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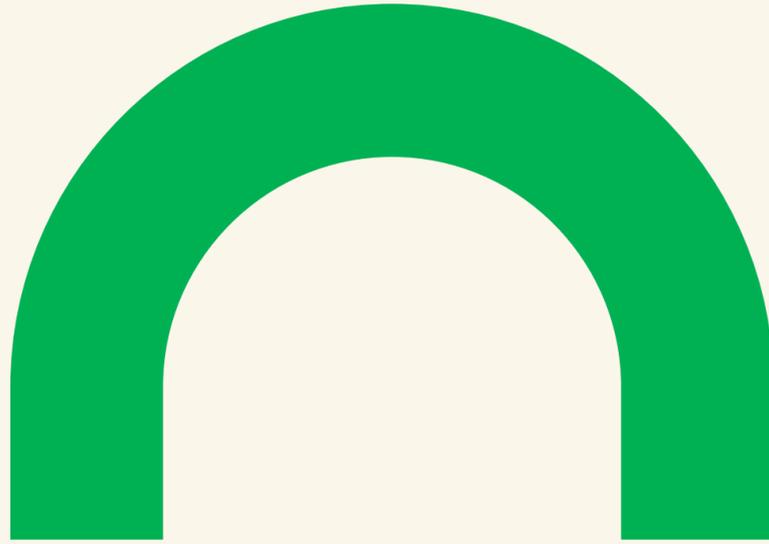


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UPSC CANCELS PUJA KHEDKAR'S CANDIDATURE

KUMARASWAMY: JDS WON'T TAKE PART IN ANTI-CM MARCH
PAGES 14 & 8

9-year trial later, AIIMS software to take diabetes care to PHCs

ANKITA UPADHYAY
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

A NEW software developed by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi, can extend specialised diabetes care consultation to the remotest primary healthcare centre (PHC).

All that a local-level healthcare professional needs to do is feed patient data on risk factors like blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar into the software, which can then process the information to suggest the kind of treatment and medicines needed.

A nine-year-long randomised control trial, conducted on more than 1,100 patients from 10 private and public hospitals, demonstrated the model's efficiency as patients were able to reduce their diabetes-related complications when they followed the protocol it recommended.

"The study was conducted in low and middle-income countries including India and Pakistan. This software is suitable for treating patients with diabetes, blood pressure and high cholesterol. We were able to reduce serious complications of diabetes such as kidney, eye and nervous systems by 32 per cent," said Dr Nikhil Tandon, Head, Department of

IN PARLIAMENT



DHANKHAR BACKS RSS: CREDENTIALS UNIMPEACHABLE

PAGE 8

DEATH TOLL IN WAYANAD CLIMBS TO 174

'There is not a soul left': At landslide Ground Zero, massive rescue ops on

Mundakkai turns into ghost village; 170 still missing, CM says over 1,500 rescued

SHAJU PHILIP
MEPPADI, JULY 31

CLOSE TO 48 hours into the devastating landslide that tore through the hills of Wayanad district early Tuesday morning, Mundakkai, Ground Zero of the tragedy, is a ghost village — many of its inhabitants are dead, others remain missing and those who survived were taken out after an arduous rescue mission.

According to the state government's control room that's monitoring the rescue operation, by Wednesday evening, the death toll from the landslides stood at 174 while around 170 people were reported missing as central and state agencies worked alongside local volunteers to carry out search, rescue and relief operations. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said 1,592 people have been rescued since the landslides hit.

But it's Mundakkai, a village in the lap of the Western Ghats that posed the biggest challenge to the rescuers. Once dotted with resorts, homestays and coffee plantations, the entire village, part of the Meppadi panchayat, had been turned inside out as the torrent of mud and water washed away everything in its path — hundreds of houses,



A rescuer consoles a man who lost his home in the landslide at Chooralmala in Wayanad district of Kerala, Wednesday. AP

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

THE SLIPPING LAND

Wayanad tragedy is a warning of the perils of ignoring ecology and science in development planning
PAGE 10

INSIDE

WAR OF WORDS IN HOUSE, SHAH SAYS BRINGING BILL

PAGE 15

In devastated villages, ambulances bring the dead, funeral prayers on

SHAJU PHILIP
MEPPADI, JULY 31

OVER 24 hours since massive landslides struck the hills of Meppadi panchayat in Kerala's Wayanad district, the torrent of mud and water has receded to bare scenes of devastation — mass burials and relief shelters with people who have no homes

to go back to.

At the hillock burial ground of the Juma Masjid in Wayanad's Meppadi, funeral prayers have been ringing out ceaselessly since Tuesday. Here, around 50 volunteers drawn from various mahallu committees have been digging graves, preparing to find a resting place for the unending stream of bodies brought in by ambulances.

The landslides that swept through several villages of Wayanad early Tuesday morning left at least 174 dead. Most of the victims at this burial ground are from Mundakkai and Chooralmala, two villages in Meppadi panchayat, where entire families and even neighbourhoods have been wiped off.

According to Juma Masjid
CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Hamas chief killed in Tehran, Iran vows revenge on Israel



Hours before his killing, Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh (centre), and Palestinian Islamic Jihad's Ziad Nakhleh, met Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (right) Tuesday. AP

NIDAL AL-MUGHRABI & PARISA HAFEZI
CAIRO, DUBAI, JULY 31

HAMAS LEADER Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in the Iranian capital Tehran early on Wednesday morning, an attack that drew threats of revenge on Israel and fuelled further concern

that the conflict in Gaza was turning into a wider Middle East war. The Palestinian Islamist militant group and Iran's Revolutionary Guards confirmed Haniyeh's death.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

MORE REPORTS
PAGE 25

Why this will rattle the region and worry Delhi

Haniyeh was in Tehran for inaugural of President; Gadkari represented India

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

INDIA WOKE up to the news of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh's assassination in Iran, marking a defining moment in the ongoing Israel-Hamas war since the October 7, 2023 attacks.

Until Wednesday evening, New Delhi had not issued a response. On Tuesday, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari was in Tehran to attend the inauguration of the newly-elected Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian — Haniyeh was also in Tehran for the ceremony. What does
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Weapons to VDCs, 75 forest camps: Govt plan to tackle terror in Jammu

MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

OVER 75 camps with personnel of the Special Operations Group (SOG) in forest areas; regular training for Village Defence Committees (VDCs) with traditional as well as semi-automatic weapons; and an increased deployment of BSF personnel on the border with a special focus on tunnels — these are some of the key points of a security plan the Centre has prepared for Jammu,



During a search operation in Rajouri on Wednesday. ANI

The Indian Express has learnt.

In the wake of an uptick in terror attacks in the region, including many that inflicted casualties on security forces, multiple meetings were held by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and senior ministry officials with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, and senior officials from the Army and CRPF.

According to a source, questioning of those suspected to have provided logistics to terrorists suggests a group of 30-40
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Infosys slapped with Rs 32,403 cr GST demand notice, says it has paid all dues

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE DIRECTORATE General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) has slapped a Rs 32,403-crore notice on Infosys for services availed by the company from its overseas branches over a five-year period starting 2017.

Bengaluru-based Infosys, in a stock exchange filing Wednesday,

called the missive from the tax department a "pre-show cause" notice and said it believes the GST is not applicable on the expenses in contention.

The IT company said the Karnataka State GST authorities have issued a pre-show cause notice for payment of GST of Rs 32,403 crore for the period July 2017 to March 2022 towards the expenses incurred by overseas branch offices of Infosys Limited,

and added that it has responded to the pre-show cause notice.

"...the Company has also received a pre-show cause notice from the Director General of GST Intelligence on the same matter and the Company is in the process of responding to the same," the filing stated. The company believes that as per regulations, GST is not applicable on such expenses.
CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

Why Olympians are losing sleep — heat, not enough food, theft, transport woes



Athletes have complained about living in the tiny Games Village rooms without air-conditioners. Reuters

INDIA AT OLYMPICS
BADMINTON
Lakshya Sen stuns All-England champion to enter pre-quarters
FULL COVERAGE, P 17 & 18

open the windows and hence, it was very suffocating. I was sweating even before I entered the arena," the athlete, requesting anonymity, said. "It was
CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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ALLOTMENT FOR HOSPITAL									
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
ALLOTMENT FOR NURSING HOME									
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
ALLOTMENT FOR NURSERY SCHOOL									
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

Note: Number of Plots may increase/decrease as indicated in the above respective categories.

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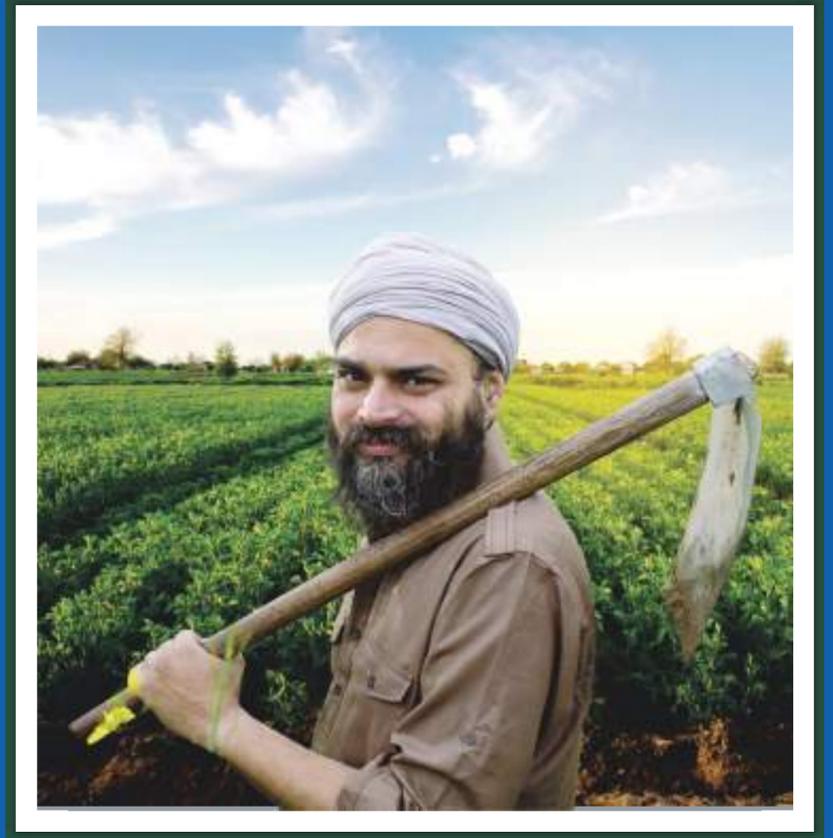
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Bhagwant Singh Mann
Chief Minister, Punjab





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FROM PAGE ONE FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Hamas chief killed in Tehran

The Guards said it took place hours after he attended a swearing-in ceremony for Iran's new President.

Iranian media said Haniyeh was staying at "a special residence" for war veterans in the north of Tehran. *NourNews*, an outlet affiliated with Iran's Supreme National Security Council, said his residence was hit by an "airborne projectile".

Although the attack was widely assumed to have been carried out by Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government made no claim of responsibility and said it would make no comment on the killing.

Haniyeh, normally based in Qatar, had been the face of Hamas's international diplomacy as the war set off by the Hamas-led attack on Israel on October 7 raged in Gaza. He had been taking part in internationally-brokered indirect talks on reaching a ceasefire in the Palestinian enclave.

The assassination occurred less than 24 hours after Israel claimed to have killed Hezbollah's most senior military commander in the Lebanese capital Beirut in retaliation for a deadly rocket strike in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights. Two Lebanese security sources confirmed later on Wednesday that the body of Hezbollah operations chief Fuad Shukur had been found in rubble left by an airstrike in Beirut's southern suburbs.

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 that Haniyeh's killing would "take the battle to new dimensions and have major repercussions". Vowing to retaliate, Iran declared three days of national mourning and said the US bears responsibility because of its support for Israel.

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 Haniyeh's death. Iranian forces have already made strikes directly on Israel earlier in the Gaza war.

In Jerusalem, an Israeli government spokesperson declined to comment on the killing of Haniyeh but said the country was on high alert for any Iranian retaliation. Spokesperson David Mencer told a briefing with journalists that Israel was committed to Gaza ceasefire negotiations and securing the release of Israeli hostages held by Palestinian militants in Gaza.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, at an event in Singapore, sidestepped a question on Haniyeh's killing, saying a ceasefire deal in Gaza was key to avoiding wider regional escalation. He told Channel News Asia that the US had neither been aware of, nor involved in, the killing.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said Israel was not trying to escalate the war but was prepared for all scenarios.

Qatar, which has been brokering talks aimed at halting the fighting in Gaza along with Egypt, condemned Haniyeh's killing as a dangerous escalation of the conflict. "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," Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani said on X.

Egypt said it showed a lack of political will on Israel's part to calm tensions. China, Russia, Turkey and Iraq also condemned it.

Iran's top security body met to decide strategy in reaction to the killing, a source with knowledge of the situation said.

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 who lives in Qatar, analysts and Hamas officials said. Under Meshaal, Hamas emerged as an ever more important player in the Middle East 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.

Appointed to be the top Hamas job in 2017, Haniyeh moved between Turkey and Qatar's capital Doha, escaping the travel curbs of the blockaded Gaza Strip and enabling him to act as a negotiator in the truce talks or to talk to Hamas' ally Iran. Three of his sons were killed in an Israeli airstrike in April.

His deputy Saleh Al-Arouri was killed in January by Israel, leaving Yehya Al-Sinwar, the Hamas chief in Gaza and the architect of the October 7 attack on Israel, and Zaher Jabarin, the head of the group in the West Bank, in place but in hiding.

That assault by Hamas-led fighters killed about 1,200 people in southern Israeli communities and some 250 people were taken to Gaza as hostages, Israeli tallies say. In response, Israel launched a ground and air offensive in the coastal enclave that has killed more than 39,400 people, according to Gaza health officials, and left more than 2 million facing a humanitarian crisis.

No end appears to be in sight for Israel's campaign there as the ceasefire talks falter. The risk of a deepening war between Israel and the Lebanese group Hezbollah has also grown since the strike in the Golan Heights that killed 12 children in a Druze village on Saturday and Israel's killing of Hezbollah commander Shukur.

Why Hamas chief's killing will rattle the region and worry Delhi

this assassination mean for the region, the world an India?

First, this is the most high-profile blow to Hamas since the October 7 attacks, in which the Palestinian outfit killed at least 1,200 Israeli civilians and military personnel, and took about 250 hostages. Since then, the Israeli military has been pounding Gaza with air strikes and carried out ground operations, going after the Hamas leaders, in which more than 40,000 people have been killed. So, from the Israeli point of view, this is a major victory for its mission to neutralise Hamas — a stated objective behind launching the Operation Swords of Iron.

Second, Hamas views this as a major provocation since Haniyeh was the head of its political bureau, based in Qatar. He was the public face of Hamas, and was negotiating the terms of the hostage deal and the ceasefire, while Yahya Sinwar is its military leader, responsible for the October 7 attacks.

In a statement, Hamas mourned the death of Haniyeh, who it said was killed in "a treacherous Zionist raid on his

residence in Tehran" after attending the swearing-in ceremony of the new Iranian President. This is certain to anger Hamas and its benefactor, Iran.

Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri told Reuters that the assassination of Haniyeh in Iran was a grave escalation.

Third, the venue of Haniyeh's assassination is another important element. The fact that the targeted strike took place in Tehran will be seen as a major escalatory move. Haniyeh had also met Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei.

The Hamas leader, who was living in Qatar, gave him immunity there. But, by killing him in Iran, it seems, Israel has made a move to signal that the group's leaders are not safe in Iranian security. In April this year, Israel had targeted Iran in the first direct-assault, after Iran had conducted strikes on Israel — its missiles were intercepted by Israel and its allies in the region.

Thereafter, the temperature cooled somewhat, but this assassination has the potential to prompt another round of

strikes. Fourth, within Iran and Hamas, there will be now calls for avenging the death of Haniyeh, and that is certain to put pressure on the newly-elected Pezeshkian, who is considered a moderate, and may find himself in a tight spot to respond.

Pezeshkian's own election campaign was to start negotiations with the West for economic reasons — Iran has been facing the heat of Western sanctions, and he would have hoped for a restart to the dialogue process with Europe, to begin with.

With the assassination of Haniyeh, Pezeshkian will be under pressure from the IRGC and the hardliners in the Iranian establishment to respond in kind.

Pezeshkian's first few days and weeks will be a test of his skills as a politician, negotiating with the Supreme Leader on how to respond to the crisis.

Fifth, this assassination gives a lifeline to Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. He has been facing questions on his leadership, and his political

survival has been at stake with pressure on him to finally strike the hostage deal with Hamas, being brokered by the US, Egypt and Qatar among others. The assassination will have the potential to upend all such efforts for the time being, and it is expected to prolong the war in Gaza for some more time. This will mean that Netanyahu can stay until the war is over.

Sixth, the US elections are at a pivotal stage, with Vice President Kamala Harris looking to shape the Democratic field — by being anointed as the Democratic Presidential candidate and picking the Vice Presidential nominee — in the next couple of weeks.

She has signalled that she will be tougher on Netanyahu on the Israeli response and the war in Gaza, as she is focussed on the younger Democratic voters, and this adds a layer of complication.

Harris, who has been perceived as more vocal on the war in Gaza as compared to President Joe Biden, will now have to think about how to respond in case there is escalation

in the region. Seventh, the wider region is a tinderbox, because if there is an escalation by Iran and Hamas, it will impact the entire region. Qatar, Turkey, Yemen's Houthis have already condemned the assassination, and top regional players like Saudi Arabia, UAE are watching the events closely.

After more than nine months of war in Gaza, this is a defining moment — after the development in April when there was a risk of escalation — when the region might get drawn into a broader conflict.

Eighth, India is still processing the developments, as South Block is mindful of the sensitivities of a response. While it does not have any positive sentiments about the Hamas leaders, it will be careful in its framing — since it involves a targeted assassination on a foreign soil.

The immediate Indian concern will be the peace and stability in the region which is home to about 9 million Indians living and working in the region, apart from the region supplying almost two-third of crude to India.

Weapons to VDCs, 75 forest camps

militants from Pakistan, belonging to the Jaish-e-Mohammed, have infiltrated into Jammu and are hiding in the forests of Kathua, Doda, Udhampur, Kishtwar and Samba.

"Most of the people approached by them are local cattle traders. They take down their details and give them Rs 500-1,000, and ask for enough food to be packed for seven days," said a source.

The Jammu region shares 485 kilometres of the border with Pakistan, interspersed with dense forests and mountainous terrain.

According to sources, strategic points have been identified to set up SOG camps, where personnel will be deployed from the local police, CRPF and Army. "They will conduct daily patrolling to look for terrorists," a source said.

Significantly, it has also been decided to restart regular training for VDCs in using weapons such as the traditional .303 rifles and semi-automatic SLRs. "It also came to light that terrorists are us-

ing the personal hotspot connections of villagers to make VoIP (voice over internet protocol) calls to their handlers in Pakistan. Efforts will be made to spread awareness among villagers not to share their internet hotspot or WiFi password with any stranger. Punitive action will be taken if they do," said a source.

Recently, the Centre also ordered the extraction of two BSF battalions, comprising more than 2,000 personnel, from Odisha to beef up security in the Jammu region.

"The decision was taken to strengthen the deployment in the border areas, specifically around tunnels to prevent infiltration. The troops of these two units are expected to be based in Samba and near the Jammu-Punjab border," a source said.

The BSF guards more than 2,289 kilometres of the International Boundary that runs along Jammu, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat in India's western flank. The Jammu area is vulnerable to cross-border tunnels and its dense forests and mountainous terrain make it an ideal ground for terrorists to launch attacks against civilians and security forces.

On Tuesday, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai told the Lok Sabha that the Centre has a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism. "The approach of the government is to dismantle the terror ecosystem. Security measures are being strengthened to sustain peace and stability in J&K. The strategies adopted and action taken for containing acts of terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir include effective, continuous and sustained actions against terrorists and support structures; dismantling of terror ecosystem using whole of government approach; crack-down on terror finance such as seizure/attachment of properties belonging to terrorists and their associates under relevant section of the law; and banning of anti-national organisations," he said.

Rai also said preventive operations involve identifying the strategic supporters of terrorism and initiating investigations to expose their mechanisms of aiding and abetting terrorism. He said that a "multi-pronged strategy to prevent infiltration" is being followed, including "enhancement of counter insurgency grid, special focus on modernisation and strengthening of security equipment, intensified cordon and search operations to effectively deal with challenges posed by terrorist organisations, sharing of intelligence inputs on a real-time basis among all security forces operating in Jammu and Kashmir, and day and night area domination".

"Fourteen civilians killed, 14 security personnel killed, 24 encounter/counter-terror operations, and 11 terror initiated incidents have been reported this year till July 21," he said.

AIIMS software to take diabetes care to PHCs

Endocrinology and Metabolism at AIIMS, and one of the key investigators who did the randomised controlled trial with the Clinical Decision Support Software (CDSS).

Besides, patients on the CDSS protocol were nearly twice as likely to achieve and maintain target levels for blood sugar, blood pressure and LDL-cholesterol compared to regular patients.

Given its efficacy, this tool could become a key component of public health management of diabetes which, according to a study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has affected 101 million people. That's why the team of researchers have also suggested integrating it with the electronic health record of patients in the National Programme for NCDs (non-communicable diseases) run by the Government.

"Integrating the software into the patient portal will significantly benefit the impact of the national programme. For this, we have also initiated talks with the officials concerned," Dr Tandon said.

The software could be an integral part of treatment as there are many shortcomings in the diagnosis, treatment and management of diabetes in the country. "Fifty per cent of people are not aware of their disease, 50 per cent of them do not take treatment. Those on treatment stop taking the medicine midway. At a clinic, the doctor wastes time finding out about patient history, often suggesting more tests. Sometimes patients do not get the right advice in remote parts," he said.

For the last nine years, Dr

Tandon and fellow researchers have been working on CDSS, which follows data prompts and can suggest the kind of treatment a patient requires if their blood sugar, blood pressure or cholesterol levels cross a certain level, the medicines to be taken for their condition and dosage. So in places where a trained diabetologist or an endocrinologist is not available, physicians can take support of CDSS prompts and advise treatment to a patient.

The CDSS has been developed as part of a study, conducted by the Center for Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in South Asia study trial (CARRS), which went on from January 2011 through September 2019. The researchers in the team included doctors from AIIMS, Centre for Chronic Disease Control and the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) among others.

Initially, the study was done for two-and-half years with not just patients of diabetes but also patients who needed to control their blood pressure and cholesterol. "The intervention showed that we could control multiple risk factors by more than 200 per cent using our methodology," Dr Tandon said.

How does the software work?

The AIIMS team developed the software on a rule-based algorithm based on a compilation of 2,000-2,500 patient scenarios, symptoms and treatment options. So these advisories are based on mathematical scenarios, which do not include information about lifestyle changes. "It can provide a recommendation for therapy which is

based on evidence-based guidelines. If the variables were restricted to what is fed in the computer, this would perform very well but there are variables which cannot be put into the algorithm such as lifestyle-related changes. Therefore, the doctor may also adopt the advice based on the variables related to a patient's lifestyle and other conditions," Dr Tandon said.

"Suppose a patient is taking two pills for diabetes but the sugar level is still above what the doctors want it to be, the CDSS can advise adding or subtracting a dose of medicine. However, it cannot ascertain the emotional and mental stress or changes a patient has been through which can affect their disease. It's the doctor who will decide how the treatment has to be modified," he said.

The software can be operated by anyone with computer proficiency, who can upload details of the patient's test results, the comparative score of blood pressure and blood pressure and previous treatment. "Apart from treatment advisories, it can even assess if the patient needs to increase or decrease dosage of his current medication," he said.

The only human component in software management is a care coordinator, who can be a simple computer operator. "The other component is powered by technology in the form of an electronic health record system, which will keep all the information of a diabetes patient on their tests, reports, past treatment or lack of it. An integrated clinical decision support system analyses these inputs before suggesting an advisory," he said.

Why Olympians are losing sleep — heat, not enough food

cooler outside than inside the bus." She isn't the only one complaining and heat is just one of the woes expressed by the elite athletes who have converged here for the Games costing close to \$9 billion. Besides the transport headache, Olympians in Paris are losing sleep due to empty stomachs or concerns about their belongings. A Japanese rugby player has lost his wedding ring. An Australian coach complained of a stolen credit card. The Americans have mocked the cramped bedrooms. South Korean swimmers checked out after just one day, citing transportation issues. And the Indians feel the food is inadequate and rationed — Team Great Britain flew in their own chef.

For thousands of athletes, the sprawling Olympic Village is a "home". But they are not feeling at home. "From sleeping to bus to food... I don't think there's any athlete I have spoken with (who) is satisfied." India's top-ranked singles tennis player Sumit Nagal said. Badminton doubles star Chirag Shetty admitted that he "wouldn't say it was the best".

Boxer Amit Panghal has been ordering dal and roti for dinner from a nearby Indian restaurant. Two-time Olympic medalist P V Sindhu, after securing her spot in the knockout rounds Wednesday, said the fan worked for her the night before, the hottest of the Olympics so far, but wasn't sure if others could sleep well.

To reduce the carbon footprint, Paris Olympics organisers decided to do away with air conditioning inside athletes' rooms. Maybe, the noble green thought didn't factor in the heat wave that hit Paris, resulting in sweaty Olympians cramped in poky quarters.

Earlier this week, USA's tennis sensation Coco Gauff gave her followers on TikTok a glimpse into the rooms where she and her teammates are staying. The video had screaming sound effects with a caption that read: "10 girls, two bathrooms". An Indian table tennis player said the "cardboard" beds are so uncomfortable that they faced trouble "sleeping peacefully" for the first couple of nights. "But that is something we still got used to. The real problem is at the dining hall, where either there isn't enough food or, if it is available, the queue is very, very long," the paddler added.

Supply issues have marred the football-field-sized dining area — the 3,500-seater hall feeds around 15,000 people and has been serving up to 40,000 meals per day — since the first day.

Shuttler Tanisha Crasto said the day there was rajma on the menu, "it got over even before we could reach". And the containers were not refilled. Vegetarian items aren't the only ones that are being rationed — eggs and grilled meats, too, have been in short supply, according to leading French sports newspaper *L'Equipe*.

An official with the Indian contingent said the issue was flagged with the organisers and normal service was slowly resuming. "We have advised our athletes to be careful in ordering from outside since we can't be sure of the quality. Inside the Village, at least quality won't be compromised," said the official.

The Indian contingent, meanwhile, is bracing itself for other issues which "can be under its control". On top of that list is transport.

Team India has kept one station wagon, a mini SUV, two minivans and four other vehicles on standby to ferry athletes from the Village to the Games venues, which are spread all over Paris. "Every night, we look at the schedule for the next day and assign these vehicles to each athlete who is set to compete. This is a back-up, just in case the bus is running late," said the official, adding that this advanced planning came in handy for the badminton players and equestrian team members.

Indian athletes have also been asked to use safety vaults in their rooms to store valuables after incidents of robbery were reported. According to the *Japan Times*, a Rugby Sevens player from the country filed a police complaint for the theft of a wedding ring, a necklace and cash from his room. The estimated value was 3,000 euros. *Le Parisien* reported that an Australian hockey team coach filed a police complaint regarding the theft of a bank card. It said the individual was contacted by his bank for a "suspicious transaction" of 1,500 Australian dollars.

Nagal said he wasn't impressed with the Village as a whole. "This is the biggest tournament in the world for every sport. I think they could have done a better job," 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

- BLOODSHOT OR GLAZED EYES, DILATED PUPILS
- POOR LOCO-MOTOR COORDINATION
- SLURRED SPEECH
- DISINTERESTED ATTITUDE
- RUNNING NOSE OR COUGH
- POOR PHYSICAL HEALTH & SENSE OF HYGIENE
- CHANGE IN EATING HABIT
- INCREASED ANGER OR IRRITABILITY

- TREMORS
- DEPRESSION
- MOOD SWINGS
- PARANOIA-SEVERE ANXIETY
- EXTREME HYPERACTIVITY
- ISOLATING FROM FRIENDS/FAMILY
- FLUCTUATION IN WEIGHT
- SUDDEN CHANGE IN PERSONALITY, ATTITUDE, HABITS, HOBBIES

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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(CN-174899D1974G01007417)
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Ref. No. 07-2024-25-DAP-06E/W Date: 01.08.2024

NOTICE INVITING GLOBAL E-TENDER

Bids are invited for supply of loose bulk fertilizers as detailed below:

E-tender No.	Product	Qty. [in MT]	Coast	Last date of bid submission
2024_NFL_203222_1	DAP (18:46:0)	30,000-50,000	Either at ECI or WCI	05.08.2024 till 14:00 Hrs IST

For details, visit websites: www.nationalfertilizers.com or https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app. Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, shall be published only on above websites. DGM - 1/c (II&IP)

DIP/Shabdarth/Display/0010/24-25

Viksit Bharat, Sashakt Uttarakhand

State top performer in SDG India Index 2023-24

Driven by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the state of Uttarakhand, led by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, has demonstrated tremendous achievement in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as depicted in the **SDG India Index 2023-24**

PICTURE: DIPR, UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT



CM Pushkar Singh Dhama gifting 'Grain of Uttarakhand' to Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Uttarakhand has set a standard by leading in essential domains including healthcare, clean energy, reduction in poverty, urban sustainability, and environmental protection

benefits to remote places, and improving the quality of care. Ingenious health agendas and expanded investment in public health have additionally strengthened the ranking of Uttarakhand, positioning it among the highest achievers in this crucial domain.

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS

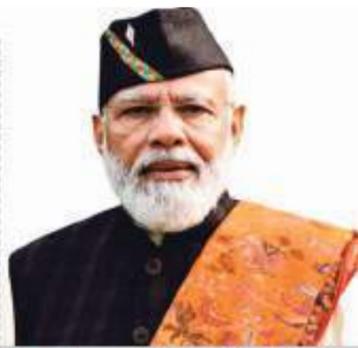
The accomplishments of Uttarakhand in the SDG India Index emphasise its adherence to assuring access to affordable, trustworthy, sustainable, and contemporary energy for everybody. The state has taken noteworthy steps in boosting renewable energy capability, especially in harnessing its hydroelectric potential. Further, Uttarakhand has concentrated on enhancing energy efficiency and extending the electricity grid to rural and isolated regions, assuring overall access to clean energy. These measures have improved energy security as well as contributed to environmental sustainability, making the state achieve a leading position in this classification.

CREATING INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES

The state has undertaken several metropolitan expansion to enhance infrastructure and improve various public services. Introduction of smart cities concept, affordable accommodation schemes, and integration of disaster threat reduction efforts into urban planning have greatly enhanced the quality of life for urban citizens.

CONSERVING TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY

The commitment of Uttarakhand towards



I congratulate the Uttarakhand government on the remarkable progress achieved in the last few years. This has been made possible by sustained policy push and focus on key sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. Alongside, the state has made significant strides in infrastructure development, setting new benchmarks for sustainable growth. Uttarakhand's commitment to harnessing its natural resources and promoting tourism has not only bolstered its economy but also showcased its potential on the global stage. I applaud the state's dedication to inclusive development and look forward to its continued success in the years ahead.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

important landmarks in lessening poverty levels, assuring financial security for its citizens, and implementing comprehensive social security programmes. The exhaustive strategy of the state contains targeted initiatives for the marginalised, livelihood generation agendas, and improving access to fundamental needs such as housing, education, and healthcare. These endeavours have collectively contributed to the top-tier ranking of the state in eliminating poverty.

PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL

The state of Uttarakhand has exhibited remarkable advancement in boosting health and well-being. The healthcare system of the state has demonstrated outstanding progress in different health indicators, including mother and child health, immunisation coverage, and the management of infectious and

non-communicable diseases. The focus of the government has been on bolstering healthcare infrastructure, extending the coverage of health



Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are committed to the holistic development of our state, leveraging its natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and immense potential. Through sustainable policies and strategic initiatives, we aim to foster economic growth, improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for all our citizens. Our goal is to make Uttarakhand a model of progress, where tradition meets innovation, and every individual can thrive in a conducive environment for prosperity and well-being.

Pushkar Singh Dhama
Chief Minister

Uttarakhand has emerged as a top performer in the recently released SDG India Index 2023-24, ranking alongside Kerala with an impressive score of 79. Under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama, the state has worked on comprehensive development, promoting renewable energy, augmenting healthcare infrastructure, evolving urban surroundings, and preserving biodiversity, underlining its dedication to sustainable evolution and effective policy execution, thus attaining a spot among the top five states in several SDG goals.

ALLEVIATING POVERTY AND SAFEGUARDING FINANCIAL SECURITY

The performance of Devbhoomi Uttarakhand in alleviating poverty is admirable, illustrating the state's victorious measures in its mitigation. The SDG India Index underscores that Uttarakhand has attained

maintaining the ecosystem and biodiversity is illustrated in its high ranking in the SDG India Index. The state has launched strong efforts to save and revive forests, conserve wilderness, and fight land degradation.

The rich biodiversity and vast forest cover of Uttarakhand are important assets that the state preserves via different environmental approaches and community-based conservation agendas. Measures to foster sustainable farming and forestry techniques have additionally bolstered the ecological harmony of the state, assuring the long-term health of its natural resources.

The holistic strategy of Uttarakhand for growth, incorporating financial development with social inclusion and environmental administration, illustrates the regulations of the Sustainable Development Goals.

U'khand aces in the introduction of gross environmental product index

The Gross Environmental Product (GEP) Index, was recently launched by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama and it evaluates the environmental health of the state based on the quality of four essential elements, viz. air, water, forest, and soil. The GEP shows relative data from 2020 to 2022, indicating a 0.9% growth, signalling favourable environmental trends amid expansion. CM Dhama highlighted the importance of this endeavour in facilitating a balance between financial growth and ecological

PICTURE: DIPR, UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT



Uttarakhand strives to lead by example with the introduction of the GEP Index, in balancing growth with environmental sustainability

conservation. The GEP Index will act as a vital instrument in forming prospective environmental conservation objectives and raising public understanding about the significance of protecting natural resources. The Chief Minister, while emphasising the rich natural legacy of Uttarakhand, highlighted the necessity for effective utilisation

of forest wealth and the revitalisation of water sources via comprehensive plantation of trees and water conservation measures.

