain plans? It is a very strange investigation that is going on."

The bench added: "Illegal construction cannot come up without collusion of the police."

The court was hearing a plea seeking the constitution of a high-level committee to investigate the deaths of the three civil service aspirants along with another pending petition against hundreds of libraries running in basements in the city. When the counsel for MCD said that some officials had been suspended or removed, the court said the "junior-most officer" has been suspended.

"What happens to senior officers who didn't exercise their power of supervision?"

Senior officers don't visit the spot to find out if work is being done or not on the ground. Instead, they are sitting in their AC rooms? This is criminal neglect," the bench said.

"No person has lost his job ever in MCD" over such lapses, the bench pointed out. "They are suspended but later come back with promotions. No one is accountable in the system. Our orders are water off a duck's back for the civic agency. Has even one person gone to jail from MCD till now?" the bench asked.

The court also referred to an MCD report which claimed the coaching institute falls in a "saucer"-like area where water accumulates easily. "Your officials would have known about the cup

and saucer situation, had they not visualised it while granting all permissions for construction. Decisions must be taken for public welfare at large... People's lives are costly. They shouldn't be lost," the bench said.

"We are telling you, once the responsibility is fixed on officials, no such incident will ever happen in the future," the judges said. "There is infrastructure failure in the city at a large scale."

The court noted that the situation is absolutely chaotic and wondered if the civic authorities even exist at the ground level given that construction of multi-storey buildings were being allowed but the civic agencies had not revamped the drainage.

# Court slams 'freebies culture', lack of infra in city

Abhinav.Garg @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Flaggering the "freebies culture," Delhi High Court on Thursday said the city's infrastructure had failed to keep pace with requirements of the citizens.

While dealing with a clutch of petitions alleging official apathy in connection with the death of three UPSC aspirants, the court said such tragedies were bound to happen. "Civic authorities are bankrupt. You don't have money to even pay salaries. How are you going to improve infrastructure? You want to have a freebies culture, you don't want to collect taxes. You are not collecting any money, so you are not spending any money," a bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela stated and summoned the MCD commissioner and local DCP on Friday.

"There is a population of 3.3 crore people in this city, whereas it was planned for 6-7 lakh people. Where will you get the money for these 3 crore? How do you plan to accommodate so many people without upgrading infra? There is a major disconnect between what citizens need and what they are given. You allow six-seven storey buildings to come up but don't have drains there," an anguished bench told the civic authorities.

"The planning is extremely poor; there is no master plan for drains," it remarked.

During the hearing, the bench remarked that Delhi is unique where people have to protest and agitate, saying there is no water in Delhi and the city is not receiving its share of water, but there are floods the next day. It also directed the authorities to remove all encroachments on drains in Old Rajender Nagar by Friday.

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# Trial court junks bail plea of SUV driver

Abhinav Garg & Vineet Upadhyay | TNN

New Delhi: Hours after Delhi High Court found the police probe into the deaths of three UPSC aspirants "strange" and a "cover-up" for focusing on a passing SUV driver, a trial court Wednesday rejected his bail plea.

Judicial magistrate first class Vinod Kumar rejected the bail petitions of the vehicle owner, Manoj Kathuria, along with those of the coaching centre basement owners Tejinder Singh, Parvinder Singh, Harvinder Singh and Sarabjeet Singh.

Dismissing Kathuria's bail plea, judge Kumar said allegations levelled by police against him were "serious in nature" and noted that CCTV footage prima facie showed him "driving the said vehicle on an already heavily waterlogged road at such a speed causing large displacement of water, as a result of which the

gate of the premises gave way and the water went into the basement and consequently three innocent lives were lost".

Despite being warned of the dangers ahead due to waterlogging, Kathuria didn't pay any heed, the court said.

Interestingly, while the magistrate accepted the police version, Delhi High Court earlier in the day severely castigated the same probe, even announcing it may transfer the investigation to CBI.

"What is Delhi Police doing? Have they lost it? What are its officials who are monitoring the probe doing? This is a cover-up or what?" a bench of acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela remarked, while hearing a PIL on the matter.

In strong words, the court termed it "strange" that a man who drove a car outside the coaching centre was arrested but police didn't act against MCD officials.

"Some sort of very strange investigation

is going on. We don't know if the IO has seen the desilting plan or the approved building construction plan or if he has investigated the role of MCD officials," the bench said.

Directing the DCP and IO to be present on Friday, HC said, "They are trying to get hold of any passerby or driver and saying this happened because you drove a car?"

Kathuria has been accused of driving his Force Gurkha car through the street that was flooded by rainwater, causing the water to swell and breach the gates of the three-storey building and inundate the basement.

The trial court, while dismissing the bail of the four owners of the basement, noted that the basement earmarked for parking and household storage was being used for commercial purposes in complete violation of law. It said the charges against them were serious and the probe was at a nascent stage.

# PWD planning a third-party audit of drain desilting

Siddhanta.Mishra @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Public Works Department (PWD) is considering carrying out a third-party audit of the desilting of its drains.

After heavy rainfall and flooding in several areas, an independent audit of desilting work was discussed last year, but it was not taken any further.

Recently, after the death of three civil service aspirants in an Old Rajender Nagar coaching centre basement, gov't raised the matter of the lack of desilting despite claims of work done on paper.

"We are considering an external audit of the desilting work," a PWD official said. This is likely to be done by Netaji Subhas University of Technology (NSUT).

The PWD will also carry out an internal audit of the desilting work. Earlier, urban development minister Saurabh Bharadwaj had pointed out the problem of the lack of desilting work on the ground despite claims being made by officials.

He posted a video of a meeting with top govt officials last month where he asked about the status of the third-party audit on desilting work. PWD manages over 50 per cent of the drainage network. The internal drains are managed by MCD. Usually, the approach of PWD is to identify waterlogging hotspots and take preventive steps.

PWD, which manages a significant network of roads in the city, is yet to start implementing its drainage master plan.

The master plan by IIT Delhi in 2018 said that rapid unplanned urbanisation, shallow groundwater level, and low elevation are major reasons for frequent flooding problems in the city.

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# 29-year-old man arrested for cyber fraud

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A 29-year-old man was arrested by Delhi Police from Haryana's Nuh in a cheating case on Wednesday. The accused allegedly cheated a man on the pretext of buying items on the OLX app.

According to police, the accused has been identified as Aamir Khan, a resident of Nuh in Mewat district.

The complainant had posted an advertisement to sell a vacuum cleaner on OLX and received a call from an unknown number. The caller said he had seen the advertisement on OLX and was interested to buy the vacuum cleaner for Rs 40,000, the complainant told police.

The accused then sent a QR code and asked the complainant to scan it to receive the payment. As soon as the complainant scanned the QR code, Rs 40,000 was deducted from his bank account, police said.

A police team was formed and it took the help of technical surveillance and also obtained the details of the bank account of the accused. The total amount of Rs 40,000 was credited to Khan's bank account and withdrawn through an ATM card from the Nuh and Mewat regions of Haryana. Police reached Nuh, traced Khan and arrested him.

A case has been filed under section 420 (cheating) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code in the Cyber police station of Dwarka.

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Chief Minister

**Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi**  
Minister of Industrial Development Uttar Pradesh

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<b>ALLOTMENT FOR HOSPITAL</b>									
1	Child Welfare and Maternity Centre	PH-1	C	20	5000	22770	11,38,50,000.00	1,13,85,000.00	5,69,250.00
2	Hospital	13	-	22E	10115	22770	23,03,18,550.00	2,30,31,855.00	1,15,159.28
3	Hospital	H-2	R	20	10900	22770	24,81,93,000.00	2,48,19,300.00	1,24,096.50
<b>ALLOTMENT FOR NURSING HOME</b>									
1	Nursing Home	NH-2	-	17	2750	22770	6,26,17,500.00	62,61,750.00	3,13,087.50
2	Nursing Home	NH-4	-	22D	1400	22770	3,18,78,000.00	31,87,800.00	1,59,390.00
3	Nursing Home	NH-12	7E	18	1000	22770	2,27,70,000.00	22,77,000.00	1,13,850.00
<b>ALLOTMENT FOR NURSERY SCHOOL</b>									
1	Nursery School	NS-1	-	17	1000	15020	1,50,20,000.00	15,02,000.00	75,100.00
2	Nursery School	NS-4	-	22D	1400	15020	2,10,28,000.00	21,02,800.00	1,05,140.00
3	Nursery School	F-5	-	22D	1500	15020	2,25,30,000.00	22,53,000.00	1,12,650.00

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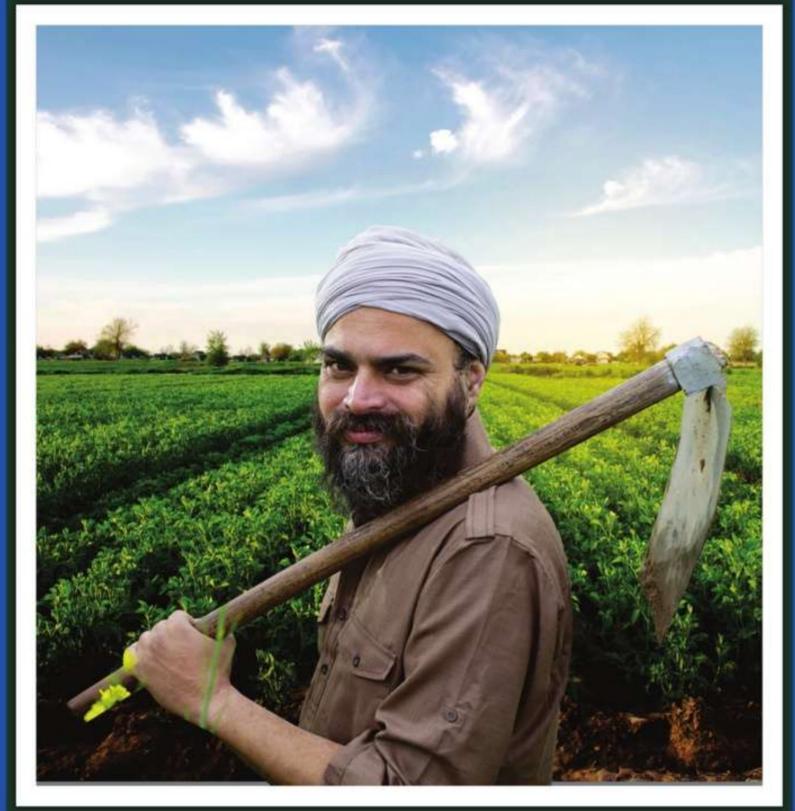
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**Bhagwant Singh Mann**  
Chief Minister, Punjab



# Delhi Govt Plans To Bring Law To Regulate Coaching Centres

Will Specify Infra Needs, Qualification Of Teachers: Atishi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Days after three civil services aspirants drowned in the basement library of an institute in Old Rajender Nagar, Delhi govt said it would bring legislation to regulate coaching centres in the national capital. Delhi education minister Atishi said govt would soon constitute a committee comprising officials and students from different coaching hubs to frame the law. She also announced an e-mail address—coaching.law.feedback@gmail.com—and urged people to send their suggestions on the issue.

“Just like private schools and private hospitals/nursing homes are regulated by law with established guidelines for infrastructure, have regular inspections, and are given recognition by govt, Arvind Kejriwal-led Delhi govt will introduce a law to regulate all coaching institutes in the city, whether they are preparing students for IAS, IIT, NEET, CUET, NDA, or any other exam,” Atishi said.

While Municipal Corporation of Delhi has cracked down on coaching centres using basements in violation of laws since the incident, Atishi said long-term solutions were required to resolve the issue. “Just as schools and nursing homes are given infrastructure requirements, the coaching institute regulation act will specify infrastructure requirements and qualifications of teachers,” Atishi said. She added that the fees charged by the coaching centres would



ANNOUNCEMENTS MADE BY EDUCATION MINISTER

- ▶ Delhi govt to enact a law to regulate coaching institutes
- ▶ Infrastructure requirement of coaching institutes and qualifications of teachers will be specified
- ▶ Fees will be regulated
- ▶ Will curb misleading ads
- ▶ Regular inspections of coaching centres will be done
- ▶ A committee comprising Delhi govt officials and students will be formed to prepare the Bill
- ▶ Public feedback will be sought on email coaching.law.feedback@gmail.com

also be regulated by the law and the promotion of misleading advertisements would also be checked. She said the process through which coaching institutes would be regulated would not be a one-time thing, but regular inspections of these centres would be conducted.

Announcing the email address, Atishi said govt would publicise it through newspapers and FM radio. “I appeal to the people of Delhi, especially the students, to give their feedback. This act will have

regulations according to the requirements of the students studying in coaching institutes. We believe that only such a law will provide a long-term solution to this type of illegality and irregularity that is going on in the coaching industry,” Atishi said.

While MCD has already terminated the service of a junior engineer, suspended an assistant engineer, and served a show-cause notice on an executive engineer, the minister said strict action would be taken on the basis of

the magisterial report, which was expected in six days.

“The probe will also ascertain which officer ignored a complaint sent to MCD by an IAS aspirant about the illegal use of the basement at Rau’s IAS Study Circle, where the three students died,” she said, adding that it would also ascertain which officer was in charge of the grievances portal where the complaint was uploaded and how it was ignored. The minister also stressed the need to initiate criminal action against the owners of coaching institutes rather than holding meetings with them.

A civil services aspirant from Gwalior had on Monday claimed that he had complained to MCD about the illegal use of the basement by the institute and sent reminders on July 15 and 22, but no action was taken in the matter. Atishi, along with her cabinet colleagues and senior officers, later held a meeting with UPSC aspirants and sought their suggestions for incorporating them into the proposed law to curb irregularities and illegal activities of coaching institutes.

Govt said that the students highlighted the lack of infrastructure in coaching institutes, violation of rules, arbitrary rent, and increased fee collection as some of the problems. Students also sought enhanced safety measures at coaching centres.

Atishi visited Old Rajender Nagar on Wednesday and assured the students of necessary actions to safeguard their well-being.

## Bid to evade responsibility, claims BJP

**New Delhi:** BJP on Wednesday alleged that Delhi govt’s announcement of bringing a new law to regulate coaching institutes in the capital was a “deception”. Addressing a press conference, Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva said instead of issuing necessary guidelines for an immediate resolution of the issue at hand, which arose after the death of three civil services aspirants, Kejriwal govt was indulging in the game of seeking suggestions and turning the process into an “event”.

“This law should have been brought 10 years ago. Along with this, Delhi also needs a law to regulate paying guest accommodations, as both are interrelated issues. Students coming from other states to study in Delhi are forced to live in equally unsafe conditions,” Sachdeva said, adding that Delhi govt was trying to evade the responsibility of the deaths of three students due to negligence of its departments by making such announcements.

He added that Delhi Master Plan 2041 has proposed that all coaching institutes be relocated to commercial areas of Delhi. “If the Delhi govt had woken up in time and worked on the relocation process, a permanent solution could have been found by now,” Sachdeva said.

Blaming Atishi for the failure of govt agencies in discharging their duties, Sachdeva said the minister should take moral responsibility and resign. **TNN**

# LG forms committee to frame safety guidelines

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Lieutenant governor VK Saxena on Wednesday formed a committee to frame guidelines to regulate coaching centres in the capital and redress issues faced by students. Raj Niwas officials said the committee, headed by chief secretary Naresh Kumar, will address the issues related to regulating the coaching centres, high rents charged by landlords, fire clearances, desilting of drains, and other immediate needs of students to create a conducive educational environment.

The committee will prepare long- and short-term action plans for gradually shifting the coaching institutes from different locations to well-planned areas in Narela and Rohini. The move comes days after three civil service aspirants died in the flooded library in the basement of Rau’s IAS Study Circle in Old Rajender Nagar. Officials said the LG had held a meeting on Tuesday with student representatives and managements of over 20 coaching centres. It was attended by senior Delhi govt officials and the DDA vice-chairman, where the steps were announced.

Raj Niwas officials said following the LG’s request, the federation of coaching institutes agreed to offer fair compensation to the aspirants’ families. The federation also offered a fee discount to their enrolled students after the mental agony and disruption due to the incident, officials said.

According to officials, the chief secretary will take up the matter of formulating guidelines in line with those framed by the Centre with the Delhi education minister.

The LG has also directed the police commissioner to

## IMPORTANT DECISIONS TAKEN

- ▶ A chief secretary-led committee to look into the issues of regulation, exorbitant rental, fire clearances, desilting of drains, etc
- ▶ Action plan to be made for shifting coaching centres to a planned area
- ▶ CS to talk to Delhi education minister to form regulatory framework for coaching institutions and tuition classes in line with guidelines framed by Centre
- ▶ DDA VC to facilitate site visits for coaching institutions in Narela and Rohini for setting up an education hub
- ▶ Libraries, teaching facilities in basements to be sealed
- ▶ As a short-term measure, institutes to provide reading rooms on other floors
- ▶ Federation of coaching institutes to offer compensation to families of the three victims
- ▶ Discount to be offered in fee in current academic session to students who suffered mental agony and disruption in studies due to the incident
- ▶ Transparent database of all coaching institutes and enrolled students to be made available on a portal with Aadhaar-based log-in
- ▶ MCD to facilitate online application for fire clearances for coaching institutions
- ▶ MCD commissioner to clarify regulatory framework of fire clearances and building bylaws to the fire department
- ▶ Immediate crackdown by police against exorbitant rentals and compulsory cash transactions for tax evasion
- ▶ Beat constables, local SHOs to be sensitised to provide sympathetic and proactive support to students



crack down on property owners charging exorbitant rents from students. According to officials, Saxena also issued orders to create a portal with Aadhaar-based log-in credentials for all coaching institutes and students enrolled there. They said about 90% of libraries for students in the Old Rajender Nagar area were being run “illegally” in basements and the role of MCD engineers and officials of Delhi Fire Service and police are under the scanner.

The DDA vice-chairman offered that a coaching hub can be established by the agency at various locations like Narela and Rohini which would also have accommodation facilities. Most institutes agreed on the need for such a hub and expressed their willingness to

move there, the officials said. The student representatives shared their plight with LG, complaining about the exploitation like being charged Rs 24 per unit of electricity by their landlords. Cramped accommodation and teaching facilities, non-existence of any grievance redress mechanism, lack of basic facilities and difficulty in getting refunds also came up.

The LG observed that the coaching institutes in Old Rajender Nagar, Mukherjee Nagar, Ber Sarai, and Kalu Sarai have become “ghettos”. Any coaching institute running a library or teaching facility in the basement will be sealed immediately. It was agreed that as a short-term measure the larger institutes would assist provide students reading rooms on other floors, officials said.

# In season of rain, minister and chief secretary spar on drains

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The spat between chief secretary Naresh Kumar and minister Saurabh Bharadwaj continued on Wednesday, with the senior official saying that a recommendation to draft a ‘Storm Water and Drainage Act’ for Delhi was pending with the latter, which could have helped in dealing with the problem of encroachment on drains.

Responding to the charge, Bharadwaj said the chief secretary had developed the habit of placing wrong facts in files and asked him to stop writing “unsubstantiated and unrelated” things in his notes.

Bharadwaj had written a note to Kumar on Tuesday asking him to explain in writing which files related to waterlogging and drainage were pending in his office. The minister had further said that he had confirmed with the irrigation and flood control department’s principal secretary and that no such decision was pending with him.

In his response to the minister’s note late on Tuesday, Kumar said a three-member committee of senior IAS officers had proposed a ‘Storm Water and Drainage Act’ for Delhi with provisions for penalties on encroachment, dumping of construction, municipal and industrial solid waste in the city’s drains, which was pending with the irrigation and flood control minister Bharadwaj. He added that the encroachment of drains was a major problem and it cannot be solved without a proper legislative framework.

The minister had written the note to the chief secretary on Tuesday after the latter, in his report on the death of three civil service aspirants in Old Rajender Nagar, had men-

## CS said a recommendation to draft a ‘Storm Water and Drainage Act’ for Delhi was pending with the minister, who responded that CS had developed the habit of placing wrong facts in files

tioned the committee’s recommendations pending with the minister. In his communication to Bharadwaj late on Tuesday, Kumar requested the minister to move the file on drainage plan recommendations so that the draft of the legislation could be initiated.

Citing an MCD report on the death of the three students, Kumar said the photographs of the site showed how the storm water drainage system at that place was encroached by the owner or occupier of the building and such a situation existed in the whole of Delhi. “In the absence of a legislative framework, such a widespread blockage in the storm water drainage system could not be controlled,” the chief secretary said. He added that due to this problem, whenever there was heavy rainfall, many places in the city got flooded.

“It is not out of context to mention that a Storm Water and Drainage Act for Delhi, with penal provisions, would have a direct impact on rainwater discharge in Delhi,” the official emphasised. The MCD report said that property owners in Old Rajender Nagar constructed ramps and covered the drain with granite and marble, leaving no scope for its cleaning and restricting the flow of rainwater into it.

Responding to the chief secretary’s reply, Bharadwaj asked if it was because of the lack of the drainage act that the MCD could

not take action against encroachment on stormwater drains in Rajender Nagar. “Is the chief secretary saying that MCD could not take action on blatant misuse of basements in Rajender Nagar because there is no law for the same? I believe there are enough provisions under the DMC Act to take action against those who encroach on public land and public utilities,” Bharadwaj said.

The minister added that the stormwater drains in Rajender Nagar have been opened by MCD using JCB machines. “Is the CS trying to say that MCD is removing this encroachment without any backing of the law?” he asked. The minister added that if the then I&FC secretary Ashish Kundra (currently principal secretary to LG) has not implemented the decision to draft the proposed act in spite of this, the chief secretary should take strict action against the official.

Responding to Bharadwaj’s direction on Tuesday to submit the report of the third-party audit of desilting of drains by Aug 7, Kumar said directions had been issued to all departments not to make payments to contractors engaged for desilting drains without completion of the audit. Bharadwaj on Wednesday said the chief secretary’s response proved that no third-party audit report was available with him. “When there were directions of the High Court, why did the CS not ensure that a third-party audit was conducted?”

“It is a common understanding that an effective audit of desilting of drains could have happened only before the onset of monsoons. Once the monsoons set in and there is heavy rain... every officer and contractor will make excuses that drains were properly desilted before monsoons and the silt present now is the result of rains,” Bharadwaj said.

# Rain disrupts basement drowning protest at Old Rajender Nagar

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** A protest, which has been going on since the drowning of three civil services aspirants in the basement of a coaching institute in Old Rajender Nagar, was disrupted on Wednesday evening as heavy rain caused similar waterlogging conditions that had allegedly led to the deaths on Saturday night.

Before the evening shower, over 300 protesters were at the demonstration, demanding justice from civic bodies for the victims. They said they feared that more lives would be lost in the future due to infrastructural lapses and civic issues at the local level.

Aspirants living in the area have time and again flagged to various govt bodies that streets get waterlogged every monsoon even after not-so-heavy rain, water fills up libraries and rented accommodations in PGs, and students have no option but to endanger their lives while studying in libraries or sleeping in their beds.

On Wednesday, tempers ran high as the protest entered the



DEMANDING JUSTICE

fourth day. Clashes were reported with police as demonstrators tried to march forward. The entire Bada Bazaar Road was blocked by hundreds of students and police officers who had barricaded the stretch.

Several politicians also joined the protest during the day. Delhi govt minister Atishi showed up to talk to students and understand their demands. She promised that a coaching institute regulation act would be introduced and 10 student

representatives would be involved in its drafting. Other issues such as the expensive fees of coaching institutes, rent, brokerage, facilities and the safety of students were also discussed.

For now, a grievance redressal office will be set up for students in the office of local AAP MLA Durgesh Pathak, who was present at the protest. BJP’s Jaya Prada also sat with the protesting students and listened to their grievances.

Representatives from va-

## At ground zero, it’s chaos yet again

Merely days after the tragedy that claimed three lives, Old Rajender Nagar found itself inundated again on Wednesday. Several electrical poles caught fire, with harrowing visuals of block no. 5 making rounds on social media. Neighbourhoods, including Bada Bazaar Road, which is home to Rau’s IAS Study Circle, were deluged. Students residing in the area have also complained that sewer water is entering their bathrooms. **TNN**

rious student political bodies such as Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad, All India Students’ Association and Students’ Federation of India joined the protest.

The students have said a coordination committee comprising 15 members has been formed to decide the protest’s course of action and communicate with the authorities. They have made it clear that they won’t budge unless their demands are met.

# MCD commissioner hears out coaching centre students

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** MCD commissioner Ashwani Kumar on Wednesday met students from Old Rajender Nagar where three UPSC aspirants died when the library in their coaching centre’s basement got flooded.

In all, 28 students met the commissioner with their suggestions. The students requested that a legal framework be created to address distortions in rent, security deposits and brokerage charges be-

ing levied by property owners or dealers. The commissioner agreed that a necessary legal framework was desirable. “Decongesting the residential areas which are turning into ghettos is also important so that students do not face infrastructural bottlenecks,” the commissioner said.

Regarding the students’ request for financial assistance to the families of the three civil service aspirants, officials said ex-gratia according to govt norms has already been released.

Students raised the matter of unhygienic kitchens and food caterers. They said Old Rajender Nagar was a hub of unhygienic caterers and dabbawalas. The commissioner directed the public health department to make visits to such kitchens and check their condition.

The students said that after the closure of the libraries in basements, library operators were trying to raise rents. “I took a serious view and told students to shun such libraries,” he said.



# NASHA MUKT DELHI CAMPAIGN



### SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

To identify whether a person is suffering from addiction, one needs to be aware about the signs, so that help could be provided

#### PHYSICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL SYMPTOMS OF DRUG ADDICT PERSONS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BLOODSHOT OR GLAZED EYES, DILATED PUPILS</li> <li>● POOR LOCO-MOTOR COORDINATION</li> <li>● SLURRED SPEECH</li> <li>● DISINTERESTED ATTITUDE</li> <li>● RUNNING NOSE OR COUGH</li> <li>● POOR PHYSICAL HEALTH &amp; SENSE OF HYGIENE</li> <li>● CHANGE IN EATING HABIT</li> <li>● INCREASED ANGER OR IRRITABILITY</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● TREMORS</li> <li>● DEPRESSION</li> <li>● MOOD SWINGS</li> <li>● PARANOIA-SEVERE ANXIETY</li> <li>● EXTREME HYPERACTIVITY</li> <li>● ISOLATING FROM FRIENDS/FAMILY</li> <li>● FLUCTUATION IN WEIGHT</li> <li>● SUDDEN CHANGE IN PERSONALITY, ATTITUDE, HABITS, HOBBIES</li> </ul>
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“You don't need drugs to change who you are. You need Love, determination and hard work”

## NATIONAL HELPLINE FOR DRUG DE-ADDICTION

# 1800-11-0031

DIRECTORATE OF PROHIBITION, DEPARTMENT SOCIAL WELFARE  
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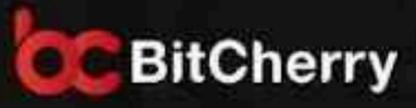
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**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 Executive Engineer, PWD, North 24 Prgs Electrical Division invites online e-Tender for the work of: "Upgrading of 11KV Electrical and allied installation with provision of materials and manpower at West Bengal State University with allied area of North 24 Parganas" - AN/C of A.C. Machines - NIT No.: WBPWD/EE/N24/EL/e-NIT-122\_2nd Call/1/24-25. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_724658\_1. Pre Bid Meeting Date: 05.08.2024 at 12.00 Hrs. Bid submission start date (online): 05.08.2024 Bid Submission Closing date (online): 20.08.2024. Corrigendum if any will be published website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbenders.gov.in> or <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer-PWD,NORTH24PARGANASELECTRICALDIVISION>. ICA-112956(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 EE/KSHD, PWD invites tender for the work of: "Upgrading of 11KV Electrical Repair & rehabilitation of external supply & face lifting of old BIN Bldg. during the year 2024-25 & 3 (Three) nos. of that works" - e-NIT No.: WBPWD/KSHD/EE/NIT-11 OF 2024-25. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_723905\_1. Bid submission start date (online): 05/08/2024 at 2:00 PM. Bid Submission Closing date (online): 20/08/2024 upto 2:00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer-I,PWD,KolkataSouthHealthDivision>. ICA-112932(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
**NIT No. H57/AT-95-2024/SDI-RT/2024/311; DATED 29-07-2024**  
 Re E-Tender for procurement of some Drugs under Tender No. A for two years from the date of AOC is invited from the Bidders. Interested bidders may visit the website "<https://wbenders.gov.in>" or "[www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in)" for further details. Bid submission start date (online): 14.08.2024. Bid submission closing date (online): 22.08.2024. Bid opening date (online): 22.08.2024. Sd/-D.D.H.S. (E&S), WB. ICA-112884(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 The Executive Engineer-II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDtE, invites eNIQ for "Day to day operation of 3(Three) nos. Bed cum Passenger Lift for three shifts installed at Central Block, Birla Block & Sishu Sadan Building of Chittaranjan Seva Sadan COGH, Kolkata" at the office of the Principal Engineer-II, PWD, North 24 Parganas. Last date of submissions- 20/08/24 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen/obtained from the website: <https://wbenders.gov.in> or [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in) and office Notice Board, Sd/- Executive Engineer-II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDtE. ICA-112940(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 Online bids are invited for the work of: "Upgrading of 11KV Electrical and allied installation with provision of materials and manpower at West Bengal State University with allied area of North 24 Parganas" - AN/C of A.C. Machines - NIT No.: WBPWD/EE/N24/EL/e-NIT-122\_2nd Call/1/24-25. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_724658\_1. For details please follow the website: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,PWD,MaldaElectricalDivision>. ICA-112920(4)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 e-Tender of NIT No. 07 of 2024-25 by the of E.E./Diamond Harbour Highway Division, EE, Diamond Harbour Hwy Div, Dakshin Haripur, Diamond Harbour-743333 invites online e-Tender for the work of: "Upgrading of 11KV Electrical and allied installation with provision of materials and manpower at West Bengal State University with allied area of North 24 Parganas" - AN/C of A.C. Machines - NIT No.: WBPWD/EE/N24/EL/e-NIT-122\_2nd Call/1/24-25. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_724658\_1. For details please follow the website: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,PWD,MaldaElectricalDivision>. ICA-112920(4)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal, Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, P.H.E. Dte. for the work under NIT No.: 13 of the FY 2024-2025 of the PWD. (Circulated Memo No 2021 / BQA Dt: 29.07.2024) Document download Start date (online) 30.07.2024 at 11.30 A.M. Document download closing date (online) 13.08.2024 at 05.00 P.M. Detailed information is available on the website: <https://wbenders.gov.in> or <http://www.wbenders.gov.in> and office Notice Board, Sd/- Executive Engineer, Bankura Division, P.H.E. Dte. ICA-112910(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 The Executive Engineer-II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDtE, invites eNIQ for "Day to day operation of 3(Three) nos. Bed cum Passenger Lift for three shifts installed at Central Block, Birla Block & Sishu Sadan Building of Chittaranjan Seva Sadan COGH, Kolkata" at the office of the Principal Engineer-II, PWD, North 24 Parganas. Last date of submissions- 20/08/24 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen/obtained from the website: <https://wbenders.gov.in> or [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in) and office Notice Board, Sd/- Executive Engineer-II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDtE. ICA-112940(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
**NIT No.: H57/1P-140-2024/DTM/2024/310; DATED 26.07.2024**  
 E-Tender for procurement of different types of Machines for two years from the date of award of contract (AOC), is invited from the manufacturers / direct importers. Interested bidders may visit the website: "<https://wbenders.gov.in>" or "[www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in)" for further details. Bid submission start date (online): 12.08.2024. Bid submission closing date (online): 23.08.2024. Bid opening date (online): 23.08.2024. Sd/-D.D.H.S. (E&S), WB. ICA-112881(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 EE, PWD, Asansol Division invites online e-Tender for 04 nos of Work of: 1. Radhanagar Dishegar Road Ch 0.000 Km to Ch 2.500 Km in Patches Post under Asansol Division, PWD, in the district of Paschim Bardhaman during 2024-25. Estimated Amount: Rs. 20,33,663.00. Tender ID: 2024\_PWD\_724582\_1. 2. Barakar Purulia Road Ch 1.500 Km to Ch 2.000 Km & 0.000 Km to 0.000 Km in Patches Post monsoon restoration work under Asansol Division, PWD, in the district of Paschim Bardhaman during 2024-25. Estimated Amount: Rs. 15,73,810.00. Tender ID: 2024\_PWD\_724582\_2. 3. Radhanagar Dishegar Road Ch 3.000 Km to Ch 4.850 Km in Patches Post monsoon restoration work under Asansol Division, PWD, in the district of Paschim Bardhaman during 2024-25. Estimated Amount: Rs. 19,29,924.00. Tender ID: 2024\_PWD\_724582\_3. 4. Sitarampur Rupnarayan Road Ch 1500 to Ch 3800 in Patches Post monsoon restoration work under Asansol Division, PWD, in the district of Paschim Bardhaman during 2024-25. Estimated Amount: Rs. 9,59,595.00. Tender ID: 2024\_PWD\_724582\_4. e-NIT No.: 05 of 2024-25 of the PWD. (S/N)P.W.D. For Sl. No.: 01 to 03. Bid submission start date (online): 02.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. Bid submission closing date (online): 23.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. B. For Sl. No.: 04. Bid submission start date (online): 02.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. Bid submission closing date (online): 14.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. Corrigendum and addendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,PWD,ASANSOLDIVISION>. ICA-112953(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 The Executive Engineer-II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDtE, invites eNIQ for "Day to day operation of 3(Three) nos. Bed cum Passenger Lift for three shifts installed at Central Block, Birla Block & Sishu Sadan Building of Chittaranjan Seva Sadan COGH, Kolkata" at the office of the Principal Engineer-II, PWD, North 24 Parganas. Last date of submissions- 20/08/24 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen/obtained from the website: <https://wbenders.gov.in> or [www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in) and office Notice Board, Sd/- Executive Engineer-II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PWDtE. ICA-112940(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**WEST BENGAL HOUSING BOARD**  
**ABRIDGE NOTICE**  
 e-Quotation (two fold system) is invited by the Deputy Director (EP-III) of WBHB for "Providing Security Services and Guarding arranged for completed projects in various locations including the Head Quarters (ABASAN) West Bengal Housing Board vide NIT No. WBHB/DD/EP-III/05/2024-25/27" Call. Date and time of closing bid submission: 16.08.2024 up to 11.00AM. All particulars will be available in the website: <http://wbenders.gov.in>. Corrigendum (if any) will be published in e-tendering website only. ICA-112957(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**ABRIDGED e-NIT**  
**NO.: WBII/EE/CD/NIT-07(e)/2024-25**  
 Sealed e-Tenders are hereby invited for the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of West Bengal from the bonafide contractors having credential as specified in the list of similar nature of work in last 5(five) years for total 05(Five) nos. of work. Last date of submission of e-Bid is 08.08.2024 upto 4.00 PM. Other details may be seen in the website: <http://wbenders.gov.in> and also in the office of the undersigned. Sd/- Executive Engineer-I, Canal Division. ICA-112878(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 PW/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/ NIT No. 12 of 2024-2025  
 EE, NBD, SS, PW, Dte. invites e-Tender for the work of: "Day to day Maintenance of Sanitary and Plumbing works in SNIPWD buildings at North Bengal Medical College & Hospital at Sushrutnagar in the dist of Darjeeling. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_724015\_1. Bid submission start date (online): 03-Aug-2024 from 12.00 PM. Bid submission closing date (online) 10-Aug-2024 from 12.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,NBD,SS,PW,Dte,Siliguri,Govt.WB>. ICA-112932(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, HOWRAH**  
**e-TENDER NOTICE**  
**Ref:- NIT No. CMOH/DHWS/HOW/1684, DATED 29/07/2024**  
 Re-E-Tender(3rd Call) is hereby invited for supply of food for different Health Programmes at office of the CMOH, Howrah. Last date of publication is: 07/08/2024. Tender Starting Date: 01/08/2024. Visit at <http://www.wbenders.gov.in> and <http://www.wbhealth.gov.in> and <http://www.wbhealth.gov.in/Sd/-CMOH,Howrah>. ICA-112869(1)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED**  
**(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)**  
**Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154**  
**Kolaghat Thermal Power Station**  
**P.O. Mecheda, Dist. Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721137**  
**Notice Inviting E-Tender**  
**NIT No.: WBPCL/KTPS/NIT/E3034/24-25**  
 Ref. No.: WBPCL/Tender/Adv/24-25/KTPS/CG-2108 Date : 24.07.2024  
 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbenders.gov.in> by the General Manager, KTPS, WBPCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 part bid system for "Supply and delivery of 145 KV Spring Operated, SF6 filled Circuit Breaker and Dismantling of existing 145 KV Hydraulic Operated BHEL make 3AR1EC Circuit Breaker and subsequent ETC job at 145 KV under CAPEX 2024-2025". Tender Document Download Start Date: 02.08.2024 at 14:00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 30.08.2024 at 14:30 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. S. Das, Dy. General Manager & HOD, Purchase, KTPS, Mobile: 8336904051. E-mail: sdas1@wbpccl.in For details please visit: <https://wbenders.gov.in>. ICA-112942(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**KMDA TENDER NOTICE**  
**e-NIT No. 01/KMDA/SS/MC/11/2024-25**  
 Sealed two part item e-tenders are invited by the Superintending Engineer, Mechanical Circle-II, EM Sector, KMDA, Block-1, Ground Floor, Umayan Bhawan, Kolkata-700091, from any Pump Manufacturer having valid ISO-9001/ISO-14001 certification or any Contracting Firm, for the work, Name of Work, Estimated Amount, Earnest Money, Time of Completion, Rejuvenation & Stabilization of the work "Design, Engineering, Supply, Delivery, Installation, commissioning, overhauling, renovation, Testing, Commissioning, Trial Run of electro mechanical equipment and allied Accessories at Clear Water booster Pumping Station at health playground under South dumdund municipality. Item Rate (To be Quoted by the Bidder), Rs.7,00,000. Differential amount: 2% of the Quoted amount & the deposited E.M.D. is to be submitted by the successful bidder after issuance of LOI and prior to issuance of work order, 12 months (Excluding commissioning and performance test for 72 hours and Three months Trial Run). Last date & time for online Bid submission: 27.08.2024 up to 14:00 hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-322) [www.kmda.wb.gov.in](http://www.kmda.wb.gov.in) [www.wbenders.gov.in](http://www.wbenders.gov.in). ICA-112867(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**TENDER NOTICE**  
 TENDER ID-2024\_PHE.D.724588\_1 to 2 (0 & M Work). Electronic Notice Inviting Tender No. 05 of 2024-25 of the PWD. (S/N)P.W.D. For Sl. No.: 01 to 03. Bid submission start date (online): 02.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. Bid submission closing date (online): 23.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. B. For Sl. No.: 04. Bid submission start date (online): 02.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. Bid submission closing date (online): 14.08.2024 at 09.00 IST. Corrigendum and addendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,PWD,ASANSOLDIVISION>. ICA-112953(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 PW/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/ NIT No. 12 of 2024-2025  
 EE, NBD, SS, PW, Dte. invites e-Tender for the work of: "Day to day Maintenance of Sanitary and Plumbing works in SNIPWD buildings at North Bengal Medical College & Hospital at Sushrutnagar in the dist of Darjeeling. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_724015\_1. Bid submission start date (online): 03-Aug-2024 from 12.00 PM. Bid submission closing date (online) 10-Aug-2024 from 12.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,NBD,SS,PW,Dte,Siliguri,Govt.WB>. ICA-112932(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
**NIT No.: H57/1P-140-2024/DTM/2024/312; DATED 29-07-2024**  
 Re E-Tender for procurement of some Drugs Eluting Stent for a period of two years from the date of AOC, is invited from the manufacturers / direct importers. Interested bidders may visit the website "<https://wbenders.gov.in>" or "[www.wbhealth.gov.in](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in)" for further details. Bid submission start date (online): 13-08-2024 Bid submission closing date (online): 02-09-2024 Bid opening date (online): 02-09-2024 Sd/- D.D.H.S. (E&S), WB. ICA-112894(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**MIDNAPORE KHARAGPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**(A Statutory Authority of the Government of West Bengal)**  
**Sahil Khudiram Zilla Park/Kalpna Bhawan (2nd Floor), Zilla Parishad Complex, Paschim Medinipur - 721101**  
**Phone No. 03222-261739,**  
**e-mail ID: mkdamidnapore@gmail.com**  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
**No. 13/KMDA/2024-25 (2nd Call)**  
 e-Tendering for Expression of Interest is invited for construction design for construction of Administrative Building of MKDA from bonafide and resourceful contractors having relevant credential for similar work. NIT & Tender Documents may be viewed on and from 02.08.2024 at 18:00 Hours and Tender Documents downloaded and submitted on & from 02.08.2024 at 12:00 Hours. Closing of Downloading & Submission of the Bidding Documents on 20.08.2024 at 09:00 Hours. Details of NIT & Tender Documents may be downloaded and submitted from <http://www.wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer,MKDA&ADM,PaschimMedinipur>. ICA-112866(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
**OF WEST BENGAL STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION**  
**(A STATUTORY AUTHORITY)**  
**OF SE. WB.S.W.C. email: ce-wbc@wb.gov.in**  
**NIT No. 453RD CALL of 2023-24 of SE/WBSCW**  
**Tender ID: 2024\_WBSCW\_723886\_1**  
**PREPARATION OF OFFER REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF FOOD GRAIN STORAGE GODOWN AT MOUZA-KALABARI, KALABARI, KALABARI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, DIST. NADIA. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION: 17.08.2024. For detailed NIT see <https://wbenders.gov.in> or <http://www.wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer,BerhamporeDivision-I,PHE,Dte>. ICA-112914(3)/2024**

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PWD TENDER NOTICE**  
 EE, Cob Hwy, Divn, PW, (Roads) Dte. invites online e tender for the work of - 1) Urgent protection of embankment between 0.00 Km and 1.00 Km of Hazrabhat Nayabhat road of Matlabhanga Highways Division under Cooch Behar Highway Division in the district of Coochbehar.(2nd Call) NIT No. 02(E)2nd Call of 2024-25, (Sl No.1) Estimated Amount: Rs. 34,01,699.00. Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_723002\_1. Bid submission Start date (online): 31/07/2024 from 9.00AM. Bid submission closing date (online): 13/08/2024 upto 06.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <https://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer,CoochBeharHighwayDivision,CoochBehar>. ICA-112926(4)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DIRECTORATE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT**  
**TRAN BHAWAN**  
**7A, S.N. BANERJEE ROAD, KOLKATA-700 014**  
**Memo No. 766-WB/DM/2M/51/2020 DATED: 29/07/2024**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
**(Tender Ref: WBDDM/DIRECTORATE/NIT-01/24-25)**  
 e-Tenders in two parts (Technical Bid & Financial Bid) are invited from the interested agencies any Co-operative Society by the Director of Disaster Management, West Bengal, Tran Bhawan, 7A, S. N. Banerjee Road, 9,00AM. Bid submission closing date (online): 02/08/2024 at 12.00 PM. Bid submission closing date (online): 02-09-2024 Sd/- D.D.H.S. (E&S), WB. ICA-112894(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**MIDNAPORE KHARAGPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**(A Statutory Authority of the Government of West Bengal)**  
**Sahil Khudiram Zilla Park/Kalpna Bhawan (2nd Floor), Zilla Parishad Complex, Paschim Medinipur - 721101**  
**Phone No. 03222-261739,**  
**e-mail ID: mkdamidnapore@gmail.com**  
**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
**No. 13/KMDA/2024-25 (2nd Call)**  
 e-Tendering for Expression of Interest is invited for construction design for construction of Administrative Building of MKDA from bonafide and resourceful contractors having relevant credential for similar work. NIT & Tender Documents may be viewed on and from 02.08.2024 at 18:00 Hours and Tender Documents downloaded and submitted on & from 02.08.2024 at 12:00 Hours. Closing of Downloading & Submission of the Bidding Documents on 20.08.2024 at 09:00 Hours. Details of NIT & Tender Documents may be downloaded and submitted from <http://www.wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer,MKDA&ADM,PaschimMedinipur>. ICA-112866(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**E-Tender Notice**  
 MSVP, NRS Medical College & Hospital invites e-Tender (NIT No. 86/2024-2025, Dt. 26.07.2024 from eligible and qualified bidders for Baby and Patient's Hosieries, Mattresses, Toys and other linen articles at NRSMC&H for the period 02.08.2024-2026 as details given in website: [wbenders.gov.in](https://wbenders.gov.in) & [www.wbhealth.gov.in/Sd/-MSVP,NRSMC&H](http://www.wbhealth.gov.in/Sd/-MSVP,NRSMC&H). ICA-112882(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**PW/ROADS TENDER NOTICE**  
 EE, Cob Hwy, Divn, PW, (Roads) Dte. invites online e tender for the work of - 1) Urgent Repairing of boundary wall of staff Quarter premises along side the Magazine Road under Cooch Behar Highway Division in the district of Cooch Behar, during the year 2024-25. (2nd Call) NIT No. 01(E) 2nd Call of 2024-25, (Sl No.1) Estimated Amount: Rs. 12,68,065.00. Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_722994\_1. 2) Repair and maintenance work inside office building and other allied works at Cooch Behar Highway Division. 1st Floor under Cooch Behar Highway Division, PW(Roads) Directorate during the year 2024-25.(2nd Call) NIT No. 01(E)2nd Call of 2024-25, (Sl No.2) Estimated Amount: Rs. 16,19,324.00. Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_722994\_2. Bid submission Start date (online): 31/07/2024 from 9.00AM. Bid submission closing date (online): 13/08/2024 upto 06.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: <https://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ExecutiveEngineer,CoochBeharHighwayDivision,CoochBehar>. ICA-112925(4)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Tender Notice of I & CA Dept**  
**Memo No. of NIT 3033 - ICA (N) dt 31/07/2024 and Tender ID 2024\_ICAD\_725872\_1 & Memo No. of NIT 3034 - ICA (N) dt 31/07/2024 and Tender ID 2024\_ICAD\_725887\_1.**  
 e-Tenders are hereby invited from intending bidders for website and social media handling related to Bengal Shopping Festival 2024. Bid submission closing date for all above e-Tenders: 06/08/2024 at 01:30 pm. Other details may be available from the website: <https://wbenders.gov.in>. Sd/- Director of Information, Information & Cultural Affairs Dept., Govt. of West Bengal. ICA-112964(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Abridged e-Tender Notice**  
**No(s). WBFOR/DFOKGP/e-NIT 29 to 37/29 of year. main/SP/2024-25**  
 Divisional Forest Officer, Kharagpur Division invites e-Tender from eligible Agencies/Firms/Companies/Suppliers/Contractors having sufficient credential in similar type of works in c/w 2nd yr. maint. of Sal & QGS Plantation under Kharagpur Division. For further details, please contact the office of the undersigned, at Hiji Co. Operative Society, Kharagpur, Paschim Medinipur. Also visit the website: [www.westbengalforest.gov.in](http://www.westbengalforest.gov.in) & [www.wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ManishKumarYadav,WBFS,DivisionalForestOfficer,KharagpurDivision](http://www.wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-ManishKumarYadav,WBFS,DivisionalForestOfficer,KharagpurDivision). ICA-112863(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Notice Inviting e-Tender**  
 NIT No. WB/PWD/EE/NIT-09/2024-25  
 e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Alipurduar Irrigation Division, College Hat, Alipurduar on behalf of Governor of WB for the work mentioned in the NIT under through online tendering process from the eligible and resourceful Contractors having sufficient credential & financial capacity for execution of work of similar nature. Details of NIT & Tender documents will be available from <http://www.wbhealth.gov.in> or <https://wbenders.gov.in> on 01.08.2024 after 18.30hrs. Bid submission end date 14.08.2024 up to 14.00hrs. Sd/-Executive Engineer, Alipurduar Irrigation Division, Irrigation and Waterways Directorate. ICA-112886(4)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**Notice Inviting e-Tender**  
 NIT No. WB/PWD/EE/NIT-09/2024-25  
 e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, PWD, North 24 Parganas, for the work of: "Upgrading of 11KV Electrical and allied installation with provision of materials and manpower at West Bengal State University with allied area of North 24 Parganas" - AN/C of A.C. Machines - NIT No.: WBPWD/EE/N24/EL/e-NIT-122\_2nd Call/1/24-25. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_724658\_1. For details please follow the website: <http://wbenders.gov.in/Sd/-EE,PWD,MaldaElectricalDivision>. ICA-112920(4)/2024