The concept of GEP was envisioned by environmentalist Dr Anil Prakash Joshi. It allocates an economic worth to environmental services, providing a tangible standard of ecological influence. Uttarakhand strives to lead by example with the introduction of the GEP Index in balancing growth with environmental sustainability. This assures a brighter tomorrow for its residents and establishing a standard for other states to pursue.



Uttarakhand has undertaken a historic step to introduce the Gross Environmental Product (GEP) Index, becoming the first Indian state to introduce such a pioneering endeavour that connects ecology with the economy

Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, the 'One District Two Products' scheme launched by CM Pushkar Singh Dhama aims to promote local products and create self-employment opportunities across all 13 districts of the state

ODTP Scheme: A step towards local economic empowerment

Uttarakhand's 'One District Two Products' (ODTP) Scheme is an innovative initiative launched by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama in October 2021. The scheme aims to promote local products and create self-employment opportunities across all 13 districts of the state.



CM Pushkar Singh Dhama inquiring about the products made by local artisans

handlooms, handicrafts, and aromatic herbs, Dehradun's bakery and mushroom products, Haridwar's jaggery and honey, Nainital's Apan art and candle craft, Pauri's herbal products and wooden furniture, Pithoragarh's woolen carpet and Munsiyari rajma, Rudrapur's handicrafts temple shapes and prasad products, Tehri's natural fiber and Tehri Nath, Udham Singh Nagar's mentha oil and Moonj grass products, and Uttarkashi's woolen handicrafts and apple-based products.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
Skill development and design enhancement are also crucial components of the implementation strategy. By equipping local artisans and craftsmen with modern skills and design techniques, the scheme ensures that the products meet contemporary market demands.

MARKET & EXPORT POTENTIAL
The ODTP scheme aims to position Uttarakhand's local products in both domestic and international markets.

By promoting these products on a larger scale, the scheme seeks to enhance their visibility and demand. The government's efforts to improve packaging, branding and marketing are expected to play a significant role in this endeavour. Tourism also plays a crucial role in the ODTP scheme's market strategy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has encouraged tourists to spend at least 5% of their total expenditure on local products. This initiative not only boosts the local economy, but also promotes state's cultural heritage.

FUTURE PROSPECTS
The ODTP scheme is a promising step towards the sustainable economic development of Uttarakhand. By focusing on local products and creating self-employment opportunities, the scheme aims to foster economic resilience in the state's rural areas. The successful implementation of this scheme could serve as a model for other states to follow, highlighting the potential of local industries to drive economic growth.

District-wide crafts get recognition

Local products find national & global platforms



PM Narendra Modi interacting with women entrepreneurs (SHG) during Uttarakhand Investor Summit 2023

The 'One District One Product' (ODOP) scheme is an endeavour under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, striving to boost regional products and promote financial evolution in districts across India. By recognising and sustaining outstanding products from each district, the scheme seeks to facilitate manufacturing, help regional craftspeople, and furnish a forum for these products in nationwide and global markets. Recently, Uttarakhand and its border district, Uttarkashi, obtained nationwide acclaim under this scheme, marking a notable accomplishment for the state.

The state's commendation came during the Atmanirbhar Bharat Utsav 2024 awards, where Uttarkashi district

Rank	State	Award
1.	J&K	Gold
2.	Uttarakhand	Silver
3.	Meghalaya	Bronze
4.	Sikkim	Bronze

won the second award for its production of Red Rice in the agriculture category.

Different districts in Uttarakhand have been recognised with special products under the ODOP scheme, including Almora's apricot-based products, Bageshwar's kiwi-based products, Chamoli's fish-based products, Champawat's jeppatte and spices, Dehradun's bakery products, Haridwar's mushrooms, Nainital's fruit juice and squash (peach, etc), Pauri's citrus-based products (Malt), Pithoragarh's turmeric-based products, Rudrapur's amaranthus-based products, Tehri's ginger-based products, Udham Singh Nagar's mango-based products, and Uttarkashi's apple-based products.

This is supported by the Common Facility Centre (CFC) Scheme, which furnishes up to 90 percent of the project expenditure in economic aid. This allows local producers to improve their production establishments and enhance their product quality. The Marketing Development Assistance Scheme presents economic support to participants of nationwide and multinational exhibits and fairs, letting them demonstrate and market their ODOP-selected products. Further, the Finance Assistance Scheme (Margin Money Scheme) offers assistance to set up projects, assuring that financial limitations do not restrict the development of local enterprises.

AYUSH POLICY: TOWARDS WELLNESS



CM's visit to Adi Kailash further promoted the area as a notable pilgrimage destination

The AYUSH Policy of Uttarakhand summarises enterprising strategies to incorporate conventional healthcare procedures with contemporary methods, striving for holistic wellness and financial development.

The policy strives to capitalise on this legacy by enabling the cultivation of over 1,000 rare medicinal plants native to the area. Endeavours such as the Chief Minister Medicinal Plant Development Programme are set to involve 50,000 farmers in growing these plants, promoting sustainable farming approaches, and augmenting regional revenues.

In the domain of AYUSH production, Uttarakhand already has a strong drive, backed by ample raw materials and promising business necessities. The state hosts multiple GMP-certified manufacturing departments making a vast array of AYUSH medicines and consumer items. Under the new policy, more incentives and assistance will be

PM Narendra Modi's fondness for yoga and meditation has immensely increased the popularity of these age-old practices, especially in Uttarakhand

offered to enable more units to attain WHO GMP certification and adhere to global quality norms. This action is anticipated to greatly improve the sector's contribution to the state's GDP, presently evaluated at Rs 4,000-5,000 crore.

The policy encapsulates strategies to accredit all specified government AYUSH healthcare centers under the NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) within five years.

#ExploreUttarakhand



@DIPR_UK

ASHOK VIHAR Satisfactory 85 AQI PM 10	IHBAS Satisfactory 69 AQI PM 10	R K PURAM Satisfactory 73 AQI PM 10	SIRIFORT Satisfactory 76 AQI PM 10	SKY WATCH August 1 Generally cloudy sky. Light to moderate rain/thundershowers
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MAX: 33 1.4°C below normal | MIN: 25 2.1°C below normal

HEAVY RAIN LASHES DELHI; ALL SCHOOLS SHUT TODAY

Capital submerged: Mother-son drowned in drain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31



Several areas of the Capital were waterlogged Wednesday; (right) AAP MLA Durgesh Pathak wades through a flooded Rajinder Nagar. Praveen Khanna

A WOMAN and her son drowned in a drain in East Delhi's Mayur Vihar Phase 3 amid the heavy rain that lashed the Capital Wednesday evening. Police said the two were returning home when the boy, Priyansh, slipped into an open drain which was not visible due to the surrounding area being completely waterlogged. Tanuja fell inside while trying to rescue her son.

Following the downpour, Education Minister Atishi announced that all schools, government and private, will remain closed Thursday. At the Delhi Airport, 10 flights were diverted — eight to Jaipur and two to Lucknow.

The rain left roads submerged, with commuters battling knee-deep water and traffic snarls that lasted hours. Old Rajinder Nagar, where the flooding of a coaching centre's basement resulted in the deaths of three UPSC aspirants days ago, was waterlogged. Area MLA Durgesh Pathak was seen standing in waist-deep water, attempting to clear the inundated stretch. Despite the rain, students protesting against the deaths continued their demonstration.

The area in front of Karol Bagh Metro Station was also submerged in knee-deep water; so was the popular Connaught Place where water entered the parking area and a few shops. "The NDMC area, which pays the highest taxes in the city, is struggling because of lack of desilting by authorities. No lesson has been learnt from past years... Water is entering our shops... We are sitting on a ticking time bomb," said Amit Gupta, president of the Connaught Place Traders' Association.

Waterlogging choked traffic in key areas such as ITO, Minto Bridge, Pul Prahladpur Railway Underpass, MB Road, Dhaura Kuan, Mathura Road, Sarita Vihar Metro Station, the carriageway from Moolchand towards Chirag Dilli, areas of Jangpura, Gaffar Market, Sadar Bazar, Anuvrat Marg.

The PWD received 30 complaints related to waterlogging, mostly from East Delhi — Yamuna Vihar, Laxmi Nagar, Preet Vihar among others. The MCD, meanwhile, received four complaints. "We have not received many complaints yet, but we are anticipating that more will be filed by early morning," an MCD official

said. Work is on to remove water from roads, said officials.

L-G VK Saxena urged officials to stay vigilant during the heavy rainfall. "Apart from ensuring minimum inconvenience to people in general, they are advised to specifically address issues at sites prone to waterlogging, including coaching centres," he posted on X.

Atishi said, "There has been very heavy rainfall in Delhi in the

last two hours. The Delhi government and MCD are closely monitoring low-lying areas and vulnerable waterlogging locations to prevent any untoward incidents."

Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi said, "Have instructed MCD commissioner and all officials to address any waterlogging occurrences as soon as possible. We all are available round the clock."

Parts of Gurgaon and Noida were also hit by the rain. In Narsinghpur on the Delhi-Jaipur highway, water had entered the main carriageway hindering traffic. Other stretches including Rajeev Chowk underpass, Medanta Road, Gold Souk Road, Golf Course Road, among others were affected. In Noida, traffic was hit in Sectors 98 and 92, and at Mahamaya Flyover.

Parts of Capital see over 100 mm of rain, more in store today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

EVEN AS Delhi recorded the highest average minimum temperature in July in nearly 10 years at 27.8 degrees Celsius, the monsoon unleashed its fury in the last few hours of the last day of the month. A red alert was sounded in the Capital Wednesday as heavy showers led to waterlogging and traffic snarls. Most of the rain was received between 6.30 pm and 8.30 pm.

The SPS Mayur Vihar station saw 119 mm of rainfall while other stations such as the Safdarjung base station logged 79.2 mm of rain between 8.30 am to 8.30 pm, as per officials.

A moderate flash flood risk is likely over a few watersheds and neighbourhoods of the Haryana-Chandigarh-Delhi Met subdivisions Thursday, said officials. "Surface runoff or inundation may occur at some fully saturated soils and low-lying areas over the area of concern (includes parts of Delhi)," read the guidance bulletin by the Flash Flood Guidance Cell of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

Explaining the reason behind

the intense spell of rain, Krishna Mishra, an IMD scientist, said, "Till yesterday, the monsoon trough was to the south of its normal position. Today it has made its transition from south of its normal position to its normal position along with lower level moisture supply from the Bay of Bengal as well as the Arabian Sea." He added that the weather office had initially predicted moderate rainfall Wednesday in its seven-day forecast on Monday.

A yellow alert (be aware) is issued till Friday, predicting light to moderate rain or thunderstorms. There is no warning in the national capital from the weekend till Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the city grappled with above-normal temperatures the entire month with high humidity levels. The Safdarjung base station recorded the highest maximum temperature this month at 39.3 degrees Celsius on Tuesday. The maximum temperature recorded on Wednesday was 37.8 degrees Celsius, three notches above normal. The minimum temperature was the second highest on Wednesday this month at 30.4 degrees Celsius after July 2 (30.7 degrees).

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COACHING CENTRE DEATHS

Court denies bail to man who drove past Rau's — and HC raps cops for arresting him

Senior officers not moving out of AC offices: High Court lambasts MCD

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

A DELHI court Wednesday denied bail to Manoj Kathuria, the 50-year-old businessman arrested for driving his SUV on the waterlogged road in front of Rau's IAS Study Circle where three civil service aspirants drowned and died. The four co-owners of the basement (and the building) were also denied bail.

This comes even as the Delhi High Court, in a separate hearing on the incident, castigated the Delhi Police for its "strange probe" in arresting the driver of the car and not any MCD official.

Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Vinod Kumar said, "Perusal of CCTV footage of the alleged incident shows that the accused can be seen 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 alleged premises gave way and the water went into the basement and consequently three innocent lives were lost..."

"Perusal of CCTV footage prima facie shows that he (Kathuria) was tried to be... warned of the dangers ahead by some passersby but he did not pay any heed," the judge added.

In the HC, the bench lambasted the MCD over the deaths and said senior officers are not moving out of their AC offices and that the civic body has failed to hold them responsible.

Directing the MCD commissioner, DCP concerned, and the investigating officer in the case to remain present in court Friday, the court, which added Delhi Police as a respondent to the litigation, also orally remarked that it might consider transferring the probe to a central agency.

The bench was hearing two PILs — one filed by a public trust, Kutumb, represented by advocate Rudra Vikram Singh, seeking a high-level probe into the deaths and the other, filed by one Amrik Singh Babbar, highlighting illegal libraries operating from basements in the city.

The bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela said adhering to a culture of freebies has left

the civic body with no funds for infrastructure upgrades.

Addressing the MCD counsel, ACJ Manmohan orally remarked, "How has water gone into the basement and why was infrastructure not upgraded in the first place? It cannot be that you have centuries-old infrastructure and you are changing building by-laws. There is a fundamental menace over here... Physical, financial and administrative infrastructure is in major disconnect (in terms of) what the citizens need and what they are given... You don't have proper sewage, you've mixed stormwater with sewage water..."

"Administrators have to be awake... You have a freebie culture, you're not collecting any money, you are not spending any money on infrastructure today..."

The bench also pointed to the fact that the civic body's standing committee has not been constituted and no project above Rs 5 crore is getting cleared. "Since the last 2-2.5 years, I don't think you have had a standing committee... How do you plan to govern?... No MCD official has been hauled up till now... Has the role of MCD officers been investigated?" it asked.

The bench went on to say that the person who has sanctioned the building has gone scot-free. "How come so much water accumulated there?... Did you insist the basement has pumps?... That is the minimum requirement while sanctioning the building. The person who has done all this (sanctioned the building) has gone scot-free. Has he been hauled up? He must have got some double promotion. The problem today is that no one is accountable in the system... The MCD just doesn't bother... It seems there's more gain by not following orders..."

"Where is the police? Who is investigating this matter? They are trying to get hold of any passerby or driver and saying this happened because you drove a car... There is some sort of very strange investigation which is going on... We don't know if the IO has seen the desilting plan or the approved building construction plan... We have no idea whether he has done that or whether he has investigated the role of MCD officials," remarked ACJ Manmohan. WITHPTINPPTS



@AAPDelhi

HOW MUCH RAIN DID DELHI-NCR GET?

District	Station	Rainfall (in mm)
East Delhi	SPS, Mayur Vihar	119.0
Gautam Buddha Nagar (UP)	NCMRWF, Noida 62	118.5
Delhi	Safdarjung	79.2
Delhi	Delhi University	77.5
Delhi	Lodhi Road	77.0
Delhi	Pusa	66.5
Gurgaon, Haryana	KVK Gurgaon	32.5

AAP-Delhi govt mulling law to regulate coaching centres; L-G sets up panel to form guidelines

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

- ### CENTRE'S GUIDELINES
- Students younger than 16 to not be enrolled in coaching centres
 - Coaching centres should not make misleading promises or guarantee ranks to parents and students
 - Penalise centres up to Rs 1L for charging exorbitant fees, causing undue stress leading to student suicide & other mal-practices; or cancel registration
 - Registration of new and existing coaching centres within 3 months after such guidelines come into effect
 - State govts will be responsible for monitoring centres

late the MCD's building bylaws." Meanwhile, the L-G held a meeting with the senior management of over 20 coaching institutes, senior officials from Delhi government departments concerned, DDA Vice-Chairman, and student representatives Tuesday, following which he directed Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar to form a committee. The panel, headed by Kumar, will comprise five-six representatives from coaching institutes, students and officials from departments concerned.

Officials said during the meeting, suggestions were mooted to create an education hub by relocating coaching institutes to areas like Narela and Rohini. Saxena directed Kumar to prepare a long- and short-term action plan for gradually shifting coaching institutes to a well-planned area.

According to the L-G office, the panel will address issues related to regulation, exorbitant rents charged by landlords, fire clearances, desilting of drains and other immediate needs of students to create a conducive educational environment. "The Chief Secretary shall take up the matter of formulation of guidelines/regulatory framework for coaching institutions/tuition classes, in line with guidelines framed by Government of India, with the Minister Education," said officials.

Officials said following the L-G's request, coaching centres have agreed to offer fair compensation to families of the three victims and a discount on fee for the current academic session to enrolled students who've suffered mental agony and disruption in studies.

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ON DAY 4 OF STUDENTS' PROTEST OVER DEATH OF 3 UPSC ASPIRANTS

Senior official admits to 'failure'; Atishi says no one will be spared



Education Minister Atishi meets protesters in Old Rajinder Nagar, Wednesday. Praveen Khanna

PRAGYNESH
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

POLITICIANS, OFFICIALS and coaching centre heads arrived at the students' protest site in Old Rajinder Nagar Wednesday — the fourth straight day of the stir over the deaths of three UPSC aspirants at Rau's IAS Study Circle's flooded basement — with promises to address their issues.

MCD Additional Commissioner Tariq Thomas admitted to preventing the tragedy. "We have structural issues like you said and they need to be addressed in a systematic way, that is my solution," he said.

"I am accepting it's a failure for all of us and me personally... I am openly saying this shouldn't have happened," he said in response to a student's grievance.

Around 5 pm, Delhi's education minister Atishi came to the spot. Amidst cries of 'Go back' and 'Delhi Sarkar Haye Haye' by one section of the crowd, while another tried to ask everyone to sit

and hear her out, Atishi started jotting down demands of students. These included a grievance redressal committee; compensation of Rs 1 crore each from Rau's for the family of the deceased; CCTV footage and other details from the night of the incident being made public; and a law to regulate coaching centre fees.

Atishi then said: "I've taken note of your demands... All coaching centres in Mukherjee Nagar, Rajinder Nagar and Laxmi Nagar will be inspected. Money will be allocated from MLA's fund to set up libraries in Old Rajinder Nagar. No official, even the most powerful of IAS officers, would be spared."

"A grievance redressal board will be set up by 12 pm Thursday in Old Rajinder Nagar which addresses all complaints of students related to water, electricity... The Delhi coaching institute and allied businesses law would be brought which will address issues of rent, fees, and other services provided to students. A panel of 10 students selected by all of you would help draft this law," she added.

Earlier in the day, Vinay Kumar,

founder of coaching centre Insight IAS, came to the spot. "I've brought cheques worth Rs 1.5 lakh, a small contribution from my side, for the family of the deceased," he said.

When asked if his own institute has a fire NOC, he told The Indian Express every rule is complied with by his centres: "Whatever rules and certificates we are obliged to have, we do."

The protesters were also joined by Jaya Prada, former Rajya Sabha MP. Initially, she was met with slogans asking her to go back. But the crowd later relented, allowing her to join them. "I am not here as a politician. I am here as a mother. Those who died deserve justice..." she said.

However, protesters did not appear satisfied with what was promised. "Different committees are being made. The L-G made one committee... She (Atishi) is making one committee with aspirants. But there is no clarity on when these promises would be fulfilled. The meeting with the MCD commissioner also didn't lead to any written assurances," said Adesh Sharma, 23, a student.



E-BUS FACILITY EXPANDED

Soon, AIIMS to have airport-like lounges for attendants of patients

Many end up waiting outside the hospital in harsh weather

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

IN A huge relief for attendants of patients, All India Institute of Medical Sciences Delhi (AIIMS) in Delhi has announced plans to set up three lounges. The government hospital receives around 15,000 patients daily in the OPD and an equal number of attendants come along with the patients. The three lounges will be set up for a cost of Rs 39.3 crore under a CSR (corporate social responsibility) initiative, said officials.

These lounges, officials added, will be free and at par with airport lounges with a capacity to receive 5,000-6,000 attendants throughout the day. The attendants can utilise the facilities such as recliner chairs, toilets, and vending machines. Along with this, the institute has also announced plans to expand its electric bus fleet to provide last-mile connectivity for train and bus passengers to key areas within the campus.

"Another set of these e-buses (20-seaters) with modern conveniences such as air-conditioning, low floor, and wheelchair access will be provided," said an official.

The move comes amid com-



These lounges will be free, said officials. File

plaints of difficulties being faced by patients, especially those with mobility challenges, to commute from nearby Metro stations and bus stops to various facilities within AIIMS.

On the lounge facility, a doctor said, "The lounge facility is much required, especially for patients coming from far-off places to Delhi. They have to sit outside tackling the harsh weather as the waiting time can be long and can stretch for months. With these lounges, the attendants can sit and wait till the treatment is ongoing."

At present, AIIMS has no such facility for attendants. The three guest houses at the institute can accommodate 5,000 people. Many attendants end up sleeping on the pavement outside the hospital and inside the subway while the patient

undergoes treatment. The lounges have been financed by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), and Airports Authority of India as part of corporate social responsibility. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed with the three organisations.

"While Rs 11.73 crore has been received from Airport Authority of India, Rs 19.3 crore has been received from REC, and Rs 8 crore from NTPC," said an official.

The three lounges will be set up at different locations — near the Mother and Child Block, at New Rajkumari Amrit Kaur (RAK) OPD, and above the underground parking near the RAK OPD.

7 YRS AFTER HE SHIFTED TO NOIDA FROM VILLAGE IN MAINPURI

E-rickshaw driver loses 3 daughters in fire at home

NEETIKA JHA
NOIDA, JULY 31

AROUND 7:30 pm on Monday, Sheela came to visit her sister-in-law, Meenu, at her rented one-room house in Noida's Sector 8. While leaving, the 30-year-old, who lives in Sector 11 with her family, took her 12-year-old nephew and Meenu's son, Abhi, to her house. "It was hot, I thought he could sleep at my house for the night," Sheela recalled.

Abhi did not know at that time that he wouldn't see his three younger sisters again. The three girls — aged 10, 7 and 5 — died in a fire that broke out in the room just hours later. His father, Daulat Ram, a 34-year-old e-rickshaw driver, was severely injured in the

blaze. He has been admitted to the Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi. His wife, Meenu, too suffered an electric shock and is recovering at the district hospital in Noida.

Daulat Ram had shifted to Noida from Legaon village of Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh seven years ago with his wife, son and two daughters. He had rented a room on the first floor of a two-storied building in Noida's Sector 8 JJ Colony for Rs 3,500 a month.

On the ground floor of this building is a small grocery shop. The first and second floors have two rooms each, which are rented to different people. The room, which was rented by Daulat Ram, has been sealed by the police.

Chief Fire Officer Pradeep Kumar said, "At around 4 am, the Fire Service Control Room re-



The three children died when they were sleeping in the rented one-room house. Gajendra Yadav

ceived information that a fire broke out in a room in a JJ Colony near the Sector 8 electricity office. Firefighting vehicles were rushed to the spot."

"As we reached the site, we found the five people while dous-

ing the fire," said Rambadan Singh, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Noida. A neighbour, Sunil, described the blaze as "massive". "We shouted and called for help and started throwing buckets of water... then the officials arrived. I have sustained some minor burns," he said.

The family awaits the bodies of three children — 10-year-old Astha, 7-year-old Naina, and 5-year-old Aradhya — who died. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem.

Recalling the turn of events the night before, Sheela on Wednesday said she dropped Abhi at her home and came back to her brother's home. "Our house is nearby. I could not sleep so I came back at around 10:15 pm. We took a mat to the terrace and

were talking till 11 pm. Meenu then came downstairs and slept with her husband on the veranda of her rented room as the girls slept on the bed inside," she said, adding that the family was unaware that a tragedy was waiting to happen. "I was sleeping alone on the terrace but at around 3 am, I felt a little anxious and woke up. After a while, I noticed some smoke. I thought someone had set some used cartons on fire. But once I checked, my brother's room was on fire," Sheela recounted.

She then screamed in panic. "My brother took a woolen shawl and rushed to get my nieces. But they had already died. When Meenu tried going outside the room, she was thrown outside due to an apparent electric shock," she said.

Sanitation and safety concerns for women pilgrims amid Kanwar Yatra

DEVANSH MITTAL
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

"OUTSPOKEN AND young at heart" — this is how Sudha (53), describes herself. A seasoned Kanwar pilgrim, however, it is getting difficult for her to cover long distances on foot with age, she says. So, this year, she and her family are travelling by train with a group of pilgrims.

A resident of Delhi, this is her 16th year of participating in the Kanwar Yatra, the annual pilgrimage that devotees undertake in North India. They carry water from Ganga and offer it to Shiva temples in their hometowns. Sudha's husband, daughter Kusum (26), mother-in-law Asha Devi (71), and niece Poonam, who is all of 12, are part of the group, which is undertaking a 200-km journey. Sudha, however, complains about the lack of medical, and sanitation facilities.

Poonam skips school for this annual family ritual. This is her fourth yatra but this year, her parents could not come along due to work. She has to use the same washroom and bath area as all the other men in the Kashmere Gate camp. The camp is supposed to be the largest of its kind and claims to be able to accommodate 20,000 people at once. While Delhi Revenue Minister Atishi had also announced separate halls for male and female pilgrims, there doesn't seem to be any provisions for female washrooms. An open area is the designated space for bathing, and it consists of just nine huge tubs of water.

Mamata, 51, another pilgrim, fights through a crowd of men to get to a tub of water. "What is the purpose of undertaking the Yatra if you have a comfortable time," she says. This is her 27th year of lifting the kanwar, which refers to the bamboo pole with pitchers full of holy water from Ganga hanging on two sides.

Devotees are supposed to bathe after every meal. Lakhs of kanwars pass Delhi every year but women constitute just 2-10% of women, as per estimates. With improvement in facilities, however, number of women pilgrims is also improving, some say. (Devansh Mittal is an intern with The Indian Express)

BRIEFLY

Drones to monitor movement of kanwariyas in Gurgaon

Gurgaon: Following the accident on the Delhi-Jaipur highway that killed a kanwar pilgrim in the early hours of Wednesday, police said drones will be deployed to ensure smooth movement at busy intersections in the city amid the annual Kanwar Yatra. Police on Wednesday launched the programme by flying drones in the sky at Subhash Chowk and Rajiv Chowk. **ENS**

Teen dies as she gets entangled in dough kneading machine

New Delhi: A 15-year-old girl died after her hand got entangled and her head was pulled into a dough kneading machine, used to make momos and spring rolls, in west Delhi's Rohini, police said on Wednesday. According to the police, the incident took place on Tuesday evening in Begumpur area, where the machine was operating from inside a room. **PTI**

Blaze breaks out at building in Kirti Nagar, 10 rescued

New Delhi: Ten people were evacuated from a residential building in Kirti Nagar on Wednesday after a fire broke out, officials of the Delhi Fire Services said. "A call regarding a fire in a house was received at 8.40 am. Two fire tenders were pressed into service," a senior DFS officer said. The officer further said that the flames spread to two scooters, and electric boards. **PTI**

PFC CONSULTING LIMITED
(A wholly owned subsidiary of PFC Limited)
Regd. Office: First Floor, "Urjanidhi", 1, Barakhamba Lane, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001, (India) Fax: 011-23443990

GLOBAL INVITATION (THROUGH E-BIDDING ONLY)
FOR SELECTION OF TRANSMISSION SERVICE PROVIDER ON BUILD, OWN, OPERATE AND TRANSFER (BOOT) BASIS FOR INTER-STATE TRANSMISSION PROJECTS

PFC Consulting Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Power Finance Corporation Limited (A Government of India Undertaking), invites proposals for setting up of transmission projects on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis following single stage two envelope process of "Request for Proposal" (RFP).

Interested bidders may refer to the RFP notification and RFP documents available on the website <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> and <https://www.pfcindia.com>.

The Bidders may obtain the RFP documents on all working days between 10:30 hrs (IST) and 16:00 hrs (IST) from 01.08.2024 to one working day prior to bid submission for the projects mentioned below on payment of a non-refundable fee of Rs. 5,00,000/- or USD 7,000 plus applicable GST @18% from 9th Floor, Wing - A, Statesman House, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001, Tel.: +91-11-23443996; Fax: 91-11-23443990; e-mail: pfccl.itp@pfcindia.com. The RFP documents can also be downloaded from <https://www.mstcecommerce.com> and <https://www.pfcindia.com>, however, in such case, interested party can submit Response to RFP only on submission of non-refundable fee of Rs.5,00,000/- or USD 7,000 plus applicable GST @18% separately. The survey report and clarification to RFP documents shall be issued to those bidders, who have obtained/ purchased RFP documents by paying requisite fee at least one working day prior to bid submission date. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated regarding clarifications/ amendments/ time extensions etc., if any. The important timelines in this regard are as follows:

S. No.	Name of Transmission Scheme	Last Date for seeking clarifications (dd/mm/yyyy)	Last Date for submission of response to RFP (dd/mm/yyyy)	Date of opening of Response to RFP (dd/mm/yyyy)
1.	Transmission system strengthening to facilitate evacuation of power from Bhadla/Bikaner complex	21.08.2024	04.10.2024 up to 15:00 hrs (IST)	04.10.2024 up to 15:30 hrs (IST)

Note: PFC Consulting Limited reserves the right to cancel or modify the process without assigning any reason and without any liability. This is not an offer.

Bid Process Coordinator: **PFC CONSULTING LTD.** (A wholly owned subsidiary of PFC Ltd.) (A Govt. of India Undertaking)

An Initiative of: **Ministry of Power Government of India**

Initiative Partner: **Central Electricity Authority**

A Preventable Tragedy: Combatting Tobacco Use to Save Lives from Lung Cancer

has ratified the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC), which is a global treaty aimed at reducing tobacco use and its health impacts. Several tobacco control measures have been implemented in India, including tobacco taxes, smoke-free laws, and advertising restrictions. The government has also launched campaigns to raise awareness about the health risks of tobacco use and to promote smoking cessation. Research findings support the use of policy approaches to reduce youth tobacco use, including excise taxes to increase price, clean indoor-air laws, and restrictions on youth access to tobacco. These policies are part of a comprehensive tobacco-control program, and need to be pursued at federal, state, and local levels of government, as well as in private organizations as applicable. Failure to adopt such proven strategies has been likened to withholding vaccines that are known to prevent disease. These policies and other tobacco-control strategies must be continually evaluated as well, requiring surveillance efforts that include detailed information about tobacco use and associated behaviors in all populations and all levels of organization. Programs and policies without such surveillance cannot meet the demand of accountability that is increasingly a part of government funding.

References:

- World Health Organization. Tobacco. 2022
- <https://www.who.int/news-room/facts-sheets/detail/lung-cancer>
- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10572882/>
- Policy Interventions and Surveillance As Strategies to Prevent Tobacco Use in Adolescents and Young Adults Jean L. Forster, PhD, Rachel Widome, PhD, Debra H. Bernat, PhD <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ampre.2007.09.014>

Approval ID: IN-14744 Approval Date: 30/07/2024 Expiry Date: 29/07/2026
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. Issued in public interest by AstraZeneca Pharma India Limited

In Memoriam

DEVENDRA NATH DWIVEDI
(30.03.1935 - 01.08.2009)
POLITICIAN, LAWYER AND THINKER
Remembered by Friends, Colleagues and Family.
Smt. Vidya Dwivedi
Garima & Shivendra Dwivedi
Devika & Gayatri
M:9899050083

JUVENTUS ESTATE LTD.
(CIN No. U70109HR2006PLC118103, Website: www.dhani.com)
Corr. Address: 5th Floor, Plot No. 108, IT Park, Udyog Vihar, Phase 1, Gurgaon 122016

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Juventus Estate Ltd. is in the process of undertaking development of a Group Housing Colony, in Sector-104, Gurugram Manesar Urban Complex, Gurugram, Haryana over an area measuring 34.0229 acres (13.789 Hectare approx.) in parts/phases, in accordance with the provisions of Licence No. 246 of 2007 dated 29.10.2007, 56 of 2011 dated 23.06.2011, 37 of 2012 dated 22.04.2012, 66 & 67 of 2012 dated 21.06.2012 and 43 & 44 of 2014 dated 16.06.2014 in Sector-104, Gurugram by Director, Town & Country Planning, Haryana, Chandigarh ("DTCP").

And whereas, Phasing plan of the said group housing colony (hereinafter referred to as "Project Phasing Plan"), earlier approved vide DTCP Memo No. ZP-968-IV/AD(VK)/2023/43622 dated: - 27.12.2023 (Approved Phasing Plan) is now proposed to be revised for which in - principle approval has been granted by DTCP vide Memo No. ZP-968-VOL-VIII/AD(VK)/2024/23682 dated. 29.07.2024 (Revised Phasing Plan).

And whereas, building plans of the said group housing colony (hereinafter referred to as "Project"), earlier approved vide DTCP Memo No. ZP-968-Vol-III/SD(DK)/2021/27758 dated: - 28.10.2021 and approved vide DTCP Memo No. ZP-968-III/JD(RD)/2023/21798 dated: - 05.07.2023 (Approved Building Plans) are now proposed to be revised only in Phase 2 to 6 for which in - principle approval has been granted by DTCP vide Memo No. ZP-968-VOL-VIII/AD(VK)/2024/24037 dated. 30.07.2024 (Revised Building Plans).

And whereas, vide above referred Memo dated. 29.07.2024 & 30.07.2024, the office of the DTCP has required seeking of objections/suggestions (if any) against the said revision of the earlier approved phasing plan & building plans as a pre-condition for allowing such revision in the earlier approved phasing plan & building plans.

And whereas, there is no existing allottee in Phase 2 to 6 of the above-mentioned Group Housing.

Accordingly, vide this Public Notice, objections/suggestions, if any, are hereby invited from the existing allottees (if any) on the revised phasing plan & revised building plans. The approved phasing plan & revised building plans are available for perusal/reference of the existing allottees (if any) on: - a) our website- www.dhani.com; b) in the office of the undersigned at "Juventus Estate Ltd" office at 5th Floor, Plot no. 108, IT Park, Udyog Vihar, Phase 1, Gurgaon 122016 c) At the project site office in Sector-104, Gurugram Manesar Urban Complex, Gurugram, Haryana. d) in the office of Senior Town Planner, Gurugram, Town & Country Planning Haryana, HSNP Complex, Sector-14, Gurugram, Haryana.

Any of the existing allottee (if any) having any objections/ suggestions on these revised phasing plan & revised building plan(s), may file his/her/their/its objection/suggestion in the office of the Senior Town Planner, Town & Country Planning Department, HSNP Complex, Sector-14, Gurugram and in the office of the undersigned within Thirty (30) days of publication of this Public Notice, failing which it shall be assumed that there are no objections to the proposed revision in the phasing plan (s), building plan(s) and the consent is considered as deemed approved.

Place: Gurugram Date: 01.08.2024 For Juventus Estate Ltd Authorized Signatory

RANI LAKSHMI BAI CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, JHANSI
Advertisement No: RLBCAU/09/2024 Dated: 01.08.2024

Short Vacancy Notification

Through advertisement no. RLBCAU/09/2024, applications from eligible Indian Nationals are invited for recruitment on 05 teaching positions of College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences at Datia. For more details viz. essential qualifications, category of reservation, pay scale, application fee, application form and other instructions, please visit university website www.rlbcu.ac.in. The closing date for receipt of application will be 16 September, 2024. Number of posts may increase or decrease. **Registrar**

गजियाबाद विकास प्राधिकरण
(ISO 9001 : 2015 एवं ISO 14001 : 2015 प्रमाणित संस्था)
विकास पथ गजियाबाद

पत्रांक: 1706/मनन अनु/2024 दिनांक: 24/07/2024

NOTICE

WHEREAS GHAZIABAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, vs S.N. SAHA., has filed a Revision Petition NO.885 of 2022 against the order dated 13.04.2022 in First Appeal No. 329 of 2001 of the State Commission, Uttar Pradesh. The abovementioned Revision Petition is pending before the National Commission, New Delhi wherein you have been arrayed as Respondent.

WHEREAS this Commission has ordered vide order dated 21.06.2024 to effect service upon you by this Publication returnable on 22.08.2024

NOW THEREFORE TAKE NOTICE that you are hereby directed to appear before this Commission in person or through your counsel/authorized representative on 22.08.2024 at 10.30 a.m., failing which the Petition will be disposed of ex-parte on merits. सत्यमेव जयते

ई-मेल : helpingedga@gmail.com, @ GdA Ghaziabad @ gdagzb
हेल्पलाईन 0120-4418 384, व्हाट्सएप: 9990988004 वेबसाईट: www.gdaghaziabad.in

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IRCTC invites bids for the following:-

- Open E-Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/e-Catering/Hiring of IT firm for hiring of service provider for development, maintenance and operations of e-catering website for IRCTC. Pre-bid meeting: 08.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs. at CO/IRCTC. Last date for submission: 20.08.2024 up to 12:00 hrs.
- Open E-Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/CO/RR-02 for Renovation, Operation, Maintenance & Transfer Back of Retiring Rooms & Dormitories at various Railway Stations. Last date for submission: 16.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Open E-Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/CO/RR-03 for Renovation, Operation, Maintenance & Transfer Back of Retiring Rooms & Dormitories at various Railway Stations. Last date for submission: 20.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Open E-Tender No. IRCTC/RAIL NEER/WASTE DISPOSAL/2024 for removal of empty and waste items (i.e. empty corrugated boxes, empty polyethylene bags, waste plastics etc.) from IRCTC, Rail Neer Plant, Nangol, New Delhi. Last date for submission: 09.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs.
- Open E-Bid No. 2024/IRCTC/CO/Quality/FSS/01 for Deployment of Food Safety Supervisors (FSS) and Lab Testing of Cooked Food and Raw Material, etc. for a period of one year, at 200 license kitchen units of IRCTC. Pre-bid meeting (through VC): 12.08.2024 at 12:00 hrs. Last date for submission: 27.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs.
- Open E-Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/Catg/Refreshment Room/01 cum e-auction bid document for provision of catering services in refreshment rooms for a period of 5 years. Pre-bid meeting: 08.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Last date for submission: 22.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Open E-Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/Catg/JAN AAHAAR/01 cum e-auction bid document for provision of catering services in Jan Aahaar for a period of 5 years. Pre-bid meeting: 08.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Last date for submission: 22.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/NF-FP/FF/01/Open Tender/Aug/01 cum auction for setting up, operation and management of fast food unit at following railway stations (Bhatni). Pre-bid meeting: 08.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs. Last date for submission: 22.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Bid No. GEM/2024/B/5183115 for Procurement of ICT Infrastructure and Help Desk Services for Next Generation E-Ticketing NGeT System. Pre-bid meeting (VC): 06.08.2024 at 12:00 Hrs. Last date for submission: 21.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Two Stage E-Tender for supply of 11,20,00,000 Pcs of HDPE Caps for Rail Neer PDW Bottles at Rail Neer Plant, Nangol. Last date for submission: 20.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Two Stage E-Tender for supply of 45,000 KG of Pearisised BOPP Label Rolls for 1000 ML bottles at Rail Neer Plant, Nangol. Last date for submission: 13.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.
- Open E-Tender No. IRCTC/RN/PET RESIN/ABH/2024/RAJA cum Reverse auction for Supply PET Resin at Rail Neer Plant Ambaraha (Maharashtra) for a period of One (01) Year. Last date for submission: 06.08.2024 up to 15:00 hrs.

For details visit www.irctc.com for 1-12, www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC for 1-8 and GeM Portal for 9-12. Document downloading and participation can only be done on www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC for 1-8 and GeM Portal for 9-12.

In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on www.irctc.com for 1-12, www.tenderwizard.com/ for 1-8 and GeM Portal for 9-12.

IRCTC, 11th Floor, Statesman House, B-148, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110 001; Tel.: 011-23112636/4; Fax: 011-23112559
ecatering.irctc.co.in

BANGALORE UNIVERSITY
Accredited by NAAC with A++
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No.Aca-IV/Adm/LLM/2024-25 Date: 31-07-2024

Admission Notification

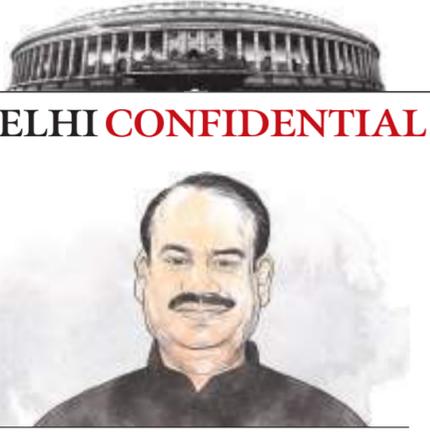
Sub: Application for Admission to I Semester LL.M (Two years) course for the academic year 2024-25.

Ref: Approval of Vice-Chancellor dated: 31.07.2024

Applications are invited for admission to the I Semester of 2 Years LL.M Course in the University Law College and Department of Studies in Law, Bangalore University, Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bangalore-560 056 for the academic year 2024-25. Last date for submission of application is 09.08.2024 and with penal fee at Rs. 200/- is 11.08.2024. The candidates who have passed 3/5 year LL.B Degree with not less than 45%, (For Karnataka candidates-5% relaxations for SC/ST/Category-I applicants whose annual income is not more than Rs.8 lakhs except Cat-I and for Person with disability).

Application shall be filled-up in online mode only by visiting the University official website <https://bangaloreuniversity.karnataka.gov.in> or www.ulcbangalore.com. Application submitted online should be downloaded and submitted in person or by post along with self attested copies of marks cards & relevant Certificates to the Principal, University Law College, Bangalore University, Jnana Bharathi Campus, Bengaluru-560 056 on or before 13.08.2024. The application fee of Rs.850/- (GM & Others) and Rs.425/- (for SC/ST/Cat-I) shall be paid online only along with online application processing charge of Rs. 75/- plus applicable taxes. Interested candidates can apply for seats both under regular and payment quota & shall be mentioned in the column of the application. For more details visit University website or contact: 080-22961172/1174. Sd/- REGISTRAR

8 GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST-TIME LUCKY

DURING THE debate on Demand for Grants for Railways in Lok Sabha on Wednesday, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla made a light-hearted remark that Congress's first-time MP from Rajasthan's Barmer Ummeda Ram Beniwal was speaking for the third time. Birla said this must have happened for the first time as some members don't get a chance to speak even in five years. Someone from the floor of the House then remarked that the Speaker was right, to which Birla said with a smile: "Galat toh bolta nahi hun main (I am seldom wrong)."

GOODWILL GALORE

FORMER MADHYA Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan enjoys unparalleled goodwill among his party colleagues. Whenever he enters the Lok Sabha, many BJP members get up in reverence to him. Whenever Chouhan leaves the House, many MPs from Madhya Pradesh follow to see him off. He also enjoys warm ties with Opposition leaders. The other day, he walked up to TMC member Sudip Bandyopadhyay and had a brief conversation with him. It was a rare sight at a time when the Treasury and Opposition benches don't enjoy cordial ties.

PAUSE & PRAISE

WHILE SHE was citing examples of Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh on minimum wages during her response to the discussions on Budget in Rajya Sabha, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was asked to pause by Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar. He appreciated the FM's fairness in touching the stakes of the Leader of Opposition and the leader of the House. Then he went on to add that he was privileged to be the Chairman at a time when the House has presidents of the country's two leading parties as members.

DAYS AFTER JAISHANKAR-WANG MEETING

'Constructive': India, China hold talks to resolve standoff at LAC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

LESS THAN a week after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, India and China held "constructive" and "forward-looking" conversations to resolve the border standoff between the two countries.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said restoration of peace and tranquillity, and respect for the LAC are "essential basis" for restoration of normalcy in bilateral relations.

The bilateral meeting was held in Delhi under the framework of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC).

The MEA described the discussion at the meeting as "in-depth, constructive and forward-looking", adding both sides agreed on the need to jointly uphold peace and tranquillity on the ground in accordance with relevant bilateral agreements and protocols.

The Chinese delegation was led by Hong Liang, Director General of the Boundary and Oceanic Department of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Hong also called on Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, according to the MEA.

Misri has served as India's ambassador to China. The previous round of WMCC talks were held in Beijing in March.

"Further to discussions between the two foreign ministers in their recent meetings

at Astana and Vientiane, the two sides reviewed the current situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with a view to finding an early resolution of the outstanding issues," the ministry said.

"Restoration of peace and tranquillity, and respect for the LAC are an essential basis for restoration of normalcy in bilateral relations," it said.

"They 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 governments," it said in a statement.

"The discussion at the meeting was in-depth, constructive and forward-looking. Both sides

agreed to maintain the momentum through the established diplomatic and military channels," it said.

Joint Secretary (East Asia) in the MEA, Gourangal Das, led the Indian delegation at the 30th meeting of the WMCC.

External Affairs Minister Jaishankar and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang held talks on July 25 in Vientiane on the sidelines of ASEAN-related meetings. The two foreign ministers also had a bilateral meeting in Astana on July 4 on the sidelines of the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

India and China have been locked in a border standoff for more than four years now, as more than 50,000 troops on each side are stationed on both sides of the border.

'JD(S) will not take part in anti-CM march with BJP'

JOHNSON TA
BENGALURU, JULY 31



HD Kumaraswamy

LEAVING RED faces in the BJP, ally JD(S) has publicly pulled out of a proposed march planned by the two parties from Bengaluru to Mysuru over corruption allegations against Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, alleging slights to its leader H D Kumaraswamy.

The differences between the two parties over the march have been apparent for the past couple of days, with a section of the leaders questioning the viability and purpose of the 140-km padyatra, to be held from August 3 to 10. On Wednesday, Kumaraswamy declared that the party would not be part of the march, saying that many JD(S) leaders were not in favour of it at a time that the people were battling rain-related issues, and going on to accuse the BJP of "sidelining" the JD(S).

Speaking to reporters in Delhi, Kumaraswamy said: "In the region between Bengaluru and Mysuru, we (the JD-S) are strong. In this situation, if they do not take us into confidence in a proper manner, why should we support (the march)?" Kumaraswamy also suggested that the JD(S) need not toe its bigger partner's line on everything.

"This matter has hurt me emotionally as well... The person they have appointed to lead the protest programme... who is that Preetham Gowda?... He is the one who set out to destroy the family of Deve Gowda (former PM and the father of Kumaraswamy). He is called to the same meeting as I... There are limits to the amount of insult I can tolerate," he added.

Preetham Gowda is believed to have been behind the distribu-

tion of pen drives containing explicit videos of JD(S) MP and Kumaraswamy's nephew Prajwal Revanna across Hassan ahead of the Lok Sabha polls in April.

Kumaraswamy said he was "emotionally hurt" seeing Preetham's presence at the meeting held on Sunday by top BJP and JD(S) leaders to chalk out plans for the march. The former Karnataka CM said that the heavy rain in most parts of the state also made the march unviable. "When there is a situation like this, can we proceed on a protest march? We have to consider what the people will think. We have to be responsive to their emotions and pain... Politics must not take centre stage."

Kumaraswamy's statement came a day after a JD(S) core committee meeting in Bengaluru, led by G T Deve Gowda, an MLA from the Mysuru region, concluded that the march would send the wrong signal given the rain destruction. Several JD(S) leaders, including Kumaraswamy, G T Deve Gowda, Sa Ra Mahesh, have been accused by the Congress of benefiting from site allotments by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority — allegations also raised against Siddaramaiah's wife.

The BJP is also facing opposition from within its ranks over the march against Siddaramaiah, with many unhappy with BJP state president B Vijayendra. BJP MLA Basanagouda Patil Yatnal has called the planned march part of a "hidden agenda" of the BJP state leadership to make Congress Deputy CM Shivakumar the CM in place of Siddaramaiah.

BJP MLA Bajpai opposes UP govt Bill on Nazul land

Lucknow: Taking all by surprise in the UP Assembly, BJP MLA from Prayagraj Harshvardhan Bajpai on Wednesday spoke against his government's Bill preventing the conversion of Nazul land into private freehold.

His objections put the treasury benches in an awkward situation with the Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna making an intervention while Bajpai was speaking. "Aapsamajh nahi rahein ho. Pahle padh toh lo (You are not getting it. First, go through it)," Khanna told Bajpai.

Under the UP Nazul Property Bill, 2024, Nazul land — land owned by the government but often not directly administered as state property — in the state can no longer be converted into private ownership.



TAKING CHARGE

Jharkhand High Court Acting Chief Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad administers oath to Governor Santosh Gangwar at Raj Bhavan in Ranchi on Wednesday. ANI

Centre urges SC to declare mineral royalty judgment 'prospectively'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

POINTING OUT the "impact" of the July 25 judgment, which held that states are entitled to collect royalty on minerals "is substantial and far reaching", the Centre on Wednesday urged the Supreme Court "to declare that it... shall apply" only "prospectively".

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told a 9-judge Constitution bench presided by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud that "a preliminary estimate of the potential financial impact of the judgment due to past State levies which may become due (in the form of additional state levies of taxes, interest and penalties) on the public sector units engaged in mining, and in production activities dependent on minerals (like power production), is Rs 70,000 crore".

While states like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh also backed the prospective application of the judgment, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand said they were for retrospective application.

The bench on Wednesday reserved its decision on the question

whether the ruling should apply prospectively or retrospectively.

Mehta said "the impact" of the ruling "will be felt in the market for every mineral and by extension in every one of the core sectors of the economy. Virtually, every industry critical to the infrastructure sector (power, steel, cement, aluminium etc.) is heavily dependent on minerals whose pricing regime will be governed by the judgment". He said: "The effect of the judgment is to significantly raise the price of an essential input/raw material and therefore substantially raise the price in the hands of the final consumers served by these core industries, namely, the average citizen."

Illustrating this, he said that 55% of India's total commercial energy production is coal reliant, and 68% of this coal production is currently used in the generation of electricity. "An increase in the price of coal on account of state levies would have a cascading effect on the price of every commodity or service that uses power as an input, which is virtually every commodity or service."

The SG said that "the inflationary impact in India will be signif-

Want retrospective application, say Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand

icant, which requires" the "court's intervention by making the judgment prospective. The power bills across the nation would also see significant increases to account for the past state levies on the core raw material of coal, if imposed and collected by the states".

Mehta said demands by states from some PSUs "are estimated to be in excess of their net worth and would pose an existential threat to these firms' remaining going concerns. This will not be in national interest". He urged the court to "consider stating that neither the state may demand any levy retrospectively nor the private parties/PSUs who paid would seek any refund of the money," as this will do justice to both sides.

Appearing for Mahanadi Coalfields, Senior Advocate Harish Salve said the ruling if allowed to operate retrospectively would lead to demands in excess of the net worth of many firms and in-

turn push them into bankruptcy.

In an 8-1 majority, the nine-judge Constitution Bench had upheld the power of states to levy royalty on extraction of minerals from their land and said they can also tax the lands which comprise mines and quarries.

The majority verdict, delivered by CJI Chandrachud for self and Justices Augustine George Masih, Hrishikesh Roy, A S Oka, Satish Chandra Sharma, Manoj Misra, J B Pardiwala, and Ujjal Bhuyan, overruled the 1989 decision of a 7-judge Bench in India Cement Ltd vs Tamil Nadu, which said royalty is tax and state legislatures lack competence to levy taxes on mineral rights because the subject matter is covered by the Minerals and Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, enacted by Parliament in exercise of powers under Entry 54 of List I of the Constitution.

Disagreeing with the majority ruling, Justice B V Nagarathna, in a dissenting judgment, cautioned against the likely consequences of overruling the India Cement ruling including a "breakdown of the federal system" and "unhealthy competition" between states.

RS setback for BJD as MP Mamata Mohanta resigns from House

SUJIT BISOYI
BHUBANESWAR, JULY 31



BJD MP Mamata Mohanta

IN A significant setback to the Biju Janata Dal (BJD), its MP Mamata Mohanta on Wednesday resigned from the Rajya Sabha, two years before completion of her tenure. The leader from Odisha's Mayurbhanj also resigned from the regional party, saying she was taking the "hard decision in public interest".

The move, which her colleagues called "sudden and unexpected", comes at a time the BJD has stepped up its attack against the Narendra Modi government at the Centre. After the BJD's defeat in the Lok Sabha and Assembly polls, the regional party had announced that it would stop lending "issue-based support" to the NDA government, and become a "strong and vibrant" opposition in Parliament. This is a departure from its stand before the drubbing in simultaneous polls.

Announcing Mohanta's resignation from the Upper House, Rajya Sabha chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar said he had received a letter from her over this. "She has resigned from her seat by writing

to the chairman, and handed (the letter) personally to me... accepted the resignation with immediate effect," he said in the House.

Speculation is rife that Mohanta could join the BJP. Hours before her resignation, she had attended the morning session. With her resignation, BJD's number in the Rajya Sabha comes down to eight. The BJD has one member in Rajya Sabha from Odisha, Ashwini Vaishnav, who was elected earlier this year.

In her resignation letter from the party, Mohanta expressed her gratitude to BJD chief Naveen Patnaik for giving her the opportunity to serve the Mayurbhanj people and represent the state at the national level. "However, I feel that there is no requirement of the services of myself and my community in the BJD. Therefore, I have taken this hard decision in the public interest," she wrote.

Mohanta (47) comes from the Kudumi caste, a backward community that has a strong presence in the Mayurbhanj region.

'Bollgard' genetically modified (GM) Bt cotton technology, which led to a near-trebling of India's production of the natural fibre between 2002-03 (the commercialisation year) and 2013-14.

More than increasing India's rice and wheat production, Paryan JV aims to reduce the water, labour and fuel consumption, as well as greenhouse gas emissions, in cultivating the two cereal crops.

The rice hybrids of RiceTec/Savannah ('Sava 134' and 'Sava 127') and Mahyco's wheat varieties ('Goal' and 'Mukut') contain a mutated gene, whose altered DNA sequence allows farmers to spray Imazethapyr, a herbicide that can control a range of broadleaf, grassy and sedge weeds. Imazethapyr can't be used on normal rice or wheat, as the chemical does not distinguish between the crop and invasive plants. The mutated gene

EXPLAINED

What are these crops

GROWING PADDY using less water without burning stubble, and wheat by not ploughing the land has been a holy grail for agricultural scientists and policymakers alike. Direct seeded rice and zero-tillage wheat based on non-genetically modified herbicide-tolerant technology can offer a way out. That's an opportunity the RiceTec-Mahyco JV is also eyeing.

in the hybrids/varieties bred by Savannah and Mahyco enable their plants to "tolerate" the herbicide's application, so that it only kills the weeds.

"We have introduced the herbicide-tolerance trait via mutation breeding, not GM. There's no foreign gene here (unlike with Bt cotton or the still-to-be-approved

GM mustard)," Rana pointed out. Traditional rice cultivation is both water- and labour-intensive. It entails preparing nurseries, where the paddy seeds are first raised into young plants that are uprooted and replanted around 30 days later in the main field. The field in which the seedlings are transplanted is "puddled" or

tilled in standing water to churn the soil and make it soft. For the initial three weeks or so after transplanting, farmers have to irrigate every 1-2 days to maintain a water depth of 4-5 cm. This prevents the growth of weeds — such as Echinochloa colona (commonly called jangli chawal) and Cyperus rotundus (motha) — during the crop's early stage.

DSR saves roughly 30% water, by dispensing with puddling, transplanting and flooding. It replaces water (a natural herbicide) with Imazethapyr. RiceTec's FullPage tech incorporates the herbicide-tolerance trait as well as DSR-compatible plant genetics and seed treatment solutions.

"Germination is poor in DSR. Our rice hybrids are bred for DSR. They have strong roots and stalks, with higher plant populations (35-40 per square meter, as against 15-20 in normal trans-

planting). We are also providing 'Squad', a seed treatment solution of micro-nutrients, fungicide and insecticide that helps in germination, protection from soil-borne diseases and pests," said Rana.

In wheat, farmers not only burn the stubble from the previously-harvested paddy crop, but also plough the field 3-4 times — twice using a harrow or cultivator, followed by one irrigation and either one more ploughing with a rotavator or two with harrow/cultivator. "The ploughings are basically for managing the paddy stubble and weeds, which, in wheat, include Phalaris minor (gulli danda) and Chenopodium album (bathua). With FreeHit ZT technology, you can sow the wheat seeds directly without any stubble burning or land preparation. The weeds are taken care of by Imazethapyr along with Metribuzin," said Shirish

Barwale, MD, Mahyco.

In ZT, farmers first use a tractor-mounted Super Seeder machine with a rotavator that cuts the standing paddy stubble and mixes it in the soil. They sow wheat after that with a regular seed-cum-fertiliser drill and apply the herbicides when the crop is about 25 days old. The RiceTec/Savannah rice hybrids were planted in 4,000 acres each of farmers' fields in Punjab and Haryana, 3,000 each in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, and 1,000 acres in western UP during this kharif season. Mahyco is awaiting regulatory clearance for the launch of 'FreeHit' ZT wheat in the ensuing rabi season.

"Paryan is open to licensing our mutant Imazethapyr-tolerant trait in rice and wheat to other seed companies wanting to introduce it into their own hybrids or varieties," added Barwale.

For direct-seeded rice, zero-tillage wheat, RiceTec & Mahyco form JV

HARISH DAMODARAN
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

RICE AND wheat breeding-cum-research in India has traditionally been a public sector monopoly. But now, two private sector seed majors — the Alvin (Texas)-headquartered RiceTec Inc and Jalna (Maharashtra)-based Mahyco Pvt Ltd — have come together to form a joint venture (JV) for making the rice-wheat cropping system "more climate-smart and sustainable".

Paryan Alliance Pvt Ltd, as the 50:50 JV is called, will focus on technologies for farmers to grow rice by direct seeding (instead of transplanting and flooding of field) and wheat through zero tillage (without burning the leftover stubble from the paddy crop and ploughing the field before sowing).

These include RiceTec's proprietary 'FullPage' direct seeded rice (DSR) cropping solution and the 'FreeHit' zero tillage (ZT) technology that Mahyco has developed in collaboration with Geneshifters LLC, an agri-biotech company at Pullman (Washington), US.

"Our technologies are complementary: Wheat is sown after harvesting of rice in about 12 million hectares area, from Punjab and Haryana to eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Paryan will work with farmers of the two large-acre crops, providing them access to both FullPage and FreeHit," Ajai Rana, managing director of Savannah Seeds Pvt. Ltd, the South Asia subsidiary of RiceTec, told The Indian Express.

Mahyco had incidentally, in 1997, formed a similar JV with Monsanto to introduce the erstwhile US life sciences giant's



महतारी वंदन योजना

खुशियों का नोटिफिकेशन

महतारी वंदन से मातृशक्ति का सम्मान
माँ को समर्पित है “एक पेड़ माँ के नाम”

1 अगस्त 2024

₹1000 की छठवीं किश्त जारी



प्रदेश की महतारियां
आज करेंगी
पौधरोपण

एक
पेड़
माँ के नाम



श्री विष्णु देव साय
मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़

श्री नरेंद्र मोदी
माननीय प्रधानमंत्री



मुख्यमंत्री
श्री विष्णु देव साय
से जुड़ने के लिए
QR CODE स्केन करें

विष्णु के सुशासन से
सँवर रहा छत्तीसगढ़

हमने बनाया है, हम ही सँवारेंगे

The Indian EXPRESS

FOUNDED BY
RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

A Wayanad story



MUKUND P UNNY AND AATHIRA VASUDEVAN

In light of the heart-wrenching images from Kerala today, it is time to not just rebuild, but build better

THE SLIPPING LAND

Wayanad tragedy is a warning of the perils of ignoring ecology and science in development planning

THE MOUNTING TOLL in Wayanad is a grim reminder of the dangers of giving short shrift to Kerala's ecological frailties. Warnings were issued more than a decade ago by two expert committees that mapped the eco-sensitivity of the Western Ghats in great detail. In 2011, a panel chaired by the eminent ecologist Madhav Gadgil underlined the need to regulate developmental activities in the entire 1,60,000 sq km stretch of the Ghats. The Gadgil committee's recommendations were met with resistance by all states and parties across the political spectrum in the biodiverse region, especially in Kerala and Karnataka. Two years later, a High Level Working Group (HLWG) headed by scientist K Kasturirangan sought to strike a new balance between environment and development. It recommended that 37 per cent of the Western Ghats be demarcated as an ecologically sensitive area (ESA) and called for a complete ban on mining and quarrying in these protected zones. The HLWG report, whose suggestions too remain on paper, had included parts of Wayanad where landslides struck on Tuesday. The Gadgil committee, likewise, demarcated the area reeling under the tragedy as "highly sensitive".

About half of Kerala comprises hills and mountainous regions with slopes greater than 20 degrees. The construction boom of recent decades has stripped the once lush hills of the state of their forests. A 2022 study in the International Journal of Environment and Public Health revealed that Wayanad had lost 60 per cent of its forests between 1950 and 2018. The erosion of the green cover has made Kerala susceptible to landslides. In July 2022, the Ministry of Earth Sciences informed the Lok Sabha that Kerala witnessed the highest number of major landslides in the country since 2015 — nearly 60 per cent of landslides in this seven-year period were reported from the state. There were major landslides during the floods of 2018, including in Wayanad. ISRO's Landslide Atlas, released last year, lists the district among the top 15 regions prone to such disasters.

Wayanad, along with Kasargod, Calicut and Malappuram districts, has been receiving above-average rainfall for the past two weeks, largely because the warming of the Arabian Sea has led to the formation of a deep cloud system over parts of the Western Ghats. Climate scientists say that the southeast Arabian Sea is becoming warmer, causing the atmosphere above this region, including in Kerala, to become thermodynamically unstable. It's too early to link the Wayanad tragedy to climate change. However, it's clear that the excessive rainfall disturbed the already fragile geology of the region. The IMD had indicated the possibility of landslides two days before the tragedy. But very little could be done to prevent it because Kerala, like most Indian states, does not have a landslide mitigation plan. It does have landslide maps, but there are no studies that explain the route a landslide can take once it has been triggered. These maps can become effective warning tools only if the state government — and the political class — summons the will to pay heed to science, while planning developmental activities.

AT 6 AM, on August 9, 2018, one of us (Unny) received a frantic call from their mother informing that their house in Palakkad is getting flooded and that the water level in the canal adjoining the Kalpathy river is rapidly increasing. Later that day, the shutters of the Malampuzha Dam were opened, further raising the water level in the canal. The flood that ensued sank the family's car and damaged appliances and furniture, and with it, the ability to enjoy the rain.

Every year since 2018, many Keralites have gotten into the habit of moving their valuables upstairs when the rains get heavier. Neighbourhoods remain in a constant state of preparedness and anxiety every monsoon season. On Tuesday morning, came another call, a familiar note of panic in the voice. The house was flooded again.

Kerala is a state whose resilience has been tested time and time again. Monsoons are now welcomed with a great deal of caution and worry. Homes, livelihoods, and a feeling of peace and safety are lost every year. Since 2018, there have been five severe landslides — in Kozhikode, Palakkad, Wayanad and Malappuram districts — in which a total of 160 people have been reported dead. According to the central government data, Kerala faced the highest number of landslides between 2015 and 2022. Out of the 3,782 landslides reported in the country, 2,239 were reported from Kerala.

The enormity of the 2024 landslides in Wayanad can be conveyed with this fact — two villages have been washed away entirely, Madikkai and Chooralmala. These were villages, home to roughly 1,000 people each, that buzzed with activity till Monday night. The rains have not abated and are impeding the rescue and relief activities.

Kerala's annual landslide problem has again put the spotlight on the reports of the Madhav Gadgil Committee (2011) and the K

Kasturirangan-led High Level Working Group (2013), as well as the resistance to their recommendations. The areas of Wayanad that have been devastated by the landslide were among those that were recommended to be demarcated as Ecologically Sensitive Areas by the Gadgil Committee. These areas were, in turn, graded into three categories based on their environmental fragility. Several restrictions were proposed to be placed on construction and developmental activities, including a ban on mining, quarrying, polluting factories etc. According to the Gadgil Committee Report, in the Ecologically Sensitive Area-1, no forest land could be changed to non-forest land and agricultural land could not be changed to non-agricultural land. The report also stated that Sulthan Batheri, Vayittiri, and Manantavadi in Kerala's Wayanad district were especially vulnerable and therefore needed to be placed in the highest category of ecological sensitivity. Similarly, Perinthalmanna and Tirur taluks in Malappuram were to be placed in the ESZ- II category. The report also highlighted the importance of involving local communities in any conservation effort and ensuring that their livelihoods are not adversely affected by these policies. It also recommended that tourism in the region be regulated to ensure that it remains environmentally sustainable and does not disrupt the region's fragile ecological balance.

The recommendation to prohibit change of land-use subsequently led to a group of farmers protesting in the hilly regions. Protests spearheaded by all sections of the political class erupted in 2013 in Kerala and other southern states against the perceived imposition of the report on the public, without stakeholder consultation. Even though there were claims that the

protests were organised at the behest of the mining mafia, the threat of being evicted rang too close to home for the settler-farmers in the high ranges. Both the Gadgil and Kasturirangan Committee reports were also criticised by various sections as being too "environmentally forward" and not being people-centric enough. The public pressure forced the government at all levels from carrying out any of the measures they recommended.

It is said that the only thing natural about a natural disaster is the event itself. In every phase, from the cause and the vulnerabilities to the preparedness and the response, many years of action and inaction determine the outcomes. In a way, some of the course of the disaster is predictable. In light of the heart-wrenching stories one is hearing from Wayanad today, it is perhaps time to not just rebuild, but build better. This includes not just rescuing people and communities from the present disaster, but also building safeguards against all such tragedies in the future.

At the same time, Wayanad's story tells us that environmental conservation cannot be a top-down endeavour. Adoption of conservation measures requires the support and participation of the people. This means that the policies must also strive to overcome the binary of environment versus development. In the coming years, we are likely to witness more and more extreme weather events, intensifying vulnerabilities in disaster-prone states like Kerala. Our people deserve the infrastructure, political will, and environmental policies that take into account their needs and livelihoods.

Unny is an Advocate on Record at the Supreme Court and Vasudevan is an environmental and climate change professional based in Delhi

ON THE PRECIPICE

Assassination of Hamas leader, airstrike in Beirut, make ceasefire between Israel and Hamas all the more distant

HOW CAN MEDIATION succeed when one party assassinates the negotiator? The question posed by Qatar's Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani — Qatar is a mediator in the ceasefire negotiations between Hamas and Israel — in the aftermath of the assassination, allegedly by Israel, of Ismail Haniyeh, head of Hamas's politburo and one of its primary negotiators, frames the fundamental issue in the Middle East. The Benjamin Netanyahu government, seemingly immune to international pressure or criticism, is playing a maximalist game that makes a negotiated peace a more distant possibility. The number of deaths in Gaza is now at nearly 40,000 and injuries are over twice that number. Less than 24 hours before Haniyeh's killing in Tehran, Israel claimed it had killed a Hezbollah commander in an airstrike in Beirut. Israel must know that this hard militarism does more than just make Palestinians, and the region, more insecure — it also damages its own social and political fabric irretrievably.

Haniyeh's assassination and the Beirut strike threaten to expand the conflict into an all-out regional war. Iran's Supreme Leader and Revolutionary Guards Council (IRGC) have already spoken of retaliation, including through the "axis of Resistance" — a term it uses for the network of non-state actors including Hamas, Hezbollah and the Houthis that are engaged in various degrees of conflict with Israel. The assassination on Iranian soil shows the depth of Israel's penetration of its security shield. The IRGC cannot appear to be weak, and it may well be the case that the cycle of violence — through proxies and agents, if not more directly — could continue and escalate. India has huge economic stakes in the region, apart from its commitment to peace, that are endangered by the conflict. In addition to the estimated 8.9 million migrant workers, it has much to gain from the India-Middle-East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), announced at the G20 summit in New Delhi last year. Without peace and stability, the IMEC cannot take off. As a friend to Israel as well as Palestine, Delhi should continue to do all it can to bring both sides to the negotiating table.

Earlier this week, Israel's military police were surrounded by right-wing protesters — endorsed by some leaders of the ruling coalition — after the arrest of soldiers accused of abuse of Palestinians in a detention facility. In essence, hate and impunity were being championed over due process. For a country that pledges commitment to the rule of law, that should be unacceptable. Netanyahu must realise that there are no winners in this war.