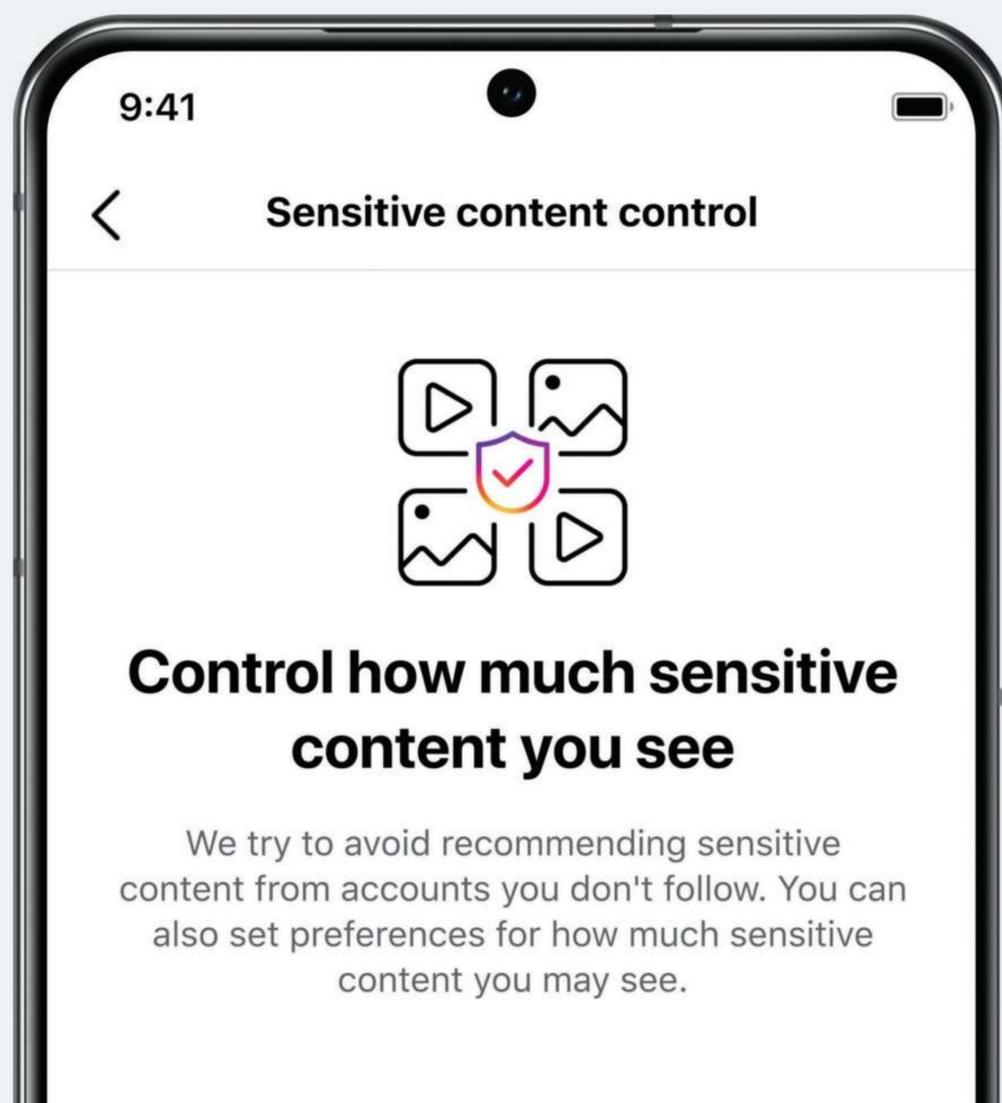
**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**KMDA TENDER NOTICE**  
**e-NIT No. 02/EE/CD/NS/SS/W/KMDA/2024-2025 (3rd Call)**  
 e-Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer, East Circle, WB&S Sector, KMDA, Block-2, 2nd floor, Umayan Bhawan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091, from eligible and resourceful contractors for the work, Sl. No., Name of Work, Estimated Amount, Earnest Money, Time of Completion, Rejuvenation & Stabilization of the work of existing Intake Jety and repairing works of ancillary building (operators room, LT Panel room, rest room, Transformer Area) along with River Bank Protection work at existing Intake Jety location in connection to the project "Augmentation & strengthening of Urban Water Supply Scheme of Bhatpara Municipality area under AMRUT 2.0". Rs.94,91,915/-, Rs.1,88,838/-, 06 months, (2) Rejuvenation work of Filter House (Replacement of Filter Media), Electrical Substation Building, different units of WTP, Realignment of Drive Rail of Clariflocculator, Painting etc. at existing WTP site in connection to the project "Augmentation & strengthening of Urban Water Supply Scheme of Bhatpara Municipality area under AMRUT 2.0". Rs.37,33,960/-, Rs.74,661/-, 06 months, (2) Rejuvenation work of Filter House (Replacement of Filter Media), Electrical Substation Building, different units of WTP, Realignment of Drive Rail of Clariflocculator, Painting etc. at existing WTP site in connection to the project "Augmentation & strengthening of Urban Water Supply Scheme of Bhatpara Municipality area under AMRUT 2.0". 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## 'Measures taken to prevent waterlogging'

Continued from P1

"Our sewer lines are functioning properly and they didn't cause any disruption in the flow of water," claimed a DJB officer. "We got the sewer physically checked and found it functioning normally at the rear of the coaching centre. There was neither a blockage nor had the sewer line burst. MCD officials did not mention anything about leakages to us in any meetings after the incident."

Another DJB official asserted, "In the last survey of sewer lines, we found the level of water in the back lane very low, at around 1ft. The water was clean and had no smell. So the chances of leakages in the sewer lines can be ruled out."

On inspection of the area, MCD officials found that the terrain profile from Shankar Road to Pusa Road was saucer-shaped, with the lowest point located in front of the affected coaching institute. Therefore, this 200-ft-long space tended to accumulate water during heavy rains.

To add to this, the plinth level of the coaching centre building

was found lower than in neighbouring buildings. "In comparison with the plinth height of 2.5ft of the neighbouring building, the coaching centre's plinth was 1.5ft high. The neighbouring buildings also had a protective wall and a wider channel near their entrances for the water to flow to underground tanks," said the MCD official.

In accordance with the directives of higher authorities, the municipal officials said they had now devised measures to prevent waterlogging on the road. A detailed project report for the construction of an 800-metre drain along the road facing the institute is being prepared. "We will clear the drain of silt first after demolishing all the illegal ramps built over it," said the official, explaining how property owners on the road had constructed ramps across the width of their plots, thus covering the existing drains and making them inaccessible to municipal cleaners.

"The new drain will be connected to the barrel drain after constructing a larger pit on Pusa Road to facilitate proper flow of water," the official said.

# An Ordinary Day Turns Into A Nightmare

## ROAD RAGE: As Family Grieves Their Loss, 6-Year-Old Frantically Searches For His Mother

Devanshi.Mehta@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** Since Wednesday afternoon, Simranjeet Kaur's six-year-old son has been frantically searching for his mother. Haunting visuals of Simranjeet being shot dead and plummeting off the bike cause him to frequently break down. His brother, aged 12, has been also trying to come to terms with the tragedy.

At GTB Hospital in east Delhi, their father, Heera Singh, embraced them tightly, assuring them that everything would be alright. However, the children sensed that something was amiss.

Hailing from UP's Bareilly, Sim-

ranjeet Kaur was a homemaker. The couple had been married for 12 years and lived in a joint family in north-west Delhi's Gurnanak Colony, Bhalswa Dairy. Heera Singh's brother Avtar resides on the ground floor with his family while Heera lives on the first floor. Avtar's wife Amarjeet (39) was close to Simranjeet.

"It was just an ordinary day like any other. Heera first brought both the children home from school. Around 2pm, they were headed from Burari to Durgapuri to withdraw some money from the bank when the tragic incident happened," Avtar told TOI.

The Singh family has been strugg-

### VICTIM'S KIN SAYS

The senseless act of violence has left their loved ones in a state of shock and disbelief. We demand swift justice for Simranjeet

ling to cope with the devastating loss and was inconsolable with grief.

"The couple had their entire lives ahead of them. The senseless act of violence has left their loved ones in a state of shock and disbelief. We demand swift justice for Sim-



CRIME SCENE

ranjeet," said one of the relatives.

According to the family members, Singh is a helpful person and not one to pick fights. He drives an ambulance for a hospital at Bala Sahab Gurudwara in Sarai Kale Khan

and has been working overtime to support his family financially.

"The children used to study at Guru Harkrishan School in Jyoti Nagar and had accounts in Sindh Bank, which is located on the premises. A few months ago, Singh had got them admitted to another school in Burari. He had to withdraw some money from the account. On Wednesday, he brought the kids home from school and then left for the bank, taking Simranjeet and the children along," said a relative.

Avtar's family is taking care of the children now. Simranjeet's last rites will be performed Thursday after an autopsy is conducted.

## How guns are proliferating in trigger-happy capital

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Whether it be the shooting near Red Fort in April or Wednesday's mayhem on a flyover in northeast Delhi, guns are being frequently used on the streets in the capital. Brazen hold-ups at gunpoint, frequent gang wars or firing at the slightest provocation—easy availability of weapons has resulted in repeats of gun use. The trend of brandishing weapons on social media platforms has only added to the menace.

The recent snatchings, burglaries, house thefts, kidnappings, extortion bids, even celebratory firings, indicated that criminals have no fear of law in Delhi. Recently, armed criminals fired over 50 rounds at a crowded Burger King restaurant

in west Delhi. Before that, there was a fusillade at a car showroom.

Wednesday's shooting has rekindled memories of a similar incident on the Meet Nagar flyover in northeast Delhi's Nand Nagri in April when a 44-year-old man had gunned down an assistant sub-inspector, shot at another passer-by and then turned the gun on himself.

Trans-Yamuna, in particular, seems in dire need of serious policing. Just a few days ago, TOI had reported how a spate of killings had rocked the region in the last three months with over 20 victims of shootings.

The increasing use of firearms in the capital needs deft police handling to curb the illegal trafficking of weapons. "Clandestine gun trade is rampant in the city's

districts bordering other states. The business thrives because of convenient connectivity via bus routes," explained a police officer. "Criminals from the neighbouring states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Haryana readily supply firearms to their counterparts in Delhi. These illicit arms find their way into the city through various means."

The weapon suppliers keep the cops on their toes, evading any scrutiny by taking to subterfuges like changing buses several times when delivering arms consignments. The gun runners have differing modus operandi for couriers these weapons, among the innovative methods adopted being transporting them either in the cavities in cars, scooters and cars or in milk cans and bags. These days, they also use social networking applications to go under the police radar while luring customers and contacting each other.

The cops said that it cost the illegal weapons manufacturers Rs 1,500 to prepare a single-shot pistol, which was then sold in the market for around Rs 10,000. The prices go up with customisations and the quality of the firearms. The demand for illegal arms—from easily available and affordable items to elaborate weapons—is underlined by the budget that the buyer has. "From simple kattas (crude handguns) to sophisticated automatics, everything is available for a price that ranges from Rs 5,000 to lakhs of rupees," said the officer.

### PAST INCIDENTS

2024

**Jan** A 22-year-old man was shot at during an incident of road rage in west Delhi's Janakpuri. Police said the victim's car and the suspect's motorcycle made contact, leading to the incident

**Jan** A 29-year-old doctor and her brother were allegedly assaulted by two men in east Delhi's New Ashok Nagar after their scooters brushed past each other

**Apr** Three people, including a woman, killed a cabbie in road rage near Red Fort. He was also robbed. The accused had also shot at a passerby

**May** A man and his sister

were assaulted by at least four people and their car was damaged in South Extension Part-I. The incident occurred after the victims' car brushed past one of the accused

**Dec** A middle-aged app-based cab driver, who told two men in a car next to his to drive properly after alleged close shaves, was thrashed to death by the duo at a traffic light near Tagore Garden metro station

**Nov** In a road rage incident, a man allegedly bit and dismembered the portion of a finger of a 56-year-old person in the Khyala area of west Delhi

### Fire breaks out at ATM in central Delhi, no one hurt

**New Delhi:** A fire broke out at the ATM of a public sector bank in central Delhi's Connaught Place on Wednesday evening, officials said. According to the fire officials, they re-

ceived information regarding the fire at 4.05 pm, following which two fire tenders were rushed to the spot. The fire was brought under control at 4.15 pm and no one was hurt. **PTI**

### Teen dies in factory unit

**New Delhi:** A 15-year-old girl died after getting trapped in a kneading machine while working at a food processing unit in Rohini's Begumpur on Tuesday. The deceased girl got trapped in a food processing unit that was being used to make Momos, Soya Chaap, and Spring Rolls. The girl was taken to the hospital where she was declared dead by the doctors. The minor girl's wrist had got stuck in the kneading machine. DCP Rohini, Guriqbal Singh Sidhu stated. **TNN**

## TIMES TRIBUTE

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**IN REMEMBRANCE**



**OUR REVERED**

**Prof. Vishwanath Pandit**

Former Vice Chancellor, Satya Sai University & Professor, Delhi School of Economics attained Sadgati in morning of 26 July, 2024 at Prashanthi Nilayam, Putaparthi.

Having been a life long devotee of Sri Sathya Sai Baba has taken him under the shade of his affection.

Though in bereavement we celebrate his life that was devoted to acquisition of knowledge and teaching his students without any reservations.

**10th, 11th & 12th day ceremonies will take place on August 4, 5 & 6, 2024 at Gauri Shankar Mandir, T-Block, Phase-1, Sector-109, New Palam Vihar, Gurugram-122017**

**In Grief**

Krishna Pandit (Wife)

Rajdulari Pandit, Phoola Sadhu & Bansil Lal Pandit; and Asha & Bharat B. Pandit (Brothers & Sisters-in-Law)

Nieces & Nephews and Razdan Family

98715 55900 • 98919 70175 • 98112 73473

**Happy Birthday, Gorgeous!**



**Sonia Khosla**

With us all. For ever and ever. And ever.

Deepak Khosla Rajinder Khosla Tarun & Sujata Vij  
Vir Jai Khosla Saroj Khosla Vivek & Sharmila Arora  
Shiv Khosla Suruchi Rai  
Neel Khosla Anil & Mala Aneja

Arjun & Krishna Vij, Meher and Seher Arora  
Urvashi and Sukanya Aneja, and all family, and much, much, much too long a list of friends.

**Jai : Hey Mom! What's up? I'm the typical serial entrepreneur, saying Hi from Amsterdam, where I went to explore the ... market. (Err! still exploring, lovely city, though!)**

**Shiv : Hi Mom! Sorry, no time this year, got to run!**

**Neel : Hi Mom! Please ignore these two clowns, they make too much noise, so, as balance, I've got my music album coming out soon! And my first song - Aura - is dedicated to you.**

D-367, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110 024  
Cell. : 98110-54200

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**To place an Obituary announcement or Remembrance message please call**

**Vinod: 9958992088**

**Pankaj : 8130604727**

In loving memory of

**PETER SHANTI MALIK**

15.02.1940 - 01.08.2021.



We think about you always,  
We talk about you still,  
You have never been forgotten & you never will.  
We hold you close within our hearts  
And there you will remain,  
To walk and guide us through our lives,  
Until we meet again

Anita Debbie & Tarun Mohit & Jane  
Anthony, Manjari & Neil & our entire family

**HONOUR. COURAGE. BRAVERY.**

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

The silent joy of remembering a loved one.  
The moments you shared together.  
Little moments that make life beautiful.

Share them. With Friends, Relatives, Neighbours.  
Colleagues. With all those whose lives  
the departed Soul has touched. Because while life goes on,  
when you share memories, they stay on forever.

Publications	Total Outlay	SPACE FOR PHOTO
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TOI+NBT (Delhi/NCR)	8,800	100x100px (max 200x200px)
TOI+ET (Delhi/NCR)	6,600	100x100px (max 200x200px)

Maximum 30 lines

**REMEMBRANCE**

SHARING MEMORIES

For any information call

**Vinod : 9958992088**

**Pankaj : 8130604727**

### OBITUARY

#### PRAYER MEETING

**Lt. Col. Virinder Singh Chowhan**

01.02.1938 - 29.07.2024

Kirtan and Antim Ardas will be held on **Sunday 4th Aug 2024** from 12.00 to 1.00 pm followed by Guru Ka Langar at Gurudwara Guru Nanak Mission, Sec-37, Arun Vihar, Noida.

Please join us for Prayers and Remembrance

Wife: Kim Chowhan  
Son: Satyjit Chowhan  
Daughters: Sheena Uberoi (Chandana) and Rheena Singh  
Daughter in law: Tamanna  
Son in laws: Inder Pal Uberoi and Ravdeep Singh  
Grandchildren: Shiv Uberoi, Aaditya Singh & Riya Chowhan  
Kim Chowhan: 9818638498  
Sheena 9810578730

In the memory of

**SHARAN KAUR**

1st death anniversary

The world changes from year to year, our lives from day to day, but the love and memory of you, shall never pass away, deeply remembered by All family members

In Loving Memory of

**AMITA SRIVASTAVA**

(13.01.1960 - 01.08.2010)

Your memories are still fresh & continue to be a source of inspiration & strength. Your warm presence is felt every moment. Your principles, values & simplicity will always be guiding us. Fondly remembering and missing you. M.G. Srivastava, Sandeep, Smriti, Parjanya & All Family Members.

## REMEMBRANCE SHARING MEMORIES

In the memory of

**AVM S.C. Gupta (retd.)**

11.12.1930 - 01.08.2004

In loving memory of a wonderful and inspirational being, remembered fondly by: Asha, Nikesh, Amit, Sumita, Milan, Neil & Kavin. AAROH & Navjyoti family.

REMEMBRANCE

Jaisika Shrivastava w/o Saurabh Shrivastava

1 Aug 1980 - 19 March 2024

"Though we miss you every day, today we miss you a little more. Your Laughter Love, Hope, Wisdom are forever Cherished. Wishing you a beautiful Birthday In Heaven" With love, All Family Members

In loving memory of

**Shri Pramod Kumar Gera**

(25.09.1950-01.08.2012)

Twelve years have passed since you left us for your heavenly abode. The passage of time can never erase your memories from our hearts. We all miss you immensely. Remembered by Rita, Neha, Richa, Ashish and Siyona

# IIT-M To Check Stability Of Newly Built Portion Of T1

Expanded Part Of Terminal Was Inaugurated This Feb Only

Saurabh.Sinha  
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) has asked L&T to get the structural stability of Terminal 1's expanded portion checked before it is used by passengers. L&T, in turn, is learnt to have engaged the civil engineering department of IIT-Madras to examine the new part of T1 finished by it recently and issue a structural stability certificate (SSC) if everything is found in order. The expanded portion of T1 was inaugurated this Feb.

This is the second check ordered for T1 by IIT with Union aviation ministry earlier asking IIT-Delhi to examine the cause of the collapse of a relatively older, 2008-09, part of the terminal in June, which led to the death of a person.

IIT-Delhi is learnt to have formed a three-member panel



A relatively older part of the terminal had collapsed in June, killing one

to examine what went wrong and also what needs to be done to make the structure safe.

"DIAL had awarded the tender of building the expanded portion of T1 to L&T. The airport operator asked the company to get the structural safety of the new part checked and get

an SSC before the former seeks govt's nod to open the same. L&T has asked IIT-Madras to do this," said a source.

Comments from DIAL on IIT-Madras examining the newly built portions were awaited till the time of going to press. Union aviation minister

Ram Mohan Naidu is learnt to have asked authorities and DIAL to thoroughly check the stability of T1 before a decision on the reopening is taken. "Naidu does not want any chance to be taken with safety. Govt had asked IIT-Delhi and L&T has reached out to IIT-Madras for the checks. Only after getting their nod, can T1 open. So as of now, no one can hazard a guess on when the newly built part of T1 will open," said the source.

Meanwhile, the work of removing the collapsed portion's debris is almost complete and a detailed audit of T1 is underway. Following rain, a portion of the canopy had collapsed on June 28 and fallen on taxis parked near the entrance, killing a driver. Since then, T1 has been temporarily shut down and all flights are being handled from terminals 2 and 3.

## 3 sisters die, father critical after fire engulfs house

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Noida: Three sisters—aged 10, 7 and 5—died and their father was critically injured after a fire engulfed the family's one-bedroom house in the middle of the night in Sector 8 on Wednesday.

Their mother narrowly escaped with burn wounds to her hands and legs. And their brother, 8 years old, had gone to stay at his uncle's house for the night.

Fire department officials suspect the blaze was sparked by a short-circuit.

They said that the department did not get a call, but a neighbour cycled to the fire station a kilometre away from the house to inform them about the blaze around 3.30am.

DCP Rambadan Singh told TOI that the fire erupted on the first floor of the building while the family was sleeping in a single bedroom.

"After neighbours informed the fire station, teams rushed to the spot and brought the blaze under control. Four people—Daulat Ram (32) and his three daughters Astha (10), Naina (7) and Aradhana (5)—were rushed to a hospital where the doctors declared the minors dead," the DCP said.

Doctors at the district hospital referred Daulat Ram, an e-rickshaw driver, to Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital where he is admitted to intensive care as he has 60% burns, Singh said. Daulat's wife Meenu was given first-aid treatment at the city hospital.

Singh said cops had not received a complaint till Wednesday night.

Noida chief fire officer Pradeep Kumar Chaubey said the department rushed three fire tenders to the house after a neighbour turned up at the Phase-1 fire station on a bicycle to inform them.

"It took us 10-15 minutes to douse the fire. It's a two-storey building. The first floor was gutted," Chaubey said.

The CFO said the exact cause of fire is under investigation, but they suspect it was triggered by a short-circuit.

## Court extends custody of Kejriwal, Sisodia, Kavitha in ED case till Aug 13

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A Delhi court on Wednesday extended the judicial custody of chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, Bharat Rashtia Samithi legislator K Kavitha and other accused in the CBI and ED cases related to alleged irregularities in the formulation

and implementation of the now-scrapped Delhi Excise Policy 2021-22.

Their custody in the ED case has been extended till Aug 13 by the court of special judge Kaveri Baweja.

The court further extended the judicial custody of Sisodia and Kavitha in the CBI case till Aug 9. The accused were produced before it on the expiry of their judicial custody granted earlier.

## Cash collection agent arrested for staging ₹60L fake robbery

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A cash collection agent orchestrated a fake robbery and tried to steal Rs 60 lakh to fund his dreams of owning a factory. He has been arrested.

Mohammed Miraz Khan, a 52-year-old cash collection agent from Gandhi Nagar, approached police and informed them that he collected Rs 60 lakh in cash from Kishanganj and was en route to drop the money to the receiver when he was ambushed by three men with muffled faces at Pratap Nagar Metro Station. He then claimed that he was thrown in the back of their van along with the cash and that they threatened him with a pistol. He added that they sprayed something on his face, which caused him to go unconscious, and when he next opened his eyes, he was at Barakhana Gole Chakkur.

Police arrived at the alleged scene of the crime and began conducting investigations. "When we checked the CCTV footage of the area, we realised that no such crime had taken place there," said DCP Manoj Kumar Meena.

Upon further interrogation, Khan admitted that he created a false story about the robbery and narrated it to police. He disclosed that he was dissatisfied with his present earnings as a cash collection agent and dreamed of owning a garment factory.

Police recovered the bag containing Rs 60 lakh from the house of Khan's friend, who was entirely unaware of the cash in her house. Police also retrieved Khan's broken mobile phone and the scooter he used to collect the money.



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# Fast & Furious Rain Sends Delhi Crashing

## No Area Spared From Waterlogging; ITO, Mathura Road Among Worst Hit

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** After general derision about a monsoon season that has seen very little rainfall, Wednesday evening proved why the prospect of heavy rain, while longed for, does not contribute to a sense of happiness in the city. The heavy precipitation wreaked havoc on traffic with the roads, subways and underpasses across the capital inundated.

Among the worst hit was ITO, where waterlogging under the Tilak Bridge created a gridlock on Ring Road that saw some loosening only past 11pm. The carriageway from ITO to Laxmi Nagar had to be closed till 10pm.

Vishnu Sehgal started from his ITO office at 8pm, and 40 minutes later found himself stuck and unable even to go past the ITO traffic signal. "Even when the traffic signal opened, vehicles could not move. Traffic police began diverting cars to

wards Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg," said Sehgal. "I decided to take a U-turn towards Lok Nayak Hospital to access the Ranjit Singh Flyover and reach my home in south Delhi. But close to that flyover, there was another major jam. I decided once again to take a U-turn and return to Ring Road where the scenario hadn't changed. It was 10.30pm by then."

Chandan Chakraborty, a resident of Sainik Farms in south Delhi, grumbled that despite starting from his office at 8pm, he had reached only the Indraprastha power station on Ring Road two hours later. "This is not even halfway home. The Tilak Bridge and ITO areas were flooded," he said.

Sanjay Gupta too got stuck in traffic for an hour below Tilak Bridge. "I started from Lalit Hotel for my house at 7.15pm and reached home at 9.45pm," said the Noida resident. "I've never seen such heavy waterlogging at Tilak

Bridge and ITO. Besides, it was very dark too because of the lack of illumination."

It was a horrendous drive home to HC Sharma too. He started from Ansari Road in Daryaganj and it took him two hours to reach his Naveen Shahdara residence when his normal commute is 40 minutes. "Though we managed to reach Ring Road in 20 minutes from Daryaganj, the real struggle started from the rear of Red Fort, where the traffic was stalled. We idled for at least 40 minutes there." The Noida Link Road, usually a free passage, experienced a lot of jam on Wednesday.

Further south, on Mathura Road, from Apollo Hospital to Badarpur, water accumulation severely impacted the traffic movement. The Okhla underpass was unusable for motorists going both in the direction of Crown Plaza hotel towards Kalindi Kunj and vice-versa. To ensure

public safety, police put up barricades at the underpass entrances to deter vehicles.

Traffic on the carriageway on Mehrauli-Badarpur Road from Badarpur to Sangam Vihar was disrupted by water stagnation in the vicinity of Kaya Maya Park. Movement from Khanpur towards Hamdard University and vice-versa was also affected. Driving on NH-48 from Dhaula Kuan to Gurgaon too proved painful due to waterlogging.

Underpasses, because of their architecture, bore the brunt of the sharp precipitation. The Zakhira underpass in west Delhi and the Moolchand underpass in south Delhi reported heavy waterlogging. The Minto Road underpass, despite the claimed interventions to rid it of its image as a monsoon bane, was flooded for a third time this season. On Wednesday also, police barred vehicles from driving there as soon as

the heavy rain started. A PWD official later said, "At the Minto Road underpass, there was a problem when one of the pumps itself got submerged in water."

PWD claimed that at least 151 permanent pumping stations and 234 mobile pumps were put to work to manage the problem. But, they pleaded, the intensity of the rainfall was too high. An official said, "All our maintenance vans and quick response teams were on the ground trying to pump out the rainwater from underpasses and roads."

New Delhi Municipal Council said it received 14 complaints of waterlogging, including on Baba Kharak Singh Marg, Minto Road, Golf Links and Satya Sadan till 8.30pm. Two instances of trees falling in Sarojini Nagar and Connaught Place were also reported. Traders in Connaught Place complained of water flowing into their shops and damaging stocks. The Press Club of India on Raisina Road was ankle deep in water.

Amit Gupta, member of New Delhi Traders' Association, said, "The NDMC area pays the highest property tax in the city but is struggling because the authorities haven't cleaned the drains. Water entered shops in G, H, A and other blocks."

NDMC officials said they had put pumps into operation at crucial locations, including Africa Avenue where an underpass was deluged a few days ago, immediately after the heavy rain started. Instead, they had to contend with waterlogging on Akbar Road and Laxmi Bai Nagar Market.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi reported waterlogging complaints from Jagivan Ram Colony, Badarpur, Chandni Chowk and Kunwar Singh Colony. Fallen trees were reported from three places. But the situation was actually worse: on social media, there were videos of waterlogging at ITO, outside the Civic Centre, Old Rajender Nagar (where the students are on protest against illegal coaching centres), Kamla Nagar, Gaffar Market and several other areas.

Aditi Nigam of Saket grumbled about water flowing into their flats for the second time this season on Wednesday. "We have been living here since 1989 and hadn't experienced flooding. But this year, because the main drain was unclogged by MCD, we faced a worrying time," she said.



USUAL SUSPECT: Minto Bridge was closed for traffic as rain lashed Delhi

## Intense rain activity likely to continue for next 2 days

Continued from P1

The downpour was caused by the monsoon trough moving close to Delhi, the Met department said, issuing a 'yellow' alert for light to moderate rain on Thursday and Friday.

This was the second day since the onset of monsoon when heavy rain was seen in Delhi as Safdarjung, the city's base station, logged 94.4mm rainfall from 5.30pm to 11.30pm. On July 28, when the monsoon arrived in the city, Safdarjung had reported an extremely heavy rainfall of 228.1mm, among the highest single-

### 10 flights diverted, several delayed due to heavy rain

**New Delhi:** Ten Delhi-bound flights were diverted to other cities — eight to Jaipur and two to Lucknow — due to bad weather between 7.30pm and 8pm on Wednesday. Several flights were also delayed as IGI Airport saw incessant rain accompanied by gusty winds. As the weather impacted flight operations at the Delhi airport, airlines took to social media, asking passengers to check flight status. Air India wrote on X around 7pm, "Flights to and from Delhi may get affected due to bad weather this evening. Guests are advised to start early for the airport as slow traffic and waterlogging may delay movement. Please check your flight status before heading to the airport." SpiceJet posted, "Due to bad weather (heavy rain) in Delhi, all departures/arrivals and their consequential flights may get affected. Passengers are requested to keep a check on their flight status." IndiGo also issued a similar advisory, asking passengers to check flight status as, it said, heavy rain might be likely throughout the night. **TNN**



WADING THROUGH

day rain at the station ever in that month. In July, the single highest day rainfall recorded was on July 26 at 39.4 mm.

The showers began in the evening as no rain was recorded at any station in Delhi from 8.30am to 5.30pm. Among the areas which witnessed heavy rain between 5.30pm and 8.30pm were Delhi University at 77.5 mm, Lodhi Road 77 mm, and Pusa 66.5 mm.

R K Jenamani, senior scientist, IMD, said, "The monsoon trough is close to Delhi, leading to intense rain activity. Intense rain activity is likely to continue for the next two days."

"The trough was south of its normal position till Tuesday. On Wednesday, the trough made its transition from south of its normal po-

sition to its normal position. There is also lower tropospheric level moisture supply from the Bay of Bengal as well as the Arabian Sea."

Several stations saw strong wind, while Palam recorded the highest wind speed at 27 kmph, which rose up to 45 kmph at 7 pm, said IMD.

The maximum temperature was recorded at 37.8 degrees Celsius, three degrees above normal. It was 1.5 degrees lower than Tuesday's maximum temperature. However, as rain is likely to lash the city, the maximum temperature is predicted to dip to 33 degrees Celsius on Thursday. The minimum temperature stood at 30.4 degrees Celsius, three notches above normal. It is expected to drop to 25 degrees Celsius on Thursday.

Photos: Anindya Chattopadhyay, PTI



## Waterlogging leads to chaos on Ggn roads

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**Gurgaon:** July ended on a wet note as Gurgaon witnessed moderate rainfall for around 50 minutes on Wednesday, providing much-needed respite from the oppressive heat and humidity but also leading to waterlogging and traffic snarls in several areas.

With 39.5mm of rainfall, Wednesday saw the heaviest spell in July, which otherwise witnessed little rain the entire month. Before Wednesday, 35mm rainfall was recorded on July 3.

The showers began at 7pm and continued till around 7.50pm, accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning. As a result, streets were inundated, traffic slowed to a crawl after 7.30pm and over 1km-long tailbacks were witnessed at key spots on NH-8 such as Hero Honda Chowk, Rajiv Chowk and Narsinghpur, as well as on Golf Course Road, Southern Peripheral Road, Udyog Vihar, Civil Lines, Sectors 10 and 44, and Medanta Road. The chaos lasted for an hour as rainwater started receding from roads only around 9pm.

"Although the rain was a blessing, the waterlogging transformed it into a bit of a curse. It took me twice as long to reach home today," said Mehak Sankar, who was stuck on Golf Course Road for half an hour. "Navigating through traffic on SPR was a challenge on Wednesday evening after the showers. Even light rain causes us to struggle immensely. I am perplexed as to what the administration has been focusing on for several years now," said Yogesh Aggarwal, a resident of Sector 65.

## Many feared trapped as house collapses

**New Delhi:** Amid the relentless rain, a residential structure collapsed in north Delhi's Sabzi Mandi on Wednesday. It is feared that several people are trapped under the rubble.

The fire department received an alert around 8.45pm and promptly sent five fire tenders with a contingent of 30 firefighters to the spot. "The rescue work is still going on. We don't have a clear idea about how many people are trapped," a fire official said. The footage of the incident shows that a crowd has gathered at the site and has been trying to clear the debris. Rescuers are trying to locate and pull out survivors, said sources. **TNN**

## Neurosurgery OT at RML hospital flooded, poses risks to operations

**New Delhi:** The torrential downpour on Wednesday caused flooding at a neurosurgery operation theatre, which is at the ground floor of Old Nursing Home in RML Hospital. This situation posed a potential disruption to the hospital's services and officials emphasised the need to completely drain the water by Thursday morning to ensure the resumption of normal operations.

Doctors at the hospital said that restarting services in the morning would be a challenging task. The presence of rainwater compromised the hygiene of

the area, necessitating fumigation. The threat of further rain added to the concerns. However, efforts were being made to remove the water from the OT using motor pumps.

Apart from the neurosurgery OT the medicine emergency on the ground floor of the old building was also affected by the flooding.

The library in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences building experienced water seepage. The water dripped from the terrace, where reading rooms had been recently constructed. **TNN**



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## E-CPR saves life of girl with heart infection

Anuja.Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** An 11-year-old girl's life was saved by doctors in a private hospital in the city after she nearly went into cardiac arrest. The patient was suffering from a viral infection that led to myocarditis, an inflammation of the heart muscle. Approximately 20 people per one lakh population gets affected by it. According to her doctors, the girl experienced intense chest pain caused by the viral myocarditis and was on the verge of heart failure. However, with the help of a cutting-edge procedure known as E-CPR, or 'extracorporeal cardiopulmonary resuscitation', she was saved.

E-CPR is a life-saving technology used in cases of cardiac arrest. Dr Mridul Agarwal, senior consultant of paediatric cardiology at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, said, "This girl probably would not have survived without the timely support of ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation), a type of artificial life support that can help a person whose lungs and heart aren't functioning correctly."

ECMO is a specific type of E-CPR that can be a lifesaving measure in extreme emergencies, particularly when conventional resuscitation methods have failed.

The girl initially visited two emergency rooms, where doctors believed her chest pain was caused by a stomach problem. They treated her accordingly, but when her condition did not improve, she was brought to Sir Ganga Ram Hospital. An ECG indicated a concerning issue, leading to her immediate admission for additional tests. An echocardiogram revealed that her heart was functioning at only 25% of its normal capacity. Her condition deteriorated when she started experiencing severe heart rhythm problems. Despite medication to manage her symptoms, her situation continued to decline, and her blood pressure dropped very low, said Dr Agarwal. Facing the critical risk of heart failure, the team led by Dr Raja Joshi, chairman of department of paediatric cardiac science, initiated the process of ECMO. He said that after seven intense days on ECMO, her heart showed significant improvement, she was taken off the machine and was eventually able to leave the hospital with her heart functioning normally.

Dr Agarwal said Covid-19 had demonstrated that viral infections could impact any organ in the body. The severity of viral myocarditis can vary, with mild cases causing only general unwellness and resulting in complete recovery.

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# Fire erupts in Kirti Nagar house, senior citizens among 10 rescued

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**New Delhi:** A fire broke out in a house in west Delhi's Kirti Nagar on Wednesday. At least 10 people, including some senior citizens and a minor, were rescued.

A Delhi Fire Service officer said they received a call about the blaze in Kirti Nagar's M-Block around 8.40am, following which two fire tenders and 7-8 firefighters were rushed to the spot. "On reaching, they found that four electric meters, panel boards and two scooters had caught fire. The blaze was so intense that smoke had engulfed the entire building, which con-



CLOSE SHAVE

sisted of a stilt and three upper floors," he said.

A firefighter who was part of the rescue operation told TOI, "The building had only one route for the people to escape, i.e. the lone door on the ground floor for entry and exit. The stairs leading up to

the various floors of the house were filled with smoke, making it nearly impossible to come down and escape."

The smoke was so intense that it filled up the residents' rooms, the firefighter said, adding, "They had to step out on to the balcony of their respective floors to be able to breathe."

Anil Kumar, another fireman who was involved in the rescue effort, said, "On reaching the site, we realised we had to break the window panels outside the building that lead to the stairs, so that the smoke would come out and not build up inside the premises. Simultaneously, other firefighters from our team extinguished the fire on the ground level in the meters and the scooters. Once we ensured the glass panels were broken and the smoke had space to spread elsewhere, the residents were able to come down safely."

According to Kumar, it is often negligence on the part of the families that leads to such fires in residential spaces.

"Electrical meters should not be put right at the exit point, above or below a staircase, which are all prone to catching fire due to overheating. In this case, the charging point for electric vehicles also heated up and caught fire. Electric scooters and cars should not be left to charge overnight for hours straight, as that only leads to overheating," he said.

## 2 men wanted for ₹20 lakh heist held after 120km chase

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** A 120-kilometre chase from Delhi to Bangladesh border resulted in the arrest of two men wanted in connection with a heist of over two million rupees in the city.

Police received a complaint on July 14 from Kapil, a resident of KKD, New Delhi. He alleged that somebody had broken and entered his house through a window and stolen his cash and gold worth Rs. 20 lakh.

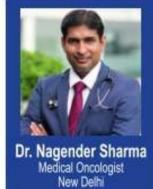
After analysing CCTV footage, cops discovered their primary suspect, Abdul Rehman. He was arrested and interrogated. He revealed that he had sold the gold and had bought a phone with some of the money. He added that he had sent a large portion of the money to his accomplice in West Bengal.

Rehman's call detail records were intensely scrutinised so that police could determine the precise location and identity of his accomplice in West Bengal. After chasing their potential suspect all the way to the borders of Bangladesh, they successfully nabbed Dibyendu Ghosh, a resident of Bengal.

Under probe, Ghosh revealed that he dealt with currency exchange at the India-Bangladesh border. In this instance, he had received Rs. 20 lakh from Rehman and was attempting to smuggle it across to Bangladesh.

## From Habit to Harm: How Tobacco Addiction Fuels the Lung Cancer Crisis

ADVERTORIAL



Dr. Nagender Sharma  
Medical Oncologist  
New Delhi

**The Unavoidable Link Between Smoking and Lung Cancer:** Numerous scientific studies have established a compelling association between smoking and lung cancer. India has over 10 crore adult smokers, ranking

second in the world. It is one of the leading causes of death and disease in India ranking second in the world. Tobacco smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals, and at least 69 of them are known to cause cancer. When inhaled, these carcinogens damage lung tissue and DNA, leading to the uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells and the formation of cancerous tumours.

### Facts about Smoking:

- Tobacco kills up to half of its users who don't quit.
- Tobacco kills more than 8 million people each year, including an estimated 1.3 million nonsmokers who are exposed to second-hand smoke.
- Around 80% of the world's 1.3 billion tobacco users live in low- and middle-income countries.
- In 2020, 22.3% of the world's population used tobacco: 36.7% of men and 7.8% of women.
- It's important to know that all forms of tobacco are harmful and there is no safe level of exposure to tobacco.
- When compared to nonsmokers, smokers can expect to lose at least a decade of life.

People believe that smoking is primary cause of

Approval ID: IN-14727 Approval Date: 26/07/2024 Expiry Date: 26/07/2026

Disclaimer: This article is for general awareness of the people and should not be construed as treatment advice. Please consult your doctor in case you have any symptoms or require further information/clarification. This public awareness initiative is supported by AstraZeneca Pharma India Limited

lung cancer, but they are unaware of the fact that it can also occur in those with no current or past smoking history, and the cause of lung cancer in them may be unknown. Further, several other causes have been linked with lung cancer, which can be classified as preventable and non-preventable. Family history, occupational exposure, Second-hand smoke [Passive smoking], History of lung disease, genetic factors etc.

Lung cancer poses a major diagnostic challenge, particularly in its early stages [currently, only 18% of lung cancers are diagnosed while the tumour is still localized—that is, only found at the site where it started. This is commonly referred to as stage I]. In addition, a high burden of tuberculosis in India can also obscure the diagnosis as they present with overlapping symptoms and can be misdiagnosed in almost 42.5% of the cases.

### You can reduce your chances of getting Lung Cancer by:

- By quitting smoke-as it reduces the risk of lung cancer even if someone has smoked for years. Ten years after you stop, your risk of dying from the disease drops by 50% compared to people who continue to smoke.
- Avoid second-hand smoke: If anyone in your family or at the workplace smokes, urge them to stop smoking. Stay away from places where people smoke.
- Avoid occupational exposure to cancer-causing agents, inhalation of air pollutants, and cooking fuel.
- Adopt a diet rich in seasonal fruits and vegetables, and exercise regularly.

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**G**artex Texprocess India 2024, scheduled from August 1 to 3, 2024, at Yashobhoomi (India International Convention and Expo Centre), renowned for its state-of-the-art facilities and modern infrastructure, Dwarka, New Delhi, is set to redefine the textile technologies and garment manufacturing industry landscape. Organised jointly by MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, and Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd, this prestigious expo is supported by the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, highlighting



its pivotal role in the industry. In collaboration with association partners such as the Garment Exporters Association of Rajasthan and the Noida Apparel Export Cluster, Gartex Texprocess India 2024

brings together more than 200 exhibitors and more than 600 leading brands encompassing cutting-edge solutions in garmenting and apparel machinery, fabrics, trims and accessories, denim fabrics and

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# Air You Breathed Overshot Annual 'Quota' In Jan Itself

## Annual WHO Limits For Air Pollution Breached On Jan 11 & 17

Priyangi Agarwal  
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi surpassed the annual permissible limits of pollution set by World Health Organization (WHO) in the first month of this year itself. It crossed the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for PM2.5 and PM10 by May and April, respectively, an analysis of pollution in the capital has revealed.