QUIET HIRING

A recipe for burnout, it may not be the staffing solution that HR managers believe it to be

JOHN MAYNARD KEYNES had it wrong. In 1930, the economist claimed that in the future, capital and technological progress would ensure that everyone would work a 15-hour week and the "permanent problem" would be figuring out how to "occupy leisure". Keynes had not accounted for today's human resources department which is ensuring that far from having more leisure time, workers are now saddled with responsibilities above and beyond their jobs — without matching them with a promotion or a raise.

Welcome to the era of "quiet hiring", a management riposte to recent employee trends such as "quiet quitting" (doing nothing more than the minimum requirements of one's jobs), "resenteeism" (staying in a job one loathes and doing as little as possible) and "quiet vacationing" (taking time off without informing one's employers). In brief, quiet hiring involves eschewing the traditional route of interviewing and hiring new talent for open positions and, instead, identifying eager-to-please existing employees who can be bread-crumbed into accepting more work — "going the extra mile", as they say on the HR floor — with the promise, fingers crossed, of being "considered" for promotions and other rewards. From the employers' perspective, an optimum use of company resources and a convenient way to save money on hiring; from the employees' perspective, a recipe for those familiar ailments of modern work-life — burnout, resentment, depression.

It is possible that those resorting to quiet hiring may not be appreciating the irony built into this latest tactic: That it could lead to overworked employees quitting, thus leading to even more open positions that would need to be filled. But for that, of course, they would have to see employees not as "resources" to be "maximised", but as human beings with hopes and dreams of being, and doing, more than the latest task assigned to them.



HITESH JAIN

A TWO-PRONGED RESPONSE

Maharashtra Public Security Bill complements efforts to address Naxalism's root causes

I AM WRITING in response to the recent editorial critiquing the enactment of the Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill, 2024 ('Bill of wrongs', IE, July 16). While I appreciate the editorial's viewpoint that the existing Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) is sufficient to address the state's security concerns, I believe it is crucial to understand the unique and evolving nature of the Naxal problem in Maharashtra, which necessitates the introduction of more specific and targeted legislation.

The Naxalite movement has been a significant challenge for Maharashtra, particularly in the Gadchiroli district and other rural areas. The violent activities of Naxalites have not only disrupted public order but have also stifled development, instilled fear among citizens, and eroded the rule of law. The UAPA, while comprehensive, has proven to be insufficient in addressing the Naxal threat, which involves a combination of armed insurgency and ideological propagation.

One of the critical shortcomings of the existing framework is its inability to effectively address the root causes of Naxalism. The Naxal movement thrives on socio-economic grievances such as poverty, lack of education, and unemployment. These must be tackled alongside stringent security measures. Recognising this, the Maharashtra government has taken affirmative steps to generate employment opportunities and improve basic infrastructure in Naxal-prone areas. For instance, the recent laying of the foundation stone for a second steel unit in Gadchiroli, with an investment of Rs 10,000 crore, is a testament to the government's commitment to fostering economic devel-

DEAR EDITOR,
I DISAGREE
A fortnightly column in which we invite readers to tell us why, when they differ with the editorial positions or news coverage of 'The Indian Express'

Your editorial suggests that the new law strikes at dissent. However, it is important to differentiate between legitimate dissent and activities that endanger public order and safety. The Maharashtra government's approach is not about suppressing dissent but about ensuring that the state does not remain hostage to individuals and groups that engage in violence and undermine the rule of law.

opment in these regions. This project is expected to create much-needed employment opportunities and address the socio-economic disparities that fuel Naxalism.

Moreover, the individuals leading the Naxal movement do not believe in the rule of law, and certain vested organisations continuously incite unrest. The Bill is designed to address the dual challenges of physical violence and ideological support that perpetuate the Naxal insurgency.

It is also crucial to acknowledge that Naxalism is not confined to remote rural areas. Urban areas are increasingly becoming breeding grounds for Naxal front organisations, which provide logistical support and safe havens for armed cadres. The spread of these active front organisations underscores the need for legislation that can address urban Naxalism as well. This Bill encompasses provisions to curb the activities of these urban Naxal fronts, ensuring a comprehensive approach to combatting the movement.

The current laws have been ineffective and inadequate, as evidenced by the spread of violent Naxal activities. The new Bill will grant the government and police machinery powers to combat unlawful activities more effectively. Specifically, the bill states that "any action which constitutes a danger or menace to public order, peace, and tranquility or interferes or tends to interfere with the maintenance of public order or interferes or tends to interfere with the administration of law or its established institutions and personnel will be considered an unlawful activity". This provision is essential to ensure that law enforcement agencies have the neces-

sary tools to maintain public order and safeguard citizens' rights.

Your editorial suggests that the new law strikes at dissent. However, it is important to differentiate between legitimate dissent and activities that endanger public order and safety. The Maharashtra government's approach is not about suppressing dissent but about ensuring that the state does not remain hostage to individuals and groups that engage in violence and undermine the rule of law. The Maharashtra Special Public Security Bill, 2024, complements efforts to generate employment and improve infrastructure, addressing both the symptoms and the root causes of Naxalism.

In conclusion, while the UAPA provides a broad framework for addressing unlawful activities, the specific and persistent threat posed by Naxalism in Maharashtra requires a more focussed and robust legislative approach. This Bill is a necessary step towards ensuring public safety, fostering development, and upholding the rule of law. By simultaneously addressing socio-economic grievances and enhancing security measures, the Maharashtra government is working towards a holistic solution to the Naxal problem.

I urge your readers to consider the comprehensive strategy being implemented, which includes both the new legislative measures and significant developmental initiatives. It is through this dual approach that Maharashtra can hope to eradicate the scourge of Naxalism and secure a peaceful and prosperous future for all its citizens.

The writer is vice president, Mumbai BJP and managing partner, Parinam Law Associates



AUGUST 1, 1984, FORTY YEARS AGO

FIGHT IN J&K HOUSE

G M SHAH, CHIEF MINISTER, won a vote of confidence in the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly after the Speaker, Wali Mohammad Itoo, was voted out and Mangat Ram Sharma, senior Congress (I) leader was elected the Speaker. The Opposition walked out after a noisy wrangle. The vote occurred amid fistfighting between pro-Farooq and Congress (I) members.

RUSHDIE APOLOGISES

SALMAN RUSHDIE HAS expressed "sincere apologies" to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi,

for the passage he wrote concerning her and her family in his award-winning book *Midnight's Children*. The publishers have also apologised. The apologies were made in response to a libel writ filed by Mrs Gandhi.

MCD IN DENIAL

THE DELHI MUNICIPAL Corporation has devised a novel way of keeping the incidence of malaria low — by not registering a large number of positive cases. While malaria rages all over the city, the civic body continues to claim that the disease is well under control. Many patients who were turned away by the corporation dispensaries after

being told that their blood test for malaria is negative, have been going to private doctors only to discover that the fever they are suffering from is malaria.

ATHLETES DISAPPOINT

INDIAN MARKSMEN CONTINUED to put on a disappointing performance in the 23rd Summer Olympics with the country's best bet, Randhir Singh, finishing a poor 31st in Olympic trap shooting. On the second day, Randhir fetched 68 out of 75, taking his total tally to 134/150. Also dismal was Bhagirath Samal's performance, who finished 45th out of 71 in the small bore free rifle event.

THE IDEAS PAGE

Hope and heartbreak

There can be so much darkness in a race where there is not much space on the podium. What is it exactly that is pushing UPSC aspirants through uncertain loops of study-revise-restart?



DEVYANI ONIAL

IN A COACHING class in Old Rajinder Nagar in the OTT series *Aspirants*, a teacher, once an IAS aspirant himself, sums up two ways of changing the country. One is from the bottom — as a labourer, a farmer, through activism. The other, he says, is from the top, by becoming an IAS, IPS or IRS officer.

There are no prizes for guessing which way most people would want to take to change the country — and their circumstances. So Abhilash Sharma from *Aspirants*, a series which started streaming on Prime Video in 2021 and got a second season last October, and Manoj Kumar Sharma from the film *12th Fail* (2023), a “Hindi medium type” from the badlands of Chambal who makes Delhi’s other coaching hub, Mukherjee Nagar, his home, give it their all to succeed at the civil services examination. The two entertainers chronicle the grit and determination of such aspirants, putting the lens on this obsessive world of studies and revisions, coaching classes, and the quest to crack competitive exams.

The UPSC (Union Public Service Commission), as it came to be known after India adopted its Constitution in 1950, conducts examinations for recruitment of officers to the All India Services and the Central Civil Services. A legacy of the British Raj, the prestige and the sheen of the civil services, the competitive examinations for which started in 1855 and were earlier held only in London, has remained intact over the centuries. If anything, the on-screen depiction has only burnished the civil services’ halo.

At present, over one million candidates compete for just around a thousand seats in the civil services, ensuring more heartbreaks than high fives. Through the cinematic journey of these aspirants, we see what being a bureaucrat means to a large section of India that wants to claw its way out of a system so arranged against it that it wants to become a part of it. In *12th Fail*, Manoj’s character, inspired by a real life police officer and played by actor Vikrant Massey, who won several accolades for it, has had a rough ride. His father has been suspended for hitting a corrupt officer, his brother has had a run-in with the henchman of an MLA and been framed, and the only person who has shown integrity and stood up to rogue authority is a police officer. An officer who had stopped cheating in Manoj’s school, inspiring him to join the police force. So, for Manoj, the uniform is vested with the power to undo past injustices and act for future good.

Meanwhile, in *Aspirants*, as the camera pans over the congested streets of Old Rajinder Nagar in Delhi, you know you are in the “Mecca of UPSC”. The coaching institutes, around which spin the world of civil service aspirants, the book-lined shops, the conversations over prelims, mains, number of attempts, and the advice that comes free with the chai, capture an ecosystem that swings madly between hope and disappointment.

The vibe is right and the screen stories, helped by nuanced acting, manage to chronicle the struggles, friendships, triumphs and



CR Sasikumar

failures of the students, but what they don’t really convey is the crushing weight of expectations and what pressure can do to these aspirants. Apart from the professed aim of “I want to change the country”, what is it exactly that is pushing these aspirants through uncertain loops of study-revise-restart? Home is a place that comes up occasionally, but is it the source of the pressure students take upon themselves? And what happens when all the chances are exhausted and, as one character says, you look back and six years of your life have just vanished?

Then there are issues such as dangerous infrastructure, high fees and quality of services offered by coaching centres, all of which have come to light after the tragic death of three civil services aspirants who drowned in an illegal basement in Old Rajinder Nagar on July 27, that never take centre stage.

The genial teacher, that one “bhaiyya” who is on his last exam attempt but is always ready to help others, blunt the toxic environment, both physical and mental, that students often endure. The darkness that accompanies

Apart from the professed aim of ‘I want to change the country’, what is it exactly that is pushing these aspirants through uncertain loops of study-revise-restart? Home is a place that comes up occasionally but is it the source of the pressure students take upon themselves? And what happens when all the chances are exhausted?

a system where the winner takes all doesn’t ever pierce the nostalgia-cloaked world of classes, friendships and crammed PG digs.

And there can be so much darkness in a race where there is not much space on the podium. As a character in *12th Fail* tells another, “Of the two lakh Hindi medium aspirants, only 25 to 30 become IAS or IPS. For the rest, it’s back to zero and then re-start.”

Back in Old Rajinder Nagar, the once-aspirant, now-teacher, tells his class, “Here you will see countless stories of hopes and disappointments. Some stories started and ended here. But some stories made history.”

It is perhaps in the nature of motivational stories and films that we forget the characters whose dreams fell by the side and remember — and are inspired by — the ones who made history. The aspirant who got through in the last attempt, the one who made it despite all odds. For the rest who didn’t make it, there is always the restart button. But for Old Rajinder Nagar, their story started and ended here.

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WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“Tokenism will never lead to women’s empowerment; it will prove detrimental to the realisation of our dreams. Gender equality requires more than symbolic gestures; it demands substantive change in how we treat women.”

— THE KATHMANDU POST

An eye on debt

State governments are increasingly borrowing more, which raises rollover risks



ADITI NAYAR

EACH OF THE Indian states is unique in terms of the factors that support its economy and the challenges it faces in meeting its developmental goals. Fiscal outcomes tend to vary across the states, both in terms of the size of their deficits as well as their stock of debt. This is in spite of the common rules regarding borrowings, which are elaborated in the Constitution of India.

Going ahead, the recommendations of the 16th Finance Commission will guide the size of the fiscal deficit at the state level from 2026-2027 to 2030-31. We are working with the assumption that the state fiscal deficit will remain pegged at 3 per cent of GDP over the medium term. This will then provide an anchor for the net borrowing ceiling (NBC) that is calculated by the Government of India (GoI) and communicated to each state at the beginning of every financial year. The amount to be redeemed in a fiscal is added to the individual NBC to arrive at the gross borrowings that states are permitted to undertake each year.

Loans from the Centre used to be the chief source of state government debt until the 12th Finance Commission recommended that the Centre disintermediate from state borrowings. Since 2006-07, market borrowings have emerged as the main source of funding the gap between the state governments’ revenues and expenditures. More recently, states’ market borrowings surged to Rs 10.1 trillion in 2023-24 from Rs 4.8 trillion in 2018-19. At end-March 2024, the stock of state government securities (SGS) outstanding is estimated to have risen to Rs 56.5 trillion. To provide some context, this was equivalent to around 55 per cent of the estimated outstanding stock of Government of India securities (G-secs) on that date. However, in terms of growth, the stock of SGS expanded at a faster pace than that recorded by the G-secs.

Based on the current stock of debt, we estimate that the amount of SGS to be redeemed would jump to as much as Rs 20.7 trillion during 2025-26 and 2029-30 and Rs 18 trillion in the four years thereafter, led by Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Gujarat. This will ensure that the gross market issuance by the state governments will remain elevated during the next 10 years.

The amount borrowed by the states in each year and the tenor of the securities issued determines the redemption profile of the stock of market borrowings. Up to 2011-12, most states borrowed only in the 10-year

bucket. However, we have seen a lot of variation in recent years, with some states preferring shorter tenor debt, that is, below 10 years and a minority borrowing between 15 and 40 years as well.

One of the key risks faced by the issuers of debt is the roll-over risk or the risk of refinancing their debt, that is, below 10 years and a minority borrowing between 15 and 40 years as well. The weighted average maturity of the stock of debt outstanding is a useful way of gauging the extent of roll-over risk. A longer average maturity of the stock would imply that a relatively smaller portion of debt would be required to be rolled over in the near-term. The weighted average maturity of the stock of SGS outstanding at end-March 2024 was 8.5 years, up from 6.7 years at end-March 2019. This benefitted from the increase in the proportion of issuance of more than 10-year papers by states.

In 2023-24, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Telangana and West Bengal borrowed 75-100 per cent of their total issuance in the longer-tenor segment. The increasing preference for longer dated papers reflects the relatively attractive interest rates for this segment compared to the short-term rates and highly front-ended redemption profile for most of the states. At the same time, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh were outliers as over 85 per cent of their borrowing was in the shorter tenor securities in that year.

Coming back to the loans from the Centre. As market borrowings took over and the existing loans were repaid to the Centre, their stock outstanding started sliding fairly rapidly. However, two new forms of such loans emerged amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. One is the back-to-back GST compensation loans, which were raised by the GoI and on-lent to the states, and are to be repaid through the GST compensation cess collections. Another category is the 50-year interest-free loans from the Centre, which were also introduced after the pandemic started, and have continued thereafter.

Out of the Rs 2.7 trillion GST compensation loans raised during 2020-21 and 2021-22, the GoI had repaid Rs 781 billion using the GST compensation cess collections. Out of the balance, Rs 551 billion is due for maturity in June and November 2025 and Rs 1.4 trillion in April 2026.

Meanwhile, the size of the interest-free capex loan scheme has jumped manifold from Rs 118 billion in 2020-21 to Rs 1.3 trillion in the budget estimates for this year. How much the GoI chooses to allocate under this scheme in the coming years will help determine the resource availability of state governments for capital spending. It may also have some impact on the amount they borrow from the market.

The writer is Chief Economist and Head, Research and Outreach, ICRA

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BIDEN’S HYPOCRISY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Tightrope in the wind’ (IE, July 31). This year’s Quad meeting of foreign ministers seemed to be a holding operation. The Quad avoids descriptions of it as a security grouping, and has not named China in any of its statements thus far. But the reason for the group’s existence against Chinese belligerence and quest for supremacy is evident in the calls for “a free and open Indo-Pacific” where “no country dominates and no country is dominated”. India’s tightrope walk on Russia’s war in Ukraine was put to the test once again as the meeting expressed “deepest concern”. Regardless, the Quad’s concern for Ukraine and Gaza would sound more sincere if the Biden administration stopped pumping money and weapons into the two wars.

Khokan Das, Kolkata

sation and humiliation heaped on SC, ST, OBCs employees in public and offices. Rahul Gandhi has tried to entice marginalised groups to open up against casteism.

L.R. Murmu, New Delhi

A NECESSARY EVIL

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘RSS smoke and mirrors’ (IE, July 31). The RSS can also be argued as a necessary evil, playing a crucial role in protecting and preserving our cultural values. Historical figures like Gandhi and Hedgewar, despite their differing principles, emphasised the value of nationalism. Similar to the Gulf nations where religion plays a significant role in fostering cooperation, our religious conservatism may be critiqued by outsiders — yet, it preserves our Hindu cultural roots and history.

Shaswat Jena, Ghaziabad

RESPONSE TO CASTEISM

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Caste questions for Rahul’ (IE, July 31). It is evident from reports of rising caste atrocities across the country that the RSS continues to struggle with the vexed issue of caste discrimination. RSS-BJP’s rejection of socio-economic caste survey defies logic, given that such information helps the government’s formulation of effective welfare programs. Rahul Gandhi’s advocacy for a caste census by calling out caste identities in public culture during his budget speech may appear offensive to sensibilities of the privileged. But let us not ignore the prevailing public culture of stigmatis-

The writer is a practising advocate and founder of JusContractus, India’s only all-women law firm specialising in commercial law and disputes

Towards dispute irresolution

New guidelines for arbitration, mediation damage a sector with huge potential



PAYAL CHAWLA

IN AN OFFICE memorandum dated June 3, the government outlined new guidelines for arbitration and mediation in contracts related to domestic public procurement. While the memorandum ostensibly promotes mediation, it explicitly signals a shift away from arbitration for government undertakings. Consequently, once the current pipeline of arbitration cases dries out, future contracts are likely to resort to litigation through the traditional court system, thereby significantly increasing the burden on an already stretched legal system.

Despite representations from industry bodies and the Arbitration Bar of India advising against this memorandum, it appears, at least for the time being, to be a fait accompli.

This decision will have significant negative repercussions for private litigants, both individuals and companies, for India’s ranking in the “Ease of Doing Business” index, for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and for the legal system as a whole. This decision will put additional pressure on the already overburdened courts, likely causing delays in final outcomes and increasing court interference. The appeals process will become more extensive, with the potential for evidence to be re-evaluated at the first appeal stage, prolonging the resolution of disputes. Moreover, given that the government will be one of the disputants, it is likely that litigation will frequently travel

all the way to the Supreme Court.

The landmark 2015 amendments were aimed at establishing India as an international arbitration hub. The energy in the legal market, both domestic and international, was palpable. Until 2018, the market remained upbeat. With minimal judicial interference, India seemed well on its way. However, repeated calls for third-party funding legislation and opening the Indian market to foreign lawyers went unheeded. Legislatively, the baffling regression of reforms was evident with each subsequent amendment in 2018, 2019, and 2021, culminating in the present setback of the 2024 memorandum.

Curiously, at the heart of these amendments is the concern that matters are being resolved too quickly. The main objective of the 2015 amendments was to reduce the time taken in courts. It is baffling that the very reform that improved India’s “Ease of Doing Business” ranking would be reversed for being too successful!

Another incorrect perception being bandied about is that arbitrations are being lost due to the inferior quality or perceived corruption of arbitrators. The fact is, we are speaking in two voices on this issue. On one hand, we tout India as an arbitration hub, emphasising the high-quality talent available here. On the other hand, we criticise our own arbitrators, expecting the interna-

tional community to somehow buy into our contradictory narrative and bring all their arbitrations to India despite confusing guidelines on their entry. If we don’t trust our own arbitrators, why would the international community?

The real issue, which no one is willing to address, is that one party often pays their lawyers poorly which ends up facing a highly qualified team of lawyers on the other side. Arbitrations are not lost because of corrupt arbitrators; they are lost due to bad facts and poor-quality legal representation. Even in cases of poor quality/corrupt arbitrators, the solution is to tackle the issue through accreditation and training, not by banning arbitration and tarnishing an entire community.

While the international arbitration community awaits clarity on the confounding rules for their entry, Indian arbitration was surviving due to a robust domestic arbitration market. With the government’s exit from arbitration, the market is fast spiralling towards doom. Large domestic private parties will opt for a foreign seat, leaving smaller disputes between private parties to be arbitrated in India. It is not surprising that there is significant despondency within the Indian legal market, especially among arbitration practitioners.

While this paints a bleak picture, there may be a slim ray of hope: An increase in

commercial court litigation. Although there will be a pressing need to enhance capacity, infrastructure, and training to efficiently manage the exponential increase in the volume of cases and trial management, this shift could lead to the development of robust jurisprudence in areas such as damages, indemnities, discovery, and trial principles. India needs to expand its law on damages, and parties should push for more frequent use of indemnities. Litigants must encourage lawyers to think creatively and utilise the underdeveloped tort law in Indian jurisprudence. The increased volume of commercial litigation will also create a demand for skilled trial lawyers adept in litigation, damages, and cross-examination, ultimately strengthening the overall legal ecosystem. All of this will, of course, require substantial investment by the Government of India.

It appears that Indian arbitration is dead for now. While the immediate future for India’s arbitration industry seems grim, there is a glimmer of hope in the potential for long-term improvements in the country’s legal infrastructure and the development of jurisprudence in commercial law.



12 IN PARLIAMENT BUDGET SESSION

Budget balances growth, welfare, says FM, attacks Congress on inflation during UPA

In RS, Sitharaman says Agnipath brought to keep the Armed Forces battle-ready, young and fit

NIKHIL GHANEKAR
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

COUNTERING OPPOSITION'S allegations of discrimination towards states in not adhering to cooperative federalism, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Wednesday said the Union Budget struck a fine balance between several overriding priorities such as growth, welfare, employment and fiscal consolidation.

Replying to a discussion on the Union Budget in Rajya Sabha, Sitharaman defended the government's record on controlling inflation and said "Congress matlab mehngai" (Congress means price rise).

"This budget strikes a fine balance among several overriding priorities...growth, employment, welfare spending, capital investments and fiscal consolidation are all equally given a place. I had promised in this House in 2021-22 that the government will endeavour to attain



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

a fiscal deficit to the GDP level below 4.5% by the year 2025-26... and we are well on track to attain that target," she said.

On the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme, she said it remains attractive for the manufacturing sector. "Together with the PLI incentive given for mobiles, India produced 97% of all mobile phones in demand in the country and 30% of production has gone for exports exclu-

sively," she said. Responding to former Finance minister P Chidambaram's demand to scrap the Agnipath scheme, Sitharaman said it was brought to keep the armed forces "battle-ready, young and fit". "I am sure the former Finance Minister, who also served as Home Minister, understands the nuances in national security. 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 17.5-21 and retaining only 25%, reducing the average age of the Army," she said.

Attacking the Congress on inflation during the UPA regime, she said that reckless policies and inept measures led to double digit inflation during that period. "Domestic inflation used to be higher than the global average," she said.

Comparing the inflation rates during the NDA and UPA years, Sitharaman said that the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government had left behind a strong economy in which the inflation rate was 3% and it rose to 8.1% during the UPA regime. "Over the last decade, India's average inflation was 5.1%, lower than the average of 5.8% among emerging economies. Congress means mehngai. Even the common man knows and says Congress aayi, megengai layi (Congress comes, brings inflation)."

On the measures taken by the government to provide relief to

consumers, she said the government has reduced excise on fuel and alleged that Congress-ruled state governments did not reduce tax on fuel prices. "Every state tried to reduce fuel prices. For political point scoring, Congress states did not, inflation there is higher. The first thing their government did in Himachal Pradesh was to increase the fuel prices. Here they ask to contain inflation, there they increase it," she said.

Emphasising that financial position of the UT of J&K has improved, she said that unlike other UTs, J&K is plagued by external terrorism and there was a historical legacy of "poor governance and low revenue base", which had created a situation of "near perpetual distress and dependence on the Union government".

"The J&K bank has made a remarkable turnaround. From a loss of Rs 1,139 crore in 2019-20, it has made a profit of Rs 1,700 crore in 2023-24. This is the kind of turnaround and efficiency with which the bank is now being run professionally," she said.

Congress MP Channi moves privilege motion against PM for sharing 'expunged' remarks

ASAD REHMAN
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE CONGRESS Wednesday submitted a notice to move a privilege motion against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for sharing on social media "a portion of remarks which were expunged from the proceedings of the House by the Chair".

Modi had posted a YouTube link of BJP MP Anurag Thakur's speech in the Lok Sabha Tuesday, portions of which were expunged by the Chair.

The notice for the motion was moved by former Punjab Chief Minister and now Jalandhar MP Charanjit Singh Channi under Rule 222 of the Rules of Procedure that gives a member the power - with the consent of the Speaker - to raise a question involving a breach of privilege either of a member of the House or of a Committee.

"I hereby give notice to move a privilege motion under Rule 222 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha against the Prime Minister for having tweeted on X a portion of remarks which were expunged from the proceedings of the House by the Chair," read the letter by Channi submitted to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

"On 30 July, 2024, certain objectionable remarks made by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur were



Jalandhar MP Charanjit Singh Channi

expunged from the proceedings of the House by the Speaker, Lok Sabha. Relevant extracts from proceedings are enclosed," said the letter.

The letter further said that it is "shocking to note that these expunged portions had been tweeted by the Prime Minister on X."

"As laid down in Practice and Procedure of Parliament by Kaul & Shakdher (7th Edition), it is well established that: 'The effect in law of an order of the Speaker expunging words, remarks or a portion of the proceedings is as if those words/remarks or that portion of the proceedings had never been spoken. Publication of the expunged words or expressions would amount to a breach of privilege'."

The letter said that the Prime Minister posting the remarks on social media which "had been

expunged from the proceedings of Lok Sabha clearly amounts to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House".

"I, therefore, contemplate to move a privilege motion against the Prime Minister and request you to please admit my motion and permit me to move the same. Request that privileged proceedings may be initiated against the Prime Minister," he said.

On Tuesday in the Lok Sabha, Union Minister Anurag Thakur, who did not name Gandhi but targeted him over his demand for caste-based census, said, "Jiski jaat ka pata nahin, woh ganana ki baat karta hai (The person whose caste is not known talks about census)."

The remark led to an uproar and SP's Akhilesh Yadav questioned how anyone could ask about a person's caste in the House. Jagdebamba Pal, who was chairing the proceedings, said nobody should ask about anyone's caste in the House and that he would expunge the remark. But until Wednesday evening, there was no official communication on the removal of the remark from the House records.

Posting a YouTube link to the speech of Thakur on X, Modi said, "This speech by my young and energetic colleague, Shri Anurag Thakur is a must hear. A perfect mix of facts and humour, exposing the dirty politics of the INDI Alliance."

Dhankhar: RSS global think tank of highest order, its credentials are unimpeachable

DAMINI NATH
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

RAJYA SABHA chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar Wednesday came out in support of the RSS, saying the organisation had "unimpeachable credentials" and had Constitutional rights to contribute to the development of the nation.

While asking a supplementary question about the NTA during Question Hour in the Upper House, SP MP Ramji Lal Suman alleged that the government's main criterion for appointments was if a person belongs to the RSS, citing a report in *The Indian Express* about recommendations from the RSS for appointments. Taking exception to the comment, the Chairman asked Suman to stick to asking his question. When LoP Mallikarjun Kharge said Dhankhar should allow the member to speak as long as rules were being followed, the Chairman responded Suman had "trampled the Constitution of India".

"RSS is an organisation which is a global think tank of the highest order... I will not permit honourable member to single out an organisation which is doing national service... 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 people who are deeply committed to serving the nation selflessly. To take exception that a member of this organisation cannot participate in development journey of the nation is not only unconstitutional, but beyond the rules," he said.

"... if we take exception like this, it is indicative of undemocratic situations. It is antithetical to the preamble of our Constitution... I increasingly find that people are engaging into divisive activities.



Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, Monday

This is a pernicious design, a sinister mechanism to run down the growth of the country," he said.

He said any organisation, including the RSS, was entitled to contribute to the journey of the nation. Recently, the Centre had lifted restrictions on government employees participating in RSS activities. Department of Personnel and Training on July 9 issued the office memorandum removing mention of the RSS from OMs from 1966, 1970 and 1980 that banned government employees from engaging in RSS activities.

While Dhankhar was speaking, Opposition MPs walked out but returned to the House shortly after. The chairman's remarks sprang from the question by Shiv Sena MP Priyanka Chaturvedi on NTA functioning and action taken regarding the alleged irregularities and leaks in NEET (UG) and UGC NET exam last month. Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said the revised result of NEET (UG) 2024 had been declared on July 26 and the UGC NET 2024 exam had been cancelled.

Asked by Chaturvedi about action taken against the coaching industry, he said: "I have no hesitation in saying coaching centres should not be there. We will have to bring students out of the world of coaching centres."



Trinamool Congress MPs Prasun Banerjee and Yusuf Pathan during the Budget Session of Parliament on Wednesday. PTI

Modi govt 'self-delusional', spreading fear even after election setback: Sonia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

WITH ASSEMBLY elections coming up in key states, Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) Chairperson Sonia Gandhi Wednesday said the "mahaul (public mood)" is in the party's favour while pointing out that the PM Narendra Modi-led NDA government continues to be "self-delusional" even after the slump in their number of seats after the Lok Sabha elections.

At the CPP meeting at Samvidhan Sadan, Gandhi cautioned party leaders against complacency and over-confidence after the goodwill generated for it in the Lok Sabha polls. "The Union government, especially its top leadership, continues to be self-delusional as crores of families are devastated by mounting unemployment and price rise," she said. "We would have hoped the Modi government would draw the right lessons from their significant decline in the Lok Sabha



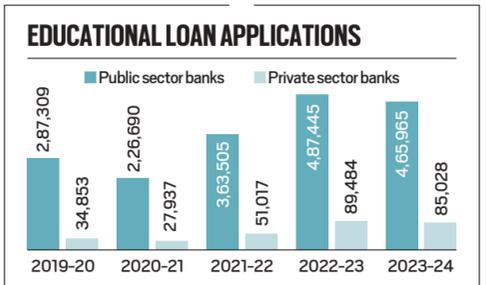
Sonia Gandhi arrives for the CPP meeting, Wednesday. PTI

elections. Instead, they are persisting with their policy of dividing communities and spreading an atmosphere of fear and animosity. Fortunately, the Supreme Court intervened at the right time. But this can only be a temporary respite," Sonia said in an apparent reference to the stay on UP and Uttarakhand governments' Kanwar Yatra route orders. Commending the role of the Leaders of Opposition in both the Houses and their colleagues, she said they "spoke out and expressed our party's views forcefully, along with other INDIA bloc parties, during the debate on Motion

of Thanks to the President's Address." Criticising the Budget for "ignoring the pressing demands of farmers and youth in particular", she said over the past few days, many of the Opposition MPs have "effectively brought out the Budget's many inadequacies". "Allocations in a number of vital sectors have not done justice to the tasks required to be fulfilled. There is widespread disappointment in spite of PM Narendra Modi, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and others talking up the Budget and its so-called accomplishments," she said.

Regarding the security situation in J&K and Manipur, she said, "Over the past few weeks, there have been at least 11 terror attacks in the Jammu region alone. There have been similar attacks in the Valley as well. Security personnel and many civilians have lost their lives. This makes a mockery of claim made by Modi government that all is well in J&K. The situation in Manipur shows no sign of any improvement. The PM steadfastly refuses to go to the state."

MoS: PSBs got highest education loan requests from TN in 2023-24



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

TAMIL NADU recorded the highest number of educational loan applications of 57,950 with public sector banks in 2023-24, up from 30,488 in 2019-20 while Maharashtra recorded the highest number of applications of 15,243 with private sector banks in 2023-24, more than thrice of 4,892 in 2019-20, according to the response to a question in the Lok Sabha last week.

The data from the Indian Banks' Association was submitted by Union Minister of State for Education Sukanta Majumdar in response to a question from Janasena Party MP Balashowry Vallabhaneni, who had asked if nearly 90% of educational loans are given by public sector banks.

Majumdar's reply states that the education loan amount disbursed by public sector banks in 2023-24 was Rs 28,699 crore, while private

banks disbursed Rs 7,749 crore. In 2023-24, Maharashtra was a close second after Tamil Nadu with 56,947 applications with public sector banks. In terms of applications with private sector banks, Karnataka came second after Maharashtra with 9,506 applications in 2023-24.

Public sector banks received 4,65,965 education loan applications in 2023-24, up from 2,87,309 applications in 2019-20, and 2,26,690 in 2020-21. However, in 2023-24, it was a little lower than the 4.87 lakh applications recorded in 2022-23.

Last year, in response to a similar question in the Rajya Sabha on educational loans, the government had said the loans disbursed by public sector banks has "consistently increased" since 2018-19, except for 2020-21, "due to the Covid crisis."

It had said then that the loan amount disbursed by public sector banks in 2018-19 was Rs 13,784 crore.

Aviation Bill opposed in LS over Hindi name

New Delhi: The introduction of a Bill to replace the British Era Aircraft Act, 1934 ran into trouble in the Lok Sabha Wednesday following the Opposition's objection to it having a Hindi name.

After Civil Aviation Minister Ramamohan Naidu introduced the Bill, Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024, RSP MP N K Premachandran opposed it, saying, "The name of the original Bill was Aircraft Bill, 1934. The title of the Bill was in English. The content of (this) Bill is also in English. But the government just wants to change the name of the Bill. For people from South India, it is very difficult to even pronounce Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak."

Premachandran argued the Bill was in violation of Articles 348 1B, 120 and 340 of the Constitution. He also said the Bill was not in accordance with Section 3 of the Official Languages Act. **ENS**

Kharge: Expunge 'parivarvaad' remark against me

New Delhi: Taking exception to "parivarvaad" remark made by BJP MP Ghanshyam Tiwari Tuesday, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge Wednesday urged Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar to expunge the remark that his entire family was in politics.

Kharge said, "I was the only one from my family to join politics - student politics, labour movement and then became a Congress member and block president at the age of 25." Dhankhar said he would examine the record and expunge any remark that had hurt him. **ENS**

Cong MP Imran Masood's journey: Muslim hardliner to Kanwar sewak

LALMANI VERMA
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

ALTHOUGH IMRAN Masood has become the Lok Sabha MP for the first time now, he has been a prominent face in western Uttar Pradesh politics for several years.

In the recent Lok Sabha polls, Masood, 54, won from the Saharanpur constituency on the Congress ticket, defeating the BJP's Raghav Lakhnpal, with the BSP's Majid Ali finishing third.

Masood is carrying forward the political legacy of his family, which has been influential in the Saharanpur belt for decades. Known earlier for his controversial remarks, he worked on his image as a Muslim hardliner over

the last few years, refraining from commenting on the communal issues. Instead, he tried to reach out to Hindu voters, and was often seen saying, "Ram milenge maryada se jeene mein, Ram milenge Hanuman ke seene mein (You will find Ram by living with dignity and in Hanuman's heart)."

Last week, Masood inaugurated a "Kanwar camp" in his constituency for "Shiv Bhakt Kanwariyas", where he served them food and fruits. Masood's great-grandfather Qazi Qayum Ahmed was elected the chairman of Gangoh area in 1923, while his grandfather Qazi Masood Ahmed served as the Gangoh Nagar Palika Parishad chairman for over 27 years before he got elected as an

Independent MLA from Nakur in 1969. Imran's father Rashid Masood, too, served as the Gangoh Municipality chairman.

However, he was inspired by his uncle Rasheed Masood, who was elected MP for the first time from Saharanpur in 1977, getting elected for the fifth term from the seat as a SP candidate in 2004.

Imran Masood entered the mainstream political arena by contesting the election for the Saharanpur Nagar Palika Parishad in 2001. By 2006, he became its chairman. In 2007, he was elected as the MLA for the first time as an Independent candidate from the Muzaffarabad Assembly seat (known as Behat since the 2008 delimitation).

Over the years, Masood grew



out of the shadow of his uncle, and in 2012, he was picked by the Congress as a youth face in Rahul Gandhi's team. The same year, he contested the election from the Nakur Assembly seat, but lost to the BSP's Dharam Singh Saini in a close fight. Just before the 2014 LS polls, a video clip surfaced, in which



Masood became an MLA for first time in 2007

Masood was seen purportedly threatening Narendra Modi, then the PM candidate of the BJP, as he blamed the BJP and the RSS for the 2013 Muzaffaragar riots. A case was registered against him for hate speech. In the Lok

Sabha polls that followed, he lost to the BJP's Raghav Lakhn Pal. Masood's electoral setbacks continued in the 2017 Assembly and 2019 LS polls, in which he lost to BJP and BSP, respectively.

Ahead of 2022 UP Assembly polls, Masood ended his association with the Congress to join the SP. But in October that same year, he left the SP to join the BSP, where he was immediately named its coordinator for western UP by party supremo Mayawati.

But in August 2023, Mayawati expelled Masood from the party on charges of indiscipline and "anti-party activities", following which he returned to the Congress. Sources in the BSP said the party leadership was upset with some of his

media statements, in which he praised top Congress leaders.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Masood said, "I have grown up in a political family. I began with student union politics in 1987 when I took admission in Lucknow University for my graduate degree. I am taking ahead my family legacy, to serve the people of Saharanpur, UP, and society at large."

Sharing his experience of the first session of the 18th Lok Sabha, the Congress MP said, "It was encouraging. I got cooperation in Parliament. Senior members from across parties supported the new members. When I concluded my House speech on the Presidential address, several BJP MPs, including two ministers, appreciated it and said, aap

bahut achcha bole."

In Parliament's ongoing Budget session, Masood has several questions listed. He is also going to table a private member's Bill. "So far I have not got any opportunity to speak on the Union Budget, but I'll do so during the discussion on demand for grants," he said.

"Whenever I get to speak in the House over the next five years, I plan to utilise the time. For Saharanpur, my first concern is health services. I have sought time from the Union Health Minister to discuss it," he said. About the discussions in the House so far, he said, "Undoubtedly, Rahul Gandhi ji made a superb opening speech. This time, the government won't be able to ride roughshod. The Opposition is in a strong position."

FROM PAGE ONE

Landslide Ground Zero

a mosque, a post office, a resort and several buildings.

With a bridge across the Iruvazhanji river washed away, for several hours after the tragedy, the village remained cut off from Chooralmala junction, 2km away. It was only by Tuesday evening that a 30-member NDRF team reached the village. The rescue attempts began on Wednesday, when 100-odd members from the state Fire and Rescue department, along with a 55-member scuba diving team from Kochi, and Army and NDRF personnel managed to access the village and started retrieving bodies — on Wednesday, the team found 10 bodies. Army personnel used a rope and formed a human chain as they stood waist deep in the swirling waters of the Iruvazhanji river to rescue the stranded survivors in Mundakkai.

Mundakkai panchayat member K Babu said, "The village had a population of around 1,200. There is not a soul left there now. We have taken out all those who survived the tragedy," he said, adding that Mundakkai had 540 houses, which included quarters of the coffee estate workers. Less than 50 of those stand now.

Babu, who lives in Kottanad village in Meppadi and was among the first to reach

Mundakkai village after the landslide, said, "Many people are still missing, so we can't say how many from Mundakkai died. Several bodies were likely washed away in the landslide. The panchayat has told ASHA workers to visit relief camps and get details of those from Mundakkai who survived," he said.

By Wednesday noon, the rescue team managed to take an earth mover across the Iruvazhanji river to Mundakkai. The machine, which was lowered into the river, shifted huge boulders in its path to get to the other side.

Official sources said that a temporary, narrow walkway erected over the river got submerged due to the heavy rains on Wednesday. By 6 pm, the rescue workers made an adventurous return from Mundakkai using the same walkway and hauling themselves across with ropes.

A team from the Army's Madras Engineer Group will install a Bailey bridge by Thursday evening to further ease the movement of rescue workers and relief material. The equipment to set up the 190-foot bridge was flown in from Delhi to Kannur airport on Wednesday, and brought to Wayand in 17 trucks.

Ambulances bring the dead

Committee Vice-President Musthafa Moulavi, 30 bodies have already been buried and volunteers are digging 50 more graves. Three to four graves are being prepared in a single pit for the burial of families, he said.

Manaf, a volunteer, is helping bury those who have no family or relatives left to mourn. "We don't want these people to leave the world as orphans, so we are standing in for their relatives in their final journey," he said.

Metres away, at the Meppadi school that serves as a relief camp, those who survived the landslide now face an uncertain future — many of them have lost almost everything they owned.

Kavungal Hamza, 60, from Chooralmala, one of the worst-hit villages, narrowly escaped the landslide. Sitting with his wife and children in the relief shelter, he says, "My house was completely destroyed. Not a single brick is left on our small plot of land. My children have lost their school books. We have lost all our household items. At this age, how can I rebuild my life?" says Hamza, who works as a driver.

Hamza's was among the few families from Chooralmala to have escaped to safer locations before the landslide struck. Before getting to a relief camp on

Wednesday,

Hamza, his wife Jameela, and their two children had taken shelter in a small shed on a hill for the previous two nights. "I don't know where to go. It was only five years ago that I built my house with all my savings. Now, I can't build another one," he says.

Farm labourer Ajitha T, 50, from Mundakkai, too, has no home to go back to. "My house cannot be rebuilt. We are afraid of going back to the village. How long can we stay in this school? There is no place to return to," she says.

Zeenath, 50, a daily-wage worker, survived the landslides as she had gone to a relative's home just before the disaster. "I survived, but lost my house and all the belongings that I had toiled so hard for. There is nothing left for me here," she says.

People continue to pour into the relief camp, where food and basic survival material are being provided by government agencies and volunteer groups.

Bindu, who is part of a group of teachers distributing clothes to the survivors, says, "Most of the survivors have no clothes other than what they are wearing now. So, we mobilised used clothes from Meppadi, and people contributed generously."

AYUSH MEDICINES

Without trials, no way to tell what are misleading claims

APURVA VISHWANATH & ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

REGULATION OF AYUSH medicines and their advertisement has come under the Supreme Court scanner, with no requirement for these formulations to demonstrate safety and efficacy being one of the points highlighted in the case filed by the Indian Medical Association against Patanjali Ayurveda.

The case was filed amidst the pandemic against the company for maligning allopathic medical practice and making false claims about ayurvedic drugs curing certain lifestyle diseases.

Noting that current provisions for penalty were being under-utilised and complaints weren't being transferred between states, the court directed union AYUSH ministry to create a centralised portal where people can register complaints.

The court asked the AYUSH ministry to create a central portal for registering and tracking complaints. There was also a general direction to states to follow-up on complaints and improve inter-state coordination, according to persons in know of the matter.

When it comes to approval of AYUSH therapies, the court noted that trials for safety and efficacy are not needed, unlike allopathic medicines. The Drugs and Cosmetics Act and various rules under it stipulate phase I, II, and III trials for approval of new allopathic medicines or equivalence studies that have to be conducted for generic versions.

Most AYUSH drugs however, according to the Act, can be approved based on the rationale provided in authoritative texts of that particular stream. Safety trials have to be conducted only for formulations that use around 60 specific ingredients listed in the act, such as snake venom, snake head, heavy metals such as arsenic and mercury, and compounds such as copper sulphate. For licensing of drugs containing these ingredients and traditional drugs used for new indications, proof of effectiveness has to be provided, according to the Act.

"The court specifically raised the issue of diluting the rule that required proof of effectiveness when using the drugs for new indications. Otherwise, the only proof required for granting approval is what is said in the texts," the person quoted above said.

The court also noted that even the existing provisions for

penalty — under drugs and cosmetics act, drugs and magic remedies act, and consumer protection act — are under-utilised by states. Actions have been initiated by very few states, such as Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Gujarat among others. Penal action or prosecution has been initiated by states in around 400 instances. It was also pointed out that most states do not cancel or suspend licenses as a way of penalising companies for making false claims. Very few states such as Delhi, Odisha, Jharkhand, Goa, and West Bengal have done this.

And, there were instances where no action could be taken because the advertiser could not be traced. This could be prevented by the 2018 rule under drugs and cosmetics act which states that ads for AYUSH drugs must be cleared by the state licensing authority where the manufacturer or corporate office is located. A unique identification number has to be provided, which most states do not do yet.

The status of complaints and actions taken by the Uttarakhand government are not immediately known. Uttarakhand is one of the drug manufacturing hubs in the country and the case by IMA was filed on the basis of advertisement of products whose manufacturing licenses had been suspended by the state government.

Top court verdict on sub-classification of SCs and STs today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE SUPREME Court will pronounce its judgment Thursday on the question whether sub-classification of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is permissible for the purpose of reservation.

A seven-judge Constitution bench presided by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud had on February 8, 2024, reserved its judgment on the reference made to it.

The bench also comprised Justices B R Gavi, Vikram Nath, Bela M Trivedi, Pankaj Mithal, Manoj Misra, and Satish Chandra Sharma.

Reserving its decision, the top court had said that not allowing the sub-classification will lead to a situation where the "advanced among" them "would grab all benefits".

The bench is examining if its 2004 judgment in EV Chinnaiiah vs State of Andhra Pradesh in which it was held that Scheduled Castes formed a homogenous group and hence there cannot be any sub-division among them, need a relook.

The bench is also examining the validity of the Punjab SCs and Backward Classes (Reservation in Services) Act, 2006 which pro-

vided 50% quota and first preference to Valmikis and Mazhabi Sikhs in public jobs within the quota meant for the SCs.

In 2010, the Punjab and Haryana High Court struck down Section 4(5) of the Punjab law as unconstitutional, one of the grounds being that it violated the judgement in the Chinnaiiah case.

The respondents have argued that there cannot be any such sub-division.

The Centre backed the sub-classification and said it "further the actual purpose behind reservation".

The Centre said that "if the aim of the State and the Constitution is to provide parity, equality of opportunity and social and economic mobility of the backward classes/castes in need, enabling of sub-classification would ensure that benefits are extended to persons more in need of the said benefits by carefully apportioning the reserved quota within the reserved class".

Hearing the matter, the Supreme Court had remarked that those among the backward castes who had benefited from it should now move out of the reserved category and make way for the more backward among them to avail the benefit of the affirmative action.

Citing Sholay dialogue, SC confirms order staying release of Arun Gawli

New Delhi: "So ja beta, nahi toh Gabbar aa jayega." Quoting the oft-remembered dialogue from the blockbuster *Sholay*, Supreme Court Wednesday "confirmed" its earlier order staying the premature release of gangster-turned-politician Arun Gawli who is serving life imprisonment in a murder case.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Dipankar Datta made absolute its June 3 order staying the operation of April 5 order of Bombay HC's Nagpur bench and posted the appeals for hearing on November 20. HC had directed state authorities to consider Gawli's application for premature release under 2006 remission policy. Senior advocate Nitya Ramakrishnan, appearing for Gawli, said other co-accused had been given bail and Bombay HC was right in granting premature release.

"The state government has changed its remission policy (in 2015) but your lordships have held the policy will apply which was applicable when he was convicted. The 2006 policy will apply since he was convicted in 2009," she said. At this juncture, bench observed, "But madam you should know not everybody is Arun Gawli. In *Sholay*, there is a dialogue, 'So ja beta, nahi toh Gabbar aa jayega. This can be a case here.'" PTI

ED raids Himachal Cong first-time MLA, Sukhu aide

Shimla: The ED Wednesday conducted searches at premises of R S Bali and Dr Rajesh Sharma — both Congress leaders from Himachal Pradesh — some private hospitals and their promoters as part of a money laundering probe linked to case pertaining to creation of fake Ayushman Bharat ID cards.

While Bali is legislator from Nagrota Bagwan Assembly seat,

Sharma is considered close to CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu.

In searches that began early morning, the ED teams targeted 19 locations in Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, and Punjab, and Chandigarh. ED alleged fake cards were used to generate medical bills causing a loss to exchequer with total "proceeds of crime estimated to be ₹25 crore". ENS

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

For the convenience of Rail passengers, Railways have decided to extend the Periodicity of run of the following Summer Special Trains as per Details given below:-

Train No. & Name	Frequency	Extended Upto
09195 Vadodara Jn.-Mau Jn. Summer Special (Weekly)	Saturday	Upto 28.09.2024
09196 Mau Jn.-Vadodara Jn. Summer Special (Weekly)	Sunday	Upto 29.09.2024
09417 Ahmedabad-Danapur Summer Special (Weekly)	Monday	Upto 30.09.2024
09418 Danapur-Ahmedabad Summer Special (Weekly)	Tuesday	Upto 01.10.2024
09557 Bhavnagar Terminus-Delhi Cantt. Summer Spl. (Weekly)	Friday	Upto 27.09.2024
09558 Delhi Cantt.-Bhavnagar Terminus Summer Spl. (Weekly)	Saturday	Upto 28.09.2024
09405 Sabarmati Bg-Patna Jn. Summer Special (Weekly)	Tuesday	Upto 24.09.2024
09406 Patna Jn.-Sabarmati Bg Summer Special (Weekly)	Thursday	Upto 26.09.2024
09097 Bandra(T.)-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Summer Spl. (Weekly)	Sunday	Upto 29.12.2024
09098 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Bandra(T.) Summer Spl. (Weekly)	Tuesday	Upto 31.12.2024
09525 Hapa-Naharlagun Summer Special (Weekly)	Wednesday	Upto 25.12.2024
09526 Naharlagun-Hapa Summer Special (Weekly)	Saturday	Upto 28.12.2024
09183 Mumbai Central-Banaras Summer Special (Weekly)	Wednesday	Upto 25.12.2024
09184 Banaras-Mumbai Central Summer Special (Weekly)	Friday	Upto 27.12.2024
09309 Indore Jn.-Hazrat Nizamuddin Summer Special (Bi-Weekly)	Fri, Sun	Upto 29.12.2024
09310 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Indore Jn. Summer Special (Bi-Weekly)	Mon, Sat	Upto 30.12.2024
09075 Mumbai Central-Kathgodam Summer Special (Weekly)	Wednesday	Upto 25.12.2024
09076 Kathgodam-Mumbai Central Summer Special (Weekly)	Thursday	Upto 26.12.2024
09189 Mumbai Central-Katihar Jn. Summer Special (Weekly)	Saturday	Upto 28.12.2024
09190 Katihar Jn.-Mumbai Central Summer Special (Weekly)	Tuesday	Upto 31.12.2024
04123 Prayagraj-Hazrat Nizamuddin Summer Special (Bi-Weekly)	Sun, Wed	04 to 28.08.2024
04124 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Prayagraj Summer Special (Bi-Weekly)	Mon, Thu	05 to 29.08.2024
04141 Subedarganj-Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan Summer Special (Weekly)	Monday	05.08.2024 to 26.08.2024
04142 Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan-Subedarganj Summer Special (Weekly)	Tuesday	06.08.2024 to 27.08.2024
04137 Gwalior-Barauni Jn. Summer Special (Bi-Weekly)	Sun, Wed	04 to 28.08.2024
04138 Barauni Jn.-Gwalior Summer Special (Bi-Weekly)	Mon, Thu	05 to 29.08.2024

Note: Rest of the instruction will hold good.
For any kind of information, passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.

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NOTICE

Extract of Standalone Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June 2024

Particulars	Quarter ended on 30.06.2024	Quarter ended on 31.03.2024	Quarter ended on 30.06.2023	Financial year ended on 31.03.2024
	Audited	Audited	Audited	Audited
Total revenue from operations	32,959.66	36,540.07	35,486.80	1,40,892.43
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	4,699.38	6,102.43	5,687.98	22,983.34
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	4,462.81	5,460.71	5,676.74	9,347.66
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax	3,329.03	4,083.19	5,214.17	5,507.63
Total comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	3,482.94	4,257.43	5,370.38	6,199.38
Paid-up equity share capital [Face value ₹ 1 per share]	1,248.60	1,248.60	1,222.40	1,248.60
Reserves excluding revaluation reserves				1,38,247.55
Securities premium reserve	31,290.24	31,290.24	31,290.24	31,290.24
Net Worth	1,39,776.18	1,36,293.04	1,39,906.80	1,36,293.04
Paid-up Debt Capital	12,823.89	12,823.10	10,624.84	12,823.10
Net Debt Equity Ratio	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27
Basic earnings per share of ₹ 1 each (not annualised) - in Rupees (after exceptional items)	2.67	3.27	4.18	4.41
Diluted earnings per share of ₹ 1 each (not annualised) - in Rupees (after exceptional items)	2.67	3.27	4.18	4.41
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1,328.75	1,328.75	1,328.75	1,328.75
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	3.13	9.25	1.12	2.55
Interest Service Coverage Ratio	8.70	14.48	10.55	10.32

Extract of Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June 2024

Particulars	Quarter ended on 30.06.2024	Quarter ended on 31.03.2024	Quarter ended on 30.06.2023	Financial year ended on 31.03.2024
	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited
Total revenue from operations	54,771.39	58,687.31	59,489.66	2,29,170.78
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	2,734.75	2,403.34	1,841.95	6,667.04
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	2,376.82	1,808.87	1,855.37	(1,147.04)
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax	918.57	554.56	524.85	(4,909.61)
Total comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	1,094.50	232.10	(2,647.86)	(8,137.51)
Paid-up equity share capital [Face value ₹ 1 per share]	1,247.44	1,247.44	1,221.24	1,247.44
Reserves (excluding revaluation reserves) and Non controlling interest				91,185.30
Net Worth	89,815.10	88,623.82	97,935.69	88,623.82
Net Debt Equity Ratio	0.88	0.78	0.69	0.78
Earnings per equity share:				
Basic earnings per share of ₹ 1 each (not annualised) - in Rupees (after exceptional items)	0.77	0.49	0.52	(3.62)
Diluted earnings per share of ₹ 1 each (not annualised) - in Rupees (after exceptional items)	0.77	0.49	0.52	(3.62)
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1,328.75	1,328.75	1,328.75	1,328.75
Debt Service Coverage Ratio	1.64	2.21	0.47	0.68
Interest Service Coverage Ratio	3.19	2.91	3.55	2.47

Note:
The above is an extract of the detailed format of Standalone and Consolidated financial results for the quarter ended on 30th June 2024 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 and Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Standalone and Consolidated results for the quarter ended on 30th June 2024 are available on the websites of the Stock Exchanges (www.nseindia.com / www.bseindia.com) and the Company's website (www.tatasteel.com).

T V Narendran
Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director

Mumbai: July 31, 2024

Koushik Chatterjee
Executive Director & Chief Financial Officer

TATA STEEL

BRIEFLY

BIHAR
5-yr-old boy opens fire in school, injures 1

Patna: A five-year-old boy, studying in Class 2, took out a pistol Wednesday from his bag and shot at his 10-year-old school mate in Bihar, injuring his left arm. The incident took place at a private school in Supaul district and the injured boy is undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Trivenigarj town. The police said that the firearm was unlicensed and the boy brought the weapon to school assuming it was a toy. Supaul SP Shaishav Yadav said: "We have spoken to the school principal. As we cannot take action against a boy aged below seven, we are looking for the boy's father for possessing illegal arms." Following the incident, local residents protested demanding that the police take immediate action against the boy's father, who had come to the school but later fled to evade arrest. **ENS**

UTTARAKHAND
HC order on interfaith live-in couple modified

Dehradun: Modifying its previous order that allowed protection to an interfaith live-in couple — given they applied for mandatory registration under the new Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Act within 48 hours — the Uttarakhand High Court has removed the paragraphs, mentioning that the Act is yet to come into force in the state. The HC decision came on Monday, and the order was uploaded on Tuesday. The previous order was in response to a petition filed by a 26-year-old Hindu woman and a 21-year-old Muslim man, who have been living together for some time. The petitioners had approached the HC for protection, stating that the live-in relationship, led to threats from the parents and brother of one of them. **ENS**

UTTAR PRADESH
Rape accused shot dead, kin of victim booked

Lucknow: A 28-year-old man, who was out on bail in a rape case, was found dead with a bullet wound on his chest outside his house in Bareilly on Tuesday night, police said Wednesday. Police said they have booked the father and a relative of the minor girl, who was allegedly raped by the youth. "We have detained them for questioning in connection with the murder. We are collecting evidence," said a senior police officer, adding no arrest has been made yet. Police said that the youth was arrested in 2018 for allegedly raping a minor girl. "He had returned home to Bareilly a few months ago," a police officer said. **ENS**

Import of tur dal from Mozambique resumes after Centre's intervention

HARIKISHAN SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE SHIPMENTS of Tur/Pigeon peas from Nacala Port in Mozambique, disrupted by an "anti-India" group, have resumed after the Ministry of Consumer Affairs raised the issue with the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian High Commissioner there persuaded the matter with the local authorities. *The Indian Express* has learnt.

According to sources, the Indian High Commissioner to Mozambique has informed the Consumer Affairs Ministry that 1,400 containers carrying about 35,000 tons of Tur/Pigeon peas have already left for India from Nacala port. The remaining 400 containers — apart from some containers from Malawi — which

also uses the same port to export Tur/Pigeon peas to India — are expected to leave by mid-August.

India is the world's largest producer of pulses, but it is still dependent on imports to meet its domestic demand. The country imports about a dozen types of pulses from different countries, in which Mozambique is its main source for Tur/Pigeon pea imports.

During 2023-24, India imported 7.71 lakh tons of Tur/Pigeon pea, of which one-third (2.64 lakh tons) came from Mozambique. The figure was even higher in 2022-23 when half (4.6 lakh tons) of India's total Tur/Pigeon pea imports (8.94 lakh tons) were from Mozambique. Malawi, the fourth largest Tur/Pigeon peas supplier to India, shipped a quantity of 52,773 tons during the last financial year, recording

a drop of 12 per cent as compared to 60,463 tons in the previous year.

The sources attributed this drop in imports from these two countries during the last year to a "series of hurdles" in Mozambique which had impeded the smooth flow of trade.

However, the issue did not resolve fully as traders reported obstructions by an anti-India group in shipment of pulses from Nacala port.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Deepak Pareek, Founding Convener, Global Grains and Pulses Council, sought the government's intervention in the matter.

"The authorities of Nampula Province in Mozambique, which oversee the Port of Nacala, are obstructing the shipment of agricultural commodities to

India... Unfortunately, a local group with a background in anti-India activities has been colluding with these authorities to impede the flow of goods," wrote Pareek.

"The issue began last year when Indian importers were asked to pay a ransom for shipping pigeon peas, and cargo bound for India was illegally detained. This distressing scenario is repeating itself, with cargo from both Mozambique and Malawi being restricted, and a private group demanding USD 70-100 to release the shipments. This situation not only compromises the interests of the Indian trading community but also led to food inflation in pulses last year, with a potential for recurrence this year," he wrote.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Pareek said, "Money is still being paid... Only those containers are shipped where money is paid."

There is a possibility that the material in those containers may be from the previous crop as the harvesting of the new crop has just begun, he added.

Mozambique had entered into an MoU with India to supply 2 lakh tons of Tur/Pigeon peas till 2025-26.

As per the pact, India provides assured market access to Mozambique. A similar MoU has been signed with Malawi for supply of 0.50 lakh tons of Tur/Pigeon Pea to India annually. India imports about a dozen pulses from different countries. During 2023-24, India's pulses imports rose to a record high of 47.38 lakh tons, almost double to the level of 24.96 lakh tons in 2022-23.

UPSC cancels Khedkar selection, bars her from taking exam in future

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE UNION Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Wednesday cancelled trainee Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Puja Manorama Dilip Khedkar's candidature in the 2022 Civil Services Examination (CSE) and barred her from appearing for any future examinations of the commission, after finding she had violated rules by appearing for the exam more times than what was allowed.

The UPSC had issued Khedkar a show-cause notice on July 18 for "fraudulently availing attempts beyond the permissible limit... by faking her identity". She was asked to submit her response to the notice by July 25, but she asked for further time till August 4. The UPSC allowed her till 3.30 pm on July 30 to make her submissions.

"Despite extension in time allowed to her, she failed to submit her explanation within the prescribed time. The UPSC has examined the available records carefully and found her guilty of acting in contravention of the provisions of the CSE-2022



Puja Khedkar

COURT RESERVES ORDER ON KHEDKAR'S BAIL PLEA

New Delhi: A Delhi court hearing anticipatory bail plea moved by trainee IAS officer Puja Khedkar Wednesday reserved its order in the matter till Thursday. She alleged before Additional Sessions Judge Devender Kumar Jangala that a case was being lodged against her because she filed a sexual harassment complaint against the Pune Collector. **ENS**

Rules," a UPSC statement said. It added that in the backdrop of Khedkar's case, the UPSC had examined the data of the over 15,000 recommended candidates from 2009 to 2023, and found that apart from her, no other candidate had availed of more attempts than what is permitted under the CSE Rules.

Pak refugees in J&K put on par with POJK displaced, get land ownership rights

ARUN SHARMA
JAMMU, JULY 31

AHEAD OF the Supreme Court fixed September 30 deadline for holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, the UT administration in a significant decision has granted proprietary rights on "State land" in the Union Territory to West Pakistan Refugees (WPRs) and also those displaced during 1965 India-Pakistan war from Chhamb, on which their ancestors were settled by the then state government over 70 and 55 years ago, respectively.

The decision was taken by the Administrative Council

which met in Srinagar Tuesday under the chairmanship of J&K Lt Governor Manoj Sinha. The meeting was attended by J&K government advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, chief secretary Atal Dulloo and the LG's principal secretary Mandeep K Bhandari.

The decision ends over seven-decade-long "discrimination" with the "displaced persons from West Pakistan" as they too have been granted proprietary rights on state land as has been the case with people displaced from the areas of Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK), officials said, adding that it would "empower" thousands of WPR families settled across the Jammu region.



The flooded corridors of the Vidhan Bhavan in Lucknow on Wednesday. *Vishal Srivastav*

MONSOON SESSION

ANTI-CONVERSION LAWS

No apex court hearing for 18 months on pleas from 8 states

APURVA VISHWANATH
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

NEARLY 18 months after the Supreme Court transferred to itself the constitutional challenge to the anti-conversion laws from eight states, including Uttar Pradesh, the batch of petitions is yet to be heard.

On 16 January, 2023, a three-judge bench headed by the Chief Justice of India allowed lawyers to transfer petitions pending before respective high courts to the top court.

"Mr Kapil Sibal, senior counsel appearing on behalf of the respondents (challenge against the Gujarat law), states that in view of the pendency of the proceedings before diverse High Courts involving cognate issues, a transfer petition would be filed before this court for the purpose of clubbing and transferring the petitions for

adjudication before this Court. We stand over these proceedings to 30 January, 2023. In the event that a transfer petition is filed in the meantime, it shall be listed with the present batch of petitions on the next date of listing," the SC had said in its order.

While pleas from Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka and UP were transferred, a challenge against the Haryana law was added in July 2023. However, despite the transfer petitions filed, the cases have not been heard since. Official records of the case status shows that in six hearings since January 2023, the SC has only added newer cases connected to the issue to the batch.

Since 2020, several BJP-ruled states have passed stringent anti-conversion laws that outlaw religious conversion solely for the purpose of marriage. While a

common feature of all these laws is requiring prior approval of the state for conversions, declaration of inter-faith marriages without state approval as "null and void" and reversing the burden of proof on the man that a conversion of the woman is lawful. These laws also prescribe penal consequences, including a jail term of five to ten years.

These laws then came up for challenge before various high courts. In August 2021, the Gujarat High Court stayed certain provisions of the Gujarat Freedom of Religion (Amendment) Act, 2021 in an interim order from the reverse burden of proof, ban on inter-faith marriages involving a conversion and the provision allowing families to challenge such a marriage. The Gujarat government had moved an appeal in the SC and it was during one such hearing that the idea of transferring all cases to SC was made.

Distorted history didn't do justice to Shivaji: RSS Gen Secy Hosabale

DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

FORMER PRESIDENT Ramnath Kovind and RSS General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale Wednesday said history had not done justice to Maratha ruler Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and that distortions in the history had made him smaller than what even the British projected him to be.

The statements were made during an event to launch four books each in English and Hindi on Shivaji by Shivaji Raigadh Smarak Mandal, Hindavi Samaj Sthapana Mahotsav Aayojan Samiti and Bharati Prakashan at NDMC Convention Centre. Hosabale, also spoke about another book on Shivaji by Anil Mahadev Dave which describes the "good governance" provided by the Maratha ruler during his rule and talks about what an ideal king should be. The preface of the book has been written by PM Narendra Modi, who at the time of the book's publishing was Gujarat CM.



RSS General Secretary Dattatreya Hosabale

"Societies across the world engage in disseminating inspirational stories from history to the new generation. Jews take their community members from Britain to Israel every year. The French tell the story of Napoleon. The Chinese tell their own stories. In India, through distortion of history in Independent India Shivaji was made even smaller than what the British painted him as. But Shivaji became part of the folklore and these distortions cannot erase him from the collective memory," Hosabale said.

Speaking on the same lines, Kovind in his speech said, "I feel that history did not do justice to Shivaji Maharaj. And this responsibility is on all of us today. We must make efforts to ensure that he gets his rightful place in India's present history and all states give him the respect he deserves."

30 countries, 150 aircraft: IAF to host its largest exercise ever

AMRITA NAYAK DUTTA
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE INDIAN Air Force (IAF) will be hosting its largest-ever multi-lateral exercise Tarang Shakti 24 starting this month, which is set to see participation from nearly 30 countries including India and 150 foreign and IAF aircraft, senior IAF officers said Wednesday.

As per Air Marshal AP Singh, Vice-Chief of the IAF, a total of 51 countries have been invited for the "landmark event," of which 10 countries will participate with air assets and 18 countries will join in as observers. Along with India, another country will also likely join the exercise which will be held in two phases over August and September at Sulur and Jodhpur, respectively.

He said the exercise is not aimed at any particular nation. Aside from observer countries, Germany, France, Spain and the UK are slated to participate in the first phase, while Australia, Bangladesh, Greece, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates and the US will participate in the second phase of the exercise.

Gadkari urges FM to withdraw 18% GST on life and medical insurance premiums

VIKAS PATHAK
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

DAYS AFTER the Union budget's presentation, Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has asked Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to remove the goods and services tax (GST) on life and medical insurance premiums which currently attract an 18 per cent GST rate.

Forwarding a memorandum by the Nagpur Division Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) Employees Union, Gadkari wrote in his July 28 letter: "In view of the above, you are requested to consider the suggestion of withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premium on priority as it becomes cumbersome for the senior citizens as per rules with due verification along with other relevant points raised."

A source said union representatives met Gadkari during his recent visit to Nagpur — he visits his constituency during the weekends — and that he forwarded their demands to the Finance Minister "as per procedure".

The letter said: "Levying GST on life insurance premium amounts to levying tax on the uncertainties of life. The Union feels that the person who covers the risk of life's uncertainties to give some protection to the family should not be levied tax on the premium to purchase cover against this risk. Similarly, the 18-per cent GST on medical insurance premium is proving to be a deterrent for the growth of this... which is socially necessary."

The letter also brought to the notice of the Finance Minister "other relevant points raised" by



Nirmala Sitharaman; Nitin Gadkari

the union — reintroduction of a "separate and substantial exemption limit for life insurance premiums in the new tax regime", including deductions allowed in the old tax regime on health insurance premium in the new tax regime, and merger of public sector general insurance companies into a single entity so that they benefit from economies of scale.