Both PM2.5 and PM10 levels in Delhi overshot the pollution quota as per the WHO guidelines on Jan 11 and 17, respectively. This means that even if the pollution levels were 0.1 micrograms per cubic metre from that day onwards, the city would not be able to meet the annual WHO guidelines, shows the analysis by Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA). Similarly, the national standards for PM2.5 and PM10 were overshot on May 7 and April 2, respectively, in Delhi. The annual WHO guidelines for PM2.5 and PM10 are 5 and 15 micrograms per cubic metre, respectively. The annual NAAQS for PM2.5 and PM10 are 40 and 60 micrograms per cubic metre, respectively.

The "overshoot day" is defined as a day when the average pollution levels preceding that day are so high that even a 0.1 micrograms per cubic metre daily concentration of the pollutant for the remaining days of the year would ensure non-compliance with the prescribed annual standard/guideline.

The analysis, which studied data of five years, raises concerns as the pollution levels overshoot even before the arrival of the winter season when Delhi witnesses high pollution levels. The air quality index stays in the "poor", "very poor" or "severe" category on most days during the winter months. "Delhi's battle with air pollution continues to show a worrying trend, with the city consistently overshooting established air quality standards year after year. While analysing data from 2019 to

### DELHI CONTINUES TO MISS TARGETS

**WHAT IS AN OVERSHOOT DAY**  
Overshoot day is defined as a day when the average pollution levels preceding that day are so high that even a 0.1 µg/m<sup>3</sup> daily concentration of the pollutant for the remaining days of the year would ensure non-compliance with the prescribed annual standard/guideline

**Overshoot days for PM2.5 and PM10 against WHO guidelines and CPCB's National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)**

Guideline	Pollutant	Standard value	Overshooting dates			
			2024	2023	2022	2021
WHO 2021	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	5 µg m <sup>-3</sup>	Jan 11	Jan 9	Jan 13	Jan 12
NAAQS India	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	40 µg m <sup>-3</sup>	May 7	May 20	May 6	Apr 18
WHO 2021	PM <sub>10</sub>	15 µg m <sup>-3</sup>	Jan 17	Jan 17	Jan 22	Jan 19
NAAQS India	PM <sub>10</sub>	60 µg m <sup>-3</sup>	Apr 2	Apr 8	Apr 5	Mar 18

PM2.5 and PM10 levels overshoot pollution quota required to ensure compliance with annual WHO guidelines (2021) in Delhi on Jan 11 and 17, 2024, respectively

NAAQS India standards for PM2.5 and PM10 were overshoot on May 7 and April 2, 2024, respectively  
Delhi has seen only three days of complying with daily

NAAQS for Jan to June 2024 for PM10  
Only 15% of the days complying with NAAQS for PM2.5 in first six months of 2024

2024, we found that each year begins with Delhi exceeding critical air quality guidelines as early as in Jan, marking a concerning start to the year's pollution levels," said Manoj Kumar of CREA.

NAAQS, which has been set by Central Pollution Control Board, prescribes that 24 hourly monitored values for PM2.5 and PM10 should be complied with 98% of the time in a year. Two per cent of the time, they may exceed the limits, but not on two consecutive days of monitoring.

Delhi has observed only three days complying with the daily pollution standards from Jan to June. Of these, the only time when Delhi complied with the daily PM10 standard on two consecutive days was in late June. Rain had washed down the pollution levels on June 27 and 28.

### EXPERT SAYS

**While analysing data from 2019 to 2024, we found that each year begins with Delhi exceeding critical air quality guidelines as early as in Jan, marking a concerning start to the year's pollution levels**

Similarly, for PM2.5, only 15% of the days complied with NAAQS. Delhi recorded its first compliance with daily NAAQS for PM2.5 on March 2.

Sunil Dahiya, South Asia analyst, CREA, said, "This persistent overshooting emphasises the urgent need for stronger regulations at the airshed level, shifting to an

emission-load reduction-based approach, and efficiently using emission inventories, source apportionment studies, and technology for pollution control and regulation."

He added, "While NAAQS India sets more lenient standards compared to WHO, this leniency can lead to prolonged exposure to harmful particulate matter. A recent study revealed short-term PM2.5 exposure in India poses a significant risk of death even at concentrations well below current standards. This discrepancy highlights the urgent need for a reassessment of air quality standards to align more closely with international norms. Prolonged exposure to harmful particulate matter, exacerbated by these lenient standards, increases the incidence of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases."

# 'Medical negligence': Four years on, court orders probe into child's death

Rema.Nagarajan@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: More than four years after losing their two-year-old son due to alleged medical negligence, the parents who have been struggling to get a complete set of hospital records related to their child's treatment have got a favourable order from Rohini district court. The court observed that, from the report of the Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC) medical board constituted to give expert opinion on the case, it was "evident that many of the hospital records were not available to it".

It also directed the police to register an FIR under IPC sections dealing with causing death by negligence (304A) and forgery for the purpose of cheating (468), within 48 hours and to investigate the matter.

"For discovery of the truth of the matter, considering the various discrepancies in the hospital's record (discussed as above) and limited capacity of the complainant, this court is of opinion that the present matter required a thorough investigation," stated the court.

"I still don't have the complete medical records and no authorities supported me when I pointed out that they were incomplete. Finally, the court has upheld what I was saying. Without the medical records how can I fight the case of medical negligence. They are deliberately using delaying tactics expecting me to give up," said Himanshu Singhal, the father.

### COURT SAYS

**For discovery of the truth of the matter, considering the various discrepancies in the hospital's record and limited capacity of the complainant, this court is of opinion that the matter required a thorough investigation**

The law says a patient has to be given a complete set of medical records and a detailed bill within 72 hours of discharge. The hospital gave several sets of records to the father, each time claiming that it was the "complete" set, when it was not. Till now, none of the regulatory authorities—Delhi Medical Council (DMC), or director general of health services (DGHS) of Delhi—has taken any action against the hospital for violating this law, despite the parents complaining.

Parv Singhal, aged two years and three months, was admitted to Max Shalimar Bagh for dysentery on Feb 5, 2020. His condition deteriorated and he had to be transferred to Max Saket for a liver transplant. However, he died on April 9 before the transplant.

"Prime facie, there appears to be various discrepancies in the records maintained by the hospital. It is not clear from the record whether the repeatedly advised

tests were conducted, and if not, then for what reasons," stated the district court order. It added that Max Super Specialty Hospital, Shalimar Bagh, owed an explanation as to why it took years to provide complete medical records of the child to his parents and whether any more documents have been withheld by it.

The MAMC medical board was set up on the directions of Delhi High Court. Earlier, the father argued that DMC was just a professional regulatory body elected by doctors and that its opinion could not be construed as expert opinion. He said he had no faith in DMC and expressed the apprehension that big hospitals exerted considerable clout over it. He pleaded for "a credible expert opinion" from any govt hospital, which the high court granted. The high court also asked for a complete set of medical records to be made available to the MAMC medical board. Yet, the board's report showed that they did not get a complete set of medical records.

In 2020, Singhal had first complained to DMC about incomplete medical records after which the hospital provided a "complete" set. Singhal also got "complete" sets of medical records by complaining to DGHS. As Singhal repeatedly pointed out that several specific records were missing, the "complete" set of medical records went from 36 pages given on Feb 19, 2020 to 88 pages in March, to 155 pages in May and finally 169 pages in Sept.

# One year of Nuh riots: None of 60 cases filed by police has reached verdict stage

Bagish.Jha@timesofindia.com

Gurgaon: A year since the Nuh riots — which broke out during a religious procession on July 31, killing six people and leading to mob violence in Gurgaon and other districts — trials are progressing slowly and none of the 60 cases filed by police has reached the verdict stage.

After the riots, 49 cases were filed in Nuh for rioting and 11 cases for provocative speeches and social media posts, leading to the arrest of 441 people. At present, 405 of them have been released on bail. The absence of a dedicated court for the riots cases has led to hearings making slow progress. Proceedings have also been affected by the reluctance of witnesses to depose before courts, fearing for their safety.



As many as 441 people were arrested after Nuh riots

As many as 20 WhatsApp groups had come under the scanner of investigators for their alleged involvement in the July 31, 2023 violence, and Nuh police had carried out three encounters to make arrests.

Nuh SP Vijay Pratap Singh said those who were fo-

und to be involved in the riots were arrested after questioning. "Chargesheets have been filed and cases are in court. Initially, very few people were named in the FIRs, but after questioning, many more names came up and a large number of people were arrested," Singh said.

A public prosecutor said one significant factor contributing to the delay is the lack of special courts for handling the riot cases, which are now scattered across 5-6 courts.

"The trials, which are proceeding in an isolated manner, should be fast-tracked. Most accused, who are out on bail, are not appearing for the trial even after non-bailable warrants have been issued against them. Many new names have been added to the cases, but most of them have not yet been arrested. There are no consolidated numbers of arrested people, those who have granted bail, the number of people still on the run, and non-bailable warrants that have been issued. Multiple sets of officials from police and prosecution are dealing with these cases," he said.

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### tender & notices

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**Tender Ref - Ref: RFP-CCoE - CISO - Aug-2024-1**

**Item/Job Description** - Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of bidder for Supply, Delivery, Implementation and Monitoring of Digital Risk Monitoring Solution for CCoE, CISO office.

**Date and Time of tender publication** - 02.08.2024 11:00 Hrs

**Last Date and Time for Bid Submission** - 27.08.2024 16:00 Hrs

For other details and RFP document, please visit our Bank's website [www.unionbankofindia.co.in](http://www.unionbankofindia.co.in) or the Government tender portal [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in). Please visit <https://ubi.abcpocure.com> for participation in the e-tender.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is for the information of general public at large that my client Anjali Mandal filed a Civil Suit, CS No. 13 of 2024 titled Anjali Mandal Vs Rohit Mandal wherein on 29-07-2024 the Court of Mr. Harish Kumar Judge Family Courts, New Delhi District, Patala House, Delhi was pleased to restrain Rohit Mandal from selling, alienating, transferring or creating third party interest in the suit properties i.e. D-62, Second Floor, Heacha Mang, New Delhi-110021 and Flat No. 4105 (First and Second Floor Duplex), Sector B, Pocket 5 & 8, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 till the next date of hearing and has put up the case for completion of pleadings on 26-09-2024. Therefore it is brought to the notice of the public that any person dealing with the sale, purchase of the above said two properties shall be doing so at their own risk and cost.

Mukul Dhawan (Advocate)  
B-47 South Extension Part-I  
New Delhi-110049

### PUBLIC NOTICE

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**  
Be it known to all that my client have Lost Original Sale Deeds in respect of property bearing No.2/3 WEST PATEL NAGAR, NEW DELHI (First Floor and THIRD FLOOR in the name of MANMEET KAUR, Second Floor in the name NARINDER SINGH) executed before the office of the Sub-Registrar, New Delhi. If any one finds the same in originals shall contact to the under signed number.

**SUMIT MEHTA (ADVOCATE)**  
(D/15172099) OFF- A-82, Indrapuri, New Delhi, Mobile : 9868001948

### personal

#### CHANGE OF NAME

I, Bijender Kumar Balhara S/o Sultan Singh, age 37 years, R/o FI No 261, Sant Sunder Dass Ji, CGHS Ltd, Plot No 21, Dwarka Sector 12, New Delhi - 78 have changed my name as Bijender Balhara for all future purposes.

I, Urmila Balhara, W/o Bijender Kumar Balhara, age 36 years, R/o FI No 261, Sant Sunder Dass Ji, CGHS Ltd, Plot No 21, Dwarka Sector 12, New Delhi - 78 have changed my name as Urmila Balhara for all future purposes.

I, Mahender Kumar G Vazirani, S/o Gulab Rai L Vazirani, R/o C-282, 1st Floor, Sushant Lok 3, Sector 57, Gurgaon, have changed my name to Mahender G Vazirani for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 24 July 2024

I Sandeep Garg S/O Suresh Kumar R/O Sector 143 Noida has changed my minor daughter's name from Arohi to Aarohi Garg

I Hemant Gautam S/o Satpal Gautam R/o 34-R, New Colony, Gurgaon have changed my daughter's name from Prisha to Prisha Gautam for all future purposes.

I Tanisha D/o Ajay Kumar Arya R/o Janakpuri, New Delhi have changed my name from Tanisha to Tanisha Arya for all future purposes as per the affidavit dated 13.07.2024.

### GENERAL

I Sumit Chauhan S/O Devendra Singh Chauhan R/O 37C, HIG, Green View Apartment, Sector-99, Noida, declare that my father's both names Devendra Singh Chauhan & Devendra Chauhan belong to one person and my father's correct name is Devendra Singh Chauhan.

### tender & notices

**PUBLIC INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SALE OF THE MAJORITY STAKES IN HYDRO POWER PROJECT**  
Invitation is hereby given by Mr.Suresh K. Jha, (appointed by AJR INFRA AND TOLLING LIMITED (AJRITL)) to the public for sale of AJR's majority stakes in company for undertaking development of "Hydro Power Project" having generation capacity above 60 MW on BOOT basis.

The transfer of stakes shall be as a going concern on "as is where is, as is what is, whatever there is and without recourse basis". Interested parties may submit their expression of interest by email or letter latest by 10.08.2024.

**For all Inquiries and Information, Contact:**  
**SURESH K. JHA**  
Office:- 002/ A wing, Sonam Palace CHS, Old Golden Nest -I, Mira Bhayander, Bhayander (East), Mumbai - 401105. Tel No. 022 28121275 / 09869057304. Email: [sureshkjhaco@gmail.com](mailto:sureshkjhaco@gmail.com)

Suresh K. Jha reserves his right to amend the deadlines from the Public Invitation.

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### TIMES Personal

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#### Awarded for Excellence...

We are proud to announce that "Dr. Avinash Kumar Jha, Group Managing Director of "RIV Group of Companies", has been honored with a Doctorate Degree by "SSA University, Portland, USA", in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the fields of Hospitality and Social Works.

The prestigious convocation ceremony took place on 14th July 2024, with several prominent personalities and business figures in attendance.

Dr. Avinash Kumar Jha has been dedicated to the fields of travel and hospitality for the last 12 years, through his various established organizations, including Including Royal India Vacation, Royal Event Management, Corbett Nirvana Resort, Grand Nirvana Resort Surya Foundation (CSR) and associated companies. His efforts have continuously established new dimensions in the industry, contributing to the economic prosperity of the country and society, as well as providing new employment opportunities.

Dr. Avinash Kumar Jha was previously recognized by WASME as The Travel Expert of the Year 2023 for his outstanding achievements in the Travel & Hospitality industry.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to receive this esteemed Doctorate degree from the renowned SSA University, Portland, USA. I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported me throughout my journey. This recognition inspires me to continue my efforts in making a positive impact in the fields of hospitality and social work. The entire RIV family is committed to continuously establishing new dimensions in the field of travel and hospitality, and contributing to the social and national interest."

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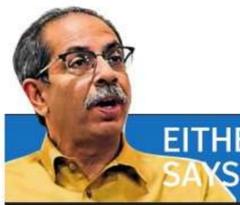
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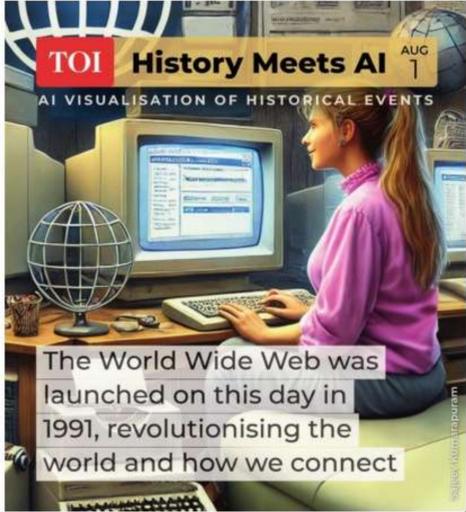
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**HC REVIVES 2017 PRIVILEGE CASE AGAINST STALIN FOR DISPLAYING GUTKA SACHETS IN TN HOUSE**



**TOI History Meets AI**  
AI VISUALISATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS

**The World Wide Web was launched on this day in 1991, revolutionising the world and how we connect**

**HC: AI mimicking Arijit violates rights**

Granting relief to composer-singer Arijit Singh, Bombay HC said AI tools generating content using a celebrity's voice, image or other attributes without consent violate his or her "personality rights". Hearing a petition filed by the famous singer, Justice R I Chagla in his interim order on July 26 restrained eight online platforms from using Singh's "personality rights", and directed them to remove all such content and also voice conversion tools.

The singer had moved the court claiming that these platforms provide AI tools to synthesise artificial sound recordings by mimicking his voice, mannerisms and other attributes. Singh has consciously refrained from any kind of brand endorsement or gross commercialisation of his personality traits for the past several years, his lawyer Hiren Kamod said.

**STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers**

**Javelin's Czech-mates**

Although the male sport is dominated by Finland (22 Olympic medals) and the female sport by Germany (17 Olympic medals), the Czech Republic (formerly Czechoslovakia) also had a long tradition of javelin throw. Its combined tally of both male and female categories is 12 Olympic medals. The world record in both male and female categories is also held by Czech Republic

Country	Athlete	Distance (in meter)	Year
Great Britain	Steve Backley	89.58	1990
		91.46	1992
Czech Republic	Jan Železný	95.64	1993
		95.66	1993
		98.48	1996

Country	Athlete	Distance (in meter)	Year
East Germany	Petra Felke	80	1988
Greece	Mirela Tzeilei	67.09	1999
Cuba	Olisdeily Menéndez	71.54	2001
		71.7	2005
Czech Republic	Barbora Špotáková	72.28	2008

**Thirsty 3-yr-old mistakes liquor for water, dies in Chhattisgarh**

Raipur: A three-year-old girl died after she drank liquor, mistaking it for water, at her home in Chhattisgarh's Balrampur district on Tuesday. Sarita was playing at home on Monday when she ran into her grandma's room and picked up a bottle of mahua liquor kept on the table. She took a deep

swig directly from the bottle, believing it was water. Her throat burning from raw alcohol, she went to her mother. Soon, the toddler collapsed on the floor, unconscious. Sarita was admitted on Monday but couldn't be saved. Police have registered a case and started a probe.

As the intruders continued their ascent, the constable

**ED lens on 2 HP Cong netas in 'Ayushman beneficiary scam'**

'Fake Beneficiaries Created, Treated At Hospitals Controlled By Them'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Two senior Congress functionaries in Himachal Pradesh were at the centre of a multi-state search carried out by ED on Wednesday in a laundering probe related to alleged embezzlement of Rs 25 crore through the Ayushman Bharat scheme by raising claims by fake beneficiaries. Searches took place at 19 locations across Delhi, Chandigarh, Punjab and Himachal.

Sources said that those whose premises were searched included RS Bali, the Congress MLA from Nagrota and chairman of Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation who is also vice-chairman of Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Board. Fortis Hospital, Kangra, is a unit of Bali's company Himachal Healthcare Pvt Ltd.

Searches were also carried out on the premises of Rajesh Sharma of Congress and his Shree Balaji Hospital in Kangra. He was Congress's original choice for the just-held by-election for



The hospitals accused of being involved in the alleged scam have been de-empanelled. Nearly 9,000 Ayushman cards have been scrapped in Himachal Pradesh after the fraud came to light

the Dehra assembly seat, but pulled out clearing the way for Himachal chief minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu's wife Kamlesh Thakur, who went on to win the poll.

In Himachal, ED carried out searches in Kangra, Una, Shimla, Mandi and Kullu, with sources saying that the agency was probing the role of Congress functionaries in creation of fake Ayushman beneficiaries and 'treating' them in hospitals owned and controlled by them.

"The list of such beneficiaries included one Rajnish Kumar (ABPMJAY Card No. PPKZU26H7) and Pooja Dhi-man (ABPMJAY Card No. PICHWG108) who denied possession or any information of any such PMJAY card. Further, they never underwent any such treatment in any of these hospitals," ED sources said.

These hospitals were later de-empanelled. "At least 8,937 Ayushman Bharat golden cards have so far been scrapped for alleged violation of the scheme," sources said.

**ED raids Maha locations in loan fraud case**

Mumbai: ED conducted searches at various locations in Mumbai, Karjat, Baramati, and Pune in connection with a bank loan fraud case involving Shree Shiv Parvati Sakhar Karkhana Ltd and seized Rs 19.5 lakh, reports Vijay V Singh. The locations included the premises of the company, Hitech Engineering Corporation India Pvt Ltd, and the firm's directors Nandkumar Tasgaonkar, Sanjay Awate, and Rajendra Ingawale.

ED issued a press release on Wednesday stating that Shree Shiv Parvati Sakhar Karkhana Ltd had availed a Rs 100 crore loan from banks.

Earlier, Hitech Engineering and Rajendra Ingawale were investigated by ED in the MSCB scam case connected to the purchase of Kannad Sugar Co-Operative Mill in an auction by Baramati Agro, owned by NCP (SP) MLA Rohit Pawar.

**BSF woman constable drives back armed Bangla intruders**

Tamaghna.Banerjee @timesofindia.com

Kolkata: A BSF constable took on a gang of 13-14 armed intruders near the border outpost in Bengal's Ranaghat on Wednesday and managed to drive them back into Bangladesh even after she was surrounded.

BSF officials said around 2am, the constable spotted the intruders, armed with knives and swords, crossing the border fence. "She charged at the intruders and gave a verbal warning, but they entered the Indian territory, surrounded the constable and attacked her. By then, a fellow jawan responded to her alarm and threw a stun grenade towards the intruders."

BSF South Bengal Frontier spokesperson DIG AK Arya said. As the intruders continued their ascent, the constable



BSF officials said around 2am, the constable spotted the intruders, armed with knives and swords, crossing the border fence

ble fired at them, pushing them back into Bangladesh. Arya said BSF was not ruling out the possibility of an intruder getting injured.

"This is not an isolated incident. Such attacks have been made on jawans by cattle smugglers and intruders at the border outposts of Krishnanagar, sector headquarters in Nadia, Bama-

**No prima facie case against PC's wife: Court**

Kolkata: A special PMLA court has observed that no "prima facie" case can be made out against Nalini Chidambaram for money laundering in the Saradha probe, reports Rohit Khanna.

Judge Prashanta Mukhopadhyay said in the order on Tuesday that since no case was made out "for the offence under Section 3 punishable under Section 4 of the PMLA Act, 2002", the "supplementary complaint dated July 5 stands dismissed".

ED had alleged that Nalini had received Rs 1.3 crore between June 11, 2010 and June 17, 2012 from Saradha group boss Sudipta Sen's companies. It said no invoice or bill was raised by Nalini against receipt of such payment.

After several ED summons, Nalini's lawyer claimed that no agreement was ever made between her and Sen or his companies.

**226 dead, 59,000 left homeless by unrest so far: Manipur CM**

Prabin.Kalita@timesofindia.com

**7 tribal BJP MLAs skip assembly session**

Guwahati: Manipur CM N Biren Singh told the assembly on Wednesday that 226 people have been reported dead and 39 are missing, while over 59,000 displaced people are in relief camps (till Tuesday) due to ongoing violence in the state since last May last year.

Replying to a query by Congress MLA K Meghachandra Singh, Biren said 11,133 houses have been set on fire and 4,569 others have been destroyed. Farmlands belonging to 5,554 farmers have been hit and 11,892 violence cases have been filed, he said. He said district-wise break-up of relief camps and inmates can't be given "as the information is sensitive in nature and for its likely ramification on the ongoing crisis".

He said help is being provided both inside and outside the relief camps, including one-time assistance for construction and running of relief camps, daily requirements of consumable and essential items in relief camps like rice, pulses, edible oil, mattresses, beds, utensils, thermos flasks, water, electricity, etc.

Seven tribal BJP MLAs skipped the first day of the Manipur legislative assembly monsoon session on Wednesday over security concerns, reports Prabin Kalita. They also have been demanding a separate administration for tribals in the state. The current session, till Aug 12, is the third since the ethnic violence broke out on May 3 last year.

**10% of Budget outlay for police, tribals:** Biren Singh presented the state Budget for 2024-25 in the assembly on Wednesday, allocating more than 10% of the total outlay of Rs 34,899 crore for strengthening the police force, and for development of hill areas inhabited by tribals. In his Budget speech, Biren described the loss of lives, properties and livelihoods as "the outcome of the loss of trust between communities", as he underlined that "it is our collective responsibility to find an amicable solution".

**705/720 NEET girl who flunked Std XII chem now fails in supplementary too**

Bharat.Yagnik@timesofindia.com

Ahmedabad: The girl from Gujarat, who had pulled off a remarkable 705 out of 720 in National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG) but later failed her Class XII (science) board exam, has now failed supplementary exams, too, leaving her ineligible for college.

Her result had caused an uproar due to the implausibility of a NEET topper failing board exams. She failed physics and chemistry papers in board exams conducted in March.

She then took Gujarat board's supplementary exams in June, which give those who failed up to three papers a second shot. She has now failed Class 12, being unable to pass physics. She scored just 22 in physics in the supplementary exam, compared to 21 on her first attempt.

In chemistry, she got exactly the passing mark of 33 on her second attempt. She had scored just 31 marks in chemistry in the March exam. Sources said supplementary exam results cast serious doubts over the validity of her NEET score. "At a time when irregularities in NEET were pursued by the apex court this case can't be ignored. It is highly improbable for a student who can't get passing marks in

state board exams to get one of the highest scores in this highly competitive national entrance test for medicine. The case must definitely be probed," a member of state education fraternity said.

When centre-wise and city-wise NEET-UG results were declared recently, her mark sheets for NEET and HSC science — bearing the same first, middle and last names — began circulating on social media. The stark contrast between the two results — NEET score and board exam score of just 352 out of 700 — received widespread attention. While

**TESTING TIMES**

sources confirmed the validity of these scores, TOI has not yet been able to independently verify that the mark sheets indeed belong to the same individual. Her NEET score was later reduced to 700 after a Supreme Court-appointed committee made a ruling on one question in the test. Her NEET score puts her in the top 99.89th percentile in physics, 99.14th percentile in chemistry and 99.14th percentile in biology, ranking in the 99.94th percentile overall. It is a high score that would typically earn a free seat in a top medical college. As the girl did not pass her Class XII boards, she did not qualify for admission.

**Jodhpur Development Authority, Jodhpur**  
E-Auction Program of Facility Plots (Club House/ School/ Community Centre/ Training Centre/ Kinder Garten/ Dispensary) and Commercial Plots in Jodhpur (August-October 2024)

आवासीय क्षेत्र में स्थित सुविधा क्षेत्र व व्यावसायिक मूखण्डों की मय ई-नीलामी दिनांक 20.08.2024 से 21.10.2024 तक

SI No.	Name of Work	Amount Put to Tender
10	Facility Plots (Club House/ School/ Community Center/Training Center/ Kinder Garten/Dispensary) and Commercial Plots	EMD
No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(E)/ACE(E)-2/DCE(M)-JTA(E)/1890/2024-25	Date: 29.07.2024	
1.	Providing & laying of 450mm MS, 300mm, 200mm and 100mm DI dia water supply line from Nehru road to Kullappa circle pertaining to Banasawadi service station of AEE(E)-2-2 sub division.	Rs. 169.25 lakhs
2.	Providing and laying of 600mm MS, 300mm MS water supply line from Hennur Junction ORR to Lingarajapura flyover pertaining to Lingarajapura service station of AEE(E)-2-2 sub division.	Rs. 387.56 lakhs
3.	Providing and laying of 450mm dia MS, 200mm and 100mm dia DI water supply line pertaining to IOC flyover are pertaining to Banaswadi & Lingarajapura service station of AEE(E)-2-2 sub division.	Rs. 361.31 lakhs
4.	Providing and laying of 150mm and 100mm dia water supply line from Hennur junction ORR to Lingarajapura flyover pertaining to Lingarajapura service station of AEE(E)-2-2 sub division.	Rs. 129.80 lakhs
5.	Providing and laying of 300mm dia DI, 150mm dia & 100mm dia DI water supply line pertaining to Hennur road Chandrika Soap factory junction to railway gate via Vinayaka temple road of AEE(E)-2-1 sub division	Rs. 174.02 lakhs
Rs. 3.08 lakhs		
For the above works Last date and time for Receipt of tenders will be on 14.08.2024 upto 16.00 hrs. The bids will be opened on : 16.08.2024 after 11.00 hrs.		
No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(E)/ACE(E)-2/DCE(M)-JTA(E)/1898/2024-25	Date: 29.07.2024	
1.	Providing & laying of 100mm dia DI water supply line from Wipro Signal to Ejipura main road along 80 feet road coming under AEES-5 sub division.	Rs. 172.17 lakhs
2.	Replacement of CI pipe line by DI pipe lines of 150mm, 100mm dia water supply pipe lines at 29th main, BTM 2nd stage from Axa Signal to Bannerghatta road pertaining to BTM service station of AEES-6 sub division.	Rs. 3.05 lakhs
3.	Replacement of 230mm dia SW UGD pipeline by RCC 300mm dia NP3 class pipe at along 80 feet road from Wipro Park to Ejipura main road coming under Kormangala service station of AEES-5 sub division.	Rs. 244.18 lakhs
4.	Providing and laying of 300mm dia RCC NP3 class pipe line at 29th main, BTM 2nd stage from Axa Signal to Bannerghatta road pertaining to BTM service station of AEES-6 sub division.	Rs. 4.32 lakhs
Rs. 164.25 lakhs		
Rs. 2.91 lakhs		
Rs. 227.03 lakhs		
Rs. 4.02 lakhs		
For the above works Last date and time for Receipt of tenders will be on 16.08.2024 upto 16.00 hrs. The bids will be opened on : 17.08.2024 after 17.00 hrs.		
Sd/- Chief Engineer (East)		
The detail regarding the tender & participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to <a href="https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in">https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in</a> . For further details contact the above signed office during working hours.		
DIPRC/CP/1149/Zen/2024-25		

**BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**  
Office of The Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bangalore-560009.

**INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through KPP Portal Only)**  
BWSSB invite tenders in Two Stage Tender System from Eligible Contractors for the below mentioned works.

SI No.	Name of Work	Amount Put to Tender
No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(E)/ACE(E)-2/DCE(M)-JTA(E)/1890/2024-25	Date: 29.07.2024	
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DIPRC/CP/1149/Zen/2024-25		

**कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता जन. स्वा. अभि. विभाग वृत्त पाली**  
E-mail: sephed123@yahoo.com, Ph. 02932-222678

क्रमांक: अज / वृत्त पाली / त.स. / 2024-25 / 1964-1983 दिनांक: 25/07/24

ई-टेंडरिंग निविदा सूचना संख्या 3/2024-25

राजस्थान के राज्यपाल की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु जन. स्वा. अभि. विभाग में उच्चक श्रेणी में पंजीकृत अनुभवधरों से निर्धारित प्रारम्भ में ई. प्रोक्चरमेंट प्रक्रिया द्वारा ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

निविदा का कार्य	Tender for Operation & Maintenance work of UWSSB Rani on private contract basis (Single Point Responsibility contract) for next 05 years under Sub division Rani District Pali
निविदा का कल लागत (लाख रुपये में)	1 निविदा की कल राशि 236.10 लाख रुपये
कुल धरोहर राशि	निविदा की अनुमानित लागत का 2 प्रतिशत या निचमनुसार
फर्म मिलने की तारीख	29.07.2024 से 22.08.2024 संधि 6.00 बजे तक
फर्म जमा करने की तारीख	22.08.2024 संधि 6.00 बजे तक
निविदा खोलने की तारीख	23.08.2024 मध्याह्न पूर्व 11.00 बजे

निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण वेबसाई <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in/>, <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in/> में देखा सकता है। इच्छुक संस्करणों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट <https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in/> पर रजिस्टर्ड करना आवश्यक है।

1. PHE2425WSOB3323 Sd/ (मानव साक्षर) अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, जन. स्वा. अभि. विभाग, वृत्त पाली  
DIPRC/6830/2024

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General Public is hereby informed that one Male (depicted in the photo) namely **Parveen Kumar S/o Ramjilal R/o H. No. 4129, Street No. 13, Shanti Mohalla, Krishna Nagar, Delhi, Age-35** Years, has been reported missing since 11.11.2023 at about 6.00 PM from his Residence vide **DD No. 98A Dated 27.07.2024** registered at **Police Station Krishna Nagar, Delhi**. His physical description is as under:

**Sex: Male, Complexion: Wheatish, Height: 5'4" Built: Medium, Face: Long, Hair: Curly, Clothing: Red check Shirt & Gray Pant & Blue Slipper on his Feet.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing male but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing male, please inform to the following.

**SHO Website: [cbi.nic.in](https://cbi.nic.in) Police Station Krishna Nagar, Delhi DP/10082/SHD/2024 Ph.: 9350675095**

# Budget finely balances growth & fiscal consolidation, says FM

## Slams Oppn, Says Agnipath To Help Maintain Battle-Ready Force

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The Budget strikes a fine balance addressing issues like growth, employment, capital investment and fiscal consolidation, while pledging support to cooperative federalism, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

While replying to the discussion on the Budget, she also strongly defended the Agnipath scheme, arguing it would help India maintain a battle-ready force and was brought in with the "acceptance" of the armed forces.

"One of the expected outcomes of the scheme is that armed forces will have a much younger force by recruiting those in the age group of 17-21 years. This initiative showcases our commitment to keeping our armed forces ready and fit," she said, responding to queries raised earlier in the debate by former finance minister P Chidambaram on implementation of the scheme.



Countering the opposition, Sitharaman said there was double-digit inflation during the UPA era because of reckless and inept policies

Countering allegations by the opposition that the government was violating the principles of cooperative federalism, the finance minister said the Budget actually pledged unflinching support to the same.

Brushing aside allegations that she was ignoring opposition-governed states, Sitharaman attacked the opposition for raising the inflation issue, saying there was

double-digit inflation during the UPA regime because of reckless and inept policies.

She said the PLI schemes remained attractive for the manufacturing sector. "The Budget is an exercise to make India an attractive destination for manufacturing companies and boost growth and employment," she added.

While the opposition had alleged that the decision to finance J&K Police might be a ploy to retain control of

home affairs, calling it a Trojan horse, the minister said if there was any Trojan horse it was Article 375 that, she added, prevented the UT from being integrated into India.

She also emphasised that the financial position of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir has improved, adding that J&K Bank has made a turnaround and posted a profit.

Responding to the opposition's criticism of NEET exams, Sitharaman said that in 2011 when DMK was in office, Tamil Nadu had just 1,945 medical seats, which had now soared to 10,425.

"NEET has ensured cost effective medical education for families. Certainly it has hurt some vested interests, particularly those in the medical education field because selling medical seats is no longer possible. Therefore, it has hurt a lot of people. That is why a particular lobby was actively against NEET even before the NEET leak issue came up," she said.

# Gadkari: Insurance premium GST is like tax on life's uncertainties

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari has urged finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to consider suggestions for removing GST on life and health insurance, a demand that is unlikely to be met, although it has generated tremendous interest.



While forwarding a representation from the Nagpur Divisional Life Insurance Corporation Employees Union, the minister, a three-term Lok Sabha MP from the constituency, said: "Levying GST on life insurance premium amounts to levying tax on uncertainties of life... Similarly, the 18% GST on medical insurance premium is proving to be a deterrent for the growth of this segment of business, which is socially necessary."

Citing other demands in the memorandum, he went on to say: "The union feels that a person who covers the risk of life's uncertainties to give protection to the family should not be levied tax on the premium to purchase cover against the risk... you

are requested to consider the suggestion of withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premium on priority as it becomes cumbersome for senior citizens as per rules with due verification..."

Insurance was one of the biggest contributors to service tax kitty, which was subsumed into GST from July 2017. While Centre levied 15% service tax, GST Council, the all-powerful ministerial panel chaired by finance minister, settled for 18% tax on insurance, which is seen to be burdensome by consumers. Several other services, such as telecom, attract the same levy.

In all likelihood, the rationalisation rates, and possible merger of slabs, will see a re-

duction in levy although a removal of tax will result in those providing services to insurance firms being denied tax credits.

A final call on the change in rates will only be taken up once a group of ministers led by Bihar deputy chief minister Samrat Chaudhary submits its report to the GST Council. After the last meeting of the GST council, Sitharaman had said that preliminary discussions may take place when ministers reassemble in Aug. Congress MP Karti Chidambaram latched on to Gadkari's communication, claiming that he'd made a similar demand earlier.

The letter from Gadkari, however, has come as a surprise, although he is seen to have forwarded a representation that was made to him.

# Dhankhar defends RSS in RS, oppn protests

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday strongly defended the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and said it had "unimpeachable credentials" and he would not permit any member to single out an organisation which was "doing national service".



Dhankhar's comments came after SP member Ramji Lal Suman, while talking about National Testing Agency chairperson, said for BJP, a person's calibre was measured by whether he was from RSS or not. Dhankhar immediately intervened and said, "I hereby rule that RSS is an organisation that has full constitutional rights to participate in the development journey of this nation. This organisation bears unimpeachable credentials, comprises of people who are deeply committed to serving the nation selflessly."

He further said, "RSS is an organisation which is a global

think tank of the highest order."

This led to a furore as the opposition, led by LoP Mallikarjun Kharge, protested and said the member be allowed to express his views. Kharge said if a member was speaking within rules and not violating any rule, he or she should not be prevented from making his statement. He went on to say that what Suman said was "correct" and what Dhankhar was doing was not right.

The chairman said Kharge indicated that the chair could intervene when there was a transgression of rules. "I agree with that. The member wasn't transgressing rules, he was trampling on the Constitution. I won't permit a member to single out an organisation which is doing national service. This is a violation of the Constitution."

Dhankhar said he'd noticed that "people are engaging in divisive activities", adding that "this is a pernicious design, a sinister mechanism to run down the growth of the country".

# 21 bridges collapsed on NHs in past 3yrs

**New Delhi:** A total of 21 bridges — 15 built and six under-construction — collapsed on National Highways in the past three years, the road transport ministry informed Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. The ministry said two lives were lost in two such accidents in Bihar.

Giving details of actions taken against defaulting contractors and concessionaires, the ministry said in one case an FIR was registered in Madhya Pradesh. In five cases, the highway agencies have penalised the contractors, consultants. In one case in Maharashtra, an expert committee has been set up

**TIMES VIEW:** The collapse of so many bridges in such a short time is alarming, to say the least. It means wastage of crores of rupees of scarce public money. Apart from obvious reasons such as structural flaws or improper implementation of technology, there's a need to investigate if large-scale corruption has also played a role in these collapses. To that end, accountability must be fixed — and not just at the lower levels.

to ascertain the cause of failure of a girder of under-construction Chiplun flyover. TNN

# Swine flu toll 150 till June, up from 2023 tally of 129

**New Delhi:** As of June 30, nearly 150 people have died due to seasonal influenza A (H1N1), also known as swine flu, across India, according to data from the National Centre for Disease Control, reports Durgesh Nandan Jha. Punjab reported 41 deaths, followed by Gujarat (27), Haryana (26) and Maharashtra (16). Delhi did not report any deaths this year, but did record 1,563 cases.

Govt data recorded 7,215 cases of swine flu across India as of June 30. India reported 129 H1N1 deaths and 8,125 cases last year. In 2022, 410 deaths and 13,202 cases were reported.

Swine flu is a contagious respiratory disease, transmitted through inhalation of contaminated droplets or is transferred from a contaminated surface to the eyes, nose or mouth of a person.

"Surveillance continues to spot any potential clustering of illness and unusual symptoms that may be caused by mutation in the virus causing the illness," said Dr Neeraj Nischal of AIIMS Delhi.

## MARKING THE GOLD

50 YEARS OF RITES

INNOVATION | EXECUTION | TRANSFORMATION

### EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2024

₹ in Crore except EPS)

S. No.	PARTICULARS	STANDALONE				CONSOLIDATED			
		QUARTER ENDED		YEAR ENDED		QUARTER ENDED		YEAR ENDED	
		30.06.2024 (Unaudited)	31.03.2024 (Unaudited)	30.06.2023 (Unaudited)	31.03.2024 (Audited)	30.06.2024 (Unaudited)	31.03.2024 (Audited)	30.06.2023 (Unaudited)	31.03.2024 (Audited)
1	Revenue from Operations	453.78	606.18	503.67	2,312.00	485.76	643.25	544.35	2,452.85
2	Other Income	21.36	32.98	17.69	126.92	22.49	24.43	18.28	86.12
3	Total Income	475.14	639.16	521.36	2,438.92	508.25	667.68	562.63	2,538.97
4	Net Profit/ (Loss) Before Tax*	86.45	164.08	129.08	596.87	114.98	186.69	162.55	670.36
5	Net Profit/ (Loss) After Tax for the Period/Year*	64.86	123.07	95.88	454.11	90.44	136.67	119.58	495.20
6	Total Comprehensive Income [Comprising Profit/(Loss) (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	66.14	125.18	97.33	460.40	91.79	138.68	120.89	501.32
7	Equity Share Capital	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30	240.30
8	Other Equity (excluding non-controlling interest)				2266.57				2368.71
9	Earnings per share (EPS)**								
	Basic (₹)	2.70	5.12	3.99	18.90	3.29	5.25	4.49	18.95
	Diluted (₹)	2.70	5.12	3.99	18.90	3.29	5.25	4.49	18.95

\* There were no Exceptional items during the period.  
\*\* EPS is not annualized for the quarter ended June 30, 2024, March 31, 2024 & June 30, 2023.

**Notes:**

- The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors in its meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2024.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full formats of the quarterly financial results are available on the Stock Exchange websites www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on Company's website www.rites.com
- The Financial Results of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015, as amended.
- Ministry of Railways (MoR) vide letter dated 18.10.2021 had decided in principle for closure of Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation (IRSDC), in which Company has an investment of ₹48 Crore. Closure activities are underway and Board of IRSDC has decided to transfer the assets & liabilities of IRSDC to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for consideration not less than book value. Financial statement of IRSDC has been prepared on liquidation basis. As on 30.06.2024, net worth of IRSDC comes to ₹233.26 Crores, out of which 24% share i.e. ₹55.98 Crores belongs to RITES. Therefore, management does not perceive any impairment in the value of investment in IRSDC.
- The Board of Directors have declared 1<sup>st</sup> interim dividend of ₹ 2.50 per share (face value of ₹10 per share) for the FY 2024-25.
- Consequent upon utilisation of entire MAT credit in FY 2023-24, RITES Limited has adopted corporate tax rate of 25.168% under Section 115BAA of Income Tax Act, 1961 w.e.f. FY 2024-25 (Previous year corporate tax rate was 29.12%).
- Figures for the quarter ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024 are the balancing figures between audited figures in respect of the full financial year and the figures for nine months ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023 which were subject to limited review.
- The figures for the previous period have been regrouped/reclassified, wherever necessary.

Place: Gurugram  
Date: 31.07.2024

**For & on behalf of the Board of Directors**  
Sd/-  
(Rahul Mithal)  
Chairman & Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer  
DIN: 07610499

**RITES LIMITED**  
(A Navratna CPSE)  
Registered Office: SCOPE Minar, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, India. Ph.: 0124-2571666;  
E-mail: cs.cell@rites.com; Website: www.rites.com; CIN: L74899DL1974GOI007227

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ET THE ECONOMIC TIMES

# RAJASTHAN

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A TIMES INTERNET INITIATIVE

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Ministry of Petroleum and  
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## 6-yr-old carries dad's pistol to school, 'mistakenly' pulls trigger on boy, 10

Patna: A six-year-old pre-primary student of a Bihar school carried his father's licensed pistol to class Wednesday and ended up "mistakenly" pulling the trigger on a 10-year-old boy inside a classroom, reports Kshitiz. The bullet struck the

Class III student's left palm. Police said the owner of the gun, a guard at the same school in Supaul district's Triveniganj, took away his son and the weapon after being informed of the shooting. Both have been untraceable since.

Triveniganj SDPO Bipin Kumar said the injured child's relatives vandalised the school and blocked the town's main road until police intervened.

### BIHAR HORROR

The boy is out of danger, he said. Investigators dismissed speculation about the shooting being linked to a land dispute involving the school and the injured student's family. "How the child entered the campus with a gun in his bag is the focus of the

investigation. The boy who was shot at told police that he had nothing against the junior who fired the weapon," Kumar said. "Prima facie, the bullet was fired mistakenly. More will be known once we trace father and child," the SDPO added.

## Stage set to shift Nat'l Museum to North Block

New Delhi: The Centre is gradually putting in place the building blocks for Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum (YYBM), having completed a survey of the North Block, where the National Museum will be relocated in the first phase, before the South Block is also utilised, reports Sidhartha.

Next up are consultations with 106 state and university museums, a new law that will also address the large manpower requirement, and the award of architectural contracts.

The culture ministry, which is driving the ambitious project to build the world's largest museum spread over almost 1.6 lakh square metres, is going beyond its physical infrastructure to address several other features.

It has already held consultations with central govt agencies, including Special Protection Group and Delhi Fire Services, as well as several other service providers.

The ministry, over the next few days, will hold consultations with state and university museums to showcase their artefact collections. Additionally, they will explore the possibility of conservation efforts. "The meeting will seek to underline how access to some of the artefacts will benefit the visitors — something that is the norm across the world. Another key issue will be the 'red list' dealing with theft, where states can play a crucial role.

"We are at the pre-preparation stage. We are seeking to ensure better planning for good execution," a source, familiar with the deliberations, told TOI. The governance template, or the law on museums, is expected to be tabled either in the current session of Parliament or during the winter session. A scheme for transfers and internships is also being prepared for eight museums of national importance. Also, a consortium of 10 museums from France, including the Louvre is collaborating with the ministry of culture.

The more challenging physical aspects are being handled by the ministry of housing and urban affairs, which will oversee the restoration of the North Block, currently home to the finance and home ministries.

After the removal of multiple partitions in North Block, an architect will be brought in. South Block will become available only after the Prime Minister's Office and the ministries of defence and external affairs have moved out, but that may take some time. Other aspects, such as the entry of visitors into the high-security zone — which is currently off-limits to tourists — will also be finalised.

## EAM to meet Muizzu on Maldives trip next week

New Delhi: Foreign minister S Jaishankar is likely to travel to the Maldives next week for what will be the first high-level bilateral visit by the Indian side to the important Indian Ocean neighbour since the new president, Mohamed Muizzu, assumed office late last year.

Jaishankar will hold talks with his counterpart Moosa Zameer on ongoing efforts to carry forward the development cooperation and also call on Muizzu during the visit. Zameer was in India before the Indian elections for the first bilateral visit by the Maldives and his visit was followed by Muizzu's own first visit to India as president for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's inauguration in June. **TNN**

### BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

#### INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through e-Procurement portal)

BWSSB invites TENDERS in Two Stage Tender System from registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-09

Sl. No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender EMD Amount
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1937/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
1	Providing and laying of 450mm dia, 300mm dia, 100mm dia of MS & DI water pipeline in place of Old MS/CI pipeline to facilitate the white topping project in CBI main road from Ballari road to R.T. Nagar main road and surrounding area coming under AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 134.56 lakhs ₹ 2.38 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1936/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
2	Providing and laying of 300 mm dia RCC NP3 sewer line to facilitate White Topping from CBI main road (Ballari Road) R.T. Nagar main road to Devegowda road and surrounding area coming under R.T. Nagar Service station of AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 175.43 lakhs ₹ 3.10 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1935/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
3	Providing and laying of 300 mm dia RCC NP3 class pipeline at V. Nagenahalli main road from Hebbal flyover to Sultanpalya main road (White topping) and surrounding areas coming under Ananda Nagar Service station of AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 153.99 lakhs ₹ 2.73 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1934/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
4	Providing and laying of 300 mm dia RCC NP3 class pipeline at Both sides LBS college to V. Nagenahalli main road near Nagenahalli Church (White Topping) and surrounding areas coming under Manoranayapalya / Ananda nagar Service station of AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 183.61 lakhs ₹ 3.25 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1933/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
5	Providing and laying of 300 mm dia RCC NP3 class pipeline at Both sides from Nagenahalli church to Kanakanagar main road near Pavithra bar upto KHB road (White Topping) and surrounding areas coming under Ananda nagar Service station of AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 122.22 lakhs ₹ 2.16 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1932/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
6	Providing and laying of 450 mm dia, 300mm dia, 100mm dia of MS & DI water pipeline in place of Old MS/CI pipeline to facilitate the White topping project in Dinnur main road from R.T. Nagar main road to Devegowda road and surrounding areas coming under AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 149.11 lakhs ₹ 2.64 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1931/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
7	Providing and laying of 400 mm dia, 200mm dia, 100mm dia of MS & DI water pipeline in place of Old MS/CI pipeline to facilitate the White topping project in Taralabalu main road from R.T. Nagar main road to Ballari main road coming under AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 96.13 lakhs ₹ 2.00 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1930/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
8	Providing and laying of 450 mm dia, 300mm dia, 150mm dia of MS & DI water pipeline in place of Old MS/CI pipeline to facilitate the White topping project in V. Nagenahalli main road from Ballari road (Hebbal flyover) to KHB main road and surrounding areas coming under AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 352.14 lakhs ₹ 6.24 lakhs
<b>IFT No.: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1929/2024-25 Date: 29.07.2024</b>		
9	Providing and laying of 200 mm dia, 100mm dia of MS & DI water pipeline in place of Old MS/CI pipeline to facilitate the White topping project in Sultanpalya main road from V.N. Halli road to LBS college, Dinnur road and surrounding areas coming under AEE (N-1) 2 Sub-division.	₹ 162.73 lakhs ₹ 2.88 lakhs

For the above works, the Last date and time for receipt of completed tenders will be on 16.08.2024 upto 16:00 hrs. The bids opening is on 17.08.2024 at 16:00 hrs.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (North)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-Procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPRC/PCYC/1181/2024-25

### STATE INDUSTRIES PROMOTION CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED

19-A, RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHY ROAD, EGMORE, CHENNAI-600 008.  
CIN U74999TN1971SGC005967

(ONLINE ONLY)

#### Tender Notice NIT.No.18/CD/T.No.18/2024-25 Dt. 31.07.2024

For and on behalf of State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu Limited, tenders are invited under "Two Cover System" through online only for the following work from qualified Bidders having experience in similar nature of works as mentioned under. Tenders will be received upto 15.30 Hrs (as per server system clock) on 05.09.2024 and the same will be opened at 15.30 Hrs (as per server system clock) on 06.09.2024.

Name of Work	Approx. value of work	EMD
Formation of Balance Internal Roads including construction of RCC Side Drain & Culverts and Providing Street lights at Mega Leather Park, Panapakam in Ranipet District.	Rs.3954.00 Lakhs (Inclusive of GST @18%)	Rs.19,87,000 /-*

\* EMD should be paid through online in the portal (<https://tntenders.gov.in>)

The tender schedule can be downloaded at free of cost from the website <https://tntenders.gov.in>

DIPRI/2735/Tender/2024

MANAGING DIRECTOR

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### MUMBAI METROPOLITAN REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking)

MMRDA New Administrative Bldg, 3rd floor, Town Planning Division, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400 051. Tel. 26594080  
Email: [chief@mrmrda.maharashtra.gov.in](mailto:chief@mrmrda.maharashtra.gov.in)  
Website: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>

#### e-TENDER NOTICE

Name of Tender : Lease of Commercial & Residential Plots from 'G' Block of Bandra-Kurla Complex, Mumbai for 80 years of lease.

Sr. No.	Plot No.	Plot Area (sqm)	FSI	Permissible Built Up Area (BUA) (sqm)	Reserve Rate (Rs./sqm of BUA)	Reserve Price (Rs)
<b>Tender for Commercial Plots</b>						
1.	C37	4,956.18	4.00	19,824.72	3,44,500/-	682.96 Cr
2.	C13	7,071.90	4.00	28,287.60	3,44,500/-	974.50 Cr
3.	C19	6,096.67	4.00	24,386.68	3,44,500/-	840.12 Cr
4.	C80	8,411.88	4.00	33,647.52	3,44,500/-	1159.15 Cr
<b>Tender for Residential Plots</b>						
5	R1.5	5,409.03	4.00	21,636.12	3,52,008/-	761.60 Cr
6	R1.6	4,974.22	4.00	19,896.88	3,52,008/-	700.38 Cr
7	R1.7	5,876.21	4.00	23,504.84	3,52,008/-	827.38 Cr

\* Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : for Sr.No. 1 to 4 INR 20 Cr. (Through Bank Guarantee) + INR 5 Lakh ( Through Online Transfer)

\* Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) : for Sr.No. 5 to 7 INR 15 Cr. (Through Bank Guarantee) + INR 5 Lakh ( Through Online Transfer)

\* Tender Fee (Rs) : for Sr.No. 1 to 7 Rs. 1.00 Lakh + GST

\* Bid document download : on 01/08/2024 (18.00 hrs) to 18/09/2024 (17.00 hrs)

\* Last date of receipt of queries/clarification : on 12/08/2024 (10.00 hrs.)

\* Site Visit : on 12/08/2024 (11.00 hrs.)

\* Pre-Bid Meeting : on 14/08/2024 (15.00 hrs) at 4th floor, Committee Room, New MMRDA Office Building, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 51 + Video Conferencing.

\* Last date of online submission : on 18/09/2024 (17.00 hrs)

\* Date of Closing of tender : 18/09/2024 (17.01 hrs.) to 18/09/2024 (18.00 hrs.)

Note : The e-Tender can be downloaded from e-Tendering Portal : <https://mahatenders.gov.in/nicepp/app>. Any additional information, corrigendum & help for uploading & downloading the e-tender, may be availed by contacting MMRDA's e-tendering service desk at the following ID: [support-eproc@nic.in](mailto:support-eproc@nic.in) or call us on 022-26597445.

For further information, if required you may please contact Chief, Town & Country Planning Division, MMRDA on Telephone Number - 022-26594079, 022-26594173, 022-26594164, 022-26597717

Email : for commercial plots - [bkccommercialplots@mailmrmrda.maharashtra.gov.in](mailto:bkccommercialplots@mailmrmrda.maharashtra.gov.in)  
for residential plots - [bkcreidentialplots@mailmrmrda.maharashtra.gov.in](mailto:bkcreidentialplots@mailmrmrda.maharashtra.gov.in)

Sd/-  
Metropolitan Commissioner,  
MMRDA

Date : 01/08/2024  
Place : Mumbai

### NAGAR NIGAM BAREILLY

Ref No: 323 Date: 01.08.2024

Municipal Corporation Bareilly invites the application for below mention position on contractual basis.

Post Name	No. of Position	Desired minimum Qualification	Experience/ Portfolio	Monthly Remuneration
Senior Software Developer	1	B.Tech in Computer Science or Information Technology (Master's Degree preferred)	1. Candidate must have 5 years of Experience in website, application & dashboard development. 2. Experienced in C++, Python, Java, Java Script. 3. Proficient in Database management. 4. Experienced in Cloud platforms. 5. Experienced in MIS management.	70,000/-
GIS Expert	1	Bachelors in any specialization, Certification in GIS (B-tech Preferred)	1. Candidate must have 3 years of Experience in GIS base map, property survey and taxation 2. Experienced in GIS data management and analysis 3. Proficient in GIS software tools i.e. Arc GIS, QGIS, KML or related tools 4. Proficient in property survey and taxation 5. Experienced in GIS technology, spatial analysis and data management	30,000/-

- Detail information and application form can be seen and downloaded from <https://nagarinimbareilly.com>.
- Selection will be on the basis of Test/Interviews conducted for shortlisted candidates for selected positions.
- The list of shortlisted candidates will be uploaded on the Nagar Nigam Bareilly website regarding interview and further process.
- Candidate serving government department undertaking required for no objection certificate.
- Municipal Corporation Bareilly reserves the right to reject any or all applications without assigning any reason whatsoever. In special circumstances, the entire process of recruitment can be suspended or cancelled and the decision of Municipal Commissioner Bareilly in this regard will be final and binding.
- Preference will be given to candidates with higher qualifications and relevant experience.
- The appointment is purely on a contractual basis and in no way should be construed as regular government service.
- Municipal Commissioner Bareilly reserves the right to terminate any or all the processes without assigning any reason whatsoever.
- Interested candidates may fill out the form available at the website and submit the form along with their CV to [nagarayukt.bareilly@gmail.com](mailto:nagarayukt.bareilly@gmail.com)
- Interested candidates can submit their application by 14/08/24 after that, your form will not be considered.
- For any query, the candidate can Contact on 9719779955.

Additional Municipal Commissioner  
Nagar Nigam, Bareilly.

### राष्ट्रीय ध्रुवीय एवं समुद्री अनुसंधान केन्द्र

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLAR AND OCEAN RESEARCH  
Vasco-da-Gama, Goa-403804

Expression of Interest (EOI) for

Deployment of Deep-Sea Moorings in the Indian Ocean Mid-Ocean ridges (CIR & SWIR)  
(Ref No: NCPOR/10/2024 dated 30 July 2024)

The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) invites Part 1 Bid as an Expression of Interest (EOI) for pre-qualification of Bidders for the "End to End Turnkey Solutions for Design, integration, installation, deployment and retrieval of deep-sea moorings in the Indian Ocean mid-ocean ridges, Central Indian Ridge (CIR) and Southwest Indian Ridge (SWIR)" for the "Deep Ocean Mission" program of NCPOR.

**Important Dates:**  
The last date for seeking clarifications: Friday, 09-August-2024  
Pre-Bid conference: Monday, 19-August-2024  
Technical EOI/part 1 Bid opening date: Wednesday, 28-August-2024

For detailed guidelines and submission procedures, visit the NCPOR Website <https://ncpor.res.in/tenders/details/13>

Sd/  
For & on Behalf of Director, NCPOR

दिनांक: NCPOR/10/2024

### CAD-702

**idco** **ODISHA**  
NEW OPPORTUNITIES

#### OFFICE OF THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (P&C) IDCO, IDCO TOWERS, BHUBANESWAR-751022

Tender Call Notice No. H.O./P&C/ EST-E-986/03/03/2013/ 22303 Dated: 30.07.2024

#### NOTICE INVITING TENDER UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Value of work (Approx.)	Period of Completion
1.	Providing and laying different sizes of DWC Pipes for sewerage distribution network inside the MITS campus including provision of man Holes/inspection chamber, cutting roads and redoing the same after laying.	₹ 214.88 Lakhs	06 (Four) Calendar Months

**1. Other details**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-Line for Bidding	
		From	To
Chief General Manager (P&C), IDCO, IDCO Towers, Bhubaneswar-751022	Bid ID no- P&C/EST/ E -15/ 2024-25	17:00 Hours of dt. 05.08.2024.	17:00 Hours of dt. 20.08.2024.

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in). Corrigendum or addendum if any will not be published in news papers and can only be seen in the e-procurement portal [www.tenderodisha.gov.in](http://www.tenderodisha.gov.in) as well as IDCO website [www.idco.in](http://www.idco.in).

Sd/-  
Chief General Manager (P&C)  
IDCO, Bhubaneswar  
OIPR-14003/11/000324-25

### h-05

Ref. No: SO/2022-23/76/ Date: 30.07.2024

Startup Odisha (2nd Floor, Tower-A, Odisha Startup Incubation Centre (O-Hub), Special Economic Zone Road, Infocity, Patia, Bhubaneswar- 751024)

#### Request for Proposal for Internet Service Provider for Startup Odisha

Sealed proposals are invited from Agencies/Firms for providing Internet Service to Startup Odisha. The last date of submission of bids is 20/08/2024 by 05:00 PM. The tender document with all details may be downloaded from [www.startupodisha.gov.in](http://www.startupodisha.gov.in) and bidders are further advised to keep referring Startup Odisha website for any updates with reference to this advertisement.

Sd/-  
Chief Administrative Officer  
STARTUP ODISHA  
OIPR-43007/11/000124-25

### PW(R&B) Department, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Jhelum & Tawi Flood Recovery Project (World Bank Funded)

BID [TENDER] NO: 40/3635-44/2024-25/RnB/Bla Dated 30.07.2024 (4<sup>th</sup> Call)  
(Fresh to NIT No: 16/2338-47/2024-25/RnB/Bla Dated 27.06.2024)

#### NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement)

NAME OF WORK: DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION (Complete Job) of SUPERSTRUCTURES OF BRIDGE AT WAHIDINA (PLATE GIRDER) INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF APPROACH ROADS AND NALLAH TRAINING WORKS

PERIOD OF SALE OF BIDDING DOCUMENT : FROM 30.07.2024 TO 12.08.2024 upto 04:00 PM

TIME AND DATE OF PRE-BID CONFERENCE : 03.08.2024 TIME 11:00 AM in the Office of Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle Baramulla.

LAST DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS : 12.08.2024 upto 04:00 PM

\* TIME AND DATE OF OPENING OF BIDS - 13.08.2024 upto 11:00 AM

Technical Part 1

PLACE OF OPENING OF BIDS : Office of Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle Baramulla

OFFICER INVITING BIDS : Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Baramulla

No. 3635-44  
Dated 30.07.2024  
DIP No: DIPRC-3790/24/30/07/2024

Executive Engineer  
R&B Division Baramulla

## Army building Bailey bridge for rescue ops: Kerala CMO

Continued from P1

Rescue teams from the Army Navy and NDRF spent the day digging through mounds of debris and breaking into the wood-and-concrete remains of what were once houses to look for survivors. The search mostly yielded mud-splattered, bloated bodies. As the day wore on and the rain refused to relent, rescuers struggled to reach areas cut off from the rest of the hilly region.

A defence spokesperson issued a statement saying Army units deployed in Mundakkai and the neighbouring plantation areas had rescued around 1,000 people marooned in parts of the affected zone. IAF helicopters carried out multiple aerial surveys through the day. Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan's office said the Army was constructing a Bailey bridge for rescue operations at Chooramala, where the second of the two landslides hit at 4.10am Tuesday. The first one, at 2am, bore down on Mundakkai.

"An IAF C17 aircraft airlifted the Bailey bridge from Delhi to Kannur along with three search and rescue dogs of the Army," an official said.

The state govt published a list of people missing since the disaster. The youngest is 14-day-old Adam Sayan while the oldest is 85-year-old Abdurahman Musliyar. The list includes four members of a family from UP — Bobby Chauhan, Pinto Chauhan and two others — and Swadhin Panda from Odisha.

CM Vijayan's cabinet met earlier in the day to discuss Kerala's response to the calamity, the worst since the 2018 floods in the state that claimed almost 500 lives, and the worst single-site natural disaster ever.

He said at a presser in Thiruvananthapuram. "In the two days since the landslides, we have rescued 1,592 people. This is the outcome of a coordinated and extensive mission to save as many lives as possible."

# 'Cong complaint against PM may not pass muster'

Continued from P1

A Congress notice said PM Modi had praised Anurag Thakur's speech that "disparaged the SC/ST/OBC communities for their demand of caste census". If the notice is accepted by the Speaker, the privilege motion under Rule 222 of the Rules of Procedure would be moved against the PM.



**Congress submitted records of proceedings and Modi's tweet of Thakur's video. A source said Congress members' grouse against Thakur's speech was to remarks where he talked about the lack of clarity about Rahul Gandhi's caste but that part was not expunged since the BJP MP did not name anyone**

Sources in LS Secretariat, however, said that the complaint is unlikely to pass muster. "Congress members' primary grouse against Thakur's speech was to his remarks where he talked about the lack of clarity about the caste of the leader of opposition Rahul Gandhi. However, that part was not expunged since the BJP MP did not name anyone," said a source familiar with the proceedings.

BJP was combative in response to Congress's move and said there is a history of Congress MPs, including Rahul Gandhi, sharing video links of speeches of which large portions were expunged. Congress' notice is nothing but politics, they claimed. "Congress functionaries should have done homework before taking such a move, which sounds like a joke as the parts of Thakur's remarks, about which the party has mentioned, have not been expunged from the proceedings," a senior BJP MP said.

"If Congress' notice of privilege motion is based on this part of the former Union minister's speech, it cannot be deemed valid as that portion was never expunged," said another source even though he said that the final decision on the matter will be that of Speaker Om Birla.

Sources said that the only bit in Thakur's speech which was expunged was his use of the word "lie", twice, an unparliamentary expression. Amid Congress' protests, presiding officer Jagdambika Pal, told Thakur that he could not use "lie" and suggested using "falseness" instead. Thakur heeded the suggestion. "It does not warrant a privilege motion," said sources in LS secretariat even as they reiterated that Birla will form an opinion after talking to Channi.

"It is ironical that those whose own caste is not known are going around demanding caste census?" BJP MP said.

Thakur's speech on Tuesday triggered a furore as his apparent remark about Rahul's caste, albeit without naming, provoked a reply from the leader of opposition. While the INDIA bloc protested and sought an apology, Rahul let it pass while noting that Thakur had abused him because he is fighting for the backward classes.

## If found guilty of wrongful claims, Khedkar could face termination

Pune: UPSC's action to revoke Puja Khedkar's candidature followed her failure to respond to the commission's show-cause notice, issued on July 18, for "fraudulently availing attempts beyond the permissible limit provided for in the CSE Rules, by faking her identity", reports Nisha Nambiar.

Khedkar changed her name, her parents' names, her photograph, signature, email ID, mobile number, and address to conceal her real identity and gain additional attempts to appear in the exam, the official note says.

UPSC had asked Khedkar to respond to the show-cause notice by July 25, but she had requested time till Aug 4 to collect necessary documents. The commission extended the deadline till July 30.

The Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) had also issued a show-cause notice to Khedkar, asking her to explain by Aug 2 her position on various allegations against her. The show-cause was sent on July 26 following a single-member committee's report to verify Khedkar's candidature claims and other details based on the report filed by Maharashtra govt. "She has time till Aug 2. We do not want to pre-empt anything. We will wait for her response and deliberate after Aug 2 if she can be given more time. Nothing can be said as of now," a DoPT official said in response to UPSC cancelling Khedkar's provisional candidature.

A DoPT team is examining the panel's findings and will recommend necessary action. If found guilty of making wrongful claims, Khedkar can face termination from service.

"As UPSC has cancelled her provisional candidature, DoPT will issue a final order based on the single-member committee's inquiry report. A final decision on action against Khedkar will come from DoPT," an LBSNAA official in Mussoorie said.

UPSC has clarified its role in the scrutiny of certificates, stating it conducts only preliminary checks and relies on the competent authorities for verification of authenticity.

# Why UP anti-conversion law is India's strictest

Amendments enacted on Tuesday prescribe a hefty fine and increased prison term for unlawful conversions

TOI Explains

₹10 Lakh Fine And Up To Life In Jail

Two provisions stand out in the amended law: first, a fine of ₹10 lakh and imprisonment of up to 14 years if the person found guilty is associated with "foreign" or "illegal" agencies. Secondly, imprisonment of between 20 years to life for carrying out unlawful religious conversion by luring/provoking a person. This essentially covers unlawful conversion of minor girls or women from the SC/ST community. Convicted persons would also be liable to pay compensation to those subjected to illegal conversion.

The Act passed in 2021 prescribed a maximum sentence of 10 years for unlawful conversion.

**Anybody Can Complain, All Offences Non-Bailable**

The amended law allows "any person associated with the victim" to file an FIR flagging illegal conversion. The earlier version required the presence of the person thus converted, or her parents, siblings, or close kin.

Also, all crimes under the amended law have been made 'non-bailable'.

The amendments also require that such cases will not be heard by any court below a sessions court. Further, no bail plea is to be considered without hearing the public prosecutor.

**Why Was The Amendment Moved?**

An ordinance was issued in November 2020 for curbing forced conversions. Later,



**8 OTHER STATES HAVE SUCH LAWS**  
Odisha (1967), Madhya Pradesh (1968) and Arunachal Pradesh (1978) have had anti-conversion laws for decades while Chhattisgarh (2006), Gujarat (2003), Himachal Pradesh (2019), Jharkhand (2017), and Uttarakhand (2018) have enacted and implemented these laws more recently.

Some key features of the various state laws:

- Himachal and Uttarakhand have the provision to declare a marriage illegal if it is solemnised for the sole purpose of conversion.
- Chhattisgarh provides for either three years' imprisonment or a penalty of up to ₹20,000, or both, for offenders.
- Jharkhand's anti-conversion law provides for imprisonment of up to three years and a fine of ₹50,000, or both.
- Odisha stipulates a one-year imprisonment and a fine of ₹5,000, or both.
- In Karnataka, forced conversion is punishable by imprisonment of three to five years and a fine of ₹25,000.
- Haryana has a penalty of one to five years' imprisonment and a fine of ₹1 lakh.

after the bill was passed by both Houses of Uttar Pradesh assembly, the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021, came into force. On Tuesday, UP assembly passed the Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024, to make the 2021 law more stringent.

**Social Order Vs Rights?**  
Anti-conversion laws are a

hotly debated topic in India. There are those who believe these laws are necessary for cultural and social cohesion of the country; others say these laws are a tool for exploiting minorities and are violative of the right to freedom of religion.

Supreme Court has ruled that anti-conversion laws are constitutional so long as they do not interfere with an individual's right to freedom of religion. TNN

## 2 charged under anti-conversion law, held in UP

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh police arrested Wednesday two men after charging them under the state's anti-conversion law for allegedly offering a villager in Ambedkar

Nagar and his friends Rs 10,000 each and promising to build them houses if they converted to Christianity. Police said the accused G Raju and Ram Avadh Nishad

were taken into custody following a complaint from a man named Alok Chaurasia, who alleged that the duo made the offer Tuesday evening to him and his friends. TNN

# Former health secy Preeti Sudan to take charge as UPSC chairperson

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Member of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and former Union health secretary Preeti Sudan will take charge as chairperson of the Commission from Thursday (August 1). As per a communication from the President's office to the personnel department, the 1983 batch IAS from Andhra Pradesh cadre will have tenure as chairperson till April 29, 2025.



Before her tenure as health secretary, Sudan had served as secretary of food

and distribution department. President Droupadi Murmu approved Sudan's appointment on July 29 after accepting the resignation of Manoj Soni with effect from July 31. Soni had taken charge in 2017, first as a member and subsequently as chairman from May 16, 2023. His tenure was slated to end in 2029. Officials had said that Soni had submitted his resignation on July 4 voluntary retirement for "personal reasons".

Soni's resignation came amid the controversy surrounding probationary IAS officer Puja Khedkar, who allegedly used fraudulent disability and caste certificates to get selected. However, sources said, his resignation was not related to the row. UPSC is a constitutional body and it conducts several examinations on behalf of the central govt, including civil services examinations every year and recommends candidates for appointment to the All India Services — IAS, Indian Foreign Service (IFS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Central Services - Group A and Group B.

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सैक्टर-21, (ब्लॉक 04) ग्राम रघूपुरा, फिल्म सिटी, कॉमर्शियल, ट्रान्सपोर्ट एरिया व ग्रीन एरिया

क्रम सं.	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	गाटे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे. में)	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का भाग	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का हिस्सा	काश्तकार का नाम
1	670	900	0.1950	में से	0.1950	सुमनदा पत्नी मेघराज व राजकुमार व रामअवतार व संजीव कुमार शर्मा पुत्र मेघराज नि. रघूपुरा

ग्राम - सैक्टर-28, डाटा सेक्टर पार्क, कॉमर्शियल व फ्यूचर यूज

क्रम सं.	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	गाटे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे. में)	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का भाग	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का हिस्सा	काश्तकार का नाम
2	381	1476	0.8980	में से	0.0114	राकेश पुत्र पीताम्बर नि. रघूपुरा

ग्राम - मेडिकल डिवाइस पार्क

क्रम सं.	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	गाटे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे. में)	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का भाग	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का हिस्सा	काश्तकार का नाम
3	848	1356	1.5760	में से	0.0788	राकेश पुत्र पीताम्बर नि. रघूपुरा

ग्राम - मुन्नातगा

क्रम सं.	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	गाटे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे. में)	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का भाग	तहसील की आख्यानुसार काश्तकार का हिस्सा	काश्तकार का नाम
4	87	477	0.7600	में से	0.3800	धर्मवीर पुत्र वीरपाल नि. मुन्नातगा

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# Rahul and oppn keep asking others' caste, retorts BJP to defend Thakur

## 'Cong MP Tried To Mislead & Disrespect PM On His Caste'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: On a day Congress MPs protested in Lok Sabha over BJP MP Anurag Thakur's remarks in the House over caste census, which were seen as a "caste slur" on Rahul Gandhi, the saffron party strongly defended its MP and said he had not taken anyone's name but even if the comments were aimed at Rahul, there was nothing wrong as the entire opposition, including Congress, had been asking the caste of different fraternities and also the census, being demanded, can't be completed without knowing about it.

"The number of 99 and the



There was no objection when Rahul Gandhi asked about the caste of people at the halwa ceremony and also mentioned the castes of judges and soldiers, BJP spokesperson and LS MP Sambit Patra said

arrogance of the Congress... When Anurag Thakur spoke on Tuesday without naming anyone, why did only one person feel bad, and at his direction, all members of Congress stood up? The caste of media personnel, administrative officers, judges and Army soldiers can be asked but if someone asks you your caste, you say 'mummy, mummy' and say that I have been insulted," Lok Sabha MP and BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra said at a press conference.

Patra said it was ironic that asking about Rahul's caste was considered offensive but he himself kept inquiring about the caste of others. "There was no objection when Rahul Gandhi asked about the caste of people at the halwa ceremony and also mentioned the castes of judges and soldiers," he added.

He further said that Rahul tried to mislead and disrespect PM Narendra Modi on his caste, a reference to the former's speech in which

## Birla warns oppn MPs over placards in LS

Opposition MPs protested in Lok Sabha over Anurag Thakur's jibe at Rahul Gandhi regarding his campaign for caste census. The protests led Speaker Om Birla to warn MPs against bringing placards into the House or preventing members from asking questions. MPs from Congress, DMK, SP and Sena (UBT), trooped into the well of the House and raised slogans even as LS transacted Question Hour proceedings. Birla warned Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi for preventing his own party MP from asking questions. He said members should refrain from such conduct or bring placards in the House. Later, parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijiju blamed Congress and Rahul Gandhi for protesting against Thakur's dig at Rahul for not revealing his caste. He said that since Rahul had been asking everyone his caste, it was fair that he disclose his own. TNN

he claimed that Modi was from the 'Ghanchi Teli' caste, which was included in the OBC category by Gujarat govt through an amendment.

Patra said that during Gujarat polls, Rahul Gandhi visited Somnath temple after being advised that it would be good for his image. A media report claimed that Rahul Gandhi had his name registered in the Non-Hindu register at the temple. BJP then held a press conference on the matter. A few days later, Congress as-

serted that Rahul Gandhi is a 'Janeudhari Brahmin.'

Union minister Pralhad Joshi said Congress was resorting to excuses. "He (Thakur) didn't ask the caste. Those who don't know caste are speaking about caste census. He didn't name anyone, so why are you taking it upon yourself? They need an excuse. The intention is to divert the issue. From Pandit Nehru to Indira Gandhi to Rajiv Gandhi, everybody has opposed reservation for OBC."

# 'Mahaul' favours Cong, good show in state polls can alter course of nat'l politics: Sonia

Subodh Ghildiyal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Congress functionary Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday told the party that a good performance in the upcoming state elections would change the course of national politics, raising the stakes in coming electoral battles to motivate the rank and file still enthused by the LS polls results.

Seeking unity and warning against over-confidence, Sonia said the "mahaul" favours Congress and "if we perform well, reflecting the trend that we witnessed in the LS elections, national politics will undergo a transformation." Haryana, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Jammu & Kashmir will be heading to polls in next few months.

Lamenting that Modi govt has not learnt from its "significant decline in LS elections", Sonia said BJP is "persisting with its policy of dividing communities and spreading an atmosphere of fear and animosity", in an apparent reference to recent orders by BJP-governed states that businesses on Kanwar route should display owners' names. She said that though SC intervened, it only appears a temporary respite in view of BJP's intent, pointing out how the Centre has amended rules to permit bureaucracy to join RSS activities—noting that RSS calls itself a cultural outfit, but is the support base of the governing party.

Sonia addressed the Congress parliamentary party meeting, touching upon various issues including the Budget, which she said has shown the govt brass as "self-delusional" in the wake of acute unemployment. "There has been widespread disappointment in spite of the PM, finance minister and others talking up the Budget", she said. She slammed the govt's unwillingness to hold Census, which is pending since 2021, pointing out that it will prevent an updation of national population, especially of SCs and STs, while excluding 12 crore citizens from the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana.

Sonia also expressed concern over national security in view of rising terror attacks in J&K which "makes a mockery of the claims of the Modi govt that all is well." She said there is no improvement in Manipur either, while the PM is refusing to visit the state even as he travels across the world.

# Anguished by BJP MP's 'parivarvaad' jibe, says Kharge; wants it expunged

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Leader of opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Wednesday expressed his anguish over certain comments made by BJP parliamentarian Ghanshyam Tiwari in the upper House regarding his political journey and allegations of "parivarvaad" directed at him. He urged Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhanekar to have those remarks expunged from the proceedings.

Taking note of his concern, chairman Jagdeep Dhanekar said he would look into the remarks made by Tiwari on Tuesday in the House and assured that any word that has hurt the Congress functionary would not remain in the record.

Kharge pointed out that he was deeply anguished by Tiwari's remarks, which referred to his political journey and said "his (Kharge's) entire family" was in politics.

"He made a comment regarding 'parivarvaad'. I request that this remark should be expunged (from the records)," Kharge said. His parents had nothing to do with politics, Kharge said and added he is a first generation politician in his family.

When he mentioned that his father died at 85, chairman Dhanekar wished him an even longer life than his father. To this Kharge quipped, "I don't wish to live for long in this environment".

Stating that he was in the Chair when Tiwari had made the remarks, Dhanekar said he does not think that the BJP parliamentarian meant anything wrong for Kharge. However, Dhanekar assured Kharge that that he will minutely examine the records.

Later in the day, a post was shared on the official X (formerly Twitter) account of the Vice President where Dhanekar is seen interacting with Kharge and Tiwari at the Parliament.

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MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
NOTIFICATION  
New Delhi, the 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

S.O.-2987(E). In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening) two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of Muzaffarnagar bypass (NH-709AD) starting from NH-709AD village Pinna to NH-58 via Wahalana Chowk from Km. 0.000 to Km. 10.500 in the district of MUZAFFARNAGAR in the State of UTTAR PRADESH hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

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

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

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final. The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE  
Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling in Muzaffarnagar bypass (NH-709AD) starting from NH-709AD village Pinna to NH-58 via Wahalana Chowk from Km. 0.000 to Km. 10.500 in the district of MUZAFFARNAGAR in the State of UTTAR PRADESH



[F.No. NHA/PIU-BPT/11011(P-S-M)/2018/3A]

District: MUZAFFARNAGAR  
<https://egazette.gov.in>  
Publication Date : 26th July, 2024  
<https://egazette.gov.in/WriteReadData/2024/255819.pdf>  
[https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/auth/revamp/showFileCA.cshtml?notification\\_id=69212&file\\_id=46057](https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/auth/revamp/showFileCA.cshtml?notification_id=69212&file_id=46057)  
Note : The Physical copy of this notification is also available at the office of Additional District Magistrate (Finance/Revenue) Muzaffarnagar/PIU Meerut/RO Delhi and Land owners may also see the notification there.

## BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

### INVITATION FOR TENDERS (Only Through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders in Two Stage Tender System from registered Agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavana, KG Road, Bengaluru- 560 009.

Sl No.	Name of the Works	Amount put to Tender
		EMD Amount
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1909/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
1.	Work of providing and laying 300mm Dia RCC NP3 Sewer line to facilitate White Topping from Bhashyam Circle to 2nd Main Road, Vyalikaval coming under Malleshwaram S/stn of AEE NE-1 Sub Division.	₹ 104.13 Lakhs
		₹ 2.00 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-IDCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1910/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
2.	Work of providing, laying and linking 450mm, 200mm, 100mm Dia Water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficiency and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed at Subedar Chatram Road to Rajivgandhi Circle coming under Kumara Park Service Station.	₹ 86.86 Lakhs
		₹ 2.00 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-IDCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1911/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
3.	Work of providing, laying and linking 450mm, 200mm, 100mm Dia Water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficiency and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed from Hebbala Fly over to Nagashethihalli Junction of Bhoopasandra Main Road coming under Sanjaynagar Service Station of AEE NE-2 Sub Division	₹ 151.53 Lakhs
		₹ 2.68 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-IDCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1912/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
4.	Work of P/L of 100mm Dia, 300mm DI Water supply line at 1) Malleshwaram 8th Main Road from 18th Cross to Chitrapura Matta 2) 8th Main Road, Malleshwaram from 18th Cross Junction to 11th Main Junction coming under Malleshwaram S/stn., of AEE NE-1 Sub Division, (RHS)	₹ 101.19 Lakhs
		₹ 2.00 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-IDCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1913/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
5.	Work of providing, laying and linking 450mm, 200mm, 100mm Dia Water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficiency and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed Link Road from Sampige Road (Big Bazar Junction) to Sheshadripuram coming under KP S/stn of AEE NE-2 Sub Division.	₹ 132.08 Lakhs
		₹ 2.33 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-IDCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1914/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
6.	Work of providing and laying of 100mm Dia 150mm Dia DI Pipeline in Jeevaraj Alva Road (10th Main) Sadashivanagar to Vinayaka Circle via Bhashyam Circle coming under KGT S/stn of AEE NE-2 Sub Division.	₹ 102.22 Lakhs
		₹ 2.00 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-II/DCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1915/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
7.	Work of Providing and Laying 300mm Dia RCC NP3 Sewer Line to facilitate White Topping in Jeevaraj Alva Road (10th Main), Sadashivanagar to Vinayaka Circle (RHS) via Bhashyam Circle under KGT S/stn., of AEE NE-2 Sub Division.	₹ 100.81 Lakhs
		₹ 2.00 Lakhs
IFT No: BWSSB/EIC/CE(N)/ACE(N)-IDCE(M)-II/TA(N)/1917/2024-25 Dated: 29.07.2024		
8.	Work of providing, laying and linking 450mm, 200mm, 100mm Dia Water supply line with fixing control valves by upgrading/replacing the existing water supply network for improving the network efficiency and also to minimize the losses as white topping is proposed at Platform road from T Junction on Vatal Nagaraj Road to Mantrimall coming under Kumara Park Service Station.	₹ 127.91 Lakhs
		₹ 2.26 Lakhs

For the above works the last date and time for Receipt of completed tenders will be on 16.08.2024 upto 16:00 hrs. The Bids opening is on 17.08.2024 after 16:00 hrs.

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (North)

The details regarding participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours. DIPR/Spectrum/1147/2024-25

SHRI SAIBABA SANSTHAN TRUST, SHIRDI.  
A/P- Shirdi-423 109, Tal- Rahata, Dist - Ahmednagar  
Tel-(02423) 258500, 258981 Website- www.sai.org.in

NOTICE FOR TENDER  
E - REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (E-RFP) FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSULTANT

Shri Saibaba Sanathan Trust, Shirdi (SSST) invites proposals from reputed and experienced consultant to participate in the competitive bidding process for appointment of consultant for providing peer review and allied consultancy services for works and procurement in fire protection domains at Shri Saibaba Sansthan Trust, Shirdi

For the detailed Tender document, interested bidders should visit <http://mahatenders.gov.in> or link on [www.sai.org.in](http://www.sai.org.in)

Tender submission would be online from Dt.01/08/2024 to Dt.17/08/2024 time 05:00 pm.

(Goraksha Gadilkar, I.A.S  
Chief Executive Officer

DGIPR 2024-25/1425

Directorate of Archaeology  
Department of Art, Culture and Youth  
Notice for Inviting Re-Tender

Directorate of Archaeology, Department of Art, Culture and Youth, GoB invites re-tender for Repair, Conceptualisation, Supply, Installation Testing and Commissioning of Multimedia (Light, laser and Sound Show) at Golghar, Patna with Comprehensive Operations and Maintenance for a period of 5 Years.

The tender document with detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded from the website of the department <https://state.bihar.gov.in/yac/> and from EPROC website <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>. The bids in response to the tender can be submitted online on EPROC Website.

Document Cost	Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
EMD	Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Only)
RFP Issue Date	01/08/2024
Pre-Bid Meeting Date - Time	09/08/2024 15:00 Hours
Last Date for Bid Submission Date - Time	27/08/2024 15:00 Hours
Technical Bid opening Date - Time	27/08/2024 16:00 Hours
Presentation before DACY - Committee	To be communicated later

Note:  
• All further notifications/corrigendum/amendment if any shall be posted at department website <https://state.bihar.gov.in/yac/> and <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>  
• Directorate of Archaeology, Department of Art, Culture and Youth, GoB reserves the rights to accept/reject any of the submissions without assigning any reasons thereof.  
• No tender will be accepted after closing date and time in any circumstances.  
This information is available on [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) also

Director  
Directorate of Archaeology  
PR. No. 005148 (Art & Culture) 2024-25

Tender Notice No SMART/PIU MSWC/WORKS/68/2023-24  
Government of Maharashtra  
World Bank Funded

Hon. Balasaheb Thackeray Agribusiness & Rural Transformation (SMART) Project, Pune  
Construction of silo system of total capacity 10,000 MT (4 X 2500 MT)

The Project Implementation: Unit MSWC of SMART Project invites online bids on <https://mahatenders.gov.in> for Design, Supply, Erection, Installation, Testing & commissioning of grain silo system of total capacity 10,000 MT (4 X 2500 MT) on EPC basis at Latur MIDC, Plot No. E-18, District Latur, Maharashtra State. The Request for Bid document is also available on the project website [www.smart-mh.org](http://www.smart-mh.org). The last date for submission of online bids is 12/09/2024 up to 5.00 PM.

Chairman & Managing Director & Head PIU-MSWC, SMART Project  
Maharashtra State Warehousing Corporation, 583/B, Market Yard, Gultekadi, Pune 411037. Phone No: 020-24206849, Email id - smart.nodal@mswc.in  
DGIPR 2024-25/1418

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

Office of Bhopal Municipal Corporation  
Housing For All (PMAJ)  
Third floor, ISBT, Hoshangabad Road, Habibganj, Bhopal-462011

N.I.T. No. 03/ hfa/2024 Bhopal, Dated : 30.07.2024  
Online Percentage rate bids for the following work are invited from contractors and firms fulfilling registration criteria:

Sr. No.	Online Tender No.	Name of Work	Probable Amount of Contract (In Lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs.)	Cost of Bid Document (In Rupees)	Period of Completion (In Months)
1.	2024_UAD_349996_2	Construction of Houses and Development of Infrastructure for Affordable Housing in Bhopal including External Electrification, at Rajendra Nagar Site, under PMAJ, Bhopal	5483.04	2741523/-	50000.00	18 Months (Including Rainy Season)

1. The interested bidders may view the Detailed Notice Inviting Tender on website <https://mptenders.gov.in> from 11.30 A.M. 01.08.2024  
2. The bid documents can be purchased online from 11.30 A.M. of 01.08.2024 to 5:30 PM of 30.08.2024.  
3. Prebid meeting should be held on 09.08.2024 at 11.45 AM at 3rd floor HFA Cell ISBT building BMC office bhopal  
4. Amendments to this NIT would be published on website only, and not in news papers.

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer,  
Bhopal Municipal Corporation

T.N. 238/024/025

REOI No: N-11018/05/2023-RL-Proc (386466)

Ministry of Rural Development  
Rural Livelihoods Division  
Government of India  
Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)

The Ministry of Rural Development, Rural Livelihoods Division, invites Expression of Interest, engaging a Technical Support Agency for the Operations and Management of the SARAS Gallery and eSARAS, eCommerce portal under DAY NRLM on 'Revenue Sharing Basis'.

Expression of Interest (EOI) must be submitted in hard copy in packed envelope to the Ministry by or before the deadline i.e. 21 August 2024 up to 2:00 PM. EOI should be dropped in the tender box at reception at Ground Floor, NDCC II Building, Jai Singh Marg, New Delhi 110001.

The details REOI along with Terms of Reference (TOR) may be downloaded from <https://eprocure.gov.in/eppp/>  
<https://rural.nic.in/en/documents/advertisement-tenders>  
<https://rln.gov.in>  
<https://anjevika.gov.in>

Sd/-  
Joint Secretary (RL)  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Rural Livelihoods Division  
Government of India

CBC 351011/1/0002/2425

# 26.3L vehicles recalled since 2021 to correct faults, govt informs RS

New Delhi: The Union road transport ministry on Wednesday informed Rajya Sabha that around 26.3 lakh vehicles were voluntarily recalled by car and motorcycle (two-wheeler) manufacturers over the past three-and-a-half years since 2021 for correcting faults. As per the central govt data, nearly 80.5% of the vehicles recalled were two-wheelers, and almost half of them (around 10.7 lakh) were recalled only in 2021.

The Union ministry's written reply mentions that a total of 5.1 lakh cars were recalled by vehicle manufacturers during this period and over 50% of these were recalled in 2021. TNN

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.  
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) Kandhai Lal, S/o: Kripa Ram R/o: H.No. 10/17, Maya Gali, Babarpur, Welcome, Delhi. has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 4494/2021, U/s 33 D EX. ACT, P. S.: Welcome North East Distt, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) Kandhai Lal cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) Kandhai Lal has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) Kandhai Lal of FIR No. 4494/2021, U/s 33 D EX. ACT, P. S.: Welcome North East Distt, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 11.09.2024.

By Order  
Deepakshi Rana  
Metropolitan Magistrate- 03  
Shahdara Court No. 19  
DP/10013/NE/2024  
(Court Matter)  
Karkardooma Court, Delhi.

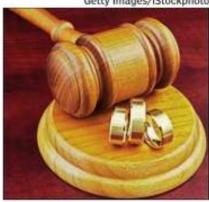
# SC uses 'special powers' to grant 2nd wife pension

## Married While Man's 1st Wife Was Still Alive

AmitAnand.Choudhary @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Though the Supreme Court has held in several pronouncements that bigamy is a serious offense and that a second marriage is illegal when the first marriage is subsisting, it has however allowed a second wife to receive pension benefits, despite the fact that she married while the man's first wife was still alive.

A bench comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna, Sanjay Kumar and R Mahadevan invoked its special powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to grant relief to a woman who approached the court after being denied a pension following the death of her husband, who worked for South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. She had to



The bench noted in its order that the woman's position as a 'spouse' was not disputed

fight a legal battle for nearly 23 years, as her husband passed away in 2001.