Congress MP Karti Chidambaram welcomed Gadkari's letter to Sitharaman. He told news agency PTI on Wednesday: "I am very happy... Mr Gadkari has endorsed my demand that I made yesterday on the floor of the House... We are a very under-insured country, and we must encourage people to insure themselves. By levying GST you are making the premiums expensive. You must treat insurance not only as a social cover but also as a mode of saving." Chidambaram also shared on X a video of his speech in Lok Sabha Tuesday demanding withdrawal of GST on insurance.

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma said: "I think it will be decided by the GST Council. Normally, any positive suggestion gets accepted... As you know, the Finance Minister cannot take a decision on GST, it goes to the council. The council always welcomes positive suggestions."

Manipur Assembly session starts, no Kuki MLA present

CM Biren presents Budget, announces schemes for violence-affected people

JIMMY LEIVON & SUKRITABARUAH
IMPHAL, GUWAHATI, JULY 31

ANOTHER SESSION of the Manipur Legislative Assembly began on Wednesday — the third since the outbreak of violence in the state last year — without the presence of the 10 MLAs from the Kuki-Zomi community.

The ongoing session of the 60-member Manipur Legislative will continue till August 12.

On Wednesday, when Chief Minister N. Biren Singh tabled the Budget for fiscal year 2024-2025, the notable absence was that of the 10 MLAs from the Kuki-Zomi community. This comes amid the conflict in the state between the Kuki-Zomi community and the Meitei community.

Ahead of the Assembly session, the CM had said that "invitations" had been sent by the Assembly to the 10 MLAs and that "They should come and join."

The Indian Express had reached out to several of the 10 legislators for comment but they did not respond. In the past, they have stated that they are unable to travel to capital Imphal to attend the Assembly for security reasons.

On the opening day of the session, the CM told the House that the state's economy, which has been one of the "casualties" of the ongoing unrest, is seeing some signs of improvement. The Chief Minister, who is also in charge of finance, was delivering his speech on the floor

of the House on Wednesday while tabling the budget.

"Reduced revenue collections, increased expenditure on security and relief operations, inflation, difficulties in the movement of goods and services, and difficulties in the implementation of projects and schemes among others were a few of the challenges that we faced. With normalcy returning to the State, our tax collection is showing a positive trend," he said.

To make up for the revenue losses suffered by the state, the Centre approved special assistance for revenue loss of Rs 500 crore, he said.

Elaborating on the relief measure extended by the Centre, Singh said that as a special measure, the Central government approved a relief package of Rs. 101.75 crore as a one-time special assistance for the operation of relief camps for people displaced due to violence.

Another package he informed the House about was Rs. 209.45 crore for running schemes for relief and rehabilitation of victims/persons affected by ongoing law and order.

Elaborating on the rehabilitation measures, Singh said that a scheme for interim relief to people whose houses had been burnt down has been started by the state to give relief to displaced persons. In addition, the Chief Minister said the state had created a Rs. 10 crore State Corpus Fund for extending ex-gratia to the deaths and injured persons.

Uproar in Bengal House over minister remark at Quran event

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, JULY 31

KOLKATA MAYOR and TMC minister Firhad Hakim's remark at a religious event led to an uproar in the West Bengal Assembly on Wednesday as BJP legislators demanded his apology for his "communal speech" and threatened to boycott him.

At a Quran competition in Kolkata on Saturday, Hakim said: "Those not born in Islam are unfortunate. They are born with misfortune... it should be spread

among non-Muslims." BJP MLA and Leader of Opposition, Suwendu Adhikari, said: "He talked about urging people from other communities to convert. We have to fight a *dharma yudh* (holy war)." During Question Hour, BJP MLAs asked him to withdraw his statement. "The matter didn't take place in the Assembly. So it should not be discussed here," Hakim said. "I have been a secular person throughout my life. Whatever comments I had made have nothing to do with politics," Hakim said, leading to a walkout by BJP MLAs.

झारखण्ड सरकार
कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा

ई-निविदा आसंघण सूचना
ई-निविदा संख्या- 12/2024-25/RWD/CHATRA दिनांक- 31.07.2024

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

क्र.	आईडेंटिफिकेशन सं.	कार्य का नाम	अंक में (लाख)	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेंडर कोल सं.
1	RWD/CHATRA/44/2024-25	आर.ई.ओ. पथ से भदुवा मोड़ भागा कुम्बिया तुलबुल नगर आर.ई.ओ. रोड तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं.-2.750 कि.मी.)	314.618	तीन करोड़ चौदह लाख इकसठ हजार आठ सौ मात्र	15 माह	प्रथम
2	RWD/CHATRA/45/2024-25	आर.ई.ओ. पथ फुटानी चौक से बैदबिगाहा पुल तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं.-2.030 कि.मी.)	179.767	एक करोड़ उनसती लाख छिहत्तर हजार सात सौ मात्र	12 माह	प्रथम
3	RWD/CHATRA/46/2024-25	ग्राम नाबाडीह से कदले तिलैया तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं.-4.300 कि.मी.)	448.483	चार करोड़ अड़तालीस लाख अड़तालीस हजार तीन सौ मात्र	15 माह	प्रथम
4	RWD/CHATRA/47/2024-25	गेन्द्रा मुख्य सड़क से उपेन्द्र गंडु के घर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लं.-3.000 कि.मी.)	404.729	चार करोड़ चार लाख बहत्तर हजार नौ सौ मात्र	15 माह	प्रथम

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :- 14.08.2024
3. ई-निविदा प्रारंभ की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- 28.08.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
4. ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- 30.08.2024 पूर्वाह्न 3.30 बजे।
5. ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करनेवाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा, द्वितीय तल, विकास भवन, चतरा।
6. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष संख्या :- 06541-296208
विस्तृत जानकारों के लिए वेबसाइट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा

PR 331373 (Rural Work Department)24-25*D

15 WAYANAD LANDSLIDES

Race against time: Over 170 missing

Rescue efforts gain momentum as more teams arrive in landslide-hit areas, connect cut-off village using rope bridge; 1,592 rescued so far, says CM

SHAJU PHILIP
MEPPADI, JULY 31

THE DEATH toll from the landslides that struck Kerala's Wayanad district Tuesday went up to 174 by Wednesday, as central and state agencies worked alongside local volunteers as part of a massive search, rescue and relief operation.

Around 170 people were still missing after the landslides tore through villages in the hilly Meppadi Panchayat in the early hours of Tuesday, with people, houses and vehicles either buried in mud or washed away into the swollen river.

The rescue efforts in Mundakkai village, the centre of the landslides, were hampered Tuesday because the main bridge leading to it had been destroyed. On Wednesday, personnel of the Army and the National Disaster Response Force built a rope bridge to rescue those still stranded on the other side.

A team from the Army's Madras Engineer Group will install a Bailey bridge by Thursday evening to further ease the movement of rescue workers and relief material. The equipment to set up the 190-foot bridge was flown in from Delhi to Kannur airport on Wednesday, and brought to Wayanad in 17 trucks.

The Army moved additional columns to join the rescue effort on Wednesday, and a Coast Guard team has also been deployed. Two helicopters were mobilised to drop relief material into affected areas.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said 1,592 people have been rescued since the landslides hit. "At present, the focus is on rescue at Mundakkai, and two other villages - Attamala and Chooralmala," he said.

The CM said the government was looking to deploy a 'buried object detection system', and that it had sought expert help.

Rescuers are also set to deploy sniffer dogs that are being flown in from Delhi to look for bodies buried in the mud.

A group of people who survived the landslides by taking



TRAIL OF DESTRUCTION: A drone view of a landslide site in Wayanad district. Reuters

refuge at two resorts on Mundakkai hills were rescued Wednesday by Army personnel who used ropes to form a human chain to cross into the cutoff area.

Among the bodies recovered were 48 found in the Chaliyar river in Malappuram district.

According to the Army, six Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response columns comprising around 500 personnel, including medical staff, along with bridging equipment and rescue dogs have been deployed. During the day, Air Force helicopters undertook multiple sorties, dropping food and relief material.



Army personnel during a rescue operation Wednesday. PTI

Inside a health centre that became a camp for identifying the dead

NARAYANAN S
MEPPADI, JULY 31

WHEN THE day was winding down at the family health centre in Meppadi on Wednesday, the sparse crowd muttered, "Once more, tomorrow."

As each ambulance entered the muddled compound, they anxiously waited for the bodies to be taken to the tables inside a makeshift roof for identification. They knew their loved ones wouldn't come back alive, but all they wanted was closure — a final kiss on the forehead, a dignified funeral.

Suresh from Mundakkai lost his sister and her family in the deadly landslides in the early hours of Tuesday. He had been here since Tuesday afternoon, and found the bodies of his sister and her husband around midnight. But his niece and his sister's in-laws remained missing even until Wednesday night.



Relatives of missing people gather around a body kept for identification at a health centre in Meppadi. Narayanan S

"She lived near me. I had told her we should move out, considering the weather conditions on Monday. She and her family went to her brother-in-law's house, which was also nearby. My sister's son survived because he was at work when the landslide struck. I had moved out of Mundakkai to another sister's house near Kalpatta. If only she

had listened to me," he said.

He returned to the health centre by Wednesday noon, after the cremation. "I want to find my niece. There is no one left in her family now. It is now my responsibility to ensure that her body is also cremated according to rituals," he said.

Shabbir, from Mundakkai, was among those restlessly look-

ing for their loved ones — in his case, his wife's sister, her husband and their three daughters.

"We have given their details to the authorities. All we can do is wait here," he said.

The bodies brought to the health centre — from Mundakkai, Chooralmala and some as far as Nilambur in Malappuram district — were cleaned to remove the mud and dirt before being taken to the identification table.

At the information desk to the far left, two or three volunteers gathered information on landslide victims from their relatives. They collected photos from those who could provide them.

Two whiteboards on either side displayed updates on the number of bodies brought in. As of 6.35 pm, 119 bodies had been received — 62 men and 57 women — and 92 had been identified. The whiteboards had another column — of body parts found. On Wednesday evening, that figure stood at nine.

Shah says Centre warned Kerala days ago; CM says not the time for blame game

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

A WAR of words erupted over the Wayanad landslide Wednesday, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah telling Rajya Sabha that the Centre had warned the Kerala government of a potential calamity and Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan saying it was "baseless" to claim the state did not heed the warning.

At least 174 people were killed in Tuesday's landslides and more than 170 are still missing.

Clarifying the government's stance after a Calling Attention motion in Rajya Sabha on the Wayanad disaster, Shah said the Centre had warned the Kerala government on July 23 of the possibility of excess rainfall and landslides.

He said nine National Disaster Response Force teams had been sent to Kerala on July 23, and subsequent warnings were issued to the state government on July 24, July 25 and July 26.

Vijayan said in a statement: "This is not the time to blame each other." He said an orange alert was in place in the disaster-hit areas, rather than a red alert, and that the actual rainfall was more than what was forecast.

A red alert indicates 'heavy to extremely heavy rain' (over 20 cm in 24 hours), while an orange



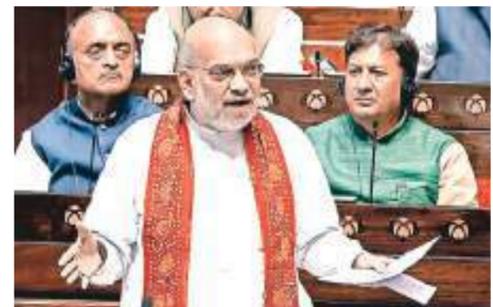
Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan

alert means 'very heavy rain' (6 cm to 20 cm).

The Chief Minister said the Central Water Commission had not issued any flood warnings for Iruvazhinji river, which flows through the affected area, from July 23 to 29. "So, we can see that what was said in Parliament today was baseless," he said.

"I am not blaming anyone. This is not the time for blame games. But, the Centre needs to understand that climate change has led to significant alterations in our environment and that we need to take proactive steps to address and adapt to these changes," Vijayan said.

Shah said while the Opposition MPs had demanded an early warning system for such situations, warnings were given in this case. He said the government had spent over ₹2,000 crore on early warning systems since 2014, and every state is given information seven days in advance. "This is the time to stand with the Kerala government and the people of Kerala," Shah said, adding that he was not blaming anyone.



Union Minister Amit Shah in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. PTI

Govt says disaster management Bill will come this session

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

AS PARLIAMENT debated the Wayanad disaster Wednesday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah told Lok Sabha that he will introduce a Bill on disaster management during the current session.

He said: "I have one request. In cases of disaster management, all state governments should follow all the schemes introduced after 2014. I am about to bring a Bill, too, in this session. I will speak in detail about it then."

Earlier in the Lok Sabha, a Calling Attention motion was introduced on the landslides. Congress member K C Venugopal said: "We can only request the government to do the maximum. Short term action for rescue operations and immediate relief to the deceased, and long term measures to ascertain the people to get away from these kinds of tragedies."

He said the state government must clarify to the Union Home Minister's statement that a warning had been issued on June 23 itself. But he added that the issue can be politicised after rescue operations conclude.

Speaker Om Birla then appealed to the members to keep the discussions constructive.

Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi called the landslides a "huge tragedy" and said that the military was doing a good job. "I would request the government to help the people," he said.

"It is quite clear that this area has an ecological issue so this should be looked into and whatever high tech solution can be brought forward that would be good," added the LOP.

Kerala Congress member K Francis George said: "The UN intergovernmental panel on climate change had reported that in the next 20 years, it will cause havoc and widespread natural calamities in Kerala. That report came long back and I would like to know from the minister what steps have been taken by the Central government to warn about these kinds of issues and what preventive steps have been taken."

BJP member from Bangalore South Tejasvi Surya, meanwhile, alleged that the state had not removed illegal encroachments in calamity-prone areas amid pressure from religious organisations.

He then triggered an uproar in the House by targeting Rahul Gandhi, who was an MP from Wayanad.

The Lok Sabha proceedings resumed after a brief adjournment, with Venugopal attacking Surya for "politicising" the issue, demanding an apology from him and seeking the removal of his remarks from the records.

Speaker Birla said Surya had not levelled any allegation against any member. "And if there is a subject which is not as per the traditions of this incident and House, it will be removed from records after discussions," Birla said.

More landslides likely: Local agency that sounded alarm

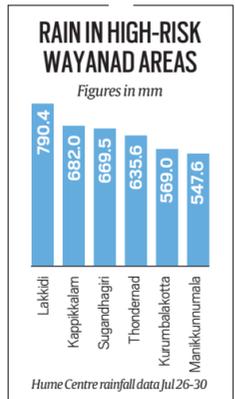
NARAYANAN S
WAYANAD, JULY 31

ONE DAY before the landslides in Kerala's Wayanad, an environmental organisation tracking local weather data flagged the potential disaster to the district administration. And now, it has warned of more landslides in the district this monsoon.

According to the Hume Centre for Ecology and Wildlife Biology, based in Wayanad's Kalpetta town, multiple areas in the district — Lakkidi, Kappikkalam, Sugandhagiri, Thondernad, Kurumbalakotta and Manikkunnumala — can see landslides if heavy rain persists.

The alert is based on localised rainfall data — the Hume Centre has mapped Wayanad into multiple 25-sq. km grids, placing at least one rain gauge in each grid.

"Many regions in Wayanad have crossed 3,000 mm rainfall from the beginning of June 1. All the water bodies are heavily saturated. The dams are full. Any more heavy rain in such a circumstance can trigger landslides," CK Vishnudas, director of Hume Centre and a conservation ecologist, told *The Indian Express*. "Different regions have dif-



ferent threshold values, like 600 mm within two days or 900 mm within three days. If the rain persists there is a possibility of landslides in those regions based on our model," he said.

The Hume Centre has classified Wayanad into three zones of landslide susceptibility: High, medium and low. All the regions the organisation has now warned of fall in the high-risk category and received heavy rain (see chart). Lakkidi and Sugandhagiri saw over 300 mm rain on Tuesday alone.

Vishnudas said they have-

shared these inputs with officials. "We have a WhatsApp group with the collector and emergency staff. We personally inform the officials, too. They are supposed to give the warning," he said.

As for the landslides at Mundakkai and Chooralmala early Tuesday, he said the Hume Centre had notified the possibility of landslides to the administration on Monday. "Puthumala, where the nearest weather gauge to Mundakkai is situated, recorded 200 mm rainfall on Monday and a further 372.6 mm on Tuesday. This was a huge factor behind the disaster at Mundakkai and Chooralmala beneath it," he said.

Vishnudas does not believe the data was ignored, but suggested more people could have been evacuated. "The panchayat had informed people based on our inputs and a few people in areas above the Chooralmala school were evacuated before the landslides struck, is what I understand. Most casualties were from areas below the school," he said.

In 2020, the Hume Centre had helped avert a disaster here. "We gave a warning in Mundakkai and people were evacuated. The next morning, there was a landslide, but not of this magnitude. There was no casualty," said Vishnudas.

Wayanad, Kerala still have deficient rain this monsoon

AMITABH SINHA
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THOUGH KERALA'S Wayanad received more than five times the normal rainfall on Monday, leading to devastating landslides early Tuesday that killed at least 174, the district and the state have recorded a deficit in rainfall so far this monsoon season.

According to data from the IMD, Wayanad had a 15 per cent deficit in rainfall so far this season, and Kerala as a whole had a four per cent deficit. The monsoon season began in June and lasts four months.

This unpredictability in precipitation, wherein very heavy rain happens in a short span of time while the rest of the days go relatively dry, has been an increasing trend in India, often attributed to climate change and as the cause of several disasters in recent years.

While overall rainfall during the monsoon season over India as a whole has remained largely unchanged, the number of wet days during this four-month period has been on a decline. However, the lower number of wet days have been producing relatively larger amounts of rain.



Rescuers search for survivors on Wednesday. Reuters

Some of these days have been yielding excessively high rainfall, resulting in largescale flooding — particularly in densely populated urban centres — and events like landslides or glacial lake outbursts in the Himalayan states.

There has not been a single year since the 2013 Uttarakhand disaster that has gone by without at least one extreme rainfall event resulting in loss of life and property. Several of these events, like in Kashmir in 2014, Chennai in 2015, Gujarat in 2017, Kerala in 2018, and Himachal Pradesh last year, turned into major disasters that claimed hundreds of lives.

Monday's rainfall in Kerala was not extraordinary by these standards. Wayanad had 140

mm of rain on the day, while Kerala as a whole received about 118 mm of rain. These are high amounts, but not rare in Kerala during the monsoon season. The IMD defines rainfall more than 204 mm as extremely heavy rainfall. Monday's rainfall in Kerala was thus classified only as "very heavy" rainfall, something that is not unusual in the state during the monsoon. Also, the event was limited to just one day.

The 2018 incident in the state was much bigger in comparison. There were two spells of torrential rainfall in August, each one of them lasting for four-five days. At least 500 people were reported to have died in the floods and landslides.



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THIS WORD MEANS

'AXIS OF RESISTANCE'

Iran-backed anti-US, anti-Israel grouping comprising Hezbollah, Hamas and the Houthis, among others

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

HAMAS LEADER Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in an air strike in Tehran in the early hours of Wednesday. Although Israel has not claimed responsibility for Haniyeh's killing, Hamas and Iran have blamed Israel for the strike, and promised "major repercussions".

Experts believe that Iran could hike up attacks against Israel through its allies — a coalition of Iranian-backed groups known as the 'axis of resistance'. Hezbollah, Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), and the Houthis are some of the major groups in the alliance.

How was the coalition formed?

The roots of the 'axis of resistance' go back to the Iranian Revolution of 1979, which paved the way for radical Shia Muslim clerics to come to power. To expand its political and military influence in a region where most powers — such as US-ally Saudi Arabia — are Sunni-majority nations, Iran's new regime began to support non-state actors. Another reason for this was to deter threats from Israel and the US — Iran has seen Israel's creation in 1948 as a means for the US (and the West) to influence the region for its strategic interests.

The coalition's name is said to be inspired by former US President George W Bush's use of the term 'axis of evil' — referring to Iran, Iraq and North Korea — in his 2002 State of the Union address.

Which groups are part of the Iran-led 'axis of resistance'?

■ Set up by Iran's Revolutionary Guards

WITH INPUTS FROM REUTERS

in the early 1980s, Hezbollah (meaning 'Party of God') is a Shiite militant organisation. It was formed to fight Israeli forces that had invaded Lebanon in 1982. Hezbollah is the biggest and most powerful member of the axis. It is believed to possess a significant arsenal, and has 30,000 to 45,000 members. Hezbollah and Israel have clashed with each other on many occasions. They fought a war for the first time in 2006, and have since then often exchanged fire, especially after October 7.

■ Hamas, a Palestinian Sunni militant group, has been running the region of Gaza since 2007. It emerged during the first Intifada, or Palestinian uprising, against Israeli rule in 1987. Hamas opposes Zionism, the 19th-century political project that advocates for an ethnic homeland for the Jewish people. Iran is known to supply funding, weapons, and expertise to the militant group.

■ PIJ is a Sunni Islamist militant group, which aims to establish an Islamic state in Palestine. According to the US government, "It is the second-largest militant group in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, founded in 1979 as an offshoot of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt".

■ Houthis are a Zaydi Shia militant group which has been involved in the civil war in Yemen for over a decade. They seized Sana'a, Yemen's capital, in 2014, and today control northern Yemen. They also have a presence in most regions of the country. In response to Israel's onslaught on Gaza after October 7, the group began to attack ships crossing the Red Sea, demanding an end to the invasion of the Palestinian enclave.

EXPLAINED LAW

Anti-conversion law in UP

The Uttar Pradesh Assembly has passed an amendment to its 2021 anti-conversion law. What is the UP government's explanation for updating the law? What change has the amendment brought in?

AJOY SINHA KARPURAM

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

THE UTTAR PRADESH Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2021, which prohibits religious conversion through "unlawful" means, was passed by the state assembly four years ago. On Tuesday, the assembly passed an amendment to this Act, making it stricter and more widely enforceable.

Why was the amendment brought in?

The Amendment was introduced by the BJP government in UP with the stated aim of protecting certain groups of people, including minors, people with disabilities, women, and persons belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities. It says that the penal provisions under the 2021 Act were "not sufficient to prevent and control religious conversion and mass conversion" of persons belonging to these groups.

This reflects the view expressed by Justice Rohit Ranjan Agarwal of the Allahabad High Court on July 1. In his order rejecting a bail application filed by an accused under the 2021 Act, he stated that "unlawful activity of conversion of people of SC/ST castes and... economically poor persons into Christianity is being done at rampant pace throughout the State of Uttar Pradesh".

The Amendment is also set to resolve certain difficulties that have arisen in the past pertaining to Section 4 of the 2021 Act which allowed "Any aggrieved person, his/her parents, brother, sister, or any other person who is related to him/her by blood, marriage or adoption" to file an FIR for unlawful conversion with the police.

The Allahabad High Court, on at least two occasions in 2023, has held that the phrase "any aggrieved person" does not mean that anyone can file an FIR for unlawful conversion. In September 2023, in the case of *Jose Papachen vs. State of Uttar Pradesh*, the court held that this phrase is "qualified" and "completely whittled down" by the categories that follow it (parents, brother, sister, etc). The court gave a similar analysis in a February 2023 order in the Fatehpur Mass Conversion case.

What changes does the Amendment

ABHINAYA HARIGOVIND

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

PARAKH — a standard-setting body under the NCERT for student assessment, and the evaluation of all school boards in India — has submitted an 'equivalence' report to the Ministry of Education. The report gives recommendations on how academic standards across all school boards can be made analogous.

What does equivalence across school boards mean?

Currently, there are 69 school boards in India, including state boards, CBSE, ICSE, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), open school boards, and madrasa boards, among others. These boards are different from one another in terms of curricula, examinations, structure, functioning, etc. As a result, some of them are seen as "better" than others, according to a government official.



The Amendment was passed in Uttar Pradesh Assembly on Tuesday. PTI

AMENDMENT HAS INTRODUCED STRICTER PUNISHMENTS

BEFORE

1-5 YEARS imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs 15,000 for the base offence;

2-10 YEARS imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs 20,000 if the victim is a minor, woman, or a person belonging to an SC or ST community;

3-10 YEARS and a fine of at least Rs 50,000 in cases of mass conversion.

AFTER

3-10 YEARS imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs 50,000 for the base offence;

5-14 YEARS imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs 1,00,000 if the victim is a minor, a woman, from an SC or ST community, has a physical disability, or has a mental illness;

7-14 YEARS imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs 1,00,000 in cases of mass conversion.

introduce to the 2021 Act?

The Amendment removes restrictions on who can file an FIR, proposes stringent bail conditions similar to those for accused persons in terrorism and money laundering cases, and increases the punishment for unlawful conversion.

■ 'Any person' can file FIR

The Amendment changes the wording of Section 4 to address the aforementioned "difficulties". The revised provision states that "any person" can file an FIR related to violation of the 2021 Act in the manner provided under the new law governing criminal procedure, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS).

Under Section 173 of the BNSS, which

deals with the registration of an FIR, information regarding a crime can be given to the officer in charge of a police station "irrespective of the area where the offence is committed". This means that any individual can approach any police station to file an FIR for alleged crimes under the Act.

■ Strict bail conditions

Section 3 of the 2021 Act punishes religious conversion through "misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means", which also includes "conversion by solemnisation of marriage or relationship in the nature of marriage" through the use of the listed illegal means.

For those accused under Section 3, the Amendment introduces stringent bail con-

ditions that are akin to the bail conditions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

Under the new Section 7, an accused cannot be released on bail unless two conditions have been met. First, the public prosecutor (the advocate representing the state government prosecuting the crime) must be given the opportunity to oppose the bail application. Second, the court must be satisfied that there are "reasonable grounds for believing that he is not guilty of such an offence and that no offence can be committed by him while on bail".

■ Enhancement of punishments

Apart from increasing the years of imprisonment under Section 5 of the Act (*refer to the box*), the Amendment also adds two new categories of offences.

First, if the accused has received money from "foreign or illegal institutions" in connection with unlawful conversion, they may be punished with 7-14 years imprisonment and a fine of at least Rs. 10,00,000.

Second, if the accused causes any person to "fear of his life or property, assaults or uses force, promises or instigates marriage, conspires or induced any minor, woman or person to traffics or otherwise sells them", they shall be punished with a minimum 20 years imprisonment which can be extended to life imprisonment.

With the inclusion of "promises or instigates marriage" in the category of offences that carries a prison sentence of 20 years to life, the Amendment greatly enhances the punishment for unlawful conversion through marriage from a maximum of the previous maximum of 10 years.

What is next for anti-conversion laws?

With other BJP-ruled states such as Uttarakhand, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh having enacted similar anti-conversion laws, Uttar Pradesh's Amendment could see them follow suit.

That said, such laws have been challenged in court by various individuals and organisations such as the NGO Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP) and the Jamiat-Ulama-i-Hind. CJP has filed a petition seeking to transfer all the challenges to anti-conversion laws before various High Courts to the Supreme Court.

The apex court is yet to rule on the matter.

EXPLAINED HEALTH

AUSTRALIA'S 'WORLD FIRST' MODEL TO COMBAT PEANUT ALLERGY

BABIES WITH peanut allergies will be exposed to peanuts from an early age in Australia, in what is described as a "world-first model aiming to transform allergy care." The National Allergy Centre of Excellence (NACE), funded by the Australian Government, has partnered with 10 paediatric hospitals to introduce a free, nationwide programme.

Under this, allergic children under 12 months will follow a carefully planned daily dosing schedule of peanut powder over two years.

Professor Perrett, head of the programme, said, "A food allergy test at the end of the treatment will help determine if remission was achieved. These children will then be followed in routine clinical care for at least 12 months to help us evaluate the acceptability, safety and effectiveness, quality of life and long-term outcomes."

In recent years, peanut allergy cases among children have become a cause of

concern in many developed nations. Exposure to peanuts can result in breathing difficulties, hives, swelling or other symptoms of severe allergic reactions.

According to the Mount Sinai Hospital in the US, the most convincing theory to explain the rise in allergies in the developed world is the "hygiene hypothesis". It suggests that "clean living", with less farm living and the use of medications to prevent and quickly treat infections, leaves our immune system in a state that is more prone to attack harmless proteins like those in foods and pollen. Other theories pertain to the timing of the introduction of the food, and how the food is prepared.

Some studies suggest that giving peanuts to infants "dramatically" decreases the risk of developing allergies. If successful, Australia's plan could also be useful for devising treatments for other kinds of allergies.

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What is 'wing stall', potentially behind the recent Kathmandu plane crash

PRANESH DEY

NEW DELHI, JULY 31

A BOMBARDIER CRJ200 jet with 19 people on board crashed shortly after takeoff at Kathmandu's Tribhuvan International Airport on July 24. The pilot, Captain Manish Raj Shukya, was the sole survivor.

A five-member panel has been set up to probe the crash but its findings are not likely to be published any time soon. That said, it is possible to make some informed conjecture based on video footage of the incident which has emerged over the week since it took place. The ill-fated aircraft is seen banked steeply to the right before plunging into the ground.

Unusual attitude

The Bombardier's excessive right bank put the plane in an 'unusual attitude'. Attitude refers to an aircraft's position relative to Earth's horizon — an aircraft flies straight and level (wings parallel to the horizon), climbs (nose above the horizon), descends (nose below the horizon), and banks right (right wing lower than the left wing) or left.

For passenger jets, straight and level flight, climb, descent, and banks within stipulated limits are 'normal attitudes'. Any deviation from these — such as an excessive nose-high attitude, or a steep dive — is an unusual attitude or an 'aerodynamic upset'.

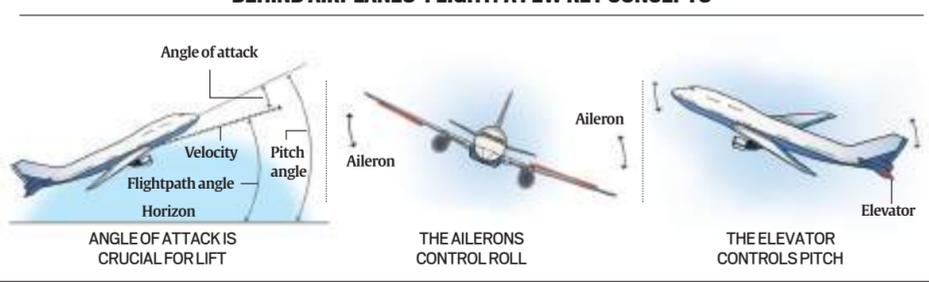
The *Pilot's Manual: Instrument Flying*, published by the Aviation Supplies & Academics, Inc. (ASA), describes an unusual attitude as (a) bank angles in excess of 30 degrees; (b) nose-high attitudes with a decreasing airspeed; (c) nose-low attitudes with an increasing airspeed.

An unusual attitude is usually followed by a 'stall' i.e. the aircraft is unable to generate 'lift', the aerodynamic force which sustains flight, and literally begins to fall out of the sky. Unless a pilot is able to quickly restore the aircraft to straight and level flight, the upset can potentially turn fatal.

Stalls, angle of attack

Aircraft wings have a camber shape — the top surface is curved and the bottom flat. As air travels over and below the wings, the pressure difference produces lift. But the wings generate lift so long as the angle of attack (AOA) doesn't cross the critical limit.

BEHIND AIRPLANES' FLIGHT: A FEW KEY CONCEPTS



AOA is the angle at which the wings meet the oncoming airflow — it is crucial for lift. At small angles of attack, the air travels smoothly from the wings' leading edge (front part) to the trailing edge, producing lift. The air is thus 'attached' to the wing's surface.

But, once the AOA crosses a critical angle (say 14-15 degrees, this varies aircraft to aircraft), the oncoming air no longer travels smoothly along the wing's surface. The airflow becomes disturbed, and 'separates' from the wings. This causes the onset of a stall. The aircraft starts juddering, controls

become sluggish, the nose drops, and, if not arrested quickly, it can enter a spin.

While an excessive nose-high attitude is behind most stalls in passenger jets, an aircraft can stall in any attitude if the critical AOA is exceeded. For example, fighter jets, which are designed to fly in a dive, can stall during such manoeuvres.

Recovery from a stall is simple: push the nose down to reduce the AOA, so that the wings start producing lift again. Because the nose needs to be pushed down, any stall recovery results in a loss of altitude. So, an air-

craft approaching a stall close to the ground can be hazardous.

Wing stalls

Not all stalls are preceded by a nose drop, though. Sometimes, one wing may stall first before the other. This is known as a 'wing stall'. The stalled wing drops sharply and the aircraft rolls into an excessive bank, which may have been the case with the crashed Bombardier.

Instinctively, a pilot may feel a strong urge to raise the affected wing by applying

'ailerons', the fin-like movable surfaces located on the wing's trailing edge, close to the wingtip which are used to bank an aircraft. But in a stalled wing, the ailerons too become ineffective and using them to raise the dropped wing will worsen the stall. Therefore, recovery from a wing stall also lies in pushing the nose down, applying rudder in the opposite direction of the dropped wing, holding the ailerons neutral and adding power.

Fate is the hunter

Had the emergency struck when the aircraft was several thousand feet in the air, Capt Shukya probably would have succeeded in saving the aircraft and its occupants. Unfortunately, he did not have the advantage of altitude to recover from the upset, run the appropriate checklists, and land back at the airport.

Perhaps, his next best option was to recover — which might have required pushing the nose down and losing altitude — from the 'upset' and crash-land straight ahead. But the plane was so low, he probably 'ran out of sky' in no time.

In the video, one can see the wings become level briefly before the jet plunges to the ground, erupting in a fireball.

Athletes withdraw against Israelis, anthem jeered and their players booed



EXPRESS AT OLYMPICS

MIHIR VASAVDA
PARIS, JULY 31

THE JUDOKA Tohar Butbul emerged from the tunnel slapping his face and arms, letting out a roar. With much purpose, the Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist marched to the centre of the mat, where he turned and stood facing the entrance, waiting for his opponent to emerge. He waited and kept waiting. But no one stepped out. Messaoud Redouane Dris, from Arab-majority Algeria, did not want to compete against Butbul, who is from Israel. Officially, Dris did not pass the weight-in; he was 400 grams heavier than the permissible weight in the 73 kg category.