The bench noted in its order that her position as a 'spouse' was not disputed, except on the grounds that she married the man during the subsistence of his first marriage, and all three were living together. Observing that the facts of the case were very peculiar, the court invoked its extraordinary power to do complete justice and came to her rescue.

"We would, in these circumstances, having regard to the peculiar facts of the

case and in order to do complete justice, observe that Jay Narayan Maharaj and Radha Devi had lived and cared for each other, post the death of Ram Sawari Devi (first wife) on April 20, 1984. Radha Devi at the old age should not be denied the 'status of spouse', which entitles her to receive family pension. This would help her live with dignity and help her financially. In view of the aforesaid position, we exercise our power under Article 142 of the Constitution and direct that Radha Devi shall be paid family pension with effect from Jan 1, 2010 till today on or before Dec 31. She will receive a family pension till her death," the court said.

Jay Narayan Maharaj was working with the South Eastern Coalfields Ltd and he retired from service in 1983. His first wife died in 1984 and he died in 2001 after which his second wife filed an application for pension which was rejected by the company and the HC also refused to grant her relief.

# HC suspends Odisha ex-MLA's life-term for cop's murder

Cuttack: Orissa high court has suspended the life sentence awarded to former Chhatrapur MLA Nagireddy Narayan Reddy and two others for their alleged role in a police inspector's murder during an agitation against land acquisition for a steel project in Ganjam district in 1998, reports Lalmoan Patnaik.

HC ordered their release on bail on such terms and conditions as deemed proper by the trial court. It fixed hearing on their petitions on Nov 5. Inspector Binoba Meher, deputed at Sindhigava village during a protest on June 18, 1998, died of critical injuries after someone hurled a bomb on him. An MP-MLA special court sentenced Reddy and 12 others to life imprisonment on July 31, 2023.

HC on Monday granted the interim relief after "taking into account the submissions, the impugned judgment and the happening in the incident, including the role of the appellants as those emanate from the evidence and also the surrounding circumstances."

# Heavy rain wreaks havoc in U'khand, 3 killed as house collapses

Dehradun: Three people were killed and at least six injured after a house collapsed in Haridwar district as heavy rain wreaked havoc in several parts of Uttarakhand on Wednesday.

A family is reported to have gone missing following a cloudburst in a village in the Ghansali area of Tehri district, officials said.

A house collapsed due to heavy rain in Bharpur village near Roorkee in Haridwar district, killing three people and injuring more than half a dozen after they got buried under the debris, police said.

The injured have been admitted to a hospital. Torrential rain for a few hours in Haridwar inundated the entire

city, washing away a truck of kanwariyas in the Sukhi river in the Kharkhari area. "There were no kanwariyas in the truck but it had ratons and essential goods for their return journey," the police said.

With the roads getting marooned, the administration changed the route of the kanwariyas at many places.

Devotees travelling to Kedarnath have been taken to safety. Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami himself is monitoring sensitive areas from the disaster point of view and is in constant touch with officials.

Dhami said the Met office issued an alert of heavy rain in many places. pn

**EPCO INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (EIES)**  
Environmental Planning and Coordination Organization (EPCO), Environment Department, GoMP  
Paryavaran Parisar, E-5, Arera Colony, Bhopal  
Ph. : 0755-2426765, 2463669, 2970299, 2970499  
www.epco.mp.gov.in, Email : epco.institute@gmail.com

**ADMISSION NOTICE**  
**POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT**

EPCO invites applications for admission to one year "Post Graduate Diploma in Environment Management" (PGDEM) course for Academic Session 2024-25 being offered in blended mode with mix of in-person/online and peer learning sessions.

**Eligibility** - Graduate in any discipline with minimum 55% (General Category) 50% (Reserved Category)  
**Course Fee** - Rs. 33,000/- (General Category) and Rs. 20,000/- (Reserved Category)  
**Last Date for Submission of online Application Form - 21st August 2024**  
**Application Fee** - Rs. 1,000/- to be deposited along with application form.

For detailed course prospectus and online submission of application please visit [www.epco.mp.gov.in](http://www.epco.mp.gov.in)  
M.P. Madhyam/115652/2024 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

**BHARAT TEX 2025 EXHIBITION**

The Consortium of Textiles EPCs is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from experienced and qualified Programme Implementing Agency (PIA) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the Bharat Tex 2025 Exhibition to showcase the Complete Value of Textiles targeting international buyers at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi 14 to 18 February 2025 and Machinery, Chemical and Allied at India Exposition Mart Ltd., Greater Noida from 12-16 February 2025.

Expressions of Interest (EOI) are invited from the reputed agency with experience conceptualizing and executing exhibitions in two venues. An agency with experience in similar jobs will be preferred.

**SUBMISSION OF EOI**  
The EOI for the work can be submitted at <https://expression-of-interest-eoi-bharat-tex-2025.paperform.co>

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**  
The last date for submission of the EOI is 8<sup>th</sup> August 2024 by 3:00 PM either by Online, Email or the Address below:  
A detailed RFP will be extended to the short-listed agencies, for Technical and financial quotes submissions.

**CONTACT**  
**Co-Chairman**  
**On Behalf of Bharat Tex**  
**Manmade and Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATExIL)**  
(formerly The Synthetic & Rayon Textile Export Promotion Council)  
Surya Kiran Building, Flat # 602, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 19, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, (Cannaught Place), New Delhi - 110001, India.  
Email: [info@bharat-tex.com](mailto:info@bharat-tex.com)

## OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, REVENUE DEPARTMENT, BENGALURU DIVISION AND NODAL OFFICER, EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY (ECONOMIC OFFENCES) BENGALURU

2nd Floor, BMTC Building, Shanti Nagar, K.H Road, Bengaluru - 560027

### NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Pursuant to attachment of Immovable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court the Competent Authority and Additional Regional Commissioner, Office of the Regional Commissioner, Bengaluru division is issuing notice for e-auction of the immovable property through e-auction on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis'. The intending bidders will be required to furnish Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (as mentioned against each auction in the e-portal provided by the Service Provider/Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only).

Sl. No.	DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY						MINIMUM PRICE (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Bid Increase Value (Rs)	Clear Title
	District	Taluk	Hobli	Village	Sy. No.	Extent (Acre-Gunta)				
1.	Mandya	Srirangapatna	K.Shettihalli-2	Maralagala	94/2	0-24	32,41,765	65,000	16,200	Khata stands in the name of the Competent Authority and Auctioning Authority appointed by the Government.
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/2GWhcw8bM248JGZeA">https://maps.app.goo.gl/2GWhcw8bM248JGZeA</a> Latitude and Longitude: 12°24'39.8"N 76°46'29.5"E										
2.	Mandya	Srirangapatna	K.Shettihalli-2	Maralagala	144/2	0-16	21,61,176	45,000	11,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/2GWhcw8bM248JGZeA">https://maps.app.goo.gl/2GWhcw8bM248JGZeA</a> Latitude and Longitude: 12°24'39.8"N 76°46'29.5"E										
3.	Mandya	Srirangapatna	K.Shettihalli-2	Maralagala	145/2	0-28	37,82,059	76,000	19,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/2GWhcw8bM248JGZeA">https://maps.app.goo.gl/2GWhcw8bM248JGZeA</a> Latitude and Longitude: 12°24'39.8"N 76°46'29.5"E										
4.	Bengaluru Rural	Nelamangala	Kasaba	Aralasandra	26/2	0-18	72,00,000	1,44,000	36,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/3UocV8GE5u9p2SCw6">https://maps.app.goo.gl/3UocV8GE5u9p2SCw6</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'43.8"N 77°19'09.9"E										
5.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kasaba	Doddenahalli	5/10	0-31	34,87,500	70,000	17,500	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5">https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°28'24.4"N 77°14'04.0"E										
6.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kasaba	Doddenahalli	8/4	2-02	92,25,000	1,85,000	46,500	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5">https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°28'24.4"N 77°14'04.0"E										
7.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kasaba	Doddenahalli	8/5	4-37	2,21,62,500	4,43,500	1,11,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5">https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°28'24.4"N 77°14'04.0"E										
8.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kasaba	Doddenahalli	5/9	2-10	1,01,00,000	2,02,000	51,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5">https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°28'24.4"N 77°14'04.0"E										
9.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kasaba	Doddenahalli	5/3	1-09	55,12,500	1,10,300	28,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5">https://maps.app.goo.gl/ard2cyMSMMJNpkvz5</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°28'24.4"N 77°14'04.0"E										
10.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kolala	Tannenahalli	60/2	2-00	1,30,00,000	2,60,000	59,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/TPsqDAwzVuFGHvF9">https://maps.app.goo.gl/TPsqDAwzVuFGHvF9</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°27'58.1"N 77°13'57.1"E										
11.	Tumkur	Koratagere	Kasaba	Kamarajanahalli	51/2	1-22	46,50,000	93,000	23,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/52WELhrVhXUPA93x7">https://maps.app.goo.gl/52WELhrVhXUPA93x7</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°29'04.5"N 77°15'32.0"E										
12.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Huskur	177	0-16	1,20,00,000	2,40,000	60,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/Dz2GBB7mf4jKxHr6">https://maps.app.goo.gl/Dz2GBB7mf4jKxHr6</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'07.2"N 77°25'27.9"E										
13.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	35/4	0-11	47,91,600	96,000	24,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/RITBhdJtuPpA1MYM9">https://maps.app.goo.gl/RITBhdJtuPpA1MYM9</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'03.5"N 77°26'33.2"E										
14.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	37/2	3-14	5,84,00,000	11,68,000	2,92,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/Zw2EvN5vBjm9m85dA">https://maps.app.goo.gl/Zw2EvN5vBjm9m85dA</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'08.2"N 77°26'30.8"E										
15.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	32/8	0-11	47,91,600	96,000	24,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/Zw2EvN5vBjm9m85dA">https://maps.app.goo.gl/Zw2EvN5vBjm9m85dA</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'08.2"N 77°26'30.8"E										
16.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	31/1	0-20	80,00,000	1,60,000	40,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/r3B2kACfeD2QFHS6">https://maps.app.goo.gl/r3B2kACfeD2QFHS6</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'02.1"N 77°26'32.6"E										
17.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	31/2B	0-11	47,91,600	96,000	24,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/H2ZVpDEKHzJPAC8y6">https://maps.app.goo.gl/H2ZVpDEKHzJPAC8y6</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'02.7"N 77°26'29.0"E										
18.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	38	0-39	1,69,88,400	3,40,000	85,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/rNEXstQrH7y4cfWY5">https://maps.app.goo.gl/rNEXstQrH7y4cfWY5</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°07'09.2"N 77°26'26.9"E										
19.	Bengaluru	Bengaluru North	Dasanapura	Honnasandra	32/10	1-05	1,96,02,000	3,93,000	98,000	
Google Location: <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/8Fp2i4RN5mmydSqq8">https://maps.app.goo.gl/8Fp2i4RN5mmydSqq8</a> Latitude and Longitude: 13°06'59.0"N 77°26'37.8"E										

**Date of Pre-bid meeting & time and Place** 20th August 2024, 3 pm to 4 pm  
Place: Office of the Regional Commissioner, 2nd floor, BMTC Building, KH road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru-560027.

**Date of Inspection & time** 19th August 2024  
11:00am to 5:00pm

**Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission** 26th August 2024  
Until 5pm

**Date & Time of E Auction** 28th August 2024  
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

For registration & Online Auction, you can login to <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> (Helpdesk no: 080-46010000, 080-68948777) The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Additional Regional Commissioner, Office of the Regional Commissioner, 2nd floor, BMTC Building, KH road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru-560027, e-mail id: [arckauction@gmail.com](mailto:arckauction@gmail.com) or Contact No. : 7760275682.

Sd/-  
Additional Regional Commissioner And Competent Authority,  
O/o The Regional Commissioner, Bengaluru division, Bengaluru.  
DIPR/CP/1182ZEN/2024-25

**CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**  
OPEN GLOBAL E-TENDER NOTICE  
No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162  
Date: 27/07/2024. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525994 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. Office Address: Office of the PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan, Sl. No.: 11, Tender No.: 79245904. Brief Description of Item: Alternate Drive Gear Assembly for WAP-5 AC Electric Locomotive for 160 kmph as per specification No. RDSO/2009/EL/SPEC/0089(REV.3) of 28.07.2016. [Warranty Period: 42 Months after the date of delivery]. Quantity: 110.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (INR/USD) : 5000000.00 (INR) / 0.00(USD). Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 31/08/2024 at 11:00 AM. PR3/555 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan  
Like us on : [www.facebook.com/clwrailways](http://www.facebook.com/clwrailways)

**CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**  
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE  
No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162  
Date: 26/07/2024. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525994 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. Office Address: Office of the PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan, Sl. No.: 11, Tender No.: 79245904. Brief Description of Item: Quantity: Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST) are as follows: [1]: 81240562; Brazing Rod, Size: DIA 2 X 600 +/- 6 MM Long, Specification No. DIN EN 1044 AC 203, STR NO. CLW/TM/951 REV.1. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]; 1854.00 Kg; ₹ 1188280.00; 23/08/2024 at 11:00 AM. [2]: 75243866; Set of U Bolt For Roof Bar Fittings For WAG-9HC As Per Specn. No. CLW/ES/3/0656 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]; 20380.00 Set; ₹ 0.00; 19/08/2024 at 11:00 AM. [3]: 70241134; (i) IGBT Based 3-Phase Drive Propulsion Equipment With Physical Medium i.e. ESD/EMD/OPG For Multi Functional Vehicle BUS (MVB) As Per IEC 61375, Terminal Bracket, BUS BAR LINK and Cu BRAID Required For Connection Between Main Transformer and TR Action Converter, Auxiliary Converter, Interfacing Connectors, Cables And Cable Loom Required For Connection From VCU 1/2 TO SBI/2 PANEL. As Per Specification No. i) RDSO/2008/EL/SPEC/0071, REV.5 For IGBT Based 3-Phase Drive Propulsion Equipment, ii) CLW/ES/3/0458 ALTE For Control Cables iii) CLW/ES/3/0459 ALTE For Screened Cable, iv) CLW/ES/3/0124 A.L.T.O. In Addition To Above Description, The Propulsion System Should Also Comply Requirement Mentioned In "Schedule of Requirement" (SOR), Copy Attached With Tender Documents. [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]. (ii) Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract [AMC] of IGBT Based 3 Phase Drive Propulsion Equipment To Specn. No. CLW/AMC/C-D&D/01 Issued In March-2016. (i) 754.00 Set, (ii) 754.00 Set; ₹ 5000000.00; 27/08/2024 at 11:00 AM. PR3/555 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan  
Like us on : [www.facebook.com/clwrailways](http://www.facebook.com/clwrailways)

**DAWAKHANA TIBBIYA COLLEGE**  
ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, ALIGARH  
Tender Notice  
Dawahkhana Tibbiya College, AMU, Aligarh invites sealed rate quotations (Tenders) for Ambarshab.  
For detail visit : <https://amudawahkhana.co/category/tenders/>  
Officiating General Manager

**VOLTAS**  
A TATA Enterprise  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
It has come to our attention that some unknown individuals with Toll Free No. 1800264555 / 18004254555 is impersonating as customer care representative and/or technician and/or agents of Voltas Limited. 2. It is to be informed that this Toll Free No. 1800264555 / 18004254555 does not belong to Voltas Limited. 3. The public is advised not to engage in any conversation with the person using the Toll Free No. 1800264555 / 18004254555, claiming to be customer care representative and/or technician and/or agents of Voltas Limited. Any individual taking cognizance or acting on such conversations does so at their own risk. 4. This notice is issued to safeguard the public from any misinformation and to prevent any unauthorized activities carried out by the impersonator. 5. Voltas Limited Customer Care No. 965084555 / 1860594555. Hence, all concerned as well as general public are requested to check Voltas Limited website <https://www.voltas.com/> for information about the Products and Services.  
Registered Office :  
**VOLTAS LIMITED**  
Voltas House 'A',  
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Road, Chinchpokli, Mumbai 400033  
Website : [www.voltas.com](http://www.voltas.com)  
CIN : L29308MH1954PLCOO9371

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता  
विद्युत वितरण मण्डल  
दक्षिणांचल विद्युत वितरण निगम लि., हाथरस  
बिहार  
विद्युत वितरण मण्डल हाथरस के सभी सम्मानित उपभोक्ताओं को सूचित करना है, कि मा 0390 विद्युत निगमक आयोग लखनऊ को अधिसूचना संख्या यूपी03/आरडी0/सेकेटी/विनयमाबली/2022-262 दिनांक 21.07.2022 के अन्तर्गत में विद्युत वितरण मण्डल हाथरस के अन्तर्गत "उपभोक्ता अध्या निगम फोन" का गठन किये जाने के लिये चौथे एवं स्वतंत्र सदस्य के मनोनयन हेतु निम्नोक्त योग्यता/अर्हता धारकों से आवेदन किये जाते हैं:-  
- आयोग द्वारा नामित एक स्वतंत्र सदस्य 1. मण्डल क्षेत्र का उपभोक्ता (स्वयं अथवा प्रतिपत्नी) जो कि निम्नलिखित सेवा में 1.2 एक ऐसा व्यक्ति होगा जो निम्नलिखित सेवा में 1.2 अथवा रहा हो जो कि एण्ड्रीड/एम/सातवें वेतन आयोग का पे मैट्रिक लेवल-11 के पर से नीचे ना हो। 3. मौजूदा श्रेणी के पिछले तीन वर्षों से लगातार उपभोक्ता रहे हों/रहें हों, जिनका पूर्ववृत्त (Antecedents) अच्छा रहा हो तथा जिनके विरुद्ध विद्युत देयों का बकाया न हो। उपरोक्तानुसार कर्मित योग्यता/अर्हता रखने वाले आवेदक दिनांक 10.08.2024 तक किसी भी काम दिवस में कार्यालय विद्युत वितरण मण्डल, हाथरस 132 के 0710 विद्युत उपकेन्द्र, अंबेडकर, हाथरस पर सम्पर्क स्थापित कर आवेदन प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं।  
अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल हाथरस। "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचाये" पर सं-3895/वि/वि/एम/आ/ए-1 दिनांक-31.07.24

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.  
Where as complaint has been made before me that accused **Mohan @ Monu S/o Momraj, R/o- H.No. 430, Income tax Colony, Pitampura, Delhi** has committed (or suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide **FIR No. 266/10 U/s 392/411/34 IPC P.S. Maurya Enclave, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Mohan @ Monu** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Mohan @ Monu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).  
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Mohan @ Monu** of case **FIR No. 266/10 U/s 392/411/34 IPC P.S. Maurya Enclave, Delhi** is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of **30.08.2024**.  
By Order  
**Ms Vasundhra Chhaunkar**  
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate  
(North-West), Room No.101, 1st Floor  
DP/10070/NW/2024 (Court Matter)  
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

**ICAR-NRCO, PAKYONG, SIKKIM**  
F.No. NRC(O)/ADMN/27-B/2023-24/285 DATE : 30.07.2024

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
The Director, ICAR - National Research Centre for Orchids, Pakyong, Sikkim invites online open tenders under two bid system (Technical & Financial Bid) through GeM as detailed below:

Sl.No.	Name of Items	GeM Bid No.	Bid end date / time
1	Manpower Outsourcing Services	GEM/2024/B/5 198205 Dated: 30.07.2024	26.08.2024 / 10:00

For more details Interested Bidders may visit GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in> or NRCO website: <https://nrcico.icar.gov.in>  
(Rajendra Kumar Meena)  
Administrative Officer

**POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.**  
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)  
"Vidut Bhanwan" Near ISBT Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002  
Corporate ID U40101UR2004SGC028675 Tel. No. 0135-2642711

**E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-2**  
The Pre-bid clarification of the E-Tender for "Augmentation of Transformer capacity from 55 MVA (2x20 MVA+3x5 MVA) to 85 MVA (2x20 MVA+3x15MVA) at 132 kV Substation Bhowali" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/C&P-I/E-Tender/SS-03/2024-25" has been uploaded on e-tender website and the last date of bid submission is hereby extended to **20.08.2024 at 15:30 Hrs.** For more details please visit e-tender website [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) (tender id no. 2024\_PTCUL\_72591\_1) and for e-tender notice our website [www.ptcul.org](http://www.ptcul.org). All other terms and conditions shall remain same. For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8999899000  
Ro No. 1360/HOP/PTCUL-DL-30.07.24  
Superintending Engineer (C&P-I)  
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

**UJVNL LTD.**  
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephones: 0135-2763808 Fax: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC02866 Website: [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com)

Ro.No: 670  
Tender Notice Date: 30.07.2024  
Office of the EE (Solar), "Ujjwal" Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, UJVNL Ltd, Dehradun, invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:  
Tender No: 02/EE(Solar)/2024-25  
**Name of the Work:** Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning & Net metering work of 12 kW Grid connected roof top Solar Power Plant on General Manager (Ganga) Office, UJVNL Ltd, Mayapur, Haridwar.  
**Estimated Cost:** Rs 755757/- (GST exclusive)  
**Date for availability of tender on web site:** 31-07-2024.  
**Last date for submission of Tender:** 21-08-2024 till 16:00 Hrs.  
For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam's website "www.ujvnl.com"  
Executive Engineer (Solar)  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Nahid Khan (Proprietor of M/s Sri Medicos) R/o Mohalla Sikan Gate, Near Jaat Colony, Chandausi Distt. Uttar Pradesh** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **CT No. 5627/2018, U/s 138 NI Act**, registered at P.S.: Vivek Vihar, Delhi and the warrant has been returned writing upon it that the said accused **Nahid Khan** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Nahid Khan** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Nahid Khan** accused **CT No. 5627/2018, U/s 138 NI Act**, registered at P.S.: Vivek Vihar, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.08.2024**.

By Order  
**Sh. Aridaman Singh Cheema**  
Metropolitan Magistrate -03  
Karkardooma Courts, Shahdara, Delhi

DP/9991/SHD/2024  
(Court Matter)

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED**

General public is hereby informed that this Girl (depicted in the photo) namely **Mehak D/o Surender Singh R/o H. No. 6/228-229, Nand Nagri, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her residence since **28.07.2024 at 05:00 AM to 05:00 AM**. In this regard a FIR No./DD No. **55-A Dated 29.07.2024** has been lodged at **PS Nand Nagri, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this girl but no clue has come to light so far. Her physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Female, **Age:** 20 years, **Height:** 5' 1" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Black colour Shirt & blue colour Scoff, blue colour Jeans and slippers in feet.  
Any person is having information or clue about this missing girl may kindly inform to the following telephones numbers:-  
**SHO**  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Ph: 011-22583307, 22131093  
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Mob. No.: 8750870733  
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/9957/NE/2024

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Raju @ Janga, S/o Aslam @ Abdul Rehman, R/o G. No. 2, Near Badi Masjid, Kasim Vihar, Loni, Ghaziabad, UP** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 14/2016, U/s 457/380/411 IPC, P.S. Welcome, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Raju @ Janga** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Raju @ Janga** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Raju @ Janga** accused of **FIR No. 14/2016, U/s 457/380/411 IPC, P.S. Welcome, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **23.09.2024**.

By Order  
**Ms. Deepakshi Rana**  
Metropolitan Magistrate-03  
Shahdara, Room No. 19  
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/10036/NE/2024

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**  
**(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Govar Sharma R/o House No. 221-A, Plot No. 321-A, Begumpur Extn., New Delhi also at: Chand Nagar, Gali No. 9/5, Borapur, Near Transport Nagar, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh-4740712** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No./Vehicle No. DL-8CNA-4937, Challan No. DWC-0586-6393-94-22, Dated 01.04.2022, U/s 184 MV Act & 3/181 MV Act, PS Dwarika Traffic Circle, Distt. South-West, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Govar Sharma** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Govar Sharma** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Govar Sharma** of case **FIR No./Vehicle No. DL-8CNA-4937, Challan No. DWC-0586-6393-94-22, Dated 01.04.2022, U/s 184 MV Act & 3/181 MV Act, PS Dwarika Traffic Circle, Distt. South-West, New Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated **03.09.2024 at 10:00 A.M.**

By Order  
**Ms. Neetika Kapoor**  
Judicial Magistrate  
First Class-06/South-West Distt.  
Court No. 514, Dwarika Courts, New Delhi

DP/9822/Traffic/2024  
(Court Matter)

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**  
**See Section 82 (2) (I) Cr.P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused persons namely: **Ajay Kumar, R/o: E-245, Town/Village, Bordsuma Town, PO Bordsuma, Changlang also at Shop No.214, 2nd Floor, Bhagmal Complex, Sector-15, Naya Baans, Noida, Uttar Pradesh** also at **812-B, 8th Floor, Indra Prakash Building, 21, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, Delhi** and Name: **Manoj Kumar, R/o: E-245, Town/Village, Bordsuma Town, PO Bordsuma, Changlang also at Shop No.214, 2nd Floor, Bhagmal Complex, Sector-15, Naya Baans, Noida, Uttar Pradesh** also at **812-B, 8th Floor, Indra Prakash Building, 21, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, Delhi** and Name: **Prashant Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said **Ajay Kumar, Manoj Kumar, Prem Kumar & Barun Kumar Yadav** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Ajay Kumar, Manoj Kumar, Prem Kumar & Barun Kumar Yadav** have absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Ajay Kumar, Manoj Kumar, Prem Kumar & Barun Kumar Yadav** are required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.08.2024**.

By Order  
**Rohini Kumar**  
LD. MM-04, Room No.110,  
Rohini Courts, New Delhi

DP/10016/RD/2024

**UJVNL LTD.**  
H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephones: 0135-2769615, 2763808 Fax: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC02866 Website: [www.ujvnl.com](http://www.ujvnl.com)

RO No.: 658  
E-Tender Corrigendum & Date extension notice Date: 30-07-2024

The dates of submission and opening of e-tender NIT No. e-01/UJVNL/IT/EE(EM-II)/2024-25 for "Maintenance and Support of SAP ERP at UJVNL Limited" are hereby extended as follows along with corrigendum:  
Last date of submission of bid on e-portal: 06.08.2024 upto 17:00 Hrs  
Last date of submission of documents in original: 12.08.2024 upto 11:00 Hrs  
Time, date & venue of opening of tender (part-I): 12.08.2024 at 12:00 Hrs. at the office of officer inviting bids.  
The detailed corrigendum sheet is attached on e-procurement portal.  
All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>  
Executive Engineer (E&M-II) IT  
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, P.H.E.D., PROJECT REGION - UDAIPUR**  
E-mail: [acepudal@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:acepudal@rajasthan.gov.in)  
No: ACEPI/UDR/NT/05/2024-25/2029-38 Dated: 24/7/24

**Notice Inviting Tender No. 05/2024-25**

Bids for works are invited from interested bidder's up to the date mentioned in the table below. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> and <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> website of the state of Rajasthan.

NIT No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Date & time for online Submission of tender
05/2024-25	Work of Drinking Water Supply Project for 524 Villages of Pratappgarh Arnod Peepalkhoo Blocks including their 292 other habitations of District Pratappgarh from Jakhm Dam under JUM Package I including 10year O & M After 1year DLP.	Rs. 379.81 Crores	24.07.2024 at 17.00 Hrs upto 27.08.2024 18.00 Hrs

U.B.N No. PHE2425WLOB03232

Sd/-  
(Ajitesh Sharma)  
Addl. Chief Engineer  
PHED, Project Region Udaipur

DIPRC/6641/2024

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
Tender No.: PRYJ-Sig-205-2024-25 Date:- 27.07.2024

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Co-ordination / North Central Railway/ Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite E-TENDER on prescribed form for the following works up to 12:00 hrs. The details of the Tender is as under:-

Tender No.: PRYJ-Sig-205-2024-25 Approx. Cost of Work: ₹ 11171803.52

Name of Work: (A) S&T Work in connection with ROB in lieu of closure of LC No- 78 near CNBL- CNBI in the section of Prayagraj Division North Central Railway. (B) Signaling and Telecom Installation of ASM Room at RXM station with Seimens make EI in Prayagraj division of North Central Railway.

Bid Security :- ₹ 205900/-, Completion Period : 12 Months, Date of Opening of Tender : 23.08.2024

Availability of Tender Form: Tender forms shall be available on [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in).  
Time Date & Place of Opening of Tender: Tender will be opened through E-tender at office of Divisional Railway Manager, Prayagraj on or after pre-determined date at 12:30 hours. 1338/24(A)

North central railways [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @nccnrcr

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General public is hereby informed that this woman (depicted in the photo) namely: **Hemlata @ Kanchan, W/o: Rinku, R/o: N-2, Sector-2, DSIIID Bawana, Delhi** has been kidnapped/Missing from her home since **12.07.2024 at 07:00 a.m.** In this regard a missing report case vide **GD No.111 dated 12.07.2024** has been registered at **PS - Bawana, Delhi**.

Her Physical description is as under:-  
**Sex:** Female, **Age:** 28 Years, **Height:** 5' 2", **Built:** Thin, **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Green Color Suit Salwar and White & Chocolate Color Slipper.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing woman but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this person please inform undersigned.

**SHO**  
PS - Bawana, Delhi  
Phone: 011-27751949

DP/10064/ON/2024

**Office of Superintending Engineer, 9<sup>th</sup> Circle Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department**  
Address:- 9<sup>th</sup> Circle, HPPWD, Nurpur.  
Mail ID [hp-kan2@nic.in](mailto:hp-kan2@nic.in) Phone No. 01893-220098

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)**

List of Important Dates of Bids for Construction/Upgrade of Road using New Technology "Cement Treated Base" under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and their Maintenance for five year. Accordingly Superintending Engineer 9<sup>th</sup> Circle, HPPWD, Nurpur on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites Percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system for construction of below mentioned roads:-

Sr. No. :- 1. Name of Employer for Execution of Contract Bond :- Superintending Engineer, 9<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD Nurpur. District :- Kangra Package No. :- HP04345  
Name of work :- Upgrade of Sapri to Panihar Road 0/0 km to 24/180 km (T-03) Bridge at RD 12/120 Period of complete-on. :- 24 months Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Construction :- 210.45 Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Maintenance :- 2.35 Total cost excluding GST (In lacs). :- 212.80 Bid Security (In lacs). :- 4.26

Sr. No. :- 2. Name of Employer for Execution of Contract Bond :- Superintending Engineer, 9<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD Nurpur. District :- Kangra Package No. :- HP04345  
Name of work :- Upgrade of Sapri to Panihar Road 0/0 km to 24/180 km (T-03) Bridge at RD 13/300 Period of complete-on. :- 24 months Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Construction :- 260.15 Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Maintenance :- 1.59 Total cost excluding GST (In lacs). :- 261.74 Bid Security (In lacs). :- 5.23

Sr. No. :- 3. Name of Employer for Execution of Contract Bond :- Superintending Engineer, 9<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD Nurpur. District :- Kangra Package No. :- HP04345  
Name of work :- Upgrade of Sapri to Panihar Road 0/0 km to 24/180 km (T-03) Bridge at RD 17/180 Period of complete-on. :- 24 months Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Construction :- 476.72 Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Maintenance :- 2.25 Total cost excluding GST (In lacs). :- 478.97 Bid Security (In lacs). :- 9.58

Sr. No. :- 4. Name of Employer for Execution of Contract Bond :- Superintending Engineer, 9<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD Nurpur. District :- Kangra Package No. :- HP04347  
Name of work :- Upgrade of Jawalambik Daroli Upper Ghalloor to Rohara Road Bridge at RD 9/210 Period of complete-on. :- 24 months Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Construction :- 503.26 Estimate Cost Excluding of GST (In lacs). :- Maintenance :- 1.69 Total cost excluding GST (In lacs). :- 504.95 Bid Security (In lacs). :- 10.10

2. Date of Publishing of e-procurement notice through News Papers:- 12-08-2024

3. Publishing date of Bid on-line:- 12-08-2024 (10.00 AM).

4. Start Date of downloading of bids :- 13-08-2024 (11.00 AM).

5. Deadline for submission of bids:- 28-08-2024 (5.00 PM).

6. Date of opening of bids:- 29-08-2024 (11.00 AM).

Pre-bid meeting on dated 20-08-2024 at 11:30 AM.  
For further details please log on to <https://pmgsytendershp.gov.in>

Superintending Engineer,  
9<sup>th</sup> Circle, H.P.P.W.D, Nurpur-176022  
Email: [hp-kan2@nic.in](mailto:hp-kan2@nic.in)  
01893-220098

HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPARK  
Adv.No. 1142/30/07/2024

**RAJASTHAN RENEWABLE ENERGY CORPORATION LIMITED**  
(Government of Rajasthan Undertaking)  
E-166, Yudhisthir Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur  
Tel: 2225859 / 2228198 / 2221650 Fax: 0141-2226028  
CIN No. U40101RJ1995SGC009847  
Email: [rrec.rooftop@gmail.com](mailto:rrec.rooftop@gmail.com) Website: [www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in](http://www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in)

No. F.7/IRREC/SPV Rooftop/IRREC/NIT/01/2024-25/  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER/IRREC/NIT/01/2024-25**

Online tender is invited for the work of Design, Supply, Erection, Testing, Commissioning and Operation and Maintenance (O&M) for 25 years of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Power Project of 1000 MW capacity on State Government buildings/State Government undertaking buildings in Rajasthan for more details visit <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, [www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrec](http://www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrec) and <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>. The tender document may be downloaded from 25.07.2024, 6.00 PM UBN:- REC2425WLOB00006  
Raj.Samwad/C/24/3114 Director Technical

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Sonu, S/o Kamlesh Kumar, R/o H. No. 41, Gali No.2, Aman Vihar, Rohini, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 111/2020, U/s 380/457/411/34 IPC**, registered at P.S.: Kanjhawala, Delhi and the warrant has been returned writing upon it that the said accused **Sonu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Sonu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sonu** accused **FIR No. 111/2020, U/s 380/457/411/34 IPC**, registered at P.S.: Kanjhawala, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **31/08/2024**.

By Order  
**Sh. Apoorv Bhardwaj**  
Metropolitan Magistrate-02  
Room No. 113  
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/10023/RD/2024  
(Court Matter)

**SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL**

General public is here by informed that one girl (depicted in the Photo) namely: **Babita D/o: Sh. Ram Kishan, R/o- H. No. C-751, Camp No. 02, Nangloi, Delhi** Age: 17 Years Height: 5'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Blue color Jacket and Jeans and White color Shoes in Feet, Missing Since 21.02.2024 by 12.00 noon from her home under area of PS. Nangloi, Delhi.

In this regard a **FIR No. 176, Dated 02.03.2024** has been lodged at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this girl but no clue has come to light so far.  
Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

**SHO**  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S.- Nangloi, Delhi  
Fax: 011-24368639 Ph. 011-25947225, 7065036127  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 DP/3393/OD/2024

**MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH**  
(Parking Branch, Room No. 14, Ground Floor, Sector-17)  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh invites online bids through e-tendering process from the interested bidders / agencies / companies for "Request for proposal (RFP) for Selection of Concessionaire for Design, Development, Implementation, Operation and Maintenance of Smart Parking Solution on PPP Model". Interested bidders may download the RFP document from the e-tendering website i.e. <http://etenders.chd.nic.in> and can submit their bids latest by 23.08.2024 upto 3:00 PM through the e-tendering website. Date of start of submission would be on 2.8.2024 at 9.00 A.M.

Corrigendum (if any) related to this tender will only be published online at <http://etenders.chd.nic.in>

Commissioner  
Municipal Corporation Chandigarh

**यू.पी. प्रोजेक्ट्स कारपोरेशन लि.**  
(उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार का उपक्रम) CIN: U15209UP1976SGC004285  
कार्यालय महाप्रबन्धक, जॉन-2, 14-बन्धुश्रीखरनगर कालोनी, तुला शेरपुर, संतयनगर बाईपास, बरेली-243122. ई-मेल: [gm2.upclbly@gmail.com](mailto:gm2.upclbly@gmail.com)

पत्रांक : 144/पीसीएम/जी.एम./जॉन-2/प्रकाशन दिनांक : 31.07.2024  
**अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना**

जनपद शाहजहाँपुर में 14 सामुदायिक स्वास्थ्य केन्द्रों में अतिरिक्त सुरक्षा व्ययका के कार्य हेतु अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना सं 05/PCL/GM/ZONE-2/BL/2024-25 दिनांक 31.07.2024 आमतौर पर जारी है। उक्त निविदा <http://etender.up.nic.in> की वेबसाइट पर दिनांक 01.08.2024 से दिनांक 16.08.2024 के अपराह्न 01:00 बजे तक डाउनलोड/अपलोड की जा सकती है। ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य विवरण, नियम एवं शर्त कारपोरेशन की वेबसाइट [www.upprojects.org](http://www.upprojects.org) पर दिनांक 01.08.2024 से देखी जा सकती है। महाप्रबन्धक, जॉन-2, बरेली

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER PHED CIRCLE NCR ALWAR**  
PHED CAMPUS, MANU MAR ALWAR (RAJ.)  
E-Mail: [sencr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in](mailto:sencr.alw.phed@rajasthan.gov.in)

No- 1372-84 Date- 25-07-24  
**NOTICE INVITING BID (NIT No. 25-34/2024-25)**  
Bids for Works of Construction of Source, PU, of Rising Main & Distribution Pipe Line with FHTC, Construction of Reservoir for Various villages are invited from interested bidders upto 05.00 PM on Date 22.08.2024. Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state and <https://phedwar.rajasthan.gov.in> UBN:-

PHE2425WSOB03315 PHE2425WSOB03311 PHE2425WSOB03318 PHE2425WSOB03319  
PHE2425WSOB03320 PHE2425WSOB03316 PHE2425WSOB03312 PHE2425WSOB03317  
PHE2425WSOB03313 PHE2425WSOB03314

Sd/-  
Superintending Engineer  
PHED Circle, NCR Alwar

DIPRC/6815/2024

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**  
**(See Section 82 Cr. PC)**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Neeraj S/o Birja Singh R/o H.No. 721, Rambagh Patna Bihar Also at Kishanganj Railway Godown Kishanganj Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 94/2003 U/s 304A IPC at PS: Kashmiri Gate, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Neeraj** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Neeraj** of **FIR No. 94/2003 U/s 304A IPC at PS: Kashmiri Gate, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **12.09.2024**.

By Order  
**Chatinder Singh**  
Metropolitan Magistrate  
Central District Room No.32,  
DP/9809/N/2024  
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001  
Corporate Identity No. : U40109PB2010SGC033813  
Website : [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)  
Phone No. - 0175-2207649, Email id: [se-it-os@pspcil.in](mailto:se-it-os@pspcil.in)  
Tender Enquiry No. 320/DIT-1083 dated 30/07/2024

Dy. CE/IT (O&S) Ground Floor PSPCL Head Office, The Mall, Patiala invites e-tender for Provisioning of MPLS connectivity in 47 towns of PSPCL and PSPCL DC/DRC. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 30.07.2024, 5:00 pm onwards.  
**Note:-** Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

C 61724, DPR/Pr. 76155/12/2027/2023/36243

**भारतीय अन्तरदेशीय जलमार्ग प्राधिकरण**  
**INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**  
(Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India)  
A-13, Sector-1, Noida-201 301 (U.P.), Tel: 0120-2549391, E-mail: [akbansal.iwai@nic.in](mailto:akbansal.iwai@nic.in)

**Tender No.-IWA/1 / CARGO / 480 / 2024-25**

Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWA) invites online application for Request for Proposal (RFP) from experienced, reputed Operators for the Operation & Maintenance of Bogbil terminal in Assam Operators can submit proposal for Bogbil terminal as per provisions of the RFP document. Details and Tender document can be downloaded from 30.07.2024 from the web site [www.iwai.nic.in](http://www.iwai.nic.in) and CPPP Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/>. Last date for submission of online bids is 27/08/2024 up to 15:00 hrs and date of opening of tender is on 28/08/2024 at 15:00 hrs. Submission of online bids will be through <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app/>. Director (Traffic & Logistics)

**कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सा.नि.वि., संभाग बाँसवाड़ा**  
क्रमांक : डी-518 दिनांक : 29.07.2024

**निविदा सूचना संख्या-03/2024-25**  
**NIB Code :- PWD2425A0957**

सड़क निर्माण कार्य हेतु इच्छुक संवेदको से ऑनलाईन माध्यम से दिनांक 21.08.2024, सयं 06:00 बजे तक निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा का अन्य विवरण वेबसाइट ("http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in और <http://www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in>) पर देखा जा सकता है। उपपत्र की कुल अनुमानित लागत राशि रु. Rs. 3060.00 लाख है।

Sd/-  
(हरिकेश मोहन)  
अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता  
सा.नि.वि. संभाग बाँसवाड़ा

UBN-PWD2425WLOB03618.  
DIPRC/6851/2024

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED GIRL**

General public is hereby informed that this girl Name: **Roshni D/o Subhash R/o Jhuggi No. 1381, A-Block, Shahbad Dairy, Delhi** Age : 15 years, Height : 5'3", **Complexion :** Fair, **Built:** Thin **Wearing:** Brown colour suit & salwar and chappal in feet has been missing/kidnapped since 03.07.2024 from her house. In this regard a FIR No. 487/24 u/s 137 (2) BNS dated 03.07.2024 has been registered at Shahbad Dairy, Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **SHO : P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi,**  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> Ph. : 011-27821047, 27822207  
Fax: 24368639  
Tel.: 24368638/24368641 DP/10057/ON/2024

**SEARCH FOR MISSING**

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely: **Diksha, D/o Satish, R/o H. No. 23B, Subhash Park Extn., Uttam Nagar, Delhi, Sex:** Female, **Age:** 23 Years, **Height:** 5' 2", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Medium, **Hair:** Long, **Wearing:** Magenta colour Top, Purple Dark colour pant and Slipper in her feet has been missing from her house since 26.07.2024. In this regard **DD No. 69A, Dated: 30.07.2024**, has been registered at P.S.: Bindapur, Delhi.

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

E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) **SHO**  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S: Bindapur, Delhi  
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 Ph.:011-25633525, 8750871025  
DP/10117-DW/2024

**TELANGANA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**  
No. PSQ(C)II/e-auction/1/2024-25 Dt. 26.07.2024

**SPECIAL E-AUCTION OF**  
SCRAP VEHICLES / BUS BODIES / MATERIALS / TYRES / TYRE MATERIAL etc. available at Karimnagar and HZ/UPpal on AS IS WHERE IS BASIS will be conducted on following

## India, China agree to sustain 'momentum' in border talks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Amid signs of a renewed effort by India and China to resolve the military standoff in eastern Ladakh, India and China held another round of diplomatic talks for an early completion of the disengagement process that India sees as essential for resuming normal bilateral exchanges.

While there was no breakthrough in the talks as the situation at Demchok and Depsang, the two remaining frictions points, remains the same, India said in a statement the discussion was in-depth, constructive and forward-looking. Both sides also agreed to maintain the "momentum" through the established diplomatic and military channels.

The talks followed two meetings in a span of three weeks last month between foreign minister S Jaishankar and his counterpart Wang Yi in which they agreed to work with a sense of purpose for full disengagement. In their last meeting in Vientiane, Jaishankar and Wang also agreed on the need for "strong guidance" to achieve the same.

Further to discussions between the two foreign ministers in their recent meetings, according to the Indian read-out, the two sides reviewed the current situation along the LAC with a view to finding an early resolution of the outstanding issues.

They two sides agreed on the need to jointly uphold peace and tranquillity on the ground in the border areas in accordance with relevant bilateral agreements, protocols and understandings reached between the two govts.

While this was overall the 30th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC), it was the 16th such meeting since the latest border standoff erupted in May 2020.

# Mining levy trial pits BJP-led Odisha, TDP's AP against Centre

Dhananjay Mahapatra  
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The hearing in Supreme Court on Wednesday on whether the court's verdict allowing states to collect royalty on minerals extracted from their jurisdiction as well as tax on mineral-bearing tracts could be applied retrospectively saw BJP-governed Odisha, partner TDP-led Andhra Pradesh and some local bodies diverging from the stand of the BJP-led central coalition.

The Chandrababu Naidu govt opposed the Centre's fervent plea for prospective implementation of a nine-judge SC bench's ruling empowering states to levy royalty and tax on minerals, which has been unaided for the last 35 years and could run into lakhs of crores of rupees.

The difference was palpable before a bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices Hrishikesh Roy, A S Oka, B V Nagarathna, J B Pardiwala, Manoj Misra, Ujjal Bhuyan, S C Sharma and A G Masih which is deciding whether its July 25 judgment granting states the right to levy royalty on extracted minerals and tax on mineral-bearing land should operate prospectively or retrospectively.

As states were not able to realise these levies for 35 years, since the 1989 judgment in India Cement case, the cumulative arrears on these two levies run into lakhs of crores of rupees. The Centre pleaded for prospective implementation citing huge financial impact on the economy, industries and PSUs. SG Tushar Mehta said ultimately, the burden would be passed on by industries to the people, who would bear brunt of price rise.

The Andhra Pradesh govt, however, opposed the Centre's plea and said the HC had upheld the validity of an AP legislation imposing such levies in 2005 and the SC had only stayed operation of the law, which meant it was alive even if inoperative. After the nine-judge bench ruling, the state law came into effect from the day it was enacted, and the state had a right to recover arrears, AP's counsel said.