But in reality, the instance that took place on Monday morning at Le Arena Champs de Mars was another instance of an athlete from Israel being snubbed at the Paris Olympics in the backdrop of the conflict in Gaza.

At the Paris Olympics, Team Israel isn't exactly 'Bienvenue-d'.

Days before the opening ceremony, a Member of the Parliament representing the La France Insoumise party, Thomas Portes said Israeli athletes 'are not welcome at the Paris Olympics'. Inside the Paris metro network, stickers demanding a 'ban' on Israel were pasted on the doors of many trains with a statement, in bold and caps, that read: "Genocide is not an Olympic Sport".

When Israel's football team took the field for their first match of the Games at the Parc des Princes, against Mali last week, the country's national anthem was so loudly jeered that the volume of the stadium's speakers had to be increased to drown out that noise.

And at the swimming arena, 100m women's backstroke specialist Aviv Barzelay walked out for her heat to a smattering of boos. Wherever they went, the 88 Israeli athletes competing at the Paris Olympics have been made to feel unwelcome.

That morning at the Champs de Mars was just another day in the life of an Israeli athlete at the Games. "Unfortunately, I already experienced this at the last Olympics against another athlete," Butbul told reporters after he lost in the second round.

In Tokyo, two of his potential opponents, Algeria's Fethi Nourine and Sudan's Mohamed Abdalrasool were ready to give up



Israeli judoka Tohar Butbul's opponent Messaoud Redouane Dris of Algeria did not turn up as he was 400 grams over the weight limit at weigh in. Reuters

their Olympic dreams rather than facing an Israeli. Butbul added: "It's hard because I want to fight, to express myself. It's my job. I am an athlete. He's a sportsman too, I'm sure he wanted to fight, he also worked hard to get to this point. But he, like the others, is the victim of decisions that are not his."

In the overall context, an opponent withdrawing must be the least troubling issue for Israeli athletes, who have faced death threats and been targets of cyber attacks.

Earlier this week, Le Monde reported that the French police opened an investigation into death threats received by three Israeli

When Israel's football team took the field for their first match of the Games at the Parc des Princes, against Mali last week, the country's national anthem was so loudly jeered that the volume of the stadium's speakers had to be increased to drown out that noise.

athletes at the Paris Games. The newspaper added that the incident came days after 'Israel's foreign minister warned his French counterpart of an alleged Iranian-backed plot to target Israeli athletes and tourists during the Paris Olympic Games.'

The incident occurred when France's cybercrime unit, which goes by the acronym OFAC, was asked to remove the private data of Israeli athletes. According to the Agence France Presse, data — including blood test results and log-in credentials — were published on social media, with the hackers allegedly also revealing the military service status of Israel's athletes only. "Pharos, a platform that

reports unlawful content online, has called on the OFAC to remove the athletes' details," the AFP reported.

The Israeli contingent has been provided high-level security at the Games. Unlike athletes from other nations, a lot of them are escorted to and from events by elite security units and have been given round-the-clock protection, including at the Village. Israel's internal security service, Shin Bet, is also helping with the team's security and the sportspeople have been cautioned over how to react against any possible provocations directed at them.

The local French authorities, meanwhile, also shifted a memorial ceremony for the Israeli athletes killed in the 1972 Olympics from Paris' City Hall to Israel's embassy.

Inside the Games Village, meanwhile, Israel's athletes said they are mingling with other athletes, going to the dining hall and freely wearing their country's colours. "I am feeling very safe and very good here because of the security," badminton player Misha Zilberman, who is participating in his fourth Olympics, told *The Indian Express*. "At the Olympic Village, we are all athletes there. There is no pressure. It is quite comfortable. I can walk freely, no escorts. In Paris, too, we can walk freely."

MEDAL'S TALLY

Pos.	Country	G	S	B	Total
1.	Japan	6	2	4	12
2.	China	5	3	2	10
3.	Korea	5	3	1	9
4.	France	4	7	3	14
5.	Australia	4	3	0	7
25.	India	0	0	1	1

*At midnight

RESULTS DAY 3

SHOOTING

50m 3 Positions Men's Qualification:

■ Swapnil Kusale finishes seventh, qualifies for final

Swapnil Kusale qualified for the finals of 50m rifle 3 positions here after finishing seventh in the qualification round but Aishwary Tomar ended at the 11th position to make an exit. The finals of 50m rifle 3 positions will be held on Thursday.

BADMINTON

Group stage:

Men's singles:

■ Lakshya Sen beats Jonatan Christie 21-19 21-11

Women's singles:

■ PV Sindhu beats Estonia's Kristan Kuuba 21-5 21-10

TABLE TENNIS

Women's singles R32:

■ Sreeja Akula beats China's Zeng Jian 4-2

Birthday girl Sreeja Akula made history by joining Manika Batra (who last later in the day) as the only Indians to reach the pre-quarters at the Olympics. Was made to toil but prevailed in the crucial moments, especially the tiebreakers in the sixth and crucial game. Plays her R16 later in the day (after midnight).

Women's singles R16:

■ Manik Batra lost to Japan's Miu Hirano 1-4.

ARCHERY:

Women's individual R32

■ Deepika Kumari beats Netherlands' Quinty Rooffen 6-2.

Men's individual R32

■ Tarundeep Rai loses to Britain's Tom Hall 4-6.

Manika's dreamy Olympic run ends

Loses to higher-ranked Japanese Miu Hirano 6-11, 9-11, 14-12, 8-11, 6-11 in the pre-quarterfinals

MIHIR VASAVDA

PARIS, JULY 31

WITH A confident glint in her eyes, Manika Batra crouched so low to serve that only her Olympic rings and tri-colour painted fingernails protruded over the table. By the time she emerged to launch the slice serve to open the match, the trailblazing Olympian was gripped by nerves. The ball tumbled into the net, and Manika smiled and shrugged. For the rest of the night, the shrug remained but the smile had disappeared.

Painful as it was to watch, she fought with the demons in her head and endured a meltdown in full public view. In between the rare 'cho' — her rallying cry every time she connected well with the ball — Manika had looks of disgust and disbelief, she flung the paddle once on the table and smashed the ball on the floor, slapped her thigh in anger and looked disconsolately at her coaches — Aman Balgu in the stands and Massimo Constantini in her corner.

Manika lost 1-4 (6-11, 9-11, 14-12, 8-11, 6-11) to Japan's Miu Hirano in the Round of 16 of the Paris Olympics in a 47-minute match, at the end of which she exited the North Paris Arena with her head bowed. It was a campaign, however, that she need not feel embarrassed about.

Fighting for a spot in the quarterfinals of the Olympics was an uncharted territory not just for Manika but for Indian table tennis overall. To match the occasion, Manika said she felt the need to do something 'different'. "I was trying to win, win, win, win... and then lost my calmness. She (Miu) didn't do anything different today, but I had to," Manika said after the match.

Indeed, Miu was simply being herself. The Japanese star is a player unlike many on the circuit. She used her shoulders to hit the ball off the bounce rather than waiting to meet it on the highest point. It was a high-risk strategy fraught with risk because, as it happened during a couple of points, she missed the ball. But it also got her high rewards, as she dominated the rallies with her speed and attacked Manika's shots aggressively.

Miu started by targetting, using her backhand, Manika's forehand, which wasn't flowing. As the match progressed, the direction of her attacks changed and she began to cramp Manika for space on the backhand

Fighting for a spot in the quarterfinals of the Olympics was an uncharted territory not just for Manika but for Indian table tennis overall.

side, placing the ball a couple of inches away from the hip. Manika didn't have an answer to that — a couple of times, she just caught the ball and returned it to her opponent.

But as much as Miu's counter-hitting, this was also a match where nerves got the better of Manika. At one point, when coach Constantini sensed trouble as the momentum was swinging rapidly in Miu's favour, he called for a time-out. "You hit the ball too nervously," said the Italian. "Think what kind of spin you can give..."

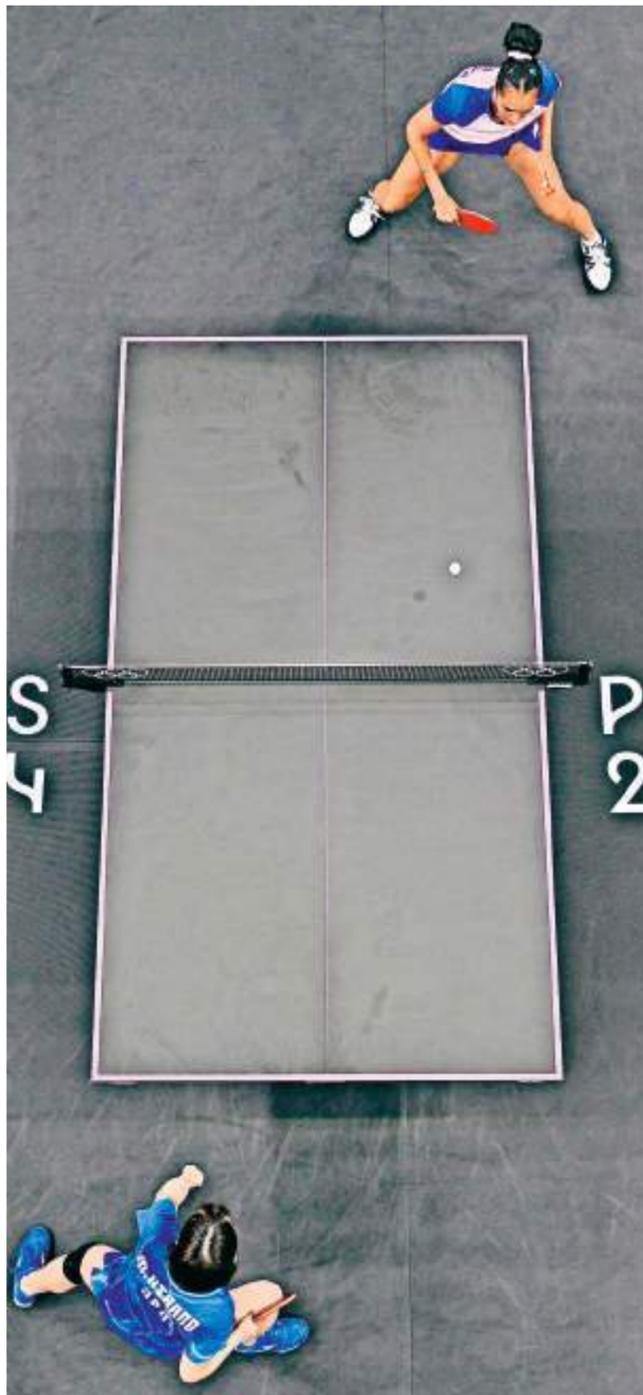
It was the first time Constantini made direct intervention; until then he was sitting in the chair and wildly gesticulating, telling Manika all the things she could do better. And there were many.

When she raced to early leads only to allow Miu to come back, Constantini would tell her to make the Japanese move rather than keeping the ball within her reach. When Manika did that — cleverly playing at Miu's backhand and then changing the direction with the next shot — she got instant results.

When she got this part of the game right, the serves would elude her, falling so nicely for Miu that she could start the rallies on the front foot. Constantini would once again signal from behind, in vain, to mix things up.

With nothing going her way, Manika began to lose her cool. In the first game, when Miu erased a three-point advantage, Manika dumped her racquet on the table and walked in an opposite direction. After Miu recovered the lost ground similarly in the second, Manika looked helplessly first and Balgu and then towards Constantini. When she mounted a slight comeback by winning the third, Manika raised her fist and punched the air aggressively in Miu's direction, but in the fourth after the Japanese foxed her with her speed and spin, Manika would helplessly laugh at herself.

"I could have put in more effort," Manika said. "Internally, I am not happy with myself with how I started the match. Today, I can be sad. From tomorrow, I have to prepare for my team event."



Manika Batra during her round of 16 match against Miu Hirano of Japan. Reuters

GYMNASTICS

Team USA and Biles earn redemption

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PARIS, JULY 31

SIMONE BILES, Jordan Chiles and Sunisa Lee spent the night before perhaps the biggest gymnastics meet of their lives restless.

There was tension in the air. 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 year-long run in which Biles has cemented her legacy as the greatest ever in her sport.



WHAT TO WATCH

INDIA VIEWFINDER: SWAPNIL KUSALE WILL BE IN THE 50M RIFLE 3-POSITION MEN'S FINAL.

BOXING
WOMEN'S 50KG R16:
2.30 PM

NIKHAT ZAREEN
In probably the most significant bout of her career so far, Nikhat will take on the huge challenge of Chinese favourite Wu Yu, in a battle of world champions.

SHOOTING
50M RIFLE 3-POSITION
MEN'S FINAL: 1 PM
SWAPNIL KUSALE

After struggling to qualify for most finals in Tokyo, India have had a decent hit-rate in Paris, with Swapnil the latest to reach the medal round. Sift and Anjum will be in 50m 3P qualification round.

HOCKEY
MEN'S POOL B, INDIA VS
BELGIUM: 1.30 PM

In a battle of two teams who have already qualified for the quarterfinals, Harmanpreet Singh and Co will face a litmus test of their level against an elite team before knockouts.

BADMINTON
ROUND OF 16: QUARTERS:
TIMES TBC

PV SINDHU, H S PRANNAY, LAKSHYA SEN, SATWIK-CHIRAG
Thursday will determine to a large extent if Indian badminton's medal run can continue at the Olympics. PV Sindhu faces a tough test vs He, as do SatChi against Chia-Soh.

ATHLETICS
MEN/WOMEN 20KM RACE
WALK: 11 AM

PARAMJEET SINGH BISHT, AKSHDEEP SINGH, VIKASH SINGH/ PRIYANKA GOSWAMI
India's athletics contingent will get going with the 20km race walkers first entering the fray. Both are medal events.

GOLF
MEN'S INDIVIDUAL,
ROUND 1: 12.30 PM

GAGANJEET BHULLAR, SHUNBHANKAR SHARMA
Golf was an unexpected hit for the Indian contingent in Tokyo, where Aditi Ashok made waves. Action begins in Paris where Shubhankar and Gaganjeet tee off in the men's event. It will begin with first round of stroke play.



PV SINDHU
BADMINTON WOMEN'S SINGLES

WORLD VIEWFINDER: SIMONE BILES IN ACTION AGAIN.

ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS
WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL
ALL-ROUND FINAL: 9.45 PM

Simone Biles winning a gold medal alongside her USA teammates wasn't exactly a surprise but it should ease any doubts in her mind. Now, it is a real challenge as she will be up against her teammate Sunisa Lee. A title here would be an incredible feat.

TENNIS
WOMEN'S SINGLES SF:
3.30 PM ONWARDS

A superb semifinal is on the cards in the women's draw as outright favourite Iga Swiatek will take on Zheng Qinwen to decide who reaches the final. Qin Swiatek continue to dominate on clay?

SWIMMING
WOMEN'S 200M BUTTERFLY
FINAL: 12.00 AM IST (FRIDAY)

SUMMER MCINTOSH
Summer McIntosh, the 17-year-old Canadian is someone we are going to hear a lot in near future and she will be up against Tatjana Smith in a close battle for the 200m fly title. There are four finals scheduled.

TABLE TENNIS
MEN'S SINGLES QUARTERS:
2.30 PM ONWARDS

QF action gets interesting as Truls Moregard's massive win against No.1 seed Wang Chuqin has ensured that there will be utmost only Chinese on the men's singles podium, a rare sight.

Zareen faces test of strategy, skill against Wu

SHASHANK NAIR
NEW DELHI, JULY 31

FOR NIKHAT Zareen, her 'Welcome to the Olympics' moment comes on Thursday. A pointless seeding exercise by the Paris 2024 Boxing Unit means that the 2023 50 kg Women's World Champion faces the 2023 52 kg Women's World Champion Wu Yu, at the Paris Olympics in the Round of 16. Zareen's path to a medal is paved with a bunch of heavy hitters and up first is the Chinese boxer who pipped her to the Hangzhou Asian Games gold.

On the face of it, Wu Yu should be a beatable prospect for Zareen. If you vie for the gold medal at the Olympics, chances are that a bevy of the best in your division will bring the fight. But against Wu, Zareen has an opponent who is good enough to challenge her but also beat her in a setting like the Paris Games where the judging isn't going to be as skewed as it might be at a home World Championships or a home Asian Games for that matter.

Wu operates a division above Zareen – and the last time she faced an Indian was Sakshi Chaudhary at the World Championships in New Delhi. In that bout, the Chinese had blanked the Indian 5-0 in the semi-final. At Hangzhou, the fight between Zareen and Wu was supposed to be the best in their weight category until Thailand's Chuthamat Raksat won a split decision over Zareen.

With three Indian boxers out of the Paris Olympics already, it's becoming clear that they are now choosing to heed the optics of how they go about a fight. Zareen has to look no further than her own teammate and Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain. The Assamese boxer came out all smiles for her first fight of the Paris Games against Norwegian 2022 Junior World Champion Sunniva Hofstad. She kept that smile going as both faced off, smacked her younger opponent's hand, rather than tap it and essentially let the judges know that this was an easy fight for her. The match was anything but, considering Borgohain dropped the third round on the scorecards of three of the five judges.

On Thursday Zareen is going to have to think of her strategy similarly. At the World Championships, Wu preferred to observe her opponent for a bit, and then land her shots, as she did in the Round of 32 in New Delhi against Greek boxer Filipa Giannakopoulou. This is something that the Nizamabad-boxer prefers as well but has confessed might not be the best strategy at an Olympics.

One worrying tidbit for Zareen would be Wu's record against boxers who have beaten her. At the Asian Games, the Chinese boxer stopped Raksat as well as Uzbekistan's Sabina Bobokulova.

It's a minefield and how much detail to strategies and how much of the ringwork will be based on impressing judges, will dictate how far the 28-year-old can progress in this competition. Wu was not a technique monster of a boxer like the Kazakhs and Uzbeks tend to be, when she fought in New Delhi. But she brings great movement to the table and is particularly effective at landing shots when opponents try to step into her range. On Thursday, Wu becomes the first of possibly many incoming tests to see whether the work put in over the last year will deliver results.

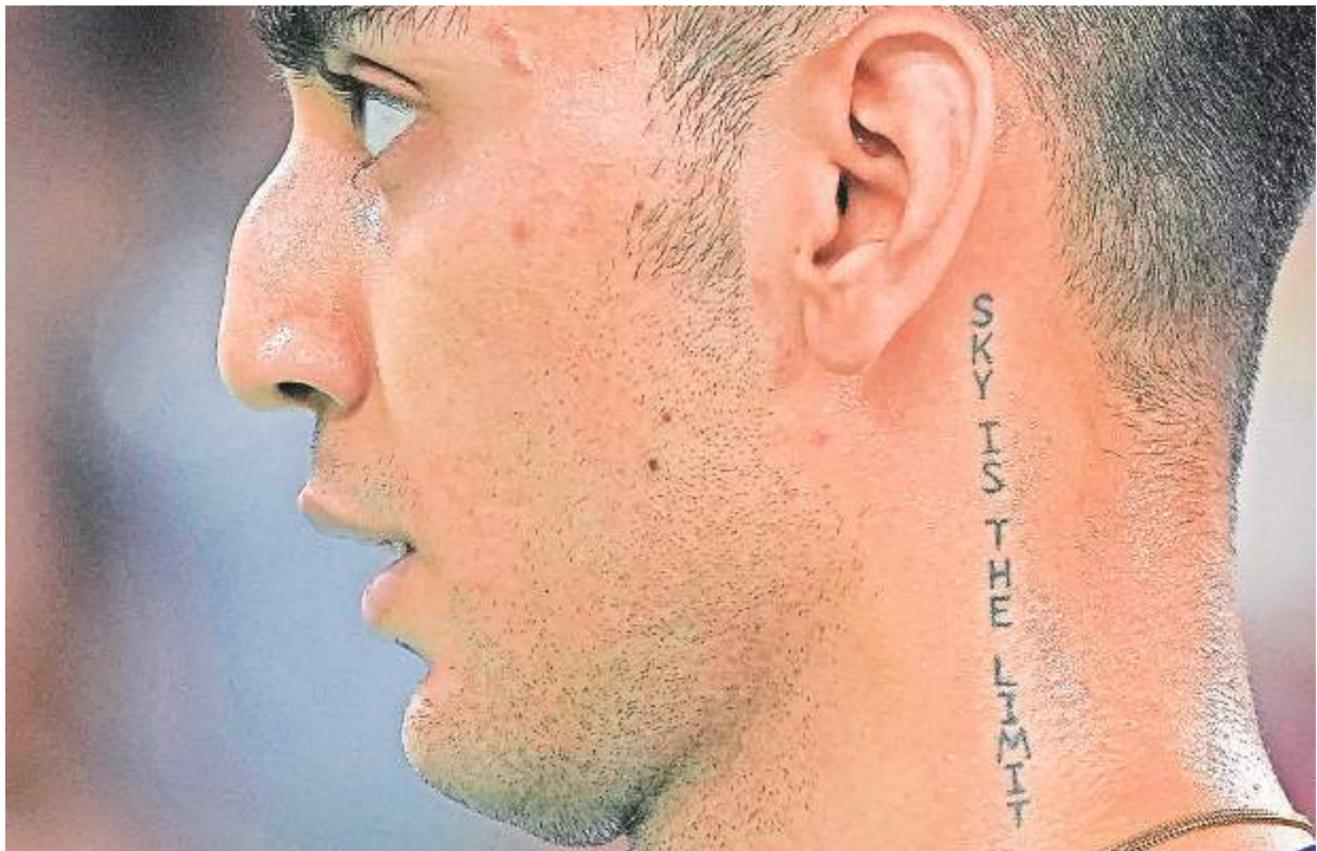


Nikhata Zareen. PTI

“ The way I prepared for this tournament was really good and to be at 100% from day one, that was the plan. ”

LAKSHYA SEN, INDIAN BADMINTON PLAYER

Age of rea-Sen



Lakshya Sen took apart Jonatan Christie 21-18, 21-12 in a must-win match at the Paris Olympics on Wednesday to reach the Round of 16. PTI

In his masterful ripping apart of the World No.3 Jonatan Christie, Lakshya Sen showed he means business in Paris

SHIVANI NAIK
MUMBAI, JULY 31

LAKSHYA SEN was too busy getting good at badminton all these years to leaf through French philosophy. The Almora shuttler doesn't do furrowed brows anyway. At 2-8 down in the opening set against title contender Jonatan Christie in a must-win shoot-off, Sen wasn't drowning in existential angst of the Olympic variety. When asked of his treacherous path to Paris knockouts that went through Christie, Sen told the media uncomplicatedly, and uncomplainingly, "For me, that was the only way to go forward."

Jean-Paul Sartre, born just 10 kms away from badminton's venue Port de la Chapelle of the 18 Arrondissement, who disdained people making excuses, and of whom Sen might know scant or nothing about, would have chuckled at this AP Dhillon-version of optimism in existing.

Half of Sen's fanbase had been muttering away restlessly about his tough draw and its assorted unfairnesses – an extra match than everybody else, then a deleted match like nobody else, and finally the toughest early match against a Top 3 to even get out of Group L. Sen who believes big events deserve big matchups, stayed undeterred as he clinically and charismatically took apart third seed Jonatan Christie, in a 21-18, 21-12 feat.

It was clinical because 21-12 in the second was a stroll. It was charismatic because Sen picked a moment at 18-19 down in the opening set, to convert the non-believers. Sen had overcome the 2-8 deficit, by forcing the pace in Christie's face literally. The Indonesian was struggling to find precision on hitting corners on the backline, his radar off, his shuttle-control badly buffering. And then Sen was defending every shuttle like a dream. He vacuumed the breathing space Christie was trying to buy himself by slowing rallies. The Indian who had lost four times to Christie, chose the Olympics stage to ambush and evict him with finality.

Sen's cross smashes are flat because he is not too tall, but they travel wickedly fast. Christie reads games well, knew his strong forehand was being pummeled, but could do nothing when peppered continuously.

Rally roll

The Indian had buffed up his smashes with power too. He's so fit, and had summoned Korean coach Yoo Yeon-Seong from the USA solely to prepare him for high-intensity feeding for precisely such rallies. Christie is no mug on flat defense, but he just couldn't crowd Sen with body smashes, and then the 18-19 reversal deflated him. Sen had shown casual swag by not sweating the small stuff like which side of the court to choose, after winning the toss. He opted to receive, not even serve, to make his nonchalance even more vivid. So from a better side gifted to him, Christie had made heavy weather of reaching 18-16 in the opener. He was literally huffing and puffing to get to that lead. Sen made it 18-19 in a blur, and Christie knew the snap at his heels.

Two points away from securing the set, Christie served and his fourth return was to the net, where Sen scooped it up with a forehand. Christie played a flat drive to Sen's backhand in riposte. It was maddeningly quick and clever, for Sen would need to move from front and right where his momentum was from the previous shot, to back and left. He did none of that. Swivelling his shoulder in the other direction, pivoting on his left foot, he caught the shuttle on the back-swing in a behind-the-back beauty. Dropping his wrist, he gave it such a

thwack that it looped over the net to float to the flanks forcing Christie to scramble right while aghast. It looked stunning, but for Sen the 10th shot of the rally was purely reflexive.

Christie paled in front of millions watching on TV, at the outrageous shuttle. His return, shot No 11 was the half-cooked body shot of a stunned man, and Sen sent No 12 back to the centre of the court which Christie could only send drifting wide. 19-19. The rest of the match might well have glazed in Christie's eyes. Asked about the return later, Sen told BWF, "That is something I didn't plan for. It just happened. And I'm happy that it went. I've played it a few times in practice. But I wouldn't play it intentionally at that moment," he said modestly. He might have an inkling of how that shot, described as a Matrix and Rajnikanth gimmick, ended the All England champion's Olympic dream.

Punchy punches

Christie's Plan B was always to slow down rallies, and he sure won the most bruising amongst them. But Sen has developed a follow-up to his attacking drops and set up smashes, and it was this second blitz that got Christie. The long rallies tired out the Indonesian, while Sen kept bouncing and defending aggressively. It took him from 2-8 to 9-8, and ensured he cruised in the second.

Christie knew he had to go for the lines owing to Sen's defense, which reflexive or otherwise, picked everything in the court confines. He also saw Christie fumble going for the back line, trying in vain to play the margins. But nothing could've prepared him for that blind-sided brilliant return. When the opponent didn't think it through and played on instinct, what was the chance Christie could've out-thunk him? Zilch. Sen, described as a nasty floater by Anders Antonsen whom no one wanted in their group, scalped a Top 5 as soon as he sighted him. This Sen in Paris ain't safe to wade into either. Jonatan Christie was just the first ripple of a building wave.

How does the knockout draw play out for Satwik-Chirag's medal chances

VINAYAKK MOHANARANGAN
JULY 31

INDIA'S MEDAL aspirants Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty will take on Malaysia's Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in a cracking men's doubles quarterfinal at the Paris Olympics badminton event.

The Indians, seeded third, finished top of Group C on Wednesday after beating former world No. 1s Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto in straight games. It meant they earned the C1 notation and would have faced one of the three 2nd-placed teams from the other three groups.

After Group D matches came to a close on Wednesday, the men's doubles draw took place. Aaron Chia-Soh Woi Yook, who are history-makers for Malaysia as the country's first-ever World Champions in 2022, will now take on SatChi.

What's SatChi's record against Chia-Soh?

On paper, it is a slightly alarming 3-8. Chia-Soh were once proving to be Satwik-Chirag's nemesis, when the Malaysians reeled off win after win, going up 8-0 in head-to-head at one point. One of those defeats was a heartbreaking three-game affair in the World Championships semifinals in Tokyo where the Malaysians went on to win gold while the Indians finished with bronze.

However, Since losing eight matches in a row, SatChi have won the last three meetings against Chia-Soh, all of them in straight games. The most significant of them was in the Indonesia Open final last year. SatChi



Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have a 3-8 record against the Malaysians. PTI

also beat Chia-Soh at the India Open at the start of this year. The recent edge is with the Indian former world No 1s.

So, what's next?

Here's where it gets tricky. Satwik-Chirag have been drawn into the same half as world No.1s Liang Wei Keng and Wang Chang. Liang-Wang are the top seeds, and have troubled the Indians consistently in recent times, most tellingly in the finals of China Masters and Malaysia Open. The Chinese also won the Thomas Cup quarter-

final tie in May – and offer a significant threat to the young Indian duo's gold-medal hopes. The overall H2H stands at 2-5 now but the Indians can take heart from a dominant win in the Asian Games team event final last year in the Chinese's backyard.

Of course, before all this, Liang and Wang have to overcome Alfian-Ardianto in the quarterfinals. The Indonesian former world No.1s might have been blown away by SatChi in the Group C decider, but will be smarting to bounce back.

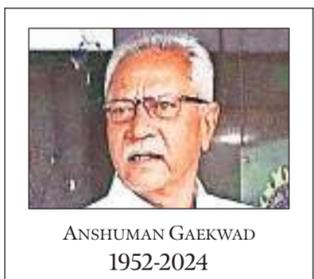
What does it mean for India's medal chances?

First things first, India must overcome the defensive might of Chia and the variety of Soh in the quarterfinals. If they reach the semis, they will be guaranteed a shot at a medal because they will either play the final or a playoff for the bronze. They might have to overcome two pairs who they have a losing record against but at their best, SatChi are capable of beating most pairs on the day.

Is this a good draw?

Well, when we are talking about the best pairs in men's doubles, there are no easy matches. The Indians' potential opponents, apart from Chia / Soh, were Danes Kim Astrup / Anders Skaarup Rasmussen, or Thais Supak Jomkoh / Kittinupong Kedren. The Danish world No. 2 are tactically perhaps the pair the Indians have found most difficult to deal with, so avoiding them is a good omen. In the end, at the Olympic Games, one has to beat the best to be the best.

Gaekwad: Gutsy batsman, no-nonsense coach and India selector



ANSHUMAN GAEKWAD
1952-2024

TUSHAR BHADURI
JULY 31

FORMER OPENING batsman and ex-Team India coach Anshuman Gaekwad passed away in Vadodara on Wednesday. He was 71. A veteran of 40 Tests was suffering from blood cancer and had recently returned after having treatment in London. He also served as a selector and head coach of the national side.

Gaekwad's long ailment brought many of his erstwhile colleagues forward, either offering financial help or asking the BCCI to release

some funds. Board secretary Jay Shah had recently released Rs 1 crore for his treatment.

"It's a loss to the cricket fraternity. He was a great taskmaster. Always passionate and loved talking about cricket. I had met him one month ago and his situation wasn't nice. We looked up to him when we were young. I played under him too," former India wicketkeeper Kiran More said.

"He never liked players reaching late at the ground. He always had a great vision for cricket and was a student of the game. One doesn't find people anymore. He continued to play a role in administration. He was a gem of a person. He helped me during my early days in cricket. He was like a lion in Baroda those days."

Shah also expressed his grief at the demise of the former cricketer. "My deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr Anshuman Gaekwad. Heartbreaking for the entire cricket fraternity. May his soul rest in peace," he wrote on X.

Brave, defiant

In an international career spanning 12 years, Gaekwad also appeared in 15 ODIs and was known as a gutsy and courageous batsman, never hesitant to take blows on the body for the team. What he lacked in



Former cricketers Kapil Dev, Dilip Vengsarkar, Sunil Gavaskar, Roger Binny, Sachin Tendulkar, Zaheer Khan, G.R. Vishwanath and Karsan Ghavri during the launch of Anshuman Gaekwad's book 'Guts Amidst Bloodbath', in Mumbai. PTI

stroke-play, he made for up in bravery against the fearsome pace bowlers of that period. An average of just over 30 with two Test hundreds may not appear too special, but he did have a double hundred against

Pakistan in Jalandhar in 1983, an innings that lasted 671 minutes, the slowest 200 in first-class cricket at that time. His only other ton at Test level came against West Indies in Kanpur in 1979, against an attack

that included a young Malcolm Marshall.

But Gaekwad is likely to be known more for his determination and guts in scoring 81 against the Caribbean speedsters in the infamous 1975-76 Test in Kingston, Jamaica. That innings – played against the likes of Michael Holding, Wayne Daniel, Vanburn Holder and Bernard Julien – lasted 450 minutes before the opener was pinned on the ear by a Holding bouncer that punctured his eardrum, necessitating an operation. Those were the days before helmets and bouncer restrictions, and the West Indies were coming off the perceived humiliation of their inability to defend a 400+ target in the fourth innings in the previous Test at Port of Spain, Trinidad.

His opening partner Sunil Gavaskar recalls the incident in his book Sunny Days. "On the dot of lunch, Anshuman, who had taken many blows on the body and his hands, was hit just behind the left ear. It was yet another short ball and it went like a guided missile knocking Anshuman's spectacles off... Anshuman Gaekwad represented the splendid fighting spirit of our team. When he was forced to retire, much against his wish, our will to fight also got knocked out."

Gaekwad also had a decent stint as Team India head coach during the second half of the 1990s. He was there when India defeated Mark Taylor's Australia 2-1 in a home Test series, and soon afterwards, beat them to win a tri-series in Sharjah. That tournament is memorable for the two back-to-back hundreds from Sachin Tendulkar against Steve Waugh's men. The first one, during which a dust storm blew over the venue, is popularly referred to as the 'Desert Storm'.

Gaekwad was also the coach when Anil Kumble took all 10 wickets in an innings against Pakistan, led by Wasim Akram, at Delhi in 1999. That victory helped India, led by Mohammad Azharuddin, to level the two-match Test series. The previous Test had seen the visitors prevailing by 12 runs in a heart-stopping climax, after a late-order collapse subsequent to one of the greatest Tendulkar hundreds.

The other highlights of Gaekwad's stint as coach were the 1998 Independence Cup triumph in Bangladesh and India making it to the final of the inaugural ICC Champions Trophy, then played in a knockout format, in Kenya in 2000, where they lost to New Zealand. At the first-class level, Gaekwad had 34 hundreds, the last of which came in his last game.