## Ripples will be felt from nanotech to healthcare: AG

Continued from P 1

Attorney general R Venkataramani told a bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices Hrishikesh Roy, A S Oka, B V Nagarathna, J B Pardiwala, Manoj Misra, Ujjal Bhuyan, S C Sharma and A G Masih, "There will be multi-polar impact on the economy and industries, which is not visible to the court today. If mining sector gets impacted, ripples will be felt from nanotechnology to healthcare." Solicitor general Tushar Mehta elaborated on the adverse impact of retrospective implementation of the constitution bench ruling to enable states to recover the arrears of royalty and tax, which had been on hold since 1989 when the SC, in a 7-1 ruling in the India Cement case, said states had no right to levy royalty on extracted minerals or tax on mineral-bearing land.

Supported by various sectors of industries represented by senior advocates Harish Salve, A M Singhi and Arvind Datar, the SG said, "In India, 55% of the total commercial energy production is coal reliant, and 68% coal production is used in the generation of electricity. Power is not only an essential input across every other industrial sector but also meets the daily energy requirements of domestic and rural consumers.

"Increase in coal price on account of state levies will have a cascading effect on the price of every commodity or service which uses power as an input. Power bills of consumers will see significant increases to account for past state levies on the core raw material of coal, if imposed and collected by states." The Centre said as per a preliminary estimate, retrospective application of the verdict would mean a cumulative burden of Rs 70,000 crore on PSUs engaged in energy production and mining.

# Declined ₹2L offer for slippers stitched by Rahul: Cobbler

Ayodhya: Ramchet, a cobbler from Sultanpur who found himself in the spotlight after he had an unexpected visitor on July 26—Rahul Gandhi—claims he is swamped with offers to sell the footwear mended by the Congress MP during the brief stopover at his run-down shop near the district court, reports Arshad Afzal Khan.

Rahul had stopped at Ramchet's shop after making a personal appearance in the Sultan-

pur MP/MLA court in connection with a defamation case for alleged objectionable remarks against Union home minister Amit Shah. He spent about half-an-hour with the cobbler chatting with him about his trade, and also tried his hand at stitching a pair of slippers and 'pasting' a shoe. The following day, the LoP in the Lok Sabha sent an electric shoe stitching machine to Ramchet.

Since then, Ramchet has been

inundated with offers from people eager to purchase the footwear that Rahul had worked on. Some have offered as much as Rs 2 lakh for the pair of slippers, claims the cobbler, adding that he has steadfastly refused to part with them. He says he intends to "get them framed" and keep them as a cherished memento for the rest of his life.

Pappu Pandey, a resident of Amethi who visited Ramchet's shop Wednesday, said: "Ramchet

has now become a local celebrity. People from distant places visit his modest shop to get their shoes polished and to catch a glimpse of slippers stitched by Rahul Gandhi."

When asked about the people who offered him money for the slippers, Ramchet said, "I didn't even ask their names and addresses because I do not intend to sell it even if someone offers me Rs 1 crore. I will keep it with me till I am alive."

Office of the Resident Commissioner  
**Bihar Bhawan**  
5, Kautilya Marg, Chanakyaपुर, New Delhi-110021

**Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for Comprehensive Manpower Services.**

The office of Resident Commissioner, Bihar Bhawan, Government of Bihar, New Delhi, invites sealed tenders, in two-bid (Technical & Financial), from reputed, leading and resourceful registered/licensed firms, having at least 3 years experience in providing comprehensive manpower services to guest house of State/Central Government/PSU/Private Sector of the same nature. Interested agencies may download the tender document by visiting the Bihar Government websites at <https://state.bihar.gov.in/csd/CitizenHome.html> and <https://state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar/CitizenHome.html>

Interested firm/company/agency who meet the criteria may furnish their tenders with all necessary documents submitted in two separate sealed covers, duly completed in all respects viz. one for "earnest money" and "technical bid" and the second for "financial bid". The name of the work and the words, "technical bid only" and "financial bid only", as the case may be, shall be clearly written on the top of the respective sealed covers. The D.D. for EMD must be enclosed in the envelope containing the technical bid. Both bids, along with the letter for submitting tender shall be put in a sealed cover. The name of the work "Comprehensive Manpower Services" shall be clearly written on top of the sealed cover along with the covering letter signed by an authorized signatory. Filled up tender form, along with bank draft of earnest money drawn in favour of Chief Administrative Officer, Govt. of Bihar, New Delhi should reach following address latest by 03.00 PM on 30/08/2024, which will be opened on the same day at 4.00pm in the office of Resident Commissioner, Bihar Bhawan, New Delhi. The bidder himself or any one representative authorized in writing on behalf of the bidder may remain present during this. The proposal should be addressed to:-----

**Chief Administrative Officer,**  
**Bihar Bhawan,**  
5, Kautilya Marg, Chanakyaपुर  
New Delhi-110021

Phone : 011-23017368/23017351/23014945 (O), 09910322500 (M), Email : rcbihar@yahoo.com

For further details please visit :  
[www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) (Resident Commissioner, Bihar Bhawan)  
New Delhi

PR-005149 (CSD) 2024-25

**नरो से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार**

**विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय भोपाल**

क्र. वि.शा./स्टेर / 2024-25 ( 271 ), भोपाल दिनांक-29.07.2024

**निविदा सूचना का शुद्धिपत्र (Corrigendum)**

विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय को निविदा सूचना क्रमांक SB/Store/ 2024-25 (207), Bhopal Dated 19.06.2024 द्वारा उपकरण Monocular & Other 03 Items के क्रय हेतु ई-निविदा सूचना जारी की गई है। उपरोक्त आमंत्रित ई-निविदा के माध्यम से क्रय किये जाने वाले उपकरण के समय-सारणी में "आंशिक संशोधन" के संबंध में "शुद्धिपत्र"(Corrigendum) जारी किया गया है जो website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgp/aap> पर तथा विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.mppolice.gov.in](http://www.mppolice.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।

Sd/-  
उप पुलिस महानिरीक्षक,  
(मुख्यालय) म.प्र. भोपाल  
दूरभाष क्र.0755-2443654  
ईमेल: sec25-sb@mppolice.gov.in

G-14248/24

**OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER**  
**GOVT. OF MADHYA PRADESH, MADHYA PRADESH BHAWAN**  
29-C & D, JESUS AND MARY MARG  
CHANAKYAPURI, NEW DELHI-110021  
Phone No. 011-26772001, 2002

**NIT No. 19/CIVIL/MADH/MPB/2024 Dated: 24.07.2024**

**TENDER NOTICE**

Online tenders for A/R, S/R & MoW (Annual Repair, Special Repair and Minor Original Work) in State Guest Houses of Government of Madhya Pradesh at New Delhi, namely, Madhya Pradesh Bhawan, Plot No. 29 C-D, Jesus & Mary Marg, Chanakyaपुर, New Delhi - 110021 are invited with two bid system (Technical bid & Financial bid) through e-Tendering website [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in) or [www.mpbhawan.gov.in](http://www.mpbhawan.gov.in) in the prescribed proforma from interested parties/Registered Firms/Registered Companies/Reputed Organizations/Agencies.

S.No.	Description	Date
1	Pre-bid conference date	08/08/2024 at 3.00 p.m.
2	Last date & time of Submission of tender technical bid & financial bid	14/08/2024 upto 3.00 p.m.
3	Last date & time of opening of technical bid	16/08/2024 at 3.00 p.m.
4	Last date & time of opening of financial bid	22/08/2024 at 3.00 p.m.
5	Probable Amount of Contract	Rs. 15,00,000/-
6	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 45,000/- (to be paid online)
7	Cost of Tender cost	Rs. 500/- (to be paid online)

Sd/-  
Addl. Resident Commissioner  
M.P. Bhawan, New Delhi

G-14263/24

**Government of Madhya Pradesh**  
**Office of the Engineer-in-Chief**  
**Water Resources Department,**  
**Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsī Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.)**  
Email Id: [ceproc.encwrdbpl@nic.in](mailto:ceproc.encwrdbpl@nic.in)  
Tel: 0755-2767635 Fax: 0755-2552406

**N.I.T. No. 1082/2024-25/E-in-C/e-tendering Bhopal, Dated 30.07.2024**

Bids for following works are invited on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> Last Date of purchase/download of Bid Document and submission of bid is 20-08-2024, 17:30 hrs. Any amendment/modification can be seen only on the website. Detailed N.I.T. and other details can be viewed on above mentioned website.

S. No.	Tender No.	Work	District	Amount (Lakhs)
1.	2024_WRD_360050	Curtain grouting work in Gallery of Bansujara Dam.	Tikamgarh	3153.65
2.	2024_WRD_360051	Turnkey Basis:- Construction of Kabulpur (Kamardipur) pressurized pipe system in 3100 Ha. and Gagarani Barrage (with Gates) with gross storage capacity 3.22 MCM on Lakhunder river including all construction related works, as per detail given in scope of work but not limited to that.	Shajapur	9361.60

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (Procurement)

G-14241/24

**Government of Madhya Pradesh**  
**Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, Water Resources Department,**  
**Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsī Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.)**  
Email Id: [ceproc.encwrdbpl@nic.in](mailto:ceproc.encwrdbpl@nic.in) Tel: 0755-2767635 Fax: 0755-2552406

**N.I.T. No. 1081/2024-25/E-in-C/e-tendering Bhopal, Dated: 24.07.2024**

Bids for following works are invited on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> Last Date of purchase/download of Bid Document and submission of bid is 20-08-2024, 17:30 hrs. Any amendment/modification can be seen only on the website. Detailed N.I.T. and other details can be viewed on above mentioned website.

S. no.	Tender No.	Work	District	Amount (Lakhs)
1.	2024_WRD_356763	On Turnkey Basis:- Construction of Dokarka Dam, as per detailed scope of work but not limited to that.	Sheopur	5588.42
2.	2024_WRD_356765	On Turnkey Basis:- Construction of Lodi Dam, as per detailed scope of work but not limited to that.	Sheopur	6637.36

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer (Procurement)

G-14227/24

**प्रधानाचार्य स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय औरैया**  
**नियमित सेवायोजन हेतु विज्ञापन**

स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय औरैया के विभिन्न विशेषज्ञता में आचार्य-17 पद, सह-आचार्य-24 पद, सहायक आचार्य-36 नियमित पदों पर नियुक्ति (पदों की संख्या घट या बढ़ सकती है) हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जा रहे हैं। विस्तृत सूचना एवं रिक्त पदों का विवरण स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय औरैया की वेबसाइट- [www.asmc.in](http://www.asmc.in) पर उपलब्ध है।

प्रधानाचार्य  
स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय औरैया।

**SBI** Local Head Office, 16, College lane, Chennai-600 006, Tel: 044 28308401 / 8403 / 8901 / 8903

**NOTICE FOR EMPANELMENT**

SBI invites applications for "Empanelment of Architects / Contractors / Consultants for Civil, Electrical, AC & Interior works and Vendors for supplying of Rental printers for Chennai Circle". For details and application, log on to: <https://bank.sbi> > SBI in the News > Show more > Empanelment of vendors. Last date for submission is 23.08.2024. Corrigendum, if any, will be published only in website.

Chennai:  
01.08.2024 **AGM (P&E) / AGM (ITSS)**

**CSIR- INDIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL BIOLOGY**  
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)  
4, Raja S. C. Mullick Road, Jadavpur, Kolkata-700 032

**Advt. No. : SDP/02/2024-25**

CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata invites applications for various Certification Courses under the CSIR-Integrated Skill Initiative - Course Duration : 02 weeks (from 2nd Sept. 2024 - 13th Sept. 2024). Online Application Period : 29th July 2024 to 17th Aug. 2024. For online application process : <https://iicb.res.in/sdp>  
Administrative Officer

**SBI** State Bank of India, Estate Deptt., Global IT Centre, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai - 400614

**Notice inviting online offers for Hiring of office Premises on Lease Rental Basis (Along with Fit Outs) in Navi Mumbai for SBI GIC**

Bids are invited by State Bank of India from the eligible bidders for hiring of 9294 to 25557 Sq. Mtr. (1.00 Lakh to 2.75 Lakh Sq. Ft.) carpet area commercial space on Lease Rental basis. For details please visit 'Procurement News' at Bank's website [www.sbi.co.in](http://www.sbi.co.in) (<https://www.sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/procurement-news>) and apply on e-procurement agency portal at <https://etender.sbi/sbi> and submit the same along with supporting documents through online e-tender process on or before 2.30 P.M. on 31.08.2024. Offers received after due date will not be entertained and no correspondence shall be entertained in this regard. Any addition / deletion / modification related to the tender document will be posted on the Bank's website only.

Dy. General Manager (F&OA)

**अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एम्स), भुवनेश्वर**  
**ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS), BHUBANESWAR**  
(A Statutory body under aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)  
Sijua, Post-Dumuduma, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) -751019

**DEANAC-25014/1/2024-DEAN ACADEMIC/0624 Date: 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2024**

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT BY WAY OF WALK-IN- INTERVIEW FOR ENGAGEMENT OF JUNIOR RESIDENTS (NON ACADEMIC)**

Online Applications (vide Google form) are invited from eligible candidates for appointment as Junior Residents (Non Academic) on contractual basis at AIIMS, Bhubaneswar.

**NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 8**

Eligibility criteria (age, qualification, etc.), requisite fee and other details, are available on [www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in](http://www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in) vide Advertisement No DEANAC-25014/1/2024-DEAN ACADEMIC/ 0608 dated: 30<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Application start date	Application close date
06.08.2024 (10.00 A.M)	16.08.2024 (05.00 P.M)

Any query please contact Academic Section, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar.  
(Email-ID: [acad\\_rectt@aiimsbhubaneswar.edu.in](mailto:acad_rectt@aiimsbhubaneswar.edu.in))

Candidates are advised to visit our website [www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in](http://www.aiimsbhubaneswar.nic.in) regularly for latest update.

Sd/-  
**REGISTRAR**  
AIIMS, Bhubaneswar

**SAHITYA AKADEMI**

Sahitya Akademi invites books for Yuva Puraskar 2025 from publishers and young Indian writers of age 35 and below as on 1st January 2025 in all the 24 languages recognized by Sahitya Akademi. The award carries a cash component of Rs. 50,000/-. The books along with the attested copy of the Date of Birth certificate must be submitted latest by 31 August 2024. Books without the attested date of birth certificate will not be accepted. For details about the award please refer to the Yuva Puraskar Rules, available on our website at [www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in](http://www.sahitya-akademi.gov.in).

Sd/-  
**(Secretary)**  
Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi

CBC 09104/12/0002/2425

**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**  
**CASH & ACCOUNTS-II**

NOTICE to nationalized banks for investment of an amount of Rs. 36,89,04,371/- (Rs. Thirty Six Crore Eighty Nine Lakh Four Thousand Three Hundred Seventy One Only plus interest accrued) IN FIXED DEPOSIT.

All the Nationalized Banks are informed that the above-mentioned amount is to be invested in Fixed Deposit for a period of 91 DAYS. Interested Nationalized Banks are requested to quote in sealed cover, the highest callable rate of interest valid till 05.08.2024, for this deposit in accordance with the prescribed format and hand over personally to the undersigned upto 5.00 p.m. on 03.08.2024. No offer will be accepted after 5.00 p.m.

For more details, prescribed format and instructions, log on to [www.supremecourtindia.nic.in](http://www.supremecourtindia.nic.in)

Place : New Delhi (TAPAN KISHORE SHARMA)  
Date : 30.07.2024 Drawing & Disbursing Officer, Supreme Court of India

## JDS pulls out of march against Sidda, BJP in a fix

Bengaluru: JDS on Wednesday pulled out of the proposed seven-day Bengaluru-Mysuru padayatra on Aug 3 to press for Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah's resignation over the alleged Mysore Urban Development Authority (Muda) scam, putting its ally BJP in a fix.

JDS state president and Union minister HD Kumaraswamy has refused to support the padayatra, expressing anger over invitation to Preetham J Gowda, former MLA of Hassan. Kumaraswamy was present at the BJP-JDS meeting on Sunday that finalised the padayatra plan. On Wednesday, he expressed frustration that neither he nor his party functionaries were consulted on the padayatra schedule. "From Bengaluru to Mysuru, it is JDS which is strong. How can you neglect us or take such a decision without consulting us?" he said.

"There's confusion between JDS and BJP over the padayatra. Our national leadership is in the process of clearing that confusion. I'm confident the padayatra will go on as per plan," stated BY Vijayendra, state BJP president. However, some BJP functionaries hinted the padayatra might be postponed by a week.

Talking to mediapersons, Kumaraswamy asked whether he should share the stage with the person (Preetham Gowda) who "poisoned the Deve Gowda family".

"When they (BJP) are not ready to take us into confidence, then why should we give support to them (BJP)? They (BJP) must tell us how they treated us regarding the padayatra. What are they trying to achieve? I'm hurt, it pains me. Who is Preetham Gowda? He's the one who tried to destroy the Gowda family. They (BJP) bring him on stage and make him sit with me. Who is responsible for the distribution of those pen drives (in Prajwal Revanna's case)?" Kumaraswamy said. He added that a padayatra won't yield any result as far as Muda scam is concerned. "Instead, we need to fight this issue legally." TNW

## Delhi court's Khedkar bail verdict likely today

New Delhi: A Delhi court reserved for Thursday its verdict on the petition for anticipatory bail moved by trainee IAS officer Pujia Khedkar, who is accused of fraudulently clearing the civil services examination 2022 held by UPSC, reports Vineet Upadhyay.

On allegations that she had fraudulently appeared for examination under the disability quota, Khedkar's counsel Bina Madhavan, during the hearing on Wednesday, placed on record a disability certificate by a medical board stating that she has multiple disabilities, including permanent benchmark disability. "It is not by one, but it is by eight doctors. The remark is on the total percentage of multiple disabilities. It is by the board of AIIMS. The original copy is with UPSC. Where is the fraud?" Madhavan told the court of additional sessions judge Deveder Kumar Jangala, adding that Khedkar has "47 percent disability in relation to her whole body". The counsel defended Khedkar's name change, saying that this was legally permitted in the country.

**IIFM INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREST MANAGEMENT**  
(An Autonomous Institute of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India)  
P.B. No. 01 (357), Nehru Nagar, Bhopal 462003 (MP, India)  
Website : [www.iifm.ac.in](http://www.iifm.ac.in)

**CONTRACTUAL APPOINTMENT**

No. IIFM/PERS/A-69 (18)/2024

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for contractual engagement as Career Development Officer (CDO). The last date for submission of application is 16.08.2024. For details of the position and other requirements etc., please visit our website [www.iifm.ac.in/vacancies](http://www.iifm.ac.in/vacancies)  
MPM/115642/2024 **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**  
World Trade Centre, 6th Floor, Tower-F, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi

**Vacancy Circular No. 1-01/2024-A&P**  
Sub: Filling up of the post of Advisor (Financial & Economic Analysis) in TRAI Headquarters, New Delhi on deputation on foreign service terms; Extension of last date for receipt of applications - Reg.

Reference is invited to TRAI, New Delhi vacancy circular of even No. dated 28th March, 2024 14th May, 2024 and 11th June, 2024 vide which applications were invited for filling up the following post in its Headquarter, New Delhi on deputation on foreign service terms: -

Name of post	Pay Band & Grade Pay
Advisor (Financial & Economic Analysis)	Pay Level-14 ( ₹ 144200-218200) in the Pay Matrix as per 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB-4, ₹ 374000-67000+GP ₹ 10000]

2. The last date to submit online application has now been extended upto 16th August, 2024.  
3. Further details and application form can be obtained from the TRAI website [www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in).

CBC 06202/12/0018/2425

**The Singareni Collieries Company Limited**  
(A Government Company)  
Regd. Office: KOTHAGUDEM - 507101, Telangana.  
CIN:101021G1920SGC00057

**VENDOR MEET**

Proposal to conducting the vendor meet to identify the consultants / firms / Individuals who are experienced in identifying & acquiring the non forest land to handover to the Forest department towards Compensatory Afforestation (CA) purpose.

The Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) is a Government company Jointly Owned by Govt. of Telangana (51%) and Govt. of India (49%). Mining Operations of the company have been going on since 1889. The Mining Operations are being carried out in the 6 districts of KumramBheem, Mancherial, Peddapalli, Jayashanker-Bhupalpalli, Bhadradi-Kothagudem and Khammam in Godavari valley coal field. SCCL has 22 underground mines and 17 opencast mines operating with an annual production target of 72MT with manpower around 41,685.

SCCL has planned to ground about 15 new opencast projects in next 5 to 8 years in order to meet the desired target from 72 MTPA to 100 MTPA.

Grounding of these new projects involves diversion of forest land to the extent of about 5,000 Ha in next 5 years. "For diversion of forest lands, SCCL has to handover equal extent of non forest land (NFL) to the Forest department as CA land. The NFL to be identified and acquired (the land bank) for CA purpose preferably in Telangana / Andhra Pradesh / other states".

**Scope of the Firm**

- + The interested firms/ agencies/ consultants have to identify the NFL land, preferable in the state of Telangana.
- + The minimum extent of land is 25 hectares at one location/ village as per rule 14.4(b) of The Van(Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Rules 2023 for consideration.
- + The identified land shall be demarcated with chain link fencing / Trench.
- + The firm/ agencies / consultants have to provide kml files & title deed documents of the identified NFL.
- + Extents of land shall be finalized only after DGPS joint survey by SCCL and the firms.
- + The firms/ agencies / consultants shall be custodian of the land till it is handed over to Forest department by notification.
- + Once the acquired Non-Forest land is notified as RF, the responsibility of the firm/agencies/consultants ceases.

For further details, please visit: [www.scclmines.com](http://www.scclmines.com)  
GM (ESTATES)

PR/2024-25/CRP/EST/29 DIPR.R.O.No.: 285-PPCL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25



**MEGHAN MARKLE WAS 'BANNED' BY PRINCE WILLIAM FROM WEARING PRINCESS DIANA'S JEWELLERY AT WEDDING: BOOK**

**MALYSIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL SUES POP BAND '1975' FOR \$2.4M OVER MATTY HEALY'S SAME-SEX KISS IN SUPPORT OF LGBTQ+**



## Double Strikes Raise West Asia War Risks

**Hamas Political Chief Haniyeh Killed In Tehran Hours After Israel's Attack On Hezbollah In Beirut**

Hamas' top political leader Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in the Iranian capital Tehran early on Wednesday, an attack that drew threats of revenge on Israel and fuelled further concern that the conflict in Gaza was turning into a wider West Asia war. Most dangerous was the potential to push Iran and Israel into direct confrontation.

The Palestinian militant group and Iran's Revolutionary Guards confirmed Haniyeh's death. The Guards said it took place hours after he attended a swearing-in ceremony for Iran's new prez. Although the attack was widely assumed to have been carried out by Israel, PM Netanyahu's gov't made no claim of responsibility. Israel often refrains from commenting on assassinations carried out by its Mossad agency or strikes on other countries.

Haniyeh was killed by a missile that hit him "directly" in a state guesthouse where he was staying, Khalil Al-Hayya, a senior Hamas official, said in Tehran, quoting witnesses



During Ismail Haniyeh's last hours in Iran, a close ally of Hamas, he was smiling & clapping at the inauguration of new prez Masoud Pezeshkian (R)

who were with Haniyeh. "Now we are waiting for the full investigation from the (Iranian) brothers," he said.

Haniyeh, normally based in Qatar, had been the face of Hamas's diplomacy as the war set off by the Hamas-led Oct 7 attack on Israel has raged in Gaza. The assassination occurred less than 24 hours after Israel claimed to have killed Hezbollah's operations chief Fuad Shukur in the Lebanese

capital Beirut in retaliation for a deadly rocket strike in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The latest events appear to set back chances of any imminent ceasefire agreement in the nearly 10-month-old war in Gaza between Israel and the Iran-backed Hamas. Hamas' armed wing said in a statement Haniyeh's killing would "take the battle to new dimensions and have major repercussions". Vowing to retaliate,

### Silent on killing, Bibi warns against any attack on Israel

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Israel "will exact a heavy price from any aggression against us on any front". It was his first public statement since the killing of Hamas' top political leader, Ismail Haniyeh, in an airstrike in Tehran. Netanyahu did not mention the killing. "There are challenging days ahead of us," he added. AP

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas condemned the killing and Palestinian factions in the Israeli-occupied West Bank called for a strike and mass demonstrations.

In Israel, the mood was buoyant as Israelis welcomed what they saw as a major achievement in the war against Hamas. Residents in besieged Gaza feared Haniyeh's death would prolong the fighting that has devastated the enclave. "What a loss. We lost one of our very own," said Gaza resident Fatima Al-Saati. Another neighbour, Hachem Al-Saati, said: "This news is scary. We feel that he was like a father to us."

Haniyeh's most likely successor is Khaled Meshaal, his deputy-in-exile in Qatar, analysts and Hamas officials said. Under Meshaal, Hamas could emerge as an ever more important player in West Asia conflict due to his charisma, popularity and regional standing, analysts said. Meshaal narrowly survived an attempt on his life in Jordan ordered by Netanyahu in 1997. AGENCIES

### Red-faced over breach, Khamenei says revenge now a 'duty' for Iran

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Israel had provided the grounds for "harsh punishment for itself" and it was Tehran's duty to avenge Ismail Haniyeh's death. The death of the Hamas political leader in Iran raises questions about the Islamic Republic's ability to secure the safety of its most senior state officials and allies — and Israel's ability to target them.

Given Haniyeh was on Iranian soil and had hours earlier been shown live on state TV applauding President Masoud Pezeshkian, his assassination is deeply embarrassing for Iran's intelligence services, and in particular Khamenei and the IRGC. As Haniyeh's host, Iran has a "duty to seek vengeance" for his death, Khamenei said in a statement. "Israel's murderous and terrorist Zionist regime should expect a severe punishment". BLOOMBERG

## Trump says world leaders will 'walk all over' Kamala

**In Sexist Remarks, Ex-Prez Says She'll Be 'So Easy, Like A Playtoy'**

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: With a well-chronicled record of denigrating women, former US President Donald Trump has again stepped into a gender minefield saying world leaders would treat his rival Kamala Harris as a "playtoy" and would "walk all over her" if she became president.

"I think they'll look at her. I think they'll walk all over her. She'll be so easy for them. She'll be like a playtoy. They'll look at her and they'll say, 'We can't believe we got so lucky.'" Trump said in an interview on Fox News, without offering reasons why it could be so. Instead, he said, "and I don't want to say as to why, but a lot of people understand it", while specifically invoking a scenario of her meeting China's President Xi Jinping. "How do you think they'll look? President Xi of China standing together with her, representing. I don't want her to be my representative. Our country's got enough problems. They will walk all over her and her crazy administration," Trump said.

Trump aides later fessed what was widely seen as a sexist putdown, maintaining he was not referring to her race or gender but to her being "weak, dishonest and dangerously liberal". The Trump campaign in a statement said, "A vote for Kamala is a vote for more crime, inflation, open borders, high gas prices, and war around the world, and our team will make sure every American knows it." The former president has consistently attacked female opponents in sexist terms, going back to 2015 from the time he first ran for White House, when he questioned Hillary Clinton's strength and stamina and called her "unbalanced" and "unhinged". In the primaries, he mocked former Hewlett-Packard chief executive Carly Fiorina's looks, saying, "Look at that face! Would anyone vote for that? Can you imagine that, the face of our next president?"

In the ongoing election cycle, Trump has called Nikki Haley a "birdbrain" during the primaries, and now, squaring up against Kamala Harris, he has said she is "dumb as a rock" and a "low IQ individual". His vice-presidential running mate J D Vance has characterised Harris and some other Democrat women as "childless cat ladies" whose lives are miserable.

Trump's remarks came despite recent polling data showing Kamala Harris running up a strong lead over



'SAY IT TO MY FACE, DONALD': At an Atlanta rally on Tuesday, Kamala Harris challenged Trump to a debate, saying 'if you've got something to say, say it to my face'

him among women voters — 42-31 in one survey. About 7.4 million more women than men have voted in every presidential election since 1964.

In recent speeches, Trump has pushed back at the impression he is anti-women, praising a female Secret Service agent who shielded him during the assassination bid even as some of his MAGA supporters derided her short stature. He also accused Harris of supporting a "policy of forcing every public school to let men in women's and girls' locker rooms".

Harris campaign, framing the contest as one between a prosecutor and a perpetrator, hit back by highlighting Trump's remarks about "dating his own daughter", "bragging about walking in on teen girls changing in dressing rooms" and being adjudicated for rape. The gendered clash came even as Harris addressed a euphoric rally in Atlanta, a black-majority city in Georgia, a battleground state where urban African-American voters and suburban women voters can overturn mostly Republican white voters in rest of the state.

A similar dynamic will be at play in cities such as Philadelphia and Detroit, where concentration of black, minority and working women votes can deliver the states (Pennsylvania and Michigan) to the Democrats. Support for Republicans in these states comes mostly from the white-dominated rural areas.

Harris is expected to settle on a running mate over the next few days with Pennsylvania governor Josh Shapiro and Arizona senator Mark Kelly topping her short list. While Shapiro can help deliver Pennsylvania — which Trump lost by 80,000 votes in 2020 — Kelly, a white male from a border state, could help Harris on the challenging issue of immigration.

## World urges maximum restraint; US asserts not aware or involved

World leaders and diplomats condemned the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh Wednesday, expressing concern that his death could lead to further violence in Middle East.

US secretary of state Antony Blinken said the US was "not aware of or involved in" the killing of Haniyeh. "I can't tell you what this means. I can tell you that the imperative of getting a ceasefire, the importance that that has for everyone, remains," he said.

China condemned the assassination and warned that it would lead to further instability. "We are deeply concerned this incident may lead to escalation and turbulence in the region," said Lin Jian, a spokesman for its foreign ministry.

Turkey's president Recep Tayyip Erdogan, said the assassination aimed to "interrupt the rightful struggle of Palestinians and demoralise them." Turkey's Parliament had planned to host Haniyeh next month, in a direct response to the address to the US Congress by PM Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel last week.

Kremlin, which has also hosted Hamas leaders, called for restraint. "There is no doubt the killing of Ismail Haniyeh will have an extremely negative impact on the pro-

### Killing a risk to truce talks: Qatar & Egypt

Qatar and Egypt, mediators in ceasefire negotiations between Israel and Hamas, suggested that the killing of Ismail Haniyeh could jeopardise efforts to secure a truce in Gaza.

"Political assassinations and continued targeting of civilians in Gaza while talks continue leads us to ask, how can mediation succeed when one party assassinates the negotiator on the other side?" the Qatari PM said. "Peace needs serious partners and a global stance against the disregard for human life."

Egypt's foreign ministry said a "dangerous Israeli escalation policy" over the past two days had undermined efforts to broker an end to the fighting. Israel said it remained committed to negotiations. REUTERS

gress of mediated contacts between Hamas and Israel," said a foreign ministry spokesman. Diplomats in Persian Gulf states blamed Israel for the assassination, warning it could destabilise the region. Oman described the assassination as a "flagrant violation of international law". Jordan said Israel's aggression "will drag the region toward more wars and destruction." NYT & AFP

## 'THE FACE OF HAMAS FOR DIPLOMACY'

**Ismail Haniyeh, 62, was the tough-talking face of Hamas' diplomacy as war raged back in Gaza. Despite the rhetoric, he was seen by many diplomats as a moderate compared to others**

- Born in 1962, in a Gaza refugee camp. Parents displaced from their home in 1948 in what is now Israel's Ashkelon city
- Among Hamas' founding members in 1988. Served several jail terms in Israel in 1980s & 1990s
- Survived a 2003 assassination bid
- Became leader of Hamas in Gaza in 2006. Same year, Haniyeh briefly served as PM of a Palestinian unity gov't, which collapsed after a violent rift with the other main faction, Fatah
- In 2017, he was named the Hamas political leader. Shuttled between his main base Qatar & Turkiye
- Was involved in negotiations with Israel for a Gaza ceasefire, mediated by Egypt, Qatar, and US
- In Apr, 3 of his sons and several grandchildren were killed in an Israeli strike near Gaza City. In June, his sister was killed in a strike on the family home in Gaza
- In May, the ICC prosecutor's office sought arrest warrant for Haniyeh
- Was in Tehran for the swearing-in of Iran's new prez. Was staying at a 'spl residence' for war veterans
- Killed around 2am local time as the building was hit by an 'airborne projectile'. Burial in Doha on Friday

### OTHERS ON ISRAEL'S HAMAS HIT LIST

- Yahya Sinwar (ALIVE)** Israel military has called the Hamas' leader in Gaza 'face of evil' and 'mastermind' of Oct 7 attack. He has been described as a 'dead man walking' by Netanyahu
- Saleh Al Arouri (KILLED)** In Jan, deputy head of its political bureau was killed in an Israeli strike in Beirut. Arouri was one of the founding members of military wing Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades
- Mohd. Deif (FATE UNKNOWN)** This month, a strike in Gaza targeting head of Hamas' military wing killed 90 Palestinian civilians. Israel said it believed Deif was killed, but neither it nor Hamas confirmed his death. Deif, rarely seen in public, has survived several assassination bids

## Israel has a long history of 'targeted killings'. Iran says its soil was top target

Targeted assassination has a long history in Israel. In his 2018 book "Rise and Kill First", Israeli journalist Ronen Bergman detailed over 2,700 such operations involving poisoned toothpaste, spare tires with remote-control bombs and exploding phones. He suggested it poisoned Yasser Arafat, the longtime Palestinian leader, which Israel denies. Tehran has accused Israel of many killings inside Iran.

Fakhrizadeh, a scientist described by intelligence agencies as a leading figure in Iran's nuclear weapons programme, was killed in an ambush. It was carried out with a remote-controlled machine gun. Fakhrizadeh was one of Israeli intelligence's top targets for years. He wasn't the first scientist linked to the nuclear programme to be attacked on Iranian soil. Two others were targeted with car bombs

20 minutes apart in different areas of Tehran, in 2010. One was killed, the other injured.

### Revolutionary Guards officer

In May 2022, two assassins on motorcycles shot and killed Col. Sayad Khodayee, Iran blamed Israel, which made no comment on the killing, but it told the US it had targeted the officer. Israeli officials said Khodayee was the deputy commander of a unit that

planned and carried out covert operations around the world, including assassinations and abductions. The group, called Unit 840, was a part of Quds Force, which specialises in espionage. A US drone strike killed Qassim Suleimani, the Quds Force leader, in Iraq in 2020.

### Mysterious poisonings

In 2022, two Iranian scientists suddenly fell ill and died within days of each other, in cities hundreds of miles apart. Iran believed Israel had poisoned their food. NYT & BLOOMBERG

## Israel used dogs, waterboarding on detainees from Gaza, finds UN report

A UN human rights office report issued Wednesday said Palestinians detained by Israeli authorities faced waterboarding, sleep deprivation, electric shocks, release of dogs, and other forms of torture. It said Israel's prison service held over 9,400 "security detainees" as of the end of June, and some have been held in secret without access to lawyers. "Detainees said they were held in cage-like facilities, stripped naked for prolonged periods, wearing only diapers. Their testimonies told of prolonged blindfolding, deprivation of food, sleep and water, and getting electric shocks and being burnt with cigarettes," the report said. "Some said dogs were released on them, and others said they were subjected to waterboarding, or their hands were tied and they were suspended from the ceiling. Women and men spoke of sexual and gender violence." AP

## UK kids stabbing attack spurs violence, over 50 cops injured

Naomi Canton

London: Fifty-three police officers and three police dogs were injured during riots in Southport on Tuesday night, just yards from where a peaceful vigil had taken place earlier in the evening for the 13 people, mostly children, stabbed in a yoga and dance class.

The rioting began at 7.45pm outside a mosque when protesters, believed to be supporters of English Defence League, started to pelt it with bricks. Protesters hurled bricks, wheelie bins, fireworks, lumps of concrete and bottles at police officers who initially were not in riot gear. They also set police vans, wheelie bins and cars on fire. Many officers were hit by missiles and could be seen with blood pouring



Riot police hold back protesters near a burning police vehicle after disorder broke out in Southport, England, on Wednesday

down their faces. Protesters damaged a shop and destroyed garden walls to use the bricks to throw at police as they shouted "stop the boats" and "save our girls".

Four men have been arrested for violent disorder and possession of a knife. Southport mosque chairman Ibrahim Hussein said the violence was "terrifying".

## Imran Khan offers conditional talks with Pak military

Islamabad: Pakistan's former PM Imran Khan Wednesday offered to hold "conditional negotiations" with the military as he serves a year into a jail term he said he was given on trumped-up charges designed to keep him out of power. Khan did not specify what he wanted to discuss, but said one of the conditions for negotiations was that "clean and transparent" elections be held and "bogus" cases against his supporters be dropped. He has appointed Mahmood Khan Achakzai, a close ally and a known critic of the military, to represent him.

In response to Khan's offer, the military released a clip from a May 7 media conference in which its spokesman said it was not possible to sit with "any political ideology, any political leader, or any political group who is involved in attacks on its own army". REUTERS

## BBC's top ex-host guilty of indecent pics of kids

London: Former British TV presenter Huw Edwards, the long-time face of BBC's flagship news programme, pleaded guilty Wednesday to three counts of making indecent pictures of children.

Edwards was BBC's highest paid journalist and top anchor until he quit in April this year, following allegations he paid a young person thousands of pounds for sexually explicit photos, something which is unconnected to the criminal charges.

The 62-year-old was a household name in Britain for more than two decades, announcing the death of Queen Elizabeth to the nation in 2022 and leading coverage of elections, royal weddings and the 2012 Olympics. But he has not been on TV screens for a year and Wednesday's court appearance was his first in public since then.

BBC had said in a statement that it was shocked by Edwards' actions. Asked if he wished to indicate a plea to the three charges, which related to three different categories of indecent images, Edwards said: "Guilty."

Judge Paul Goldspring said Edwards would be sentenced on Sept 16 and that "all options", including an immediate prison sentence, would be considered. During the 25-minute hearing, prosecutor Ian Hope said Edwards had been sent a total of 377 sexually explicit images by an adult male on WhatsApp, 41 of which were indecent, illegal images of children. REUTERS

### AROUND THE WORLD

#### Germany summons China envoy, 1st time after '89, over 2021 hack by 'state actors'

An investigation has determined that "Chinese state actors" were responsible for a 2021 cyberattack on Germany's national office for cartography, officials said Wednesday. The Chinese ambassador was summoned to foreign ministry for a protest for the first time in decades. Foreign ministry spokesperson Sebastian Fischer said German gov't has "reliable information from intelligence services" about the source of the attack on the federal agency for cartography and geodesy, which he said was carried out "for the purpose of espionage." Fischer



ART MEETS ACROBATS: A Japanese contemporary circus troupe performs in Scotland

declined to elaborate on who exactly in China was responsible. He said a Chinese ambassador was last summoned to the German foreign ministry in 1989 after the Tiananmen Square crackdown. AP

As India aims to be a developed nation by 2047, where will the country be placed in terms of passport strength compared to global benchmarks

CURRENT  
**59**

TARGET  
2030  
**>70**

TARGET  
2047  
**>100**

Source: Ministries

**Fed holds rates steady, Sept cut on the cards**

Washington: The US Federal Reserve held interest rates steady on Wednesday but opened the door to reducing borrowing costs as soon as its next meeting in Sept as inflation continues coming into line with the central bank's 2% target. The steady drop in inflation in recent months prompted a broad consensus that the inflation battle was near its end. Inflation, the Fed said, was now just "somewhat elevated," a key downgrade from the assessment that it has used throughout much of its battle against rising prices that inflation was "elevated". REUTERS



**Infosys under scanner for over ₹32k cr GST evasion**

IT Giant Contests Allegations, Says It Complies With Rules

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** Infosys is under the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) scanner for the alleged evasion of over Rs 32,400 crore GST from July 2017 to March 2022 for non-payment of Integrated GST on import of services from overseas branches.

According to an incident report filed by DGGI's Bangalore zonal unit, Infosys was expected to pay GST under the reverse charge mechanism (RCM), which requires the service recipient to pay the levy. Integrated GST is levied on imports and inter-state movement of goods and services.

In a statement, Infosys contested the allegations, while acknowledging that it had received "pre-show cause notices" from authorities in Karnataka and DGGI. "The company believes that as per regulations, GST is not applicable on these expenses. Additionally, as per a recent circular issued by the Central Board of Indi-

**IN TAX TANGLE**

- ▶ Infosys sets up overseas subsidiaries to service clients, manage employees, coordinate with HQ
- ▶ Sales & marketing part of branches
- ▶ GST authorities treat branches as distinct from Infosys
- ▶ Company includes expenses to these branches in export invoice, seeking refunds
- ▶ Tax dept argues that services by overseas branches should be treated as imports & subject to tax

**What Infy says:**

The company believes that as per regulations, GST is not applicable on these expenses... Infosys has paid all its GST dues and is fully in compliance with the central and state regulations on this matter

rect Taxes and Customs on the recommendations of the GST Council, services provided by the overseas branches to Indian entity are not subject to GST. It is also important to note that the GST payments are eligible for credit or refund against export of IT services. Infosys has paid all its GST dues and is fully in compliance with the central and state regulations on this matter."

DGGI, however, has argued that Infosys services clients from India as well as overseas, for which executi-

ves are deployed. Branches are set up outside India in places where the company undertakes projects, as it is required under local laws. These branches provide multiple services - from servicing clients to coordinating with the head office and managing employees.

Citing provisions of the GST law, DGGI is of the view that the branches should be treated as an establishment in foreign countries and should be treated as "distinct persons" from the Indian IT major. As on March 31 this

year, Infosys had 28 direct subsidiaries and 63 step-down subsidiaries. Further, the company does not have any material subsidiary. "... the company was including the expenses incurred towards overseas branches as part of their export invoice from India and basis the said export values, was computing eligible refund. The receipt of export proceeds and export invoice related to project was being raised by the company," DGGI's report said.

It also said that all the expenses of the overseas branches were met by Infosys and their services should be treated as services imported by the company.

While further investigations are underway, the issue may land in court, especially with Infosys arguing that it is complying with the law and has already responded to questions raised by GST authorities in Karnataka. It is unclear how other IT companies, which execute contracts for international clients, service them.

**Core sector growth hits 20-month low**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Growth in the crucial core sector slowed to a 20-month low in June, led by a contraction in two segments and moderation in three others.

Data released by the ministry of commerce and industry on Thursday showed the core sector spanning eight segments - coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity - rose an annual 4% in June, lower than the previous month's 6.4% and below the 8.4% recorded in June last year. For April-June, the growth rate was 5.7%, a shade lower than the 6% in the same period last year.

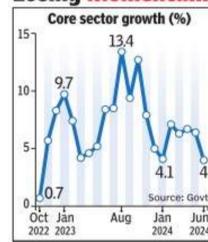
The sector accounts for nearly 41% of the index of industrial production and the performance of the core sector has an impact on the outcome of the factory production numbers, which will be released later this month.

Crude oil and refinery products contracted during the month. The crude oil segment declined by 2.6% in June, while refinery products fell by 1.5%.

The steel sector grew by 2.7%, slower than the 6.8% in the previous month, while cement rose 1.9%, higher than the contraction of 0.6% in May.

The coal sector grew a stellar 14.8% in June com-

**Losing Momentum**



pared with the 10.2% in the previous month and above the 9.8% in June last year, led by a demand for the commodity due to the scorching summer heat. The electricity sector grew by 7.7%, slower than the 13.7% in the previous month but above the 4.2% growth in June last year.

"The core sector expansion slid to a 20-month low of 4% in June 2024, led by a moderation in growth or deepening contraction in five of the eight constituents, barring coal, fertilisers and cement, compared to May 2024," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ratings agency ICRA.

"With the onset of the monsoon, electricity growth reverted to single-digits after two months, while remaining healthy at 7.7%. With the dip in the core sector growth, we expect the IIP to post a rise of 3.5-5% in June 2024," said Nayar.

**Over 7cr I-T returns filed, surpass last year's mark**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Over seven crore income tax returns filed till 7pm on Wednesday, overtaking last year's record of just under 6.8 crore filings by the July 31 deadline. Wednesday was the last date for filing income tax returns for taxpayers, who do not have to get their accounts audited, which includes most individuals.

Although several tax practitioners complained of the IT portal slowing down, the numbers do not support their claims as 50 lakh returns had been filed till 7pm on Wednesday. On July 31, 2023, 64.3 lakh returns had been filed according to the tax department's numbers. The numbers also indicate that the Central Board of Direct Taxes will not extend the deadline for filing returns, something that several individuals were hoping for.

**Filing of I-T returns has overtaken last year's record of just under 6.8 crore filings by the July 31 deadline**

Last year, around 8.5 crore returns had been filed and in a post-budget interview, CBDT chairman Ravi Agrawal was confident of surpassing that number. In recent years, compliance has increased, with tax department getting more data on taxpayers and nudging them to disclose true income. To assist taxpayers for ITR filing, tax payment and other related services, it has set up helpdesks.

**Maruti profit up 47% at ₹3.7k cr in June qtr**

**New Delhi:** Maruti Suzuki India reported a 47% rise in net profit to Rs 3,650 crore for Q1 FY25, riding on back of cost reduction efforts, favourable commodity prices and foreign exchange gains. It logged profit of Rs 2,485 crore in April-June FY24. TNN

**Mahindra net rises 20% to ₹3.3k cr in Q1**

**Chennai:** Mahindra & Mahindra clocked a 20% increase in consolidated net profit for Q1 of FY25 at Rs 3,283 crore - up from Rs 2,745 crore in the year-ago period. The figure factors in the Rs 763 crore in other income topped up in the previous year. TNN

**Adani looks to invest \$2bn in Vietnam port**

**Autam Adani** is mulling an investment of over \$2 billion in a port in Vietnam's Danang, according to a posting on the country's gov't website. The Lien Chieu port development is one of many infrastructure projects being looked at, it said. BLOOMBERG

**HSBC's Quinn leaves with \$3bn buyback**

**Noel Quinn** signed off his final quarter as boss of HSBC Holdings by announcing the bank will return \$3 billion to shareholders after the lender reported earnings that beat expectations. BLOOMBERG

**figure it out**

**267 billion**  
Visa transactions were recorded through debit and credit cards in 2023. The second on the list was China's Union Pay with 228bn and Mastercard was third at 171bn. In India, 117.6bn UPI transactions were processed



**200+ co-op, rural bks face outage after malware attack**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** More than 200 cooperative and regional rural banks are experiencing outages because of a ransomware attack. Following the attack, the National Payments Corporation of India disconnected their core banking provider C-Edge Technologies - a technology company promoted by SBI and TCS - from the payment system.

In a statement issued here, NPCI said, "C-Edge Technologies, a technology service provider who caters mostly to cooperative and regional rural banks, has been possibly impacted by a ransomware attack impacting few of their systems. To prevent larger impact to the payments ecosystem, NPCI has



LOW SHARE IN E-PAYMENTS

temporarily isolated C-Edge Technology from accessing the retail payment system operated by NPCI. Customers of banks serviced by C-Edge will not be able to access payment systems during the period of isolation," the statement said.

NPCI added that restoration work is underway on a war footing and security review is in process and connectivity to the affected banks will be restored at the earliest. C-Edge is understood to have

appointed an auditor to submit a forensic report.

C-Edge Technologies provides a comprehensive core banking service using an outsourced application service provider model for small banks that cannot afford to purchase a core banking solution. This service helps banks connect all their branches, allowing them to manage and control everything from a single system. Sources said that most of the regional rural banks serviced by C-Edge are subsidiaries of SBI and other public sector banks.

According to sources, despite the large number of banks serviced the share of these banks in electronic transactions was less than 0.5% as most lenders were small rural banks.

**RBI issues two-factor check norms**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** RBI has said that any alternative to the SMS-based OTP as an additional factor of authentication should be dynamically generated.

RBI on Wednesday came out with guidelines for 'alternative authentication mechanisms for digital payment transactions' where it listed specifications for the alternatives. "No specific factor was mandated for authentication, but the digital payments ecosystem has primarily adopted SMS-based OTP as AFA. While OTP is working satisfactorily, technological advancements have made available alternative authentication mechanisms," RBI said.

RBI believes that the primary factor for authentication should be something the user knows (such as password, passphrase, PIN), something the user has (such as card hardware or software token) something the user is (fingerprint or any other form of biometrics).

**Adani Energy's \$1bn QIP sees 6x subscription**

**Mumbai:** The qualified institutional placement offer for Adani Energy, through which the company was eyeing to mobilise about \$1 billion (about Rs 8,370 crore), closed on Wednesday with the demand for its shares several times exceeding the offer size. Around 125 investors participated in the QIP, sources said.

On Tuesday, the company had said that going by Sebi's pricing rules, the QIP offer price was Rs 1,027 per share. And it was allowed to offer the shares at a 5% discount to this amount. The offer's proceeds will be used for capital expenditure for growing its business. TNN

**Bank loans to NBFCs slow, card & gold continue to surge**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** The year-on-year growth in bank credit to non-banking finance companies has decreased sharply to 8.5% as of June 2024. However, credit card outstanding and gold jewellery loans continue to record high year-on-year growth of 23% and 30%, respectively.

By May 2024, the annual growth in credit to NBFC was 16%, totalling outstanding Rs 15.68 lakh crore. However, as of the end of June, the loan book decreased to Rs 15.54 lakh crore, resulting in a year-to-date growth dipping to 0.5%.

Earlier this year RBI had sought to moderate the bank credit to the NBFC segment by increasing the risk weightage on some of these loans.

The credit card outstandings have touched a new high of Rs 2.73 lakh crore while gold jewellery loans have risen to Rs 1.23 lakh crore.

**Risk Weight Rule Impact?**

Despite the dip in bank loans to finance companies, credit to the services segment grew 17.4% and accounts for 27.3% of bank loans. The highest growing segment within services was commercial real estate which has grown by 40% year-on-year and transport (18.7%).

Banks has added over Rs 14,000 crore of loans to commercial real estate during the first quarter of the current financial year while loans to

transport operators have grown by over Rs 12,000 crore during the first quarter.

The personal loan segment continues to be the biggest driver of bank credit with a 25% growth year on year after factoring in the HDFC-HDFC Bank merger. Excluding the merger impact the growth in personal loan segment was 16.6%. Banks have a personal loan book of Rs 54.86 lakh crore at the end of June 2024, which is 32% of the overall book.

Within personal loans home loans are the fastest growing at 36% (18% excluding the impact of HDFC merger). Home loans outstanding are now at Rs 32.82 lakh crore or 16.5% of overall bank credit which stands at Rs 168.8 lakh crore.

**Sebi: No move to mandate T+0, ASBA set to be expanded**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Sebi on Wednesday said there was no move to make T+0 settlement mandatory and chairman Madhabi Puri Buch had on Tuesday mentioned the possibility of regulator's board, the highest decision-making body, taking up the proposal for select stock brokers to offer Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA) compulsorily to their clients in the secondary market.

On Tuesday, Buch had said that after the introduction of such a facility, it would be up to their clients to accept it or not. TOI had erroneously reported about the move to

make T+0 system of settlement compulsory.

ASBA is more popular in the primary market where an IPO application amount is blocked in the applicant's bank account and is released only if shares are allotted. Earlier this year, Sebi had launched a similar facility for trading in the secondary market. Currently, ASBA in the secondary market is voluntary for brokers to offer to their clients.

The regulator said it has been a while that the ASBA settlement system was launched for the secondary market on a voluntary basis and indicated it was about time the facility was made compulsory for select brokers.

**Tata Steel to infuse ₹6k cr in Neelachal, PSU bought in '22**

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Tata Steel is set to invest Rs 6,000 crore in Neelachal Ispat Nigam, a metal manufacturing enterprise the TV Narendran-led company had acquired through gov't privatisation programme in 2022.

The money will be used to redeem non-convertible preference shares of Neelachal held by Tata Steel and for general corporate purposes. After the fund infusion, Tata Steel's stake in Neelachal - which it had acquired for Rs 12,100 crore - will go up to about 100% from 99%.

Neelachal has a 1.1 million tonnes steel facility at Kalinganagar, Odisha, along with iron ore mines of 90 million tonnes. After Neelachal came into Tata Steel's fold, its losses have reduced to Rs 639 crore in financial year 2024 from Rs 1,216 crore in financial year 2022, while its revenues have jumped to Rs 5,562 crore from Rs 260 crore during the same period.

**State Govts To Levy Tax On Minerals**

On the Supreme Court's July 25 decision that state govts have power to levy tax on mi-

**June qtr profit rises 75% to ₹919cr**

**Mumbai:** Tata Steel's first quarterly profit zoomed 75% to Rs 919 crore as raw material costs fell, while revenue from operations declined about 8% to Rs 54,771 crore. Its profit and revenue in the year-ago period was Rs 525 crore and Rs 59,490 crore, respectively. Lower input costs helped the company offset subdued steel demand.

In India, demand was partly impacted due to elections and heat waves. Expenses declined 10% to Rs 52,389 crore. Operating profit, a yardstick for underlying business performance, increased 11% to Rs 6,822 crore. Operating profit of its India business - the biggest contributor to its earnings - fell 11% to Rs 6,750 crore. Losses at its European unit, however, declined to Rs 499 crore in Q1 FY25 from Rs 1,569 crore in Q1 FY24. Tata Steel's net debt stood at Rs 82,162 crore, while its liquidity position remained at Rs 36,460 crore. TNN

ning activities, Tata Steel said it estimates an impact of Rs 17,347 crore on its books. Since there is no clarity on the period of applicability of this levy, it has listed the amount as contingent liability in its financial statements. In 2005, Odisha gov't introduced cess on mineral bearing land.

In financial year 2006, Tata Steel received a demand of Rs 129 crore in respect of its mines in Odisha for financial years 2005 and 2006. Subsequently, it moved the Odisha high court challenging the constitutional validity of the state's move. In Dec 2005, the court held that the state doesn't have the authority to levy tax on minerals. Odisha

then challenged this judgment before the SC.

**Buys Stake In Sister Co**

Tata Steel will acquire 26% in TP Parivart, an renewable energy arm of sister company, Tata Power, for Rs 35 crore. The move is to optimise Tata Steel's electricity cost by replacing grid power with the cost-effective renewable power. In 2023, it had acquired a similar stake in TP Vardhaman Surya, also a subsidiary of Tata Power. According to that deal, Tata Power will set up a solar-wind hybrid power facility at Tata Steel's Jamshedpur facility, replacing a part of the metals major's coal-based power generation.

**Byju's settles row with BCCI, not off the hook yet**

CEO's Brother Riju To Pay Cricket Body's Dues | Disclose Source Of Funds: NCLAT

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Case That Kicked Off Insolvency Process**

▶ The settlement of the dispute over ₹159cr creates scope for Byju's to escape insolvency

▶ However, NCLAT deferred accepting the settlement and asked Byju's to provide the source of funds



▶ NCLT had initiated insolvency process against Byju's on BCCI's plea. Its order had displaced **Byju Raveendran** from the helm of the co

▶ Byju's overseas lenders, questioned the company's and its promoters' ability to pay the funds to BCCI when they could not even pay salaries

**Mumbai/Chennai:** Troubled edtech startup Byju's and BCCI have arrived at a settlement over a dispute related to the non-payment of Rs 159 crore in dues that the company owed the cricket governing body, the firm's lawyers told the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Wednesday.

The settlement of the dispute creates scope for Byju's to escape insolvency. The once-high-flying startup, however, has been denied immediate reprieve by the appellate tribunal.

Founder & CEO Byju Raveendran's brother & compa-

ny board member Riju Raveendran has raised funds to clear the dues, the first tranche of which amounting to Rs 50 crore has been paid. Byju's counsel said that the money is not coming from the corporate debtor's (Byju's) account and nothing "pre-

cludes him (Riju) from making this payment". The full amount will be paid in three tranches by Aug 9.

The NCLAT deferred accepting the settlement and instead directed Byju's to file an undertaking (to the court), providing the source of funds

to BCCI after the company's US-based lenders argued that the source of the money is "tainted" and the court should not "bless" this transaction of settlement.

Senior lawyer Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Byju's overseas lenders, questioned the company's and its promoters' ability to pay the funds to BCCI when they couldn't even pay salaries to employees. The missing \$533 million (part of the \$1.2-billion term loan proceeds) which the lenders have accused Byju's of hiding was once again at the forefront of the legal argument put forth by them at the NCLAT.

"The missing \$533 mil-

lion is likely the debtor's only way to pay creditors. This is my money," Rohatgi said. The lenders also argued that payment of operational creditor (BCCI) over financial creditors violates the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (IBC) Code. The court adjourned the case to Aug 1.

TOI had reported that BCCI and Byju's were close to resolving the dispute and the company has transferred Rs 50 crore to BCCI on Tuesday. BCCI's lawyers said that the board doesn't condone any kind of illegal activity and the first tranche of payment has been made to them by way of banking channels.



CONTRAPUNTO

Maybe this world is another planet's hell  
-ALDOUS HUXLEY

# Escape To Where?

Unchecked tourism is also a culprit in Wayanad, govts won't do anything about it until we do

Even as rescue workers raced against time to save lives in Wayanad, invites and incitements to tourists to visit the region hustled uninterrupted on social media. This is one of the most landslide-prone areas of the Western Ghats. With Tuesday's landslides taking over 150 lives, govts' failure to mitigate its well-known ecological vulnerabilities is sharply, and justly, in focus today. But an unregulated tourist boom has also played a key role in the ghatastrophe. This factor deserves all the more attention, because it is seen wreaking havoc across several environmental hotspots in the country.

That many homestays and resorts which got destroyed were located right on river banks, 'without providing any room for the river', is reminiscent of how buildings constructed in floodplains got swept away during the 2013 Kedarnath floods. Uttarakhand has hardly corrected course since then. Tourism bucks and real estate greed are still seen running rampant. Whether travellers come looking for physical or spiritual adventures, they become part of the same traffic jams and garbage mountains. Tiger reserves to once-pristine beaches, too often the scene is sadly the same. They crowd onto railway tracks to see Dudhsagar Falls, make Darjeeling run short of drinking water, make Ooty feel indistinguishable from Bengaluru.

This is a painful irony. The search for an escape from cities, turns tourist destinations into an unpleasant reflection of these cities. It's a Janus-faced challenge. It has to be addressed at both ends. Our cities have to be made much more 'livable' and our vacation stations have to be much better conserved. The first needs reversing the decline of our blue-green infra. Imagine Delhi with a Yamuna that raises our spirits rather than stench, Mumbai with its green lungs safe and stronger, Bengaluru with its lakes breathing not frothing. Imagine well-maintained parks, gardens, playgrounds.

But don't imagine any of this will happen without a heavy increase in public pressure. Govts will have to be pushed to change their priorities. The decade-long inaction on the Gadgil and Kasturirangan reports on the Western Ghats is a classic example of how other interests prevail over the environment, in the normal course of things. This norm needs shaking up. While humans profit from it in some way or another, even if short-term, the destination only experiences loss after loss. What took millennia to build, we are destroying recklessly, and can never bring back.

# Who Killed Haniyeh?

Iran/Hamas claim that Israel assassinated Hamas chief is just what West Asia didn't need

The assassination of Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran adds another layer of complexity to the turmoil in West Asia. He was there to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Iran's new president Masoud Pezeshkian, and had met Iran's top boss, Ayatollah Khamenei. Both Tehran and Hamas have blamed Israel for the assassination. But many questions remain unanswered.

Haniyeh was staying in a high-security building, Palestinian Islamic Jihad leader Ziyad al-Nakhalah was also in the building. But it was Haniyeh who was targeted. Last week 14 Palestinian groups, including Hamas and Fatah, met in Beijing and reportedly worked out an in-principle unity arrangement. It has been known for a while that there are divergences between Hamas's political wing led by Haniyeh and its military wing in Gaza. In that context, unity talks don't serve Tehran's strategic interests - it sees Hamas in Gaza as a tool to keep Tel Aviv off-balance. Could Haniyeh be a casualty of such machinations?

The assassination comes at a time tensions have been rising between Israel and Iran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon - after a rocket attack killed 12 children in northern Israel. Tel Aviv, in response, has hit southern Beirut, targeting an alleged Hezbollah commander. If Israel and Hezbollah skirmishes break out into open war, it could make the ongoing conflict and casualties in Gaza seem like a smaller tragedy, as difficult as it is to imagine that. A heavily-armed Hezbollah and a stretched IDF make for an unpredictable conflict dynamic.

Iran has vowed revenge, Hamas has vowed retribution, and Hezbollah is keeping Israel's northern border hot. But, here's the thing. Unlike Gaza, as tragic as the human cost is, the global economy will get a big shock if there's a full-on war between Iran and Israel. Netanyahu could end this by winding down military operations in Gaza. But is he listening?

# Monsoon Olympics

Our season of floods is floodlights ready

Bachi Karkaria

Welcome to the Monsolympics in the City of Shove. Two billion desi eyes are fixed on Paris with hope; almost as many are trained as expectantly on India Meteorological Department's daily forecast. Like a second marriage, it is the triumph of hope over experience. It springs eternal despite knowing that when IMD has issued a red alert, it will be as dry as Thar. Take (resignedly) last week's case. The situation from the sky made the Mumbai Met bureau hastily up its yellow alert to orange and then, as the weather worsened, bump the warning further up to red. Almost immediately, the rain stopped. Faces progressively turned a deeper shade.

So forget Paris, India Monsolympics showcases how Fortius is our super-human spirit. Non monsieur, our struggles through the downpour is un peu different from athletes dancing in the rain as they 'floated' down the Seine.

There, it's the City of Lights; here, it's City of Blights. There, every country wants to storm its way to the top of the charts; here, everyone tries to chart his or her way through the storm.

We're all 100m hurdles title-holders, hurtling over potholes at every metre. Wasn't this what we trained for all year round? Like Sajan breaking records, we break arms as we flail through roads turned to Olympic-sized pools. Like Tarundeep arrows, tin roofs slice through the air doing the same to some unsuspecting neck. Blown-out umbrellas become Neeraj Chopra, spearing a passerby eye.

As a thunderbolt cracks like a Manu shot, giant trees crash to the ground with a roar to rival any at the Stade de France. Mesdames et Messieurs! Inde has racked up a landslide haul of meddles with fragile ecologies!!

Mumbai's challenging monsoon demands greater grit and derring-do. Nowhere are they displayed more than on its local train network, where there's a (flooded) track event every day. Nikhat pales before khatakhat commuters transformed into jaw-smashing boxers. Marvel at dhakka-bukki which kayos the crush of rivals - all trying to get into the lone train that straggles in after serial cancellations.

Then, phew!, after weeks of drowning to a standstill, everything finally Olympics back to normal.

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Alec Smart said: "If Democrats win, Lotus will bloom into POTUS."

# Long Arm Of A Dodgy Law

UP's new anti-conversion law puts burden of guilt on accused, has UAPA-like bail conditions. It can end up criminalising any & every conversion

Naveed Mehmood Ahmad & Ayushi Sharma



Passage of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Act, 2024 (Amending Act) on Tuesday should be seen as a very significant development. The law amends the contentious UP Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021 (Act). While the state legislature may view the amended Act as a stricter and more efficient law to tackle unlawful religious conversions, it appears even more arbitrary and constitutionally suspect.

This underscores the fundamental flaws in India's criminal lawmaking practices. Such laws are often employed in day-to-day governance, and remain subservient to extraneous considerations, rather than being guided by constitutional values.

**What is allurement?** | The Act is ostensibly designed to prohibit unlawful religious conversions. However, its sweeping definitions effectively criminalise any form of conversion, including those protected by the constitutionally guaranteed right under Article 25 to freedom of conscience, and the free profession, practice, and propagation of religion.

Under the Act, any conversion can be declared unlawful if it involves an element of misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, or allurement. The wide and overarching phrasing of these grounds not only makes them susceptible to misinterpretation and misuse but also makes it difficult to disprove allegations.

Since 'allurement' may include any mention of 'divine displeasure'; 'coercion' encompasses 'psychological pressure'; and 'fraudulent means' covers impersonation using a false name or religious symbol, the law has the potential to criminalise, or at least deter, exercise of the freedoms of religion and expression.

Reversal of the burden of proof, requiring the accused to prove the absence of any of these elements, further renders the law excessively unreasonable and arbitrary. By deviating from the norm, where the burden lies on the state to prove guilt beyond reasonable

doubt, the law seems to assume that all conversions are unlawful unless proven otherwise.

Moreover, imposition of mandatory minimum jail terms, stringent bail conditions, and an open provision for anyone to file a police complaint alleging unlawful conversion, make the law even more prone to misuse.

**Complainant needn't have locus standi** | Section 4 of the Act originally allowed only an aggrieved person or their family members to file an FIR against unlawful conversion. Despite this, religious organisations and other third parties frequently misused the law to file frivolous cases. A study by Article 14 found that

If the victim was from a marginalised group, the punishment was imprisonment of two years extending up to 10 years. This has now been increased to five years extending up to 14 years. Similarly, intimidation, assault, promising marriage for conversion etc may attract a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years extending up to life imprisonment.

The Amending Act justifies the imposition of such harsh punishments by citing the sensitivity and gravity of unlawful conversions and the alleged involvement of foreign and anti-national elements. However, the rationale for increasing punishments remains unclear without evidence of the original law's efficacy.

Moreover, since the criminalised actions remain largely the same, it is unclear how increasing a sentence from one year to three years, for instance, will address the problem more effectively.

**How about religious freedom?** | Further, the Amending Act follows provisions of the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act, 1999 and the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 in prescribing conditions for grant of bail.

All offences under the Act are cognisable and non-bailable. Further, as per the amended Section 7, an accused can only be released on bail after the public prosecutor has been given a chance to oppose the bail application and the court is satisfied that the accused is not guilty and is not likely to commit an offence when out on bail. This sets unreasonable standards for granting bail. It imposes an onerous burden on the court to determine the guilt of the accused in absence of any material evidence, making grant of bail very difficult.

As GOI seeks to modernise and adopt a more citizen-centric and trust-based legal system, laws like these will have a regressive effect. While tackling forced conversions is essential, using criminal laws to curb religious freedom risks undermining constitutionally guaranteed rights. It's important to carefully balance protecting fundamental rights with addressing real issues. Criminal laws such as these risk becoming tools of oppression instead of reflecting principles of a progressive and inclusive society.

Ahmad is team lead & Sharma senior resident fellow, Crime & Punishment at Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy



# 'Wayanad is proof govts have no interest in protecting nature. Idea to make it an eco-sensitive area was first proposed in 2011'

The double landslides disaster in Kerala is proof that the ecologically fragile Western Ghats have been exploited without a care and further delay in marking the region as an eco-sensitive zone will only worsen the impact of extreme weather events, Western Ghats expert and ecologist Madhav Gadgil tells Vishwa Mohan. Gadgil headed the environment ministry's Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel (WGEEP), which, in Aug 2011, recommended earmarking the Ghats as an eco-sensitive area spanning six states - Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

The panel had sought a complete stop to environmentally hazardous human activity. The first draft notification was issued in March 2014. Five drafts later, all recommendations remain on paper, one or the other state sidestepping the matter each time.



## Q&A

**Were the Wayanad landslides waiting to happen?**  
Yes. Any nation can be seen to be having four capital stocks - natural, social (cooperative behaviour, security), human (education, health, employability) and man-made. India extensively practises building highly subsidised man-made capital, at serious costs to natural, human and social capital. This invariably worsens economic, social, educational and health disparities, thereby depressing overall welfare. This also limits our industrial enterprises from competing successfully internationally.

It is this narrow view of development that's behind most environmental degradation, including the Wayanad landslides. It is this view that promotes the increasing frequency and intensity of human interventions, such as mines and quarries, roads, buildings on hill slopes everywhere, including in ecologically highly sensitive regions, without a care for the environment.

**How can such disasters be stopped/minimised in the Western Ghats?**

It can be stopped. WGEEP had carefully drafted guidelines for both regulation and promotion of

developmental activity. Various areas have different levels of ecological sensitivity, so it's not a rigid Western Ghats template.

These guidelines can start off the bottom-up process of democratic decision-making. Awareness and care of environs starts with the village, the gram, and local bodies.

Key guidelines include no special economic zones or new hill stations, reviewing reservoir operations to improve downstream flows, sand auditing and strict regulation of sand mining. Guidelines are detailed, extending to need to encourage organic agricultural practices as well as participatory breeding programmes.

**There were recommendations on mining.**

Yes. WGEEP had defined three levels of ecological sensitivity: high, moderate and low. The regions of steep hill slopes and high rainfalls, ecologically, are highly sensitive areas. Human activity must be strictly prohibited or regulated depending on ecological sensitivity of different levels.

Where mining is allowed, rehabilitation of mined areas is crucial, with special focus on reviving water resources. It's essential to have river basin planning and a legal institution to coordinate various departments that deal with rivers.

No-mining areas should be clearly demarcated; where mining exists, it should be phased out within five years of notification. It is for govt to stop illegal mining. Also, there should be no new railway line and no new national highway/state highway/expressway in eco-sensitive zones.

Small-scale micro- and pico-hydropower systems

must be promoted. And importantly, strict regulation of existing thermal power plants.

**Why have successive govts failed to notify eco-sensitive areas within the Western Ghats?**

Govts have no interest in protecting nature and facilitating democratic decentralisation. We're locked in a system of crony capitalism. Businesses profit from close relationships with state power, either through an anti-competitive regulatory environment, direct govt largesse, and/or corruption. This includes obtaining permits, govt grants, tax breaks and the like over state's deployment of public goods. For instance, mining concessions for primary commodities, or contracts for public works. So, businesses thrive not as a result of free enterprise, but rather as a collusion between business class and the political class.

Wealth accumulates not merely by turning a profit but by rent-seeking. Entrepreneurship and innovative practices that seek to reward risk are stifled. Crony capitalism spills over into govt, politics, and media. This nexus distorts the economy. It damages the environment.

**Extreme weather events are only increasing.**

A careful study of landslides of all scales that occurred in Maharashtra's Western Ghats has shown that their frequency has gone up 100-fold from 2011 to 2020. The impact of climate change and extreme weather events can only be minimised by taking stringent actions to empower institutions of decentralised democracy - from gram sabhas to mohalla sabhas upwards.



# Calvin & Hobbes



# Two Olympic Bronze Medals Renew Focus On Gita

Uma Ram and KS Ram

Manu Bhaker has won two medals at the Paris Olympics and will try for a third. At 22, she is the youngest Indian to win an Olympic medal.

On the sidelines of all of these achievements of hers that have made India proud, there is one 'achievement' that warrants attention. She has brought a fresh focus to the Bhagwad Gita. In the post-victory bites to media persons, when asked as to how she achieved these remarkable feats, Manu mentioned with a poise that she is an ardent student of the Bhagwad Gita and is guided by Krishna's message that the adhikara, the rightful scope of human effort is limited to karm, action, the phal, result is for destiny to determine.

She was alluding to verse 2:47. Krishn discusses this point in detail in the Bhagavat-Yana Parv of the Mahabharat.

On the eve of his departure to Hastinapur to explore the possibility of a conference between him and the Pandav brothers. Four of them, Yudhisthir, Arjun, Nakul and Bhim, favour avoiding war and talk about peace. Sahadev speaks for war. Krishn listens to their views and says he will strive for peace. But he adds a caveat. He says human efforts and their outcome involve two factors: Personal effort and destiny. To illustrate his point, he says a farmer may till and keep his land ready. He may procure and

keep a stock of seeds and other inputs. All these relate to his scope of personal effort. However, in spite of all his preparedness, destiny may play spoilsport, and the rains may fail. What then? Is the farmer to blame? Will his walling and weeping do any good? He must just accept the result with grace. Krishn's point is that if destiny has ordained war, his effort at peace is bound to fail. The Pandavs be prepared for this.

A shooter may train hard, hold her breath and take aim. Finally, after the pistol has been triggered, other factors, such as wind and weather, impact the result. In a team sport, one's partner's performance on a given day can also be a key factor. Victory depends on the

proper alignment of personal effort and destiny. Hence, victory and loss need to be taken for just what they mean. Victory need not flatter one's pride, nor loss break one's heart.

This attitude is cultivated by the Gita, the Gospel that has been the rock foundation of India's collective psyche for thousands of years. Not for nothing did the great teacher, Adi Shankaracharya, recommend a study of the Gita. In verse 20 of the Bhaja Govindam, Shankaracharya says that even a kinchit, a little imbibing of the Gita, helps to dispel the fear of death or defeat. Manu Bhaker, the Olympian who took the earlier loss and the current triumph with equanimity, reminds us of Gita's eternal lessons. May the message of the Gita spread far and wide.

## Sacredspace

No truth can cure the sorrow we feel from losing a loved one. No truth, no sincerity, no strength, no kindness can cure that sorrow. All we can do is see it through to the end and learn something from it...

Haruki Murakami



THE SPEAKING TREE

"I'm soaking wet, honestly. It's a very, very humid day as it was yesterday. I just hope it rains so it cools down the temperature a bit. But it is what it is. You have to be kind of accept and embrace the conditions."

**NOVAK DJOKOVIC**  
AFTER REACHING MEN'S SINGLES QUARTERS IN TENNIS

Indian Shuttler Beats No. 3 Seed, To Face Prannoy In Pre-Quarters; Sindhu Wins Too

# LAKSHYA ON THE MARK

**TIMES AT THE GAMES**  
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Paris: After the early morning rain, the light, moist breeze felt good on the face. A good night's sleep following the long train journey from Chateauroux on Tuesday night had helped. Coming out of the Metro, just outside the Porte de la Chapelle, one noticed that the cobbled sidewalk leading to the stadium had impressions of a shuttlecock. And a little ahead, a barbell, which reminded one of Mirabai Chanu. But that is for another day. Wednesday morning was about our badminton stars, in the fight for knockout last-16 singles berths.

P V Sindhu, two Olympic medals in her bag (silver in Rio 2016, bronze in Tokyo 2020), was the first Indian out on the courts. The 29-year-old Indian was up against 27-year-old Kristin Kuuba of Estonia. The first game was a breeze as she took it 21-15. Kuuba, who has a deceptive drop in her repertoire, managed to stay close till 6-8 in the second game. But Sindhu had a quick word with her Indonesian coach Agus Dwi Santoso during the time-out. She returned to score 11 points on the trot and then sealed the game and match at 21-10. It also confirmed her entry in the last-16 knockout stage.

While it was easy for Sindhu and was on expected lines, it was a huge task for Lakshya Sen in the men's



"IT WAS A TOUGH GROUP. GOING AHEAD I HAVE CONFIDENCE AND THE MOMENTUM WITH ME. I MUST KEEP GIVING MY 100%."

**WINNING WAYS:** Lakshya Sen stretches to play at the net. Sindhu (below) exults after winning a point

singles. Having beaten Kevin Cordon of Guatemala in his opening game, he got the better of Julien Craggi of Belgium. With Cordon pulling out after his first match, Lakshya's win against him was 'deleted'.

So, in the must win encounter, the 22-year-old unseeded Indian was up against the third seed, Jonatan Christie of Indonesia. Sen took his time to settle in, staged a comeback and then blew the Indonesian and the seedings and rankings out of the window with his emphatic performance.

Sen was beating the best in the world not so long ago but suffered a slump last year. He had to undergo a nose surgery for a deviated septum last August. The surgery was needed because the septum had blocked his right nasal pathway. He revealed later that the air intake



was just 20% of normal. It had led to low immunity and several illnesses. It took him eight months to fully recover and rediscover his form, fitness and his confidence.

Sen had beaten Christie the first time they met in 2020. After that it was 4-0 in favour of the Indonesian. But that would have been far from the Indian's mind. He had got a tough draw, and he was willing to come out of it fighting.

**PRANNOY RALLIES TO MAKE PRE-QUARTERS**  
HS Prannoy lost the first game of his match against Le Duc Phat of Vietnam but he fought back strongly to make the round of 16. Prannoy won 16-21, 21-11, 21-12 and will take on Lakshya for a place in the quarters.

Sen started tentatively and found himself down 0-5. The Indonesian was pinning him to the back of the court and attacked him aggressively. "It took me some time to understand his tactics. The wind was also not helping, so I decided to change my strategy and counter his aggression," Sen said later.

From 2-8 down, he took seven straight points to go ahead 9-8. Sen decided to engage in rallies and

came up with delicate drops and scintillating returns. Christie kept smashing, hitting hard, trying to charge his way through. Sen was unperturbed and stonewalled his fancied opponent.

The Indian then came up with his own smashes and went ahead 14-11. Christie fought back to make it 18-18. Sen picked two quick points to get the game point. Then came a brilliant, reflex return from the Indian. It was the shot of the match and one which gave Sen the confidence to go for the kill. The first game was clinched 21-18.

Sen did not change his strategy in the second game. He was willing to play long rallies, keep returning everything that was thrown at him, keep lunging, keep diving. The Indonesian kept making unforced errors, rattled by Sen's stubborn

play that had blunted his game. At the halfway stage of the second game, Sen led 11-6. Then, leading 13-9, he reeled off four points to go ahead 17-9. It was clear by then that the Indonesian had no chance of making a dramatic comeback. Sen had a stranglehold on him, the escape window was shut.

The Indian sealed the game at 21-12 and clenched his fist one last time. He then waved at the fans in the stands and thanked them with folded hands.

"I took time to settle down in the first game and after that tried to stay one or two points in the lead. It worked. In the second, I was in full control," Sen said later. "It was a tough group. Going ahead I have confidence and the momentum with me. I must keep giving my 100%." He must. It is a long haul.

**EYE ON THE PRIZE:** Swapnil Kusale lines up a shot during his event en route his final entry

## Swapnil gets a shot at medal



**TIMES AT THE GAMES**  
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Paris: Indian shooters are truly on a roll. After Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh, it was rifle shooter Swapnil Kusale who kept the Indian flag flying as he became the first Indian to enter the Olympics final in the men's 50m

rifle three positions at Chateauroux shooting ranges. Kusale scored a total of 590 including 38x in the three positions. He shot 99 & 99 in prone, 98 & 99 in standing before slipping a bit in kneeling as he ended with a score of 96 & 99. Overall, it put him in seventh place as the top-8 from a field of 44 shooters advanced to the final. There were three

shooters with a total of 590 but the Indian floundered and Czech Republic's Jiri Privratsky went ahead with their higher count of inner circles. Jiri's teammate Petr Nybursky endured a heartbreak despite scoring 590.

The 29-year-old from Kolhapur has been on the international scene for the last 12 years and on Wednesday he made his Olympic debut a memorable one. The final will be a different ball game with scores being reset to zero and Swapnil, a Railway officer, has a big chance on Thursday to join the glittering list of Indian shooters with Olympic medals. If he wins, it will be the third medal for India in shooting, bettering the London harvest of two.

The second Indian in the fray Aishwary Pratap Singh

Tomar, though, disappointed as he ended 11th with a total of 589 (33x). He fired 100 & 99 but paid the price for a poor 95 & 98 in standing position. Despite a superb comeback with 98 & a perfect score of 100, Tomar failed to make the final. The 23-year-old was rated ahead of Kusale after his superb show at the Asian Games and recent form, but on Wednesday he failed to make it count. China's Yukun Liu topped the qualifying round with a new Olympic record score of 594.

**Rajeshwari, Shreyasi fail**  
In women's trap women's qualification round, India's best bet Rajeshwari Kumari and Shreyasi Singh crashed out with below par scores. The two Indians finished with the same total of 113 but Rajeshwari finished 22nd on count-back while Shreyasi was 23rd.



**LOST WORLD:** Manika Batra tries to make sense of her defeat as coach Massimo Costantini consoles her

## Manika run comes to an end with loss to Hirano

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Paris: After Manika Batra's history-making performance two days ago, there was expectation of another surprise at the Paris South Arena on Wednesday.

Manika lost 1-4 to Japanese opponent Miu Hirano who is ranked No. 13 in the world. Hirano became the youngest world champion in 2016 at the age of 16 and has been at the top for years. It was a very difficult test for Manika.

Still, after the match, one was left with the feeling of what could have been. Manika made errors, which made her job that much more difficult.

In the first game, Manika started with a service error. She recovered and stayed with the Japanese till 6-6 and then lost

her rhythm. The Japanese won 11-6.

Hirano, who serves and smashes in the old-fashioned way, thumping her foot on the floor, also made some errors and found herself in a tight situation in the second game. Manika started the game with a flourish, hitting winners on both sides of the table to take a 5-1 lead. The Japanese got hold of her game and hit three clear winners to get level. At 9-9, Manika found her two forehand drives missing the table. Hirano went 2-0 up with 11-9 win.

The third game gave belief that Manika could take the contest all the way. She led 7-2 at one stage and despite losing the lead, she managed to win 14-12 after the game went to deuce (10-10).

Game 4 was like the first two games. Manika was in the fight at 6-6 but lost

"Manika played well. When things don't work out, you have to consider the fact that the opponent maybe had played better. Sport is not one-sided. Yes, there were two-three situations which could have been capitalized better by Manika. She failed to find the key. It was a good opportunity. Also, the Japanese girl was very well prepared. This is just the beginning for me. I want Manika to be top 10,"

—Massimo Costantini, MANIKA'S COACH

8-11. Hirano made the next game the decider by winning it 11-6.

"I think I could have played better. I was trying to give my best but not happy with how I started. After winning the third game, me and my coach felt I could beat her. But she played very well, very cleverly. I learnt a lot of things in this game," Manika said later.

"I should have stayed more relaxed, but I was eager to win points, dictate. It did not happen," she added.

Her coach Massimo Costantini said he was happy with Manika's performance in the competition here. "Manika played well. When things don't work out, you have to consider the fact that the opponent maybe had played better. Sport is not one-sided. Yes, there were two-three situations which could have been capitalized better by Manika. She failed to find the key. It was a good opportunity. Also, the Japanese girl was very well prepared. This is just the beginning for me. I want Manika to be top 10," the coach said.

**Sreeja fights on**

Even as Manika crashed out, Sreeja Akula celebrated her birthday by reaching the pre-quarterfinals. Sreeja rallied to win 9-11, 12-10, 11-4, 11-5, 10-12, 12-10. Sreeja will take on China's World No. 1 Sun Yingsha in the round of 16.

If Boxer Beats World No. 1 In Quarters, She Is Assured Of A Medal

## Lovlina floats like a butterfly in new weight category

**TIMES AT THE GAMES**  
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Paris: Lovlina Borgohain fought like an old-timer of her weight category, biding her time, choosing when to close in, making the charge, stepping back — hardly ever giving the impression that she is a relatively recent entrant in the Olympics 75kg club.

The Tokyo Games bronze winner (69kg) and the 2023 world and Asian



**HERE SHE COMES:** Lovlina Borgohain after winning her bout on Wednesday

Games champion after her subsequent elevation to the higher weight category, seemed in no hurry as she earned a unanimous verdict against Sunniva Hofstad of Norway, herself a former world junior champion.

The win has set up Lovlina for a quarterfinal meeting with World No. 1, the 34-year-old Li Qian of China, who earlier beat Hergie Bacayadan of the Philippines.

Following her elevation to the 75kg after the boxing authorities rejigged the classifications, Lovlina was seen as many as the weak link in the Indian scheme of things, the gnawing feeling that despite the Asian Games and world

championship gold last year, the Olympics were the real deal. Coping in the tougher, higher weight class after being naturally lighter and fighting for years in the lower category would demand a greater degree of adjustment. But Lovlina betrayed none of that against the 20-year-old Norwegian who has been fighting in the 75 kg for nearly four years now.

On Wednesday, the 27-year-old Lovlina, far from showing that she would struggle at this level, gave the beleaguered Indian squad here their finest win with a smooth, unhurried exhibition of boxing. While they once again didn't speak to the waiting media afterwards, coach Dmirytr Dmitruk, normally downcast and all mumbles this past week here, had a spring in his step as they walked back to the changing area. He was seen animatedly explaining a clutch and showing Lovlina how to extricate herself from a situation, clearly a point that may have caught his eye during the bout.

Hofstad was herself surprised at her rival's ease, an aspect that managed to conceal her attacking

intent, in a weight category that was, till recently, alien to her. "She boxed a little differently than I had anticipated. She was more forward than I thought she would be," confessed Hofstad later. "I had thought that she would be more on the backfoot and (that) it would be me who would be pushing her."

"I have been fighting in the 75 kg for the past four years now and am really comfortable in that class, but I really didn't reel the difference in weight," she explained. "We had a plan for her, knowing that she would be a little bit lighter than me, and we could use that as an advantage but she never really let me get there. I never got the opportunity to do that."

"I have to go back and review the fight, but I feel that as the fight continued, I could have used the holding better and the punching, but yes, Lovlina never really let me get there. She's a tough opponent," said Hofstad, adding, "Definitely, we'll have to work differently when dealing with her for the next time."

The Norwegian Hofstad will have to wait though, for "next time". For Lovlina, right now is a

tough quarterfinal date with the vastly experienced Li Qian. It will make for interesting viewing how the eighth seed Lovlina with all her calm and languid approach in the ring, will keep the Chinese boxer at bay and continue with her deceptive attacking ways. A win on Sunday, and a repeat of the Tokyo experience beckons Lovlina.

**Nikhath up against top seed Wu Yu**

All those years of waiting for an Olympics appearance, all the famously documented struggle to get here, and it all comes down to this. Not being seeded for the Olympics despite being a double world champion, Nikhat faces arguably the toughest test of her career when she meets top seed Wu Yu in the second round of an unforfeiting draw in the 50kg class on Thursday.

Nikhath survived a scrappy Olympic debut against Maxi Kloetzer, forced to change her approach and style to eke out a win against the German who seemed happier to clinch her way to a narrow verdict. "I am happy that the judges gave a unanimous verdict, I would have been disappointed had the verdict been split," said Nikhat later.

**KEEP SHINING, TEAM INDIA.**



**MEDALS TALLY**

P	TEAM	G	S	B	Total
1	CHN	8	6	2	16
2	JPN	7	2	4	13
3	FRA	6	9	6	21
4	GBR	6	6	5	17
5	AUS	6	4	3	13
6	KOR	5	3	3	11
7	USA	4	12	11	27
8	ITA	3	6	4	13
9	CAN	2	2	2	6
10	GER	2	0	1	3
37	IND	0	0	2	2

Updated till 11pm

### INDIANS IN ACTION TODAY

**ATHLETICS:** Men's 20km race walk: Paramjeet Bisht, Akshdeep Singh, Vikash Singh (1am). Women's 20km race walk: Priyanka Goswami (12.50pm)

**ARCHERY:** Men's individual: Pravin Jadhav vs Kao Wenchao (Chn) (2.30pm). Rd 2 (if qualifies): 3.10pm onwards



**CHIRAG-SATWIK**

**BADMINTON:** Men's Rd of 16: Lakshya Sen vs HS Prannoy (12pm / 4.30pm); Men's doubles QFs: Rankireddy/Shetty-Aaron Chia/Soh Wooi Yik (MAS) (4.30pm); Women's Rd 16: PV Sindhu (10pm)

**BOXING:** Women's 50kg (pre-quarters): Nikhat Zareen vs Yu Wu (Chn) (2.30pm)

**GOLF:** Men's individual Rd 1: Gaganjeet Bhullar, Shubhankar Sharma (12.30pm)

**SAILING:** Men's Dinghy: Vishnu Saravanan (3.45pm); Women's Dinghy: Nethra Kumaran (7.05pm)

**SHOOTING:** Men's 50m rifle 3 positions finals: Swapnil Kusale (1pm); Women's 50m rifle 3 positions qualification: Sift Kaur, Anjum Moudgil (3.30pm)

**HOCKEY:** Men's pool match: India vs Belgium (1.30pm)

**TABLE TENNIS:** Women's singles QFs: Sreeja Akula (if qualifies) (1.30 pm onwards)



### ANUSH BOWS OUT OF DRESSAGE

Paris: After making history for India, Anush Agarwalla's campaign in the Paris Olympics ended after he failed to qualify for the final in the individual dressage event on Wednesday at the Chateau de Versailles.

Agarwalla and his horse, Sir Caramello Old, finished ninth in Group E with a score of 68.444.

Denmark's Cathrine Laudrup-Dufour finished at the top with a score of 80.792. Germany's Isabel Werth secured the second spot with a score of 79.363. ANI

MEN'S 4X400M  
RELAY TEAMAVINASH SABLE  
(MEN'S 300M  
STEEPLECHASE)NEERAJ  
CHOPRA (MEN'S  
JAVELIN)JYOTHI YARRAJI  
(WOMEN'S  
100M HURDLES)

# TRACK THIS FIELD

Chance For Indians  
To Make Their Mark  
On The Biggest Stage

**TIMES AT  
THE GAMES**  
BIJU.BABUCYRIAC  
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Paris: The flag-bearer of Indian athletics over the last three years, after he enrolled himself in Abhinav Bindra's one-in-a-billion club by winning the men's javelin throw gold at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, Neeraj Chopra will be the cynosure of the Indian contingent as the athletic events unfold here from Thursday.

Indians will be seen in action in both the events -- the men's and women's 20km race walk -- on the opening day to be held at the Trocadero, a temporary venue that faces the Eiffel Tower. While Akshdeep Singh, Vikash Singh and Paramjeet Singh Bisht will be at the start line in the men's event, the only event where the country will have the full quota of athletes, Priyanka Goswami will be the lone entrant in the women's race. She will also compete in the race walk mixed marathon as the event makes its Olympic debut on August 7.

From Day 2, the main action will shift to the iconic Stade de

France for the track and field events. Parul Chaudhary will be the first of the Indians to get on the track when she competes in the women's 5000m heats. Parul, the Asian Games gold and silver winner in the 5000m and 3000m steeplechase respectively, will be the only Indian to compete in two individual events. She will begin her steeplechase campaign on Sunday.

## Neeraj vs Vadlelech

Chopra's quest to defend his gold will likely see him in an intense battle against some of the world's best led by Jakub Vadlelech. The Czech star is in the form of his life having won the European title last month with a giant throw of 88.65m. Chopra, who has competed in just three competitions this season, also suffered a rare defeat at the hands of Vadlelech when he finished second at the Diamond League in May. The Czech is also in the No. 1 slot in the world rankings ahead of the Indian superstar.

Avinash Sable is working his way towards a credible show in men's 300m steeplechase and his first round action is scheduled on Monday. It will be an uphill task for the Indian to climb the podium in a field led by defending cham-

pion Soufiane El Bakkali of Morocco and world record holder Lamecha Girma of Ethiopia. Besides Sable, the Indian fans will also be looking for another glorious performance from the men's 4x400m relay squad. The video of them making the final at last year's Worlds is again trending on the social media.

The relays will see star-studded action with the American men's team, who have rarely lost except to Bahamas in 2012, to be led by Quincy Hall who clocked 44.17s in 400m last month. The Indian quartet comprising Muhammed Anas, Muhammed Ajmal, Amod Jacob and Rajesh Ramesh are not on their opponents radar yet but if they can clock another sub-three minute mark, then the focus will suddenly shift.

Among the other Indian stars, Jeswin Aldrin (men's long jump), Praveen Chitravel (men's triple jump), Tajinderpal Singh Toor (men's shot put) and Annu Rani (women's javelin throw) are all capable of making the finals if they can find their peak form at the Stade de France.

The 29-member Indian team has qualified to compete in 16 of the 48 medal events.

## NEW GAMES, NEW RULES

**THE ATHLETICS COMPETITION STARTS TODAY IN PARIS WITH SOME NEW EVENTS AND NEW RULES IN PLACE. TOI'S BIJU BABU CYRIAC TAKES A LOOK AT SOME OF THE MAIN AND INTERESTING CHANGES:**

### Mixed relay race walk marathon

The event makes its debut in place of the 50km individual events and will see teams, comprising one male and one female, race in the marathon distance over four stages. The male athletes will start the race and get another chance to race in the third leg. The female athletes will compete in the second and fourth legs. It's among the many firsts that will be new to the athletics competition.

**Repechage round:** The repechage round, which was used at Olympics athletics competition in 1924, returns to the Paris Games which will see athletes get a second chance even if they crash out early in

track events from 200m to 1500m including hurdles. This modification allows them to compete for a place in the semifinals. There will be preliminary rounds and repechage before the semis and finals and that means athletes will get to race at least twice.

### Yellow and Red cards:

Warnings to those who breach the rules may be indicated to the athlete by showing a yellow card. Exclusion will be conveyed with a red card. If the referee is aware that a yellow is already given, they will show a second yellow followed immediately by the red card. Those who are running under protest will be shown a red and white card.

**Hot seats:** There will also be hot seats for athletes who fail to make the next round. A total of 2-4 athletes will be in the hot seat and they will get another chance to advance in case of any pullouts from those qualified. There will not be any empty lanes in the semis and final.

(WITH INPUTS FROM RAYSON TENNYSON)

## THE NEARLY MEDALLISTS

Several Indian athletes and teams have, over the years, finished 4th in their event at the Games, thus missing out on a medal by a whisker. TOI looks at all those heartbreaks...



### Milkha Singh (400m, Rome 1960)

The near miss at the 1960 Rome Olympics not only did hurt 'Flying Sikh' Milkha all his life but the entire nation for long as well. The bronze in the men's 400m race was well within the legendary athlete's grasp and he was leading the pack for almost 200m when an error of judgment occurred. He inexplicably slowed down before the final turn to allow South African Malcolm Spence edge past him for the bronze in a photo finish. Spence clocked 45.5 seconds, Milkha 45.6s, falling short by a mere 0.1s.

### PT Usha (400m hurdles, Los Angeles 1984)

It was a familiar scene for India at the 1984 LA Olympics after the Rome heartbreak. Usha looked set to secure India's first athletics medal at the Games. The queen of Indian track and field, running on Lane 5, was part of the leading pack. But Usha (55.42s) ran out of steam in the last 35 metres of the race and missed the bronze by 1/100th of a second which went to Romania's Cristiana Cojocaru (55.41s).

### Leander Paes/Mahesh Bhupathi (Tennis doubles, Athens 2004)

The famous duo of 'Lee-Hesh' fell agonisingly short of a podium finish after losing the bronze medal match against the Croatian pair of Mario Ancic and Ivan Ljubicic. In the deciding set, the Indians fought hard and the games went on and on before losing it 14-16. The final scoreline read 6-7, 6-4, 14-16. The Indians were exceptional throughout their run, defeating American duo of Mardy Fish and Andy Roddick, and the formidable Swiss pair of Roger Federer/Yves Allegro. They fell to Germany's Nicolas Kiefer-Rainer Schuttler in the semis.



### Sania Mirza/Rohan Bopanna (Tennis mixed doubles, Rio 2016)

The fourth-seeded Indian tennis pair of Mirza and Bopanna were one of the favourites to claim a mixed doubles medal. In the semifinals, they were cruising against the American pair of Venus Williams and Rajeve Ram when suddenly their opponents' changed gears and went on to claim the final berth. In the bronze medal playoff against Czech Republic's Radek Stepanek and Lucie Hradecka, the Indians lost 1-6, 5-7.

### Other fourth-place finishes by Indians:

- Randhir Shinde (men's 60kg freestyle wrestling) Antwerp 1920
- Keshav Mangave (men's 63kg freestyle wrestling) Helsinki 1952
- Indian men's football team Melbourne 1956
- Prem Nath (men's 57kg freestyle wrestling) Rome 1972
- Suresh Kumar (men's 52kg freestyle wrestling) Munich 1972
- Jagmander Singh (men's 68kg wrestling) Moscow 1980
- Women's hockey team 1980
- Rajender Singh (men's 74kg freestyle wrestling) Los Angeles 1984
- Kunjarani Devi (women's 48kg weightlifting) Athens 2004
- Joydeep Karmakar (men's 50m rifle prone shooting) London 2012
- Aditi Ashok (women's individual golf) Tokyo 2020
- Indian women's hockey team Tokyo 2020
- Arjun Babuta (men's 10m air rifle shooting) Paris 2024

--Compiled by Sabi Hussain

## 'DIFFERENT BUT BETTER' JACOBS CONFIDENT OF DEFENDING 100M TITLE

Paris: Olympic 100m champion Marcell Jacobs said Wednesday he is a "changed, but better" athlete and is confident of defending his title at the Paris Games.

The Italian stunned the field to snatch gold in the Covid-delayed Tokyo Olympics, in a European record of 9.80sec. He made it double gold just days later by helping Italy to victory in the 4x100m relay.

The 29-year-old told reporters he was back at the Summer Games for one reason only: to defend his title in one of its standout events. "I'm the Olympic champion. I want to win again," Jacobs told reporters.

"I know what I can do. I know I am the Olympic champion. I won the 100m at the Olympic Games. I worked really hard to get here to win again... so I can do the double."

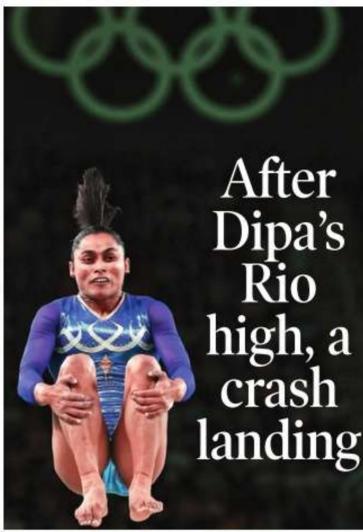
After his stunning success in Tokyo, Jacobs went off the radar, citing fatigue and a knee problem.

His conspicuous absence raised eyebrows and brought criticism that still stings. "What hurt me was that people didn't understand that we are not robots, we are not machines. We are human," he said.

"We work every day at 100% with our body, so it's normal to have some difficulties, some injury."

"The problem with doping (accusations) after the Olympics didn't touch me because I know what I have to do to get a win, so I know what is not true."

"It's hard to survive at the Olympics and win, but it's harder to continue to win. AFP



## After Dipa's Rio high, a crash landing

## Political Wrangling, Lack Of Facilities And Proper Structure Have Pulled The Sport Behind

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In 2016, when Dipa Karmakar finished fourth at the Rio Olympics, it wasn't just her performance that lived in the memory of Indian sports fans, it was also the term 'Prodnunova' that stayed.

The combination of Dipa and Prodnunova created a wave that many thought would inspire the generations to take a plunge in gymnastics in the country. Though the sport has been there in the country for years, Dipa was the first Indian gymnast to qualify for the Olympics. However, four years later, it was only Pranati Nayak who qualified for the Tokyo Games. For Paris, India hasn't sent any gymnast. Eight years since Rio, not much has changed in the sport. Gymnastics offers 55 medals at the Games.

**Derecognition of federations**  
President of Gymnastics Fed-

eration of India (GFI). Sudhir Mittal, agrees that the political mess and a derecognition of the federation by the sports ministry for almost 10 years took the sport a few steps backward. The working of the apex body for gymnastics in the country was marred by the infighting between two factions that led to the derecognition of the federation in 2011. "The political trouble has restricted the progress of the sport. But I wouldn't blame it alone on the political uncertainty. There are other factors too. The cost to buy equipment is high and hence there are only a few state associations volunteering to host the Nationals," Mittal said.

Commonwealth Games champion Pranati Nayak seconds Mittal. "I can see now the juniors are performing well. But they are getting facilities only at a few centres. Bhubaneswar has very good facilities but I haven't seen other states and I can see there

is a lot of improvement needed in terms of training facilities and equipment," Pranati says.

She recalls that she missed a music system when she started in 2002-03 in Kolkata. "When I started, there was no music system at our training centre in Kolkata, we got it only in 2021. Choreography is important for gymnasts," Pranati adds.

### Growth stagnant, progress slow

Tanvi Jindal Shete, founder of Leap Gymnastics at JSW Sports, feels the absence of a structured approach has hurt the prospect of Indian gymnastics the most. "It is lack of a structured approach. In gymnastics, unless you've been practising since the age of 5, the system doesn't allow you to succeed. Suppose I'm 8-9 years old and have decided to take up gymnastics, it's very difficult for me to succeed in the system because the skills are so difficult to develop that by the time

I've developed them, I'm not eligible to participate in that category. Due to that, a lot of children who might be interested in gymnastics don't take up the sport," Tanvi says.

### Lack of good judges

Another problem that mars the progress of Indian gymnastics is lack of quality judges. Tanvi highlights the need of having international-level judges to improve the standards. "Training of the coaches and judges in India is the need of the hour, because gymnastics is a subjective sport. The judges assess athletes based on difficulty and execution. While India has shown progress on difficulty, for example Dipa Karmakar and Pranati Nayak have a high D score, the execution is what is lacking because they lose a lot of points on execution which prevents them from moving forward, and a good judge can point out the problems at the national level," Tanvi says.

## GALLERY

### Subroto Cup from Aug 5

**New Delhi:** The prestigious Subroto Cup's 63rd edition will be held across Delhi NCR and Bengaluru with 111 teams vying for top honours across three categories: junior boys, junior girls and sub-junior boys. The tournament will be organised between Aug 5 to Sept 11, and will witness its highest-ever participation till date. The best player from the junior boys and girls (U-17) categories will be given exposure at Indian Football Centre in Austria/Germany.

**Gold wins Mysore races:** Gold Ride won the Fillies Trial stakes at the Mysore races on Wednesday. **Results:** 1st race: Raise A Buck 1, D Fighter 2, White Lies 3. 2nd race: Spectacular 1, Ferretti 2, Cavarozzi 3. 3rd race: Perfect Empress 1, Country Magic 2, NRI Touch 3. **TNN/AGENCIES**

## ACTION TODAY

**FOOTBALL:** Durand Cup, Mumbai City FC vs Kerala Blasters, 7 pm (Sony Sports)  
**Olympics:** 11 am onwards (Jiocinema, Sports 18)

## IPL owners differ over mega auction, retentions

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**Mumbai:** As expected, there was plenty of discussion on player retentions as the 10 IPL owners met with BCCI's top officials at the BCCI headquarters on Wednesday evening, with some franchisees even questioning the need for a mega auction later this year, but no consensus was achieved in the four-hour long meeting. BCCI secretary Jay Shah told TOI: "We've discussed everything. We'll make all the decisions in a week's time."

Summing up the difference of views regarding major IPL issues between the team owners perfectly, Delhi Capitals co-owner Parth Jindal told the reporters, "We are not on the same page on many issues. I think the BCCI, in their wisdom, will decide on retentions. Hopefully, by the end of

August, we will get to know the rules for the next cycle."

When asked whether there was a debate in the meeting on whether there should be a mega auction at all -- a few of the bigger franchises suggested that going for a mini-auction was the better option, Jindal said. "There was, and I was surprised. Some people said that there shouldn't be a mega auction at all. There should be only smaller auctions. I'm not in that camp. I feel that it makes the IPL a level playing field and makes the IPL what it is."

Stressing that there was "no consensus" on the number of retentions a franchise should be allowed, Jindal revealed: "Some people want 8-10, some people want four. It's all up in the air."

Meanwhile, there was no consensus between the franchisees on the

controversial impact player rule too. Jindal said he wasn't in favour of the rule, which allows for an extra batter or bowler during the match. "Some people want it because it gives a chance to young players to play in the IPL. Some people don't want it because it's detrimental to Indian cricket in terms of the development of all-rounders. So, it's a mixed bag. I'm in the second camp. I don't want it. I want the game as it is: 11 vs 11. I think that the all-rounders are very important."

In a statement on the meeting, Shah said: "The BCCI on Wednesday organized a constructive dialogue with the owners of the 10 franchises on various subjects pertaining to the upcoming season of the IPL. The franchise owners tabled feedback on player regulations and other commercial aspects, including central merchandising, licensing, and gaming."

"The BCCI will now take these recommendations to the IPL Governing Council for further deliberation and evaluation before formulating the IPL player regulations."

Some of the bigger teams are not in favour of having a mega auction, but instead want a mini auction as they want to retain as many of their top players as possible. "It comes down to how many players each team wants, and it looks like at the moment, the franchisees want to retain as many players as they can," a source said.

According to a source, at one point, there was intense debate between Kolkata Knight Riders' owner Shah Rukh Khan and Punjab Kings' co-owner Ness Wadia, but Wadia shot down any controversy.

## We need to get better playing on turning tracks: Gauti

**Pallekele:** Head coach Gautam Gambhir praised India for pulling off a tenacious Super Over win in the low-scoring third T20I against Sri Lanka for a series whitewash, but called for consistent improvement on pitches assisting sharp turn.

In a contest delayed by an hour due to rain here on Tuesday, India struggled against both spin and pace on a fresh pitch to make a mere 137/9. But the Suryakumar Yadav-led side showed doggedness in the second

half despite Sri Lanka's domination to force the contest into a Super Over, restricting the hosts to 137/8 from 129/4 after 18 overs, and eventually winning the match to seal a 3-0 win.

"Guys, congratulations on a great series win. Congratulations to Surya as well, outstanding captaincy and with the bat as well. I asked for something before the start of the game and you absolutely delivered it. This is what happens when you keep fighting, (and when) you don't give up,"

Gambhir told the team in a dressing room chat shared by BCCI on X.

"These kind of games happen and the only way these key games can happen (in favour) is when we keep fighting on every delivery and for every run and this was the example."

Gambhir, however, urged the team to keep working on improving collectively on turning tracks which posed a different challenge to the batting group in particular.

"We keep getting better, we keep

improving our skills as well because we still need to get better on playing on wickets like these, because we might end up getting these kind of wickets (in future). So we should first assess the situation and conditions really quickly and what is the par score as well," he said.

Gambhir urged players, who are not a part of the three-match ODI series starting on Friday, to enjoy their break but at the same time, keep working on their fitness. PTI

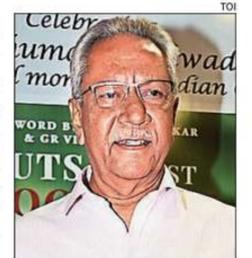
## Gaekwad passes away after prolonged illness

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**Vadodara:** Former India opener and Team India coach Anshuman Gaekwad passed away at the age of 71 on Wednesday night after battling cancer for a year. He was diagnosed of Myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS) in June last year and was admitted in a private hospital for the last few weeks.

"Gaekwad passed away about 9.30 pm. The doctors hadn't given him much time but he was a fighter who didn't give up till his last breath. His contribution to Indian cricket was immense," said Satyajit Gaekwad, chairman, press and publicity committee, Baroda Cricket Association (BCA).

Son of former Indian cricket team captain DK Gaekwad, he made his Test debut in 1974 against West Indies in Kolkata. Known to be a feisty batsman, Gaekwad played 40 Test and scored 1985 runs. He scored two centuries but his finest effort came against Pakistan when he scored 201 in Jalandhar in 1982-83. He also played 15 ODIs. Gaekwad became the coach of the Indian team twice -- first in 1997



Anshuman Gaekwad

and then in 2000. Gaekwad became the secretary of BCA in 2013. He later resigned from his post owing to differences with the BCA management. Gaekwad was part of the IPL's governing council in 2022 as a representative of the Indian Cricketers' Association.

A few months ago, Gaekwad was admitted to the Kings Hospital in London for his cancer treatment. He had written to the BCCI for financial help to meet the medical expenses incurred in the London hospital. The cricket board had recently announced Rs one crore financial help for Gaekwad.



**IN LALA LAND:** Simone Biles (R), Sunisa Lee (L), Jordan Chiles (front), Jade Carey (back) and Hezly Rivera celebrate

# ENCHANTE!

**Simone Biles Has Redefined Her Sport – And Its Vocabulary. And She Laid To Rest The Ghosts Of Tokyo 2020**



**“NOW THAT I'M MUCH OLDER, WE HAVE SO MUCH MORE EXPERIENCE AND WE'RE OUT HERE REALLY HAVING FUN AND ENJOYING WHAT WE'RE DOING - SO I THINK IT'S JUST DIFFERENT.”**

**38 BILES NOW HAS A STAGGERING 38 MEDALS IN MAJOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS. EIGHT OF THOSE HAVE COME UNDER THE OLYMPIC RINGS, MOVING HER PAST SHANNON MILLER FOR THE MOST BY AN AMERICAN GYMNAST**

**“I WAS LIKE YES, PLEASE NO FLASHBACKS OR ANYTHING. BUT I DID FEEL A LOT OF RELIEF. AND AS SOON AS I LANDED I WAS LIKE 'OH YEAH, WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS.'”**

**SIMONE BILES, AFTER WINNING THE ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS WOMEN'S TEAM GOLD**

**SIMONE'S TURNS**

- Thursday, 1 Aug: Women's all-around final
- Saturday, 3 Aug: Women's vault final
- Sunday, 4 Aug: Women's uneven bars final
- Monday, 5 Aug: Women's balance beam final
- Women's floor exercise final

Paris: Simone Biles, Jordan Chiles and Sunisa Lee spent the night before perhaps the biggest gymnastics meet of their lives restless. They'd all been in the Olympic spotlight before, experiences that left them with medals but also the kind of scars — be they physical, psychological or both — that heal but never really go away.

And here they were in Paris, the leaders of a star-laden US team everyone expected to finish atop the medal stand, and something wasn't right. In a different time, in a different era, it might have festered. Might have followed them onto the floor at Bercy Arena and into the history books, too. This is not a different time. This is not a different era. This is now.

So the oldest team the US has ever sent to the Olympics, including a trio that has spent their respective careers breaking barriers about what a female gymnast can and can't do, what they can and can't be, did something they never used to do. They talked, with Biles — three years removed from a Tokyo Games that dragged the conversation around mental health and sports kicking and screaming into the light — right in the middle of it.

"I think there was a little bit of struggle," she said. "So it was really needed."

By the time they walked onto the floor for the Olympic final, the tension was gone, largely replaced with joy. And not soon



after gold. The self-described "Redemption Tour," the moniker given to a team filled with women who wanted to return to the Games for deeply personal reasons, ended with Biles and the Americans where they have almost always been since she burst onto the scene 11 years ago: on top of the podium, the rest of the world looking up. Eight years after winning gold in Rio with a team that called Aly Raisman grandma because she was all of 22, Biles — now 27 and married — was back again with Jade

Carey (24), Chiles (23), Lee (21) and teenager Hezly Rivera at her side.

"We don't have to be put in the box anymore," Biles said about a group that has dubbed itself "The Golden Girls."

No, they don't. With Biles at her show-stopping best, the Americans' total of 171.296 was well clear of Italy and Brazil and the exclamation point of a yearlong run in which Biles has cemented her legacy as the greatest ever in her sport, and among the best in the history of the Olympics.

"She's the greatest of all greats," said Chiles, who now has gold to go with the team silver she, Lee and Biles earned in Tokyo, when Biles removed herself from the team final to protect herself. Chiles was pretty good in her own right. She began the night by drilling her double-twisting Yurchenko vault, sending the Americans on a four-apparatus stop on their "Tour" that felt equal parts coronation and celebration.

By the time Biles, the left calf heavily taped, stepped onto the floor for the final event — a floor exercise set to music by

Taylor Swift and Beyonce — it was over. She joked she knew she simply needed to stay on her feet to win. She did more than that, providing an exclamation point on the US's third gold in its last four trips to the Games. The Americans remain peerless when at their best. And over two hours in front of a crowd that included tennis great Serena Williams, actor Natalie Portman, Biles left little doubt about anything. Her status as the sport's greatest of all time. Her ability to move past the "twisties" that derailed her in Japan. Her spot in



**HERO WORSHIP!** Gymnastics legend Nadia Comaneci (L) and tennis star Serena Williams at the Bercy Arena

**BILES' SUGAR-COATED RESPONSE TO FRENCH 'CUISE' IN VILLAGE**

Paris: Paris Olympics' catering service might need a touch of Simone Biles' magic. The queen of gymnastics gave the French offerings there a thumbs-down, opining that athletes would need to get out to enjoy the "real" local cuisine. Her comment came after the US women's gold win on Tuesday, where a reporter asked the five gymnasts what they were eating and whether they were enjoying French food. Biles offered a sugar-coated response.

"I don't think we're having proper French cuisine in the village like you guys might be eating because you're outside the village," she said. "For the athletes it's a little bit... healthier."

Teammate Hezly Rivera was more direct. "I think French food is good, but what we're having in there, I don't think it's the best. But it gets the job done," she joked. "I thought the pizza was good," Biles jumped in, diplomatically. REUTERS

**End of the 'NadalCaraz' dream as Spanish duo loses in quarterfinals**

Paris: Rafael Nadal's Olympics dream ended as he and his partner Carlos Alcaraz lost to Americans Austin Krajicek and Rajeev Ram in straight sets on Wednesday. The Spanish duo went down 2-6, 4-6.

Earlier, Wimbledon champion Barbora Krejickova of the Czech Republic bowed out of singles with a 6-4, 6-2 loss to Anna Karolina Schmiedlova of Slovakia in the quarterfinals on Wednesday.

Schmiedlova has now eliminated both women who played in

and Carlos Alcaraz stayed on course for an Olympic gold medal showdown as Zheng Qinwen ended the career of former world No. 1 Angelique Kerber. Djokovic defeated German left-hander Dominik Koepfer 7-5, 6-3. Alcaraz brushed aside Roman Safiullin, the Russian playing in Paris as a neutral, 6-4, 6-2.

In the women's singles, Zheng defeated Kerber 6-7 (4/7), 6-4, 7-6 (8/6) to become only the second Chinese player to reach an Olympic singles semifinal.

Djokovic will face the final at the All England Club only 2 1/2 weeks ago. She defeated Wimbledon runner-up Jasmine Paolini in the third round on Tuesday, and now is the first tennis semifinalist from Slovakia since Miloslav Mecir won the men's singles title in 1988.

Meanwhile, Novak Djokovic

**SHERICKA TO GIVE 100M A MISS TO FOCUS ON 200M**

Paris: Jamaica's Shericka Jackson said on Wednesday she will not compete in the

women's 100m at the Paris Olympics.

"I'm only running the 200m here," said Jackson, the

double world 200m champion, who has won silvers in the 100m in the last two world champs and Olympic 100m bronze at the Tokyo Games. "I think it was a good decision," the 30-year-old said of her desire to focus on the 200m. "Coach and I made a decision, and it was in the best interests for both of us." AFP

JACKSON

**TAI BIDS TEARFUL GOODBYE AFTER LOSS TO INTANON**

London: Tokyo badminton silver medalist Taiwan's Tai Tzu Ying made Thai rival Ratchanok Intanon cry after their match on Wednesday.

The pair have gone head-to-head nearly 40 times in their careers, and for Intanon to beat her close friend 21-19 21-15 at Porte de La Chapelle Arena was to take away Tai's last chance at Olympic glory. Tai, known fondly as 'Queen Tai', has said she will retire at the end of this year.

Intanon wasn't the only one who became emotional. Tai got a standing ovation as she walked off the court and was crying as she bowed one last time to a cheering crowd, embraced Intanon. AGENCIES

**ELSEWHERE AT THE GAMES**

**World No. 1 loses after table tennis bat is broken**

China's table tennis world number one Wang Chuqin suffered a shock defeat in the men's Olympic singles on Wednesday, a day after having his bat broken. Wang won mixed doubles gold on Tuesday in Paris but his elation quickly turned to anger after a photographer accidentally snapped his bat while jostling to take a picture.

Less than 24 hours later, Wang went out in the round of 32 of the singles after a 4-2 defeat to Truls Moregard of Sweden. Wang though refused to blame his replacement bat for his stunning defeat to the unheralded Moregard, 22.

**North Korea-South Korea podium selfie goes viral**

Images of Olympic table tennis players from North Korea and South Korea taking a selfie together on the medal podium in Paris went viral in South Korea Wednesday, hailed as a rare show of cross-border unity.

Nuclear-armed North Korea declared the South its principal enemy earlier this year and tensions between the two countries are at one of their highest points in years. But after South Korea won bronze and North Korea silver in the mixed doubles behind China, South Korea's Lim Jong-hoon took a group photo after the medal ceremony.

North Korea's Ri Jong Sik and Kim Kum Yong, the South's Shin Yu-bin and the victorious Chinese team Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha all beamed into Lim's phone, a South Korean-made Samsung.

"A selfie with both Koreas' national flags and a Samsung phone," said the widely read

**Confidence of the shooters was amazing**

Gagan Narang

Nothing speaks louder than success and the performance of the Indian shooting contingent at the Paris Olympics proves that yet again. It also proves that in sport, it is a matter of time for things to change. The shooting contingent had returned empty-handed in 2021 but now Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh have not only bagged these medals, but have also created history! I am personally overwhelmed that 12 years apart, on the same day, we won yet another medal in shooting. And as you read this, Manu may well be on her way to winning a third medal. It would perhaps be unfair not to mention Arjun Babuta, who missed his medal by a whisker.

So what really changed in this Olympics? There are a couple of things that immediately come to mind — the first would have to be the confidence of the young shooters. When I met the

shooting contingent in the Games village before the matches, it was not just as chef de mission, but as an athlete. The confidence that I saw in the young shooters was indeed heartening. As a senior player my only advice to them was to concentrate on the present.

It is true that today's athletes, in fact 10 out of the 21 member contingent, who have been Khelo India athletes since

2018-19, have got support right from the grassroots-level to the elite category. The other 11 who are supported through TOPS, have the ease of not worrying about funds for training. This is a very big relief for an athlete and that gives them the confidence to put in their 100% in just the game. Parallely, the motivation offered by the nation, starting right from the PM, gives them a sense that they are doing something worthwhile.

The second game changer this time has been the unprecedented co-ordination between all stakeholders to ensure that the athletes got everything they asked for — be it personal coaches, foreign training, state-of-the-art equipment — everything was made available throughout the Paris cycle. And that's not just for shooting, this has been the standard operating procedure for every sport.

Two medals at the start of the Olympics is a great motivator for all other athletes as well, and I am sure that we are poised to have our best Olympics ever. PMS (Gagan Narang is an Olympic bronze medalist shooter and the chef de mission of the Indian contingent in Paris.)

**US WIN 3,000th OLYMPIC MEDAL BUT STRUGGLE FOR GOLDS IN PARIS POOL**

Paris: The United States claimed their 3,000th Olympic medal when Regan Smith and Katharine Berkoff won silver and bronze in the women's 100m backstroke on Tuesday, but they have struggled to reach the top step of the swimming podium at La Defence Arena. While the US have now won 3,000 medals in Summer and Winter Olympics combined, no other country has even half that tally. But in Paris, the Americans are still well behind in the gold medal charts, with five countries ahead of them — for now.

Australia have won four golds in the pool and although the Americans have won a whopping 15 medals overall, they have claimed only two golds. The American men's 4x200m freestyle relay team finished second behind Britain, while Bobby Finke was second in the men's 800m freestyle final on Tuesday night.

"I think we're always shooting for gold, that's the American standard," relay swimmer Drew Kibler said. "It is a really special thing to be on that podium and it was really tough a few years ago missing that podium. So it's a step forward, but we're always shooting for gold." AGENCIES

So far this year, the US has won 26 medals: four gold, 11 silver and 11 bronze medals

Before Paris, the US had a total of 1,179 golds, according to the Olympic Foundation. US is followed by the Soviet Union, with 473 gold. Germany was third, with 342 gold before the start of the 2024 games

2,975 US athletes had earned 2,975 medals at past summer and winter Olympics. They crossed the 3,000 mark after US earned its 26th medal in this Olympics

US swimmer Michael Phelps is the most-decorated Olympian of all time, with 28 medals, 23 of which are gold

US athletes had earned 2,975 medals at past summer and winter Olympics. They crossed the 3,000 mark after US earned its 26th medal in this Olympics

**Deepika works her way into pre-quarters**

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Deepika Kumari rode her luck to stay alive making the pre-quarterfinals of the women's individual recurve event of the Olympic Games at the Esplanade des Invalides in Paris on Wednesday.

The veteran archer could breathe a sigh of relief after being trolled heavily on social media since the women's team crashed out in the quarterfinals against the Netherlands.

The former World No. 1 showed glimpses of her vintage best hitting a perfect 30 to edge past Reena Parat of Estonia 6-5 (29-28, 26-27, 27-27, 24-27, 30-27) in a shootout in the first round. She returned to the arena half-an-hour later to record a 6-2 (29-28, 27-29, 25-27, 28-23) win against Netherlands' Quilty Roeffen to join teammate Bhajan Kaur in the last-16 stage. Deepika will play Michelle Kroppen of Germany in the pre-quarterfinals on Saturday.

The former World No. 1 began hitting consecutive 10s in the first set to go 2-0 up against Parat. However, the World No. 57

Estonian levelled scores winning the second set 27-26 while the third set was tied at 27-27. Parat took the lead (5-3) winning the fourth set 27-24, but the four-time Olympian came back strongly recording a 30 to win the fifth set and take the match to a shootout.

It was not the best shot by Deepika, who scored a 9 in the single shot but that too proved enough as Parat faltered to end with an 8. Thirty-year-old Deepika's life was made easier by some irregular shooting by Netherlands' Roeffen in the second elimination match. With both archers tied at 2-2, the 18-year-old Dutch missed her target as Deepika pocketed the third set in spite of scoring a poor 25. Deepika wrapped up the match winning the fourth set 28-23.

Rai, Bommadevara crash out  
The men's archers suffered setbacks as debutant Dhiraj Bommadevara and veteran Tarundeep Rai crashed out early. While Bommadevara lost to Canada's Eric Peters in a shootout late on Tuesday night, Rai caved in against Great Britain's Tom Hall 4-6 (27-27, 27-28, 28-25, 28-29, 29-29) on Wednesday. The 2010 Asian Games bronze medalist Rai failed to put pressure on his lower-ranked rival who managed to get the 10 when required. Bommadevara, who had a smooth ride in the first elimination round getting past Czech Republic's Adam Li 7-1 (29-29, 29-26, 29-28, 28-26), took the match to a shootout before losing 5-6 (28-27, 28-29, 29-27, 30-30, 29-30) to Peters.

**Beaugrand wins gold after Seine passes test**

France's Cassandre Beaugrand won gold in the women's triathlon at the Paris Olympics on Wednesday, cheered on by a delighted crowd as the hosts' gamble to hold the swim stage of the race in the Seine paid off after days of uncertainty. The men's triathlon had been scheduled to take place on Tuesday but, after the river failed water quality tests, it was postponed to 10:45 am (2.15 pm IST) on Wednesday, immediately after the women's race.

The women began their competition at 8 am, just as overnight rain was easing, with the triathlon offering spectacular views as they swam in the Seine before racing their bikes and running into central Paris. World number one Beaugrand broke away on the last lap of the run stage and was fuelled to the finish line by ecstatic cheers from crowds lining the streets. Switzerland's Julie Derron

won silver and Britain's Beth Potter took bronze. The races going ahead will have come as a relief for teams and athletes, as well as for Paris authorities who have promised residents a swimmable Seine as a long-term legacy of the Games, with the triathlon a very public test. "I have no doubts about the quality of the Seine, we've swum in worse water," Beaugrand said later. AGENCIES

Ukrainian boxers at the Paris Games have an added incentive to win medals after former undisputed heavyweight champion Oleksandr Usyk pledged to pay them prize money out of his own pocket if they can make it on to the podium. Ukraine have three boxers competing in Paris — Tokyo Olympics silver medalist Oleksandr Khyzhniak, Aider Abduraimov and Dmytro Lovchynskiy — and Usyk has been doing his best to provide them support at the Games.

"He told them that if they win medals at the Olympic Games, he will give the prize money by himself. From his pocket," Ukraine coach Dmitry Sosnovsky told Reuters on Tuesday. "He said for first place it will be \$80,000, for the second place, the silver medal, \$70,000. And the bronze is \$50,000."

**SURFING IN THE AIR**



Brazil's Gabriel Medina reacts after getting a large wave during the heat event of the men's surfing in Teahupo'o, Tahiti

**USYK promises payout if Ukrainians win medals**

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UNIQUE MOMENT: This selfie click by South Korea's Lim Jong-hoon with North Korean players was hailed by commentators

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**TAKING THE PLUNGE: Athletes dive into the Seine river as they start the swimming stage of the men's individual triathlon**



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# Ravaged Mundakkai Searches For Its Missing

Only a handful of houses now remain besides the CSI Church. It is a race against time for rescue workers. Earthmovers reached ground zero only on Wednesday afternoon

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**Mundakkai:** Sreejith Kumar VS's eyes swelled when rescue workers hit a concrete roof slab, which lay amid sludge and mangled metal pieces and wood, with a huge hammer to break it open.

Sitting on the steps of CSI Church in Mundakkai, one of the few buildings intact at the epicentre of the landslide, Sreejith, an employee at a coaching institute in Thrissur, wore a forlorn look.

"My mother, brother and sister's daughter are missing. I don't know whether they are beneath the concrete slab. We had constructed the second floor of our house to run a homestay just like many other residents did. But it has all been flattened," Sreejith said.

Sreejith is not alone. All those who survived the landslide are facing an uncertain future. For, the village where they were born and grew up—

which had a mosque, a post office, around 10 shops and scores of houses — has all been wiped out. Mundakkai, with its picture-postcard-perfect environs, was on its way to becoming a tourist destination over the last three years with many resorts and homestays springing up.

At the epicentre of the landslide, a major portion of the face of the Mundakkai hills blanketed with tree cover collapsed from a height of over 2km and came tumbling down bringing along with it several houses at PUNCHIRIMATTOM, a small settlement uphill, and crashing on Mundakkai village.

The landslide led to the river swelling, triggering a 15-metre-high debris flow which tore through the street-lined shops and houses of Mundakkai. In Mundakkai, only 15 houses now remain along with the CSI Church and some houses at PUNCHIRIMATTOM. The debris



BACK TO STONE AGE

flow then rushed downhill and ripped through Chooralmala village, which is 2.5km away.

The only road from Chooralmala to Mundakkai, a part of which was washed away in the landslide, meanders through rolling tea plantations. Hundreds of rescue

workers managed to reach Mundakkai on Wednesday along with cadaver dogs of the police to search for missing persons.

Every time the two cadaver dogs barked, people thronged to see if anyone had been spotted. Rescue workers tried to remove mangled

steel and concrete with their hands and limited equipment they had as earthmovers were brought to the site only in the afternoon.

They picked up several bodies from inside houses, many of which had a stench. Fire and rescue services personnel washed faces of the

Every time the search dogs barked, hopes soared. Before earthmovers reached the spot, rescue workers tried to remove mangled steel and concrete with their bare hands

bodies with bottled water before taking them in stretchers to Chooralmala. Rescuers witnessed several heart wrenching scenes as three bodies were seen in sitting position and a three-member family was seen huddled together.

Safad K walked all the way up to Mundakkai on Wednesday morning, when the Army put in place a temporary walkway across the river, only to find no trace of his parents and younger brother. Even his house was destroyed. All that remained was just a roof slab lying in the sludge. "I have no hope left of finding my family, seeing what is left of my house," Safad said.

## Centre sent alerts as early as July 23, Shah tells House

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Home minister Amit Shah on Wednesday told Parliament the Centre had warned Kerala govt multiple times about the possibility of a rain-induced natural disaster, the first alert going out as early as July 23. Shah's remarks came in response to attacks from opposition members in both Houses as they questioned the govt's preparedness and stressed on the need to have early warning systems for natural disasters.

Replying to calling attention motions in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Shah said nine NDRF teams were rushed to the state on July 23. He said the state govt did not heed the warning and this was responsible for the rising death toll. He said the alerts were sent on July 23, seven days before the landslide, then again on July 24 and July 25. On July 26, it was informed that there would be heavy rainfall.

Shah said even the arrival of the National Disaster Response Force battalions did not alert Kerala govt about the impending catastrophe.

"I do not want to accuse anyone of anything. This is the time to stand firm with the people and the govt of Kerala. I wish to assure the House that irrespective of party politics, the Narendra Modi govt will stand like a rock with the people and the govt of Kerala. There should be no doubt about it," he said.

"Before 2014, India had a rescue-centric approach towards disaster, but after 2014, the Modi govt is moving ahead with a zero casualty approach," he added.



LIFE TURNED UPSIDE DOWN

**Shah's remarks inconsistent with facts: Kerala CM**

**K**erala govt refuted on Wednesday Union home minister Amit Shah's statement in Parliament that central agencies had issued advance extreme weather warnings for Wayanad, where rain-triggered landslides early Tuesday killed more than 160 people.

Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan said Shah's remarks were "inconsistent with the facts". The area where the disaster hit, only an orange alert was in place, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) warning of rainfall between 115mm and 204mm, he said.

"However, the area received 200mm rain in the first 24 hours and 372mm in the next 24, totalling 572mm in 48 hours. This far exceeded the initial warning. The area had never been on red alert before the disaster," Vijayan said.

Between July 23 and 28, IMD didn't issue any orange alerts for heavy rain in the state, said Vijayan. **TNN**

## Kind strangers offer final resting sites for departed

**Wayanad:** What nature's fury denied Mundakkai and Chooralmala's dead, the kindness of strangers provided on Wednesday as mourning families desperately searched for resting places for their loved ones beyond the landslide-ravaged zone, reports Rajeev KR.

Meppadi, around 15km away, was among the places where residents hurriedly made funeral arrangements for many of the victims. The burial grounds of Chooralmala Town Juma Masjid and Mundakkai Masjid were destroyed in the landslide that bore down on these two pockets of Wayanad early Tuesday. Cremation grounds at both places weren't spared either.

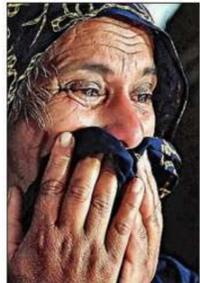
Meppadi saw 30 burials in two days. Around 200 grave-diggers from various districts dug up 50 graves in anticipation of more landslide victims being taken there.

A Ashraf, vice president of Meppadi Juma Masjid Committee, said he and his colleagues held a meeting on hearing about the devastation in Mundakkai and Chooralmala and decided to help out their neighbours in every way possible, including burying the dead.

"We used to have just a couple of burials every month. But this is a monumental tragedy and we have had people volunteering from across the state to help dig graves. We are also receiving food items for distribution among the victims' families," he said.

Sulaiman T was among those volunteering to help conduct mass funerals. Noushad K arrived in Meppadi from nearby Tharuvana to assist members of the mosque committee in digging graves.

At least 23 cremations in accordance with Hindu rites were done at the grounds attached to the Meppadi Mariyappan temple since Tuesday. A few Christian funerals were also conducted by CSI Holy Emanuel Church at Meppadi.



## RESCUE ON WAR FOOTING, SUPPORT POURS IN

16 more bodies of landslide victims recovered from Chaliyar in Malappuram district on Wednesday

Only 34-49 houses are now left in Mundakkai area where reportedly around 450-500 houses stood

19 civilians stranded in the Ela Resort and Vana Rani Resort, located beyond Mundakkai, saved by the Indian Army personnel on Wednesday following a daring rescue mission

1,200 rescue workers from various organisations are working 24x7 in the search and rescue operations, according to minister of state for home affairs Nityanand Rai



Rescue operation in progress at Meppadi

**₹5cr** financial support to Kerala announced by TN CM M K Stalin was handed over by public works minister E V Velu to Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan as a cheque at Kerala Secretariat

**₹5 lakh** each announced by Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah as compensation to the families of Kannadigas who died in landslides. He appealed to the corporate world to contribute generously for the relief and rehabilitation

### MEDICAL POINT

The Kerala govt has decided to set up a medical point with oxygen ambulances at the control room in Chooralmala to provide immediate medical assistance to those rescued

## Midnight run uphill into forest helps beat death

Nijeesh.Narayanan @timesofindia.com

**Kochi:** As rains pounded the tiled roof of their small house located on the banks of Mundakkai river at PUNCHIRIVATTOM, just a kilometre from the landslide spot, Muhammed Basil, a 25-year-old software engineer, and his parents spent a nervous, sleepless night.

Barely 10 minutes before the massive landslide on the hilltop in Mundakkai swept away hundreds of people and their houses early Tuesday, the family showed the presence of mind to quickly escape to the jungles and move up the hills. The decision saved the lives

of Basil, his mother Suhara, 53 and his father Abdul Hameed, 57.

"My house was situated on the upstream end of the river. The heavy rainfall in the region made it difficult for us to sleep. Around 12.30 am, we saw the river waters gradually rising and seeping into our home. We quickly decided to seek refuge at my uncle's house, which was just a hundred metres away from ours. However, within minutes of reaching there, we heard the deafening sound of gushing water, and that house also began to shake," said Basil.

"The doors of my uncle's house were stuck as the entire house trembled, but we managed

to crash it. Without wasting a breath, I took my mother and father outside, and we mustered all our strength to run up the hill and into the forest. Within seconds, the sudden gush of water, carrying huge boulders and trees, swept away our home and also our new two-storied house, which was in the finishing stage," Basil recounted the harrowing experience of that fateful night.

After spending hours in the forest and traversing many routes, he and his parents took shelter at a nearby Tree Valley resort around 3am.

Basil, who works in Kochi, had returned home weeks ago to

oversee the completion of his new house, and was working from home. "Due to the modest size of our dwelling, we were constantly at a risk of being inundated by floodwaters. Building a new, secure home has always been my dream. Now, the landslide has swept away everything, leaving only debris in its wake," he lamented. Nearly 30 of his relatives and neighbours perished in the tragedy. "We don't know how to move forward and rebuild our lives," he said tearfully.

Basil's father was a taxi driver and his mother was a daily wage worker. The family is now staying in a relief camp in Meppadi.

## Moving out in the nick of time saves residents of village in Kozhikode

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kochi:** Nearly a dozen landslides occurred in Vilangad village in Kozhikode on the same night as the catastrophe in Wayanad. However, residents there were able to avert a tragedy as families living in as many as 18 houses which got washed away were relocated in time on the night before.

"Seeing the rain intensify, we asked people to move to safer places. If they had not moved, none of them would have been alive now. We had made calls on the phone to coordinate this," Vilangad panchayat member Selma Raju said.

Mathew, a retired school teacher, went missing and despite efforts to find him on Wednesday he couldn't be traced. "He and a few others had gone to the location to see if there were people in distress fol-

lowing the primary landslides. However, a subsequent landslide took place suddenly, and he ran into a shop while the others went in the opposite direction. He couldn't get out of the shop and the others went to get a rope to get him across. But another major landslide happened in which the shop got washed away," said Selma, adding that his wife was safe and his children who are in Canada would return on Thursday.

Father Abraham Kavyilpuzhayidathil, a native of Vilangad, said that the devastation was widespread and if they had not taken precaution, several people would have died. "Huge boulders came tumbling down in the landslides. There was a small market there with a chapel, a couple shops and a village library and all of that has been washed away," Kavyilpuzhayidathil said.

## SC pulls up Kerala govt for withholding files from green panel



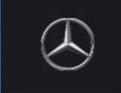
Rescue teams crossing a temporary bridge in Wayanad

**New Delhi:** Taking exception to Kerala govt's reluctance in sharing information with the Central Empowered Committee, which is statutory body on environmental issues, Supreme Court has directed the state's land revenue commissioner to appear before it along with the additional secretary of the department to respond to why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for "withholding" files sought by the panel.

"The CEC, originally constituted under the order of this court, has now received statutory recognition vide notification dated September 5, 2023. The said statutory status was also granted in pursuance to the directions issued by this court. The CEC is, therefore, discharging its duties in order to assist the court in hearing matters assigned to the bench hearing TN Godavarman Thirumulpad matter. Every authority is, therefore, bound to assist the CEC when the CEC conducts an enquiry. An attempt to withhold an important file, in our view, undermines the authority of this court. It prevents the CEC in discharging its duties of assisting the court," a bench headed by Justice B R Gavai said.

"We, therefore, issue notice to A Kowsigan, IAS, commissioner land revenue, and T R Jayapal, additional secretary, government of Kerala, and direct them to remain present in this court on August 21, 2024, and show cause as to why an action for committing contempt of the court may not be initiated against them by this court," the bench said. **TNN**

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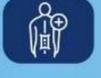


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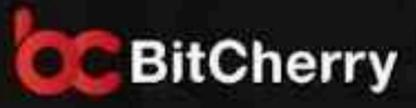
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