GOLD	USD RATE	OIL	SILVER
₹71,950	₹83.72	\$78.99	₹85,600

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) per barrel as of July 30

SENSEX: 81,741.34 ▲ 285.94 (0.35%) NIFTY: 24,951.15 ▲ 93.85 (0.38%) NIKKEI: 39,101.82 ▲ 575.87 HANG SENG: 17,344.60 ▲ 341.69 FTSE: 8,371.48 ▲ 97.07 DAX: 18,512.81 ▲ 101.63

International market data till 1900 IST

CREDIT CARD OUTSTANDING RISES BY ₹51,000 CRORE

Overall bank credit growth drops; sharp rise in gold, housing loans

GEORGE MATHEW
MUMBAI, JULY 31

AN UNFAVOURABLE base effect brought down the overall non-food credit growth of the banks to 13.9 per cent at Rs 163.46 lakh crore as of June 30, 2024 as against 16.3 per cent in June 2023, even as gold and housing loans rose sharply, according to the Reserve Bank's latest data. The growth in credit card outstanding, meanwhile, declined during the 12-month period. Analysts have attributed the slower rate to RBI measures such as higher risk weights on unsecured loans, a higher base effect and banks' focus on managing the credit-to-deposit ratio. Gold loan outstanding jumped by 30.5 per cent to Rs 123,776 crore as of June 2024 from Rs 94,872 crore (19.3 per cent growth) in June 2023. Credit card outstanding rose by Rs 51,000 crore to Rs 273,044 crore, showing a slower growth of 23.3 per cent as against 37.6 per cent a year ago, according to RBI data. "The rise in gold loans could

Segment	As on June 30		% Rise
	2024	2023	
Industry	37.12	34.47	7.7
NBFCs	15.55	14.34	8.5
Housing	24.27	20.52	18.2
Credit card	2.73	2.21	23.3
Gold loan	1.23	0.94	30.5
Vehicle	6.03	5.25	14.9

Source: RBI

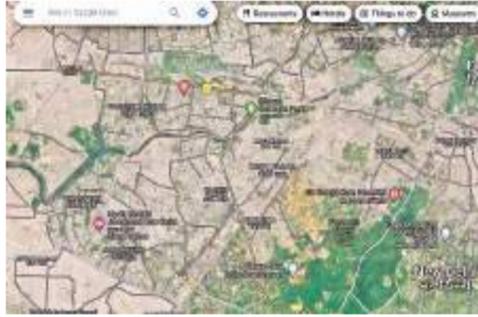


be due to the sharp rise in gold prices in the last one year which prompted people to pledge gold to raise finances," said a banking analyst. Gold loan NBFCs also hold a sizeable gold portfolio with Muthoot Finance alone accounting for a loan asset portfolio of Rs 63,200 crore in 2023. Overall growth in the personal loan segment was lower at 16.6 per cent (Rs 50.91 lakh crore) in June 2024 as compared to 21.3 per cent a year ago, largely due to moderation in growth recorded in 'other personal loans' and 'advances against fixed deposits'. However, credit growth to housing, the largest constituent of the segment, accelerated by 18.2 per cent at Rs 24.27 lakh crore in June 2024 from 14.8 per cent (Rs 20.52 lakh crore) a year ago, RBI data shows. RBI measures to check the unprecedented growth in unsecured loans had slowed down the growth in the segment. In November 2023, the RBI had increased risk weight on the exposure of banks towards con-

sumer credit, credit card receivables and non-banking finance companies (NBFCs) by 25 per cent up to 150 per cent. The move was aimed to address build-up of any risks in these segments. RBI data shows that credit growth to agriculture and allied activities remained robust at 17.4 per cent (y-o-y) in June 2024, but it was lower compared with 19.7 per cent a year ago. Credit to industry grew at 7.7 per cent to Rs 37.12 lakh crore in June 2024 as compared with 7.4 per cent in June 2023. Among major industries, while y-o-y growth in credit to chemicals and chemical products, food processing and infrastructure was higher in June 2024, credit growth to basic metal and metal product, petroleum, coal products and nuclear fuels and textiles moderated, RBI says. However, credit growth to services sector moderated substantially to 15.1 per cent in June 2024 from 26.8 per cent a year ago, primarily driven down by lower credit growth in non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) and trade segments. According to CareEdge Ratings, if the credit and deposit inflows over the past 3 months and 6 months are studied, credit offtake at 5.3 per cent for six months and 2.3 per cent for 3 months has lagged the deposit growth numbers of 6.0 per cent and 3.4 per cent for a similar period. Meanwhile, in absolute terms, deposits expanded by Rs. 23.9 lakh crore over the last 12 months and reached Rs. 211.8 lakh crore as of July 12, 2024. Deposit growth is expected to be prominent in FY25 as banks intensify efforts to strengthen their liability franchise. The banks are also sourcing funds via certificates of deposits (at a relatively higher cost) which have shown significant traction. This aims to prevent constraints on credit uptake due to deposit growth. The absolute growth in credit offtake stood at Rs 8.4 lakh crore for six months and Rs 3.8 lakh crore for 3 months has lagged the deposit numbers of Rs 11.9 lakh crore and Rs 7 lakh crore for the similar period, CareEdge said.

No room for wrong turns: Google, MapMyIndia, Ola vie for mapping dominance

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK
NEW DELHI, JULY 31



LEGAL NOTICES over alleged intellectual property theft, massive price cuts to lure developers, and India-specific changes — it's all happening in the digital maps market in the country. With at least three key players — one international and two domestic — fighting it out, the future of maps' domination in India hangs in the balance. Google Maps, MapMyIndia, and riding the nationalistic fervour Ola Maps, all find themselves pitted against each other, with the end of the road being control of the lucrative digital mapping and navigation market in India. None can afford a wrong turn. The last two months have seen unprecedented action in the Indian maps market. MapMyIndia sent a legal notice to Ola alleging that the IPO-bound firm has "copied" its data and "reverse-engineered" its app to make Ola Maps. Earlier this month, Ola had exited from using Google Maps to its own mapping system in a bid to save money as its founder Bhavish Aggarwal drums up the need to have domestic champions. And Google, equipped with its deep pockets, has responded to the move by announcing a big price cut for developers.

the consumer space. It is typically the only maps app that people use on their smartphones. While Google Maps is free for end-users, businesses have to pay for integrating it within their service. An alleged IP theft On Monday, MapMyIndia, in a legal notice, alleged that Ola Electric breached their licence agreement in 2022, Ola Electric onboarded MapMyIndia to offer navigation services for its S1 Pro electric scooter. "You have duplicated our client's API (application programming interface) and SDKs (software development kits) from proprietary sources belonging to our client to build OLA Maps. It is firmly stated that our client's exclusive data has been copied/derived by you to further your illegal motive and for your unjust commercial gains," MapMyIndia said in the legal notice. The notice asks Ola to cease and desist any use of API and map data developed by MapMyIndia and handover all written or electronic information, descriptive matter including drawings, specifications, descriptions, tapes, and documents related to their intellectual property. Ola has denied the allegations. "We would like to state unequivocally that these allegations are false, malicious and misleading. Ola Electric stands by the integrity of its business practices. We will suitably respond to the notice shortly," the company said in a statement. Ola move forces Google hand Earlier this month, Ola's Aggarwal announced that his company was shifting from using Google Maps and shifting to its inhouse Ola Maps — which is currently being alleged of theft by MapMyIndia. Ola, however, has attributed OpenStreetMap on its app, indicating the Ola Maps solution has been built on top of it, along with proprietary data from Ola. OpenStreetMap is an open-source and free-to-use map, with an open licence. "We used to spend Rs 100 crore a year but we've made that 0 this month by moving completely to our in-house Ola maps," Aggarwal had posted on social media platform X. He had also announced APIs for developers to integrate Ola Maps within their service and move away from Google Maps. In response, Google introduced India-specific pricing for developers using the Google Maps platform with up to 70 per cent lower costs on most APIs. It also said that it was collaborating with the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), offering developers building for ONDC up to 90 per cent off on select Google Maps Platform APIs. While Google's price cut was seemingly a direct response to Ola's moves, it also had an unintended consequence on MapMyIndia, highlighting the intertwined fate of the three competitors: when Google announced these price cuts, MapMyIndia's share fell close to 11 per cent during intraday trading. Aggarwal slammed Google's "belated" price cuts, and responded with a more aggressive price cut for Ola Maps. A few days later, Google also announced India-specific features on Maps, including a long-standing demand to show whether a particular flyover should be taken or not. The update also includes EV charging station information and AI-driven routing capability to reduce narrow road usage for four-wheeler drivers.

BRIEFLY

Fiscal deficit at 8.1% of full year target at June-end
New Delhi: The Centre's fiscal deficit at the end of the first quarter touched 8.1 per cent of the full-year target, government data showed. **PTI**

Key infra sectors' growth slows to 20-month low
New Delhi: The growth in production of 8 key infra sectors — coal, crude oil, natural gas, refinery products, fertiliser, steel, cement and electricity — slowed down to a 20-month low of 4% in June. **PTI**

Windfall tax on crude reduced to ₹4,600/tonne
New Delhi: The government on Wednesday slashed windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil to Rs 4,600 per tonne from Rs 7,000 per tonne. **PTI**

US Fed holds rates steady, says inflation 'somewhat elevated'

REUTERS
WASHINGTON, JULY 31



The Federal Reserve building in Washington, DC. Reuters File

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 September as inflation continues coming into line with the US central bank's 2 per cent target. "There has been some further progress towards the Committee's 2 per cent objective," the central bank's Federal Open Market Committee said in a statement at the end of a two-day policy meeting in which it kept its benchmark overnight interest rate in the 5.25-5.5 per cent range, but also set the stage for a rate cut at its September 17-18 meeting, just seven weeks shy of the November 5 US elections. 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." The central bank uses the personal consumption expenditures price index for its 2 per cent

annual inflation target. The PCE price index rose 2.5 per cent in June after exceeding 7 per cent in 2022. The Fed did not commit in its statement to a rate cut in September, and repeated that policymakers still need "greater confidence that inflation is moving sustainably towards 2 per cent" before lowering borrowing costs. But the changes to the statement seem consistent with that confidence being reached by September, something investors have been expecting. The Fed raised rates from March 2022 to July 2023, hiking the benchmark rate by 5.25 percentage points.

Bank of Japan raises key rate

Tokyo: The Bank of Japan raised its key interest rate Wednesday to about 0.25 per cent from a range of zero to about 0.1 per cent, acting to curb the yen's slide against the US dollar. The move was widely expected, and the yen gained sharply against the dollar ahead of and after Wednesday's decision, trading below 152 yen. Concerns have been deepening about the yen's recent drop to 160-yen levels to the dollar. **AP**

Ransomware attack disrupts at least 150-200 cooperative banks, RRBs

Mumbai: The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on Wednesday said that C-Edge Technologies Ltd, a technology service provider who caters mostly to cooperative banks and regional rural banks (RRBs), has been possibly impacted by a ransomware attack. The attack has likely impacted 150-200 cooperative banks and RRBs.

"To prevent larger impact to the payment ecosystem, NPCI has temporarily isolated C-Edge Technologies from accessing the retail payment systems operated by NPCI," NPCI said on X. Customers of bank serviced by C-Edge will not be able to access payment systems during the period of isolation, NPCI, the umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in the country, said. "Restoration works underway on a war-footing along with C-Edge Technologies and necessary security review is in process. Connectivity to the affected banks shall be restored at the earliest," it said. **ENS**

MapMyIndia's B2B advantage, Google's consumer domination

MapMyIndia is the oldest company of the three. In fact, the company, formally known as CE Info Systems, is older than the first version of Google itself, having started in 1994. While MapMyIndia has a majority market share — close to 80 per cent — in the automotive OEM space, Google rules the roads as far as consumer-end navigation is concerned. A number of applications that need maps and navigation data, such as ride hailing firm Uber, also rely on Google's system. MapMyIndia, on the other hand, powers consumer end navigation services such as Apple Maps. Even as Google's turn by turn navigation is considered to be fairly accurate, especially in major Indian cities, the fact that all Android phones come equipped with Google's suite of services, including its maps app also allows it to corner it a big market share in

How will Sebi's proposed measures curb speculative trading in futures & options?

HITESH VYAS
MUMBAI, JULY 31

IN ORDER to restrain speculative trading in index derivatives segment, the Securities and Exchange Board of India, (Sebi) on Tuesday proposed seven measures. The steps, which include increasing the minimum contract size requirement for derivative contracts, rationalisation of weekly index products and upfront collection of option premium, will enhance investor protection and promote market stability in derivative markets, while ensuring sustained capital formation. These measures come amid rising concerns over an exponential rise in volume in the futures and options (F&O) segment.



surge in volumes in futures and options trading as it poses a risk to the country's growth.

SEVEN KEY PROPOSALS

- 1: Minimum contract size**
Sebi has recommended to increase the minimum contract size for index derivatives contract between Rs 15 lakh to Rs 20 lakh. This, after six months, can be increased between the intervals of Rs 20 lakh to Rs 30 lakh. At present, the minimum contract size requirement is in between Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh.
- 2: Upfront collection of Option Premium**
The regulator has proposed that brokers can collect option premiums on an upfront basis from the clients.
- 3: Intraday monitoring of position limits**

Sebi suggested that the position limits for index derivative contracts should be monitored by the clearing corporations/ stock exchanges on intraday basis, with an appropriate short-term fix, and a glide path for full implementation.

4: Rationalisation of weekly index products
Sebi has proposed that weekly options contracts should be provided on a single benchmark index of an exchange.

5: Removal of calendar spread benefit on expiry day
Sebi has recommended that the margin benefit for calendar spread positions would not be provided for positions involving any of the contracts expiring on the same day.

6: Rationalisation of options strikes

The paper suggested that the strike interval will be uniform up to a fixed percentage coverage near prevailing index price — i.e. 4 per cent around prevailing index price and the interval will increase as the strikes move away from prevailing price (around 4 per cent to 8 per cent).

The strike price of an option is the price at which a put or call (buy or sell) option can be exercised. Sebi proposed that not more than 50 strikes should be introduced for an index derivatives contract at the time of contract launch.

7: Increase in margin near contract expiry

To address the issue of high implicit leverage in options contracts near expiry, creating a high risk on notional basis for entities dealing in options, the margins on expiry day and the day before expiry have been proposed to be increased.

WHY HAVE THESE STEPS BEEN PROPOSED?

The markets regulator said that derivatives markets assist in better price discovery, help improve market liquidity and allow investors to manage their risks better. However, bursts of speculative hyperactivity in derivative markets, particularly by individual players, can detract from sus-

tained capital formation by endangering both investor protection and market stability.

In the Union Budget 2024-25, announced on July 23, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed to double the Securities Transaction Tax (STT) on F&O of securities, effective October 1, 2024. The STT, which is levied on transactions in specified securities, has been increased to 0.02 per cent and 0.1 per cent, respectively.

The consultation paper showed that in FY24, 92.50 lakh unique individuals and proprietorship firms traded in index derivatives segment of NSE and cumulatively incurred a trading loss of Rs 51,689 crore.

Further, of these 92.50 lakh unique investors, 14.22 lakh investors made net profit i.e. approximately 85 out of 100 made a net trading loss (as per NSE data).

HOW WILL THESE HELP?

Market participants have welcomed the proposed measures as these will help curb the irrational exuberance of retail investors in the derivatives market. According to Dhiraj Relli, MD & CEO, HDFC Securities, the proposal to rationalise weekly expiry and restrict it to one per week on the benchmark index per exchange will likely impact volumes, as the recent volumes in the equity derivatives segment have been driven by weekly expiries. **FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com**

Maruti Suzuki net soars 47% in Q1

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, JULY 31



File

MARUTI SUZUKI India on Wednesday reported a 46.9 per cent rise in standalone net profits (year-on-year) to Rs 3,649.9 crore on the back of cost reduction efforts, favourable commodity prices and foreign exchange.

The automaker reported revenues from operations of Rs 35,531.4 crore, up 9.9 per cent y-o-y. A better product mix and pricing helped the company achieve this level of top line growth. Volumes rose by just 4.8 per cent y-o-y during the June quarter to 5,21,868 vehicles.

Profitability was strong as the operating margin for the quarter expanded by nearly 350 basis points, to hit 12.5 per cent compared to 9.2 per cent the previous year. Consequently, the company's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (Ebitda) was up a strong 50.9 per cent to Rs 4,502 crore.

Maruti stock rose 2.82 per cent after the earnings announcement on the Bombay Stock Exchange to end the session at Rs 13167.95. The company said on a post earnings call it would launch one EV model every year until 2031. The first one is to be displayed at the Bharat Mobility Global Expo in January 2025 and the second one is "close behind," a spokesperson for the automaker said. Maruti has lagged other carmakers like Tata Motors in

OPERATING MARGIN UP NEARLY 350 BPS

Profitability was strong as the operating margin for the quarter expanded by nearly 350 basis points, to hit 12.5% compared to 9.2% in the same quarter the previous year.

launching non-fossil-fuel driven cars. The carmaker is planning to invest Rs 45,000 crore to double its annual production capacity to 4 million vehicles by 2031, chairman RC Bhargava told shareholders in August last year. Maruti's market share in the passenger is a shade over 40 per cent and the strong performance in categories like sports utility vehicles (SUV) and crossovers in the June quarter have helped the company post good results. **FE**

M&M net profit falls 5% in Q1

SWARAJ BAGGONKAR
MUMBAI, JULY 31

MAHINDRA & Mahindra (M&M) on Wednesday reported a standalone net profit of Rs 2,613 crore for the June quarter, a fall of 5 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y).

Excluding one-time gains of Rs 763 crore, made in Q1FY24, the profits are up a good 23 per cent y-o-y. Operating profits at the Mumbai-based company came in at Rs 4,116 crore, ahead of consensus estimates.

Revenues from operations at Rs 27,039 crore, while below estimates, were up 12 per cent y-o-y. The top line was boosted by sustained demand for its sports utility vehicles where volumes surged 24 per cent. Volumes in the farm equipment sector (FES), on the other hand, posted a lower growth of 6 per cent.

In early July, M&M had slashed the prices of a variant of its flagship XUV700, raising concerns about a margin impact. The company clarified the financial impact of this move would be negligible adding similar action could be expected for other models too. Managing director and CEO, Anish Shah, said prices were hiked when the company faced capacity constraints and commodity prices were higher. "As commodity prices came down, as chip supplies became normal and its prices also came down, we decided to pass on the benefit to customers," Shah said. **FE**

Classifieds

PERSONAL

I, KAMTARAM, Son of GORAKH PRASAD, resident of A-318, Sangam Vihar, Pushpa Bhawan, Delhi-110062, have changed my name from KAMTARAM to KAMTA RAM GUPTA, vide affidavit dated 30.07.2024 at New Delhi.

0040741212-1

I, JAG MOHAN PATHAK S/O HARISH CHANDRA PATHAK Residing at D-48, Upper GF Vishwakarma Colony, Pul Pehlad Pur, New Delhi-110044, Have Changed My Name From JAG MOHAN PATHAK TO ANKU PATHAK vide My Affidavit No. IN-DL27648056224396W Dated 30.07.2024 For All Future Purposes Sworn Before Rajkumar, Notary, Delhi.

0040741272-1

I, Inderjeet S/o Bakhtawar Singh Residing at # 404, Sector-22A, Gurgaon -120115 have changed my name to Inderjeet Grewal Affidavit Dtd: 30/07/2024 at Gurgaon.

0050247135-1

I, Himanshu S/o Mahesh Kumar R/o 1703/1, Nangla Enclave-1, NIT, Sec-22, Faridabad-121004 have changed my name to Himanshu Bhardwaj

0070915766-1

I, Govind Rai Bansal s/o Prem Chand Bansal r/o M-65, Vikas Puri, Delhi-110018 have changed my name GOVIND BANSAL permanently.

0040741246-1

I, Govind Kumar S/o Kishan Pal R/o-126, Kallupura, Ambedkar Bhawan, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201001, declare that my name Govind Kumar is mentioned in my Aadhar and Pan Card, I am also known as Harsh Kumar. Govind Kumar and Harsh Kumar both are same person.

0040741195-1

I, Gaurav S/o Vishnu Dutt R/o RZ-243/M, Raj Nagar-2, Palam Colony, Delhi-110077 have changed my name to Gaurav Dutt

0070915768-1

I, GOPAL SINGH KARWASRA RESIDENT OF 204/6 SUBROTO PARK NEW DELHI HAVE CHANGED MY SON'S NAME FROM NAMISH TO NAMISH CHOUDHARY VIDE AFFIDAVIT D/ 29/07/2024 BEFORE PATPARGANJ TRILOKPURI

0040740985-1

I, PARGAYATI SANTOSH MALLI, Spouse of No.17013629H(CFN) MALI MANOJ BHILLA, resident of Village-Deur, Post-Vadali, Tahsil-Shahada, Distt.-Nandurbar, Maharashtra-425423, have changed my name from GAYATRI SANTOSH MALLI to GAYATRI MANOJ MALLI, vide affidavit IN-DL28040846531660W, dated:31/07/2024, before Notary, Advocate:Rajkumar, Regd.No.-6536, New Delhi.

0070915706-1

I, Dharmendra Kumar S/O Ram Lakan Prasad, R/o 247, G Block Mangolpuri, Magolpuri 5 Block, North West Delhi, Delhi-110083, Declare that name of Mine and My Wife has been wrongly written as Dharmendra and Soni in my minor Daughter Taru, aged about 16 Years, In her 10th Class Marksheet Cum Certificate. The actual name of Mine and My Wife are Dharmendra Kumar and Soni Kumari, which may be amended accordingly.

0070915762-1

I, Deepali Mall W/o Vishal Maxuel Mall R/o Quarter No-2, 8, Block-II, Staff Quarter, St. Stephens Hospital, Tis Hazari, Delhi-110054 have changed my name to Deepali Vishal Mall

0070915742-1

I, Brahm Pal Singh S/o Hari Singh R/o 413, Pahansu, Saharanpur U.P. have changed my name to Brahm Pal Singh for all future purposes.

0070915748-1

I, Sunrika Sharma w/o Aditya Kumar jha R/o B14 second floor Vivek vihar. Have changed my name Sunrika jha to Sunrika sharma for all purposes.

0070915697-1

I, Amit Kumar S/o Om Parkash Jain R/o, A-3/272, U.G.F., Janakpuri, New Delhi-110058, have changed my name to Amit Kumar Jain for all purposes.

0040741294-2

I, Amit Kumar & Amit Kumar Narang both name are mine in future shall be known as Amit Kumar Narang S/o Gopal Das Narang R/o C-12A, 2nd Floor, Eldeco Residency Greens, Pi, Greater Noida U.P.

0070915765-1

I, Sonia Mittal W/o Sh. Pardeep Kumar Mittal R/o 120, Upper Ground Floor, Engineers Enclave, Pitampura, Delhi-34 declares that my husband name wrongly written as Pardeep Kumar in my Passport No.Y4120159. My husband correct name is Pardeep Kumar Mittal which may be amended accordingly.

0040741189-1

I, Satyabr Singh S/o Rameshwar Dayal R/o Dhanota(277), Mahendragarh, Haryana-123001 have changed my name to Satyavir Singh for all purposes.

0040741189-2

I, Rajat S/o Sh. Surender Dahiya R/o 254-255, 3rd Floor, Pocket-2, Rohini Sector-23, Near Ryan International School, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Rajat Dahiya for all purposes.

0040741189-4

I, RISHITA D/O VINOD SHARMA R/O VILLAGE-CHAURA SECTOR-22, NEAR SHIV MARKET, NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UP-201001, changed my name to Sunil kumar pal.

0040741276-3

I, Sunil Kumar Nisad S/O Kalika Prasad, R/O B-101,14, Pratap Nagar, Mayur-Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110091, Have Changed my Name to Sunil Kumar Nishad.

0040741279-5

I, Shaikh Rubina Iqbal Husain, W/O Shabb Alam, R/O, C144 street, no.11, west Vinod-Nagar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Rubena Fatima, for all purposes.

0040741276-4

I, SHAILLY SWARUP, W/O RHITENDRA SWARUP, R/O FLAT-NO-321, ROSEWOOD-APARTMENTS SEC-13 PKT-A, DWARKA, DELHI-110078, HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER'S NAME FROM AYANA SWARUP TO AYANA RHITENDRA SWARUP, FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040741279-1

I, HARVINDER KUMAR S/O Sh. Chander Parkash R/O RZ-F-1/1, 2nd Floor, Gali No.3, Mahavir Enclave, Palam Village, Post Office, Palam, Distt. South West, Delhi-45 have changed the name of my minor son from Ishaan Singh to Ishaan Kumar Naveen for all purposes.

0040741189-3

I, Bhavya Kumari Jha, D/o-Vivek Kumar Jha R/o RZ-R-101-C, Chanakya Place, Part-2, Near Ma Jagdamba Sweet, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Bhavya Jha for all purposes.

0040741249-1

I, AAKASH VERMA S/O LATE SP VERMA R/O D-2307, SAVIOUR GREEN ARCH, GRENO WEST, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201306, have changed my name to AKASH VORMA for all future purposes.

0070915707-1

I, Pimpa w/o Amit Khare R/o 2490, 24th floor Amantha tower Gaur Saundaryam Tech Zone IV Greater Noida Bishrakh Dist Gautam Budha Nagar U.P.-201306 have changed my name from POMPA to POMPA SENGUPTA KHARE henceforth I will be known by the name of POMPA SENGUPTA KHARE for all future purposes

0070915717-1

I, Sudhir Kumar, S/O-Shri Tilakraj, R/O-D-138, Prashant Vihar, Rohini, Sector-14, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Sudhir Kumar Goel.

0040741288-1

I, SUKHMANI SETHI, D/O Raminder Singh Sethi, R/O No. A-288, 2ND Floor, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024, have changed my name to SUKHMANI KAUR SETHI.

0040741289-4

I, Mukesh Goel, S/O-Late Shri Laxman Prasad, R/O-D-110086, Tagore Garden Extn., New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Mukesh Kumar for all Purposes.

0040741288-3

I, Poonam Dahiya W/o Shri Kuldeep R/o, F-224, Upper-Ground-floor Prashant Vihar sector-14 Rohini Delhi-85 have changed my name to Poonam.

0040741294-1

It is for general information that I, MOHAMMAD ABRAR S/O MOHAMMAD IQBAL R/O B-7/53, TYPE-2, PITAMPURA POLICE LINE, NEW DELHI-110034, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as MOHD. ABRAR in my minor daughter namely RAAANYA ABRAR aged 15 years in her school record. The actual name of mine is MOHAMMAD ABRAR which may be amended according.

0040741215-1

It is for general information that I, Deepika Gaur, W/o Sh. Rohit Nagpal, Mother of, Hriday Nagpal born on 13.01.2017, R/o-Flat.No.401, Tower.No.0-3, Oxirich Avenue, Niho Scottish Garden Society, Ahinsa Khand-2, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad-201014, earlier, R/o-B-732, Sarojini-Nagar, New Delhi-110023, declare that in my child's, Hriday Nagpal, birth certificate, dated-19.01.2017, having Registration No.MCDOLIR-0117-006944939, my name has been written as Deepika Nagpal. The mother's name on my child's birth certificate should be amended and entered as Deepika Gaur.

0020479202-1

I, Melona Nootikkattu Xavier W/o Benston John, R/O-H.No.A-11, Krist Jyoti-Apartments, Parwana Road, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Melona N Xavier.

0040741276-5

I, Manish Kumar, S/o-Ram Milan Sudhakar, R/O D-1204, Raksha Addela, Greater Noida West, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201009, have changed my name to Manish Kumar Sudhakar.

0040741288-4

I, MEHRAJ S/O MEHMOOD KHAN, R/O, A-41gali, no.2, main road Chand bagh karawal-nagar north east, delhi-110094, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME MRHRAJ KHAN.

0040741274-2

I, MANOJ KUMAR THEREJA, S/O VIR BHAN ALISH NISHA, D/O-MOHD MANEER, W/O MOH. NASIR, R/O-D-170, BRAR SQUARE, DELHI-CANTT, SOUTH-WEST, DELHI, DELHI-110010, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MANOJ THEREJA, for all future purpose.

0040741274-10

I, MADAN SINGH BISHT, S/O-BACHE SINGH BISHT, R/O-HOUSE-NO-62, GALI-NO-1 SATYA-VIHAR, KAMALPUR DELHI-110084, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM MADAN SINGH TO MADAN SINGH BISHT, FOR FUTURE PURPOSE.

0040741276-7

I, TAMAAL KRISHAN MAHAJAN, S/O-AMIT MAHAJAN, R/O-582, 4TH-FLOOR, SECTOR 14, FARIDABAD, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO TAMAAL KRISHNA MAHAJAN, FOR ALL, FUTURE PURPOSES.

0040741274-5

I, Sunil kujmar pal S/o-Harswroop Singh pal, Address-165/2, borjha Ghaziabad U.P-201001, changed my name to Sunil kumar pal.

0040741276-3

I, Sunil Kumar Nisad S/O Kalika Prasad, R/O B-101,14, Pratap Nagar, Mayur-Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-110091, Have Changed my Name to Sunil Kumar Nishad.

0040741279-5

I, Shaikh Rubina Iqbal Husain, W/O Shabb Alam, R/O, C144 street, no.11, west Vinod-Nagar Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Rubena Fatima, for all purposes.

0040741276-4

I, SHAILLY SWARUP, W/O RHITENDRA SWARUP, R/O FLAT-NO-321, ROSEWOOD-APARTMENTS SEC-13 PKT-A, DWARKA, DELHI-110078, HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER'S NAME FROM AYANA SWARUP TO AYANA RHITENDRA SWARUP, FOR ALL PURPOSES.

0040741279-1

I, SAYARA BANO, W/O-MEHRAJ KHAN, R/O-A-41gali, no.2, main-road Chand bagh karawal nagar, north east delhi-110094, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME SAYRA BANO.

0040741274-3

I, Ravinder Kaur, S/o-Harvinder Singh, Address-J-12/37, Rajouri Garden Tagore Garden Delhi-110027, changed my name to Ravinder kaur Sethi

0040741289-5

I, P.P. Singh S/o Hoshiyar Singh R/o 23, Loomba Niwas, Shivpuri, Bulandshahr have changed my name to Pratipal Singh.

0070915770-1

I, Rakesh Singh, S/o Prithvi Singh, R/O-Flat.No. H-102, 1st Floor, Friends Apartment, Plot.No.45 IP, Extension, Patparganj Society, East Delhi-92, this is inform that RAKESH SINGH SHISHODIA and RAKESH SINGH, both names are of same person.

0040741289-2

I, RAJKUMAR, S/O SH. ANIL KUMAR, R/O-2185/15, SHADI KHAMPUR, OPP-WEST-PATEL NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110008, have changed the name of my minor daughter ARADHNA aged-13-years and she shall hereafter be known as ARADHNA KUMAR

0040741274-9

I, Qamar Uddin S/o-Jalaluddin House number-127-128, street number-8 jafraabad jafraabad Delhi-110053, changed my name to Quaruddin

0040741289-1

I, Pooja Yadav, D/o Shivmurt Singh Yadav, R/O-Plot No.Old.No.2A, Khasra No.376, Karan Vihar, Phase-1, Kirari Suleman Nagar, Delhi-110086, that name of my father mistakenly entered in my school record and board-documents as Shivmurt Singh instead of Shivmurt Singh Yadav.

0040741289-3

I, Paramjit Kaur, spouse of Jagmohan Singh R/O Flat No.201, T-9, Wadala Road, New Green Model Town, Palm Royale Estate, Jalandhar, Punjab-144003 have changed my name from Paramjit Kaur to Paramjeet Kaur vide affidavit dated 31.07.2024 at Notary Noida, G.B.Nagar(U.P)

0040741243-1

I, No-14862215Y, Hav/SKT, Shatish Kumar, Regiment/Corps-ASC, S/O-Late Shri Budhwar Singh, R/O-House No-830, Thakur Diya Chouk, Manikpur, District-Korba, Chhattisgarh-495682. In my service records my mother's D o B namely Budhiyarin Bai has been wrongly mentioned as 06-07-1975 instead of 23-10-1968 as in her Aadhar Card. It needs corrections. Objections be filled to concerned authorities.

0020479202-1

I, Melona Nootikkattu Xavier W/o Benston John, R/O-H.No.A-11, Krist Jyoti-Apartments, Parwana Road, Pitampura, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Melona N Xavier.

0040741276-5

I, Manish Kumar, S/o-Ram Milan Sudhakar, R/O D-1204, Raksha Addela, Greater Noida West, Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201009, have changed my name to Manish Kumar Sudhakar.

0040741288-4

I, MEHRAJ S/O MEHMOOD KHAN, R/O, A-41gali, no.2, main road Chand bagh karawal-nagar north east, delhi-110094, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME MRHRAJ KHAN.

0040741274-2

I, MANOJ KUMAR THEREJA, S/O VIR BHAN ALISH NISHA, D/O-MOHD MANEER, W/O MOH. NASIR, R/O-D-170, BRAR SQUARE, DELHI-CANTT, SOUTH-WEST, DELHI, DELHI-110010, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MANOJ THEREJA, for all future purpose.

0040741274-10

I, MADAN SINGH BISHT, S/O-BACHE SINGH BISHT, R/O-HOUSE-NO-62, GALI-NO-1 SATYA-VIHAR, KAMALPUR DELHI-110084, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME, FROM MADAN SINGH TO MADAN SINGH BISHT, FOR FUTURE PURPOSE.

0040741276-7

I, Kamaljit Singh, S/O Arur Singh, R/O-3145/1 Kh.No-29, Ground-Floor Street.No-1, Ranjit-Nagar Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, Have changed my Name To Kamaljeet Singh for All Purposes.

0040741276-2

I, LAVANYA KAMAL, D/O-KAMAL SINGH, residing at, B-60-A, STREET, NO-10, GANESH NAGAR PANDAV-NAGAR COMPLEX, DELHI-110092, have changed my name to LAVANYA KAMAL SINGH, for all, future purpose.

0040741274-6

I, Vishal Maxual Mall S/O Vinod S Mall R/o Quarter No-2.8, Block-II, Staff Quarter, St. Stephens Hospital, Tis Hazari, Delhi-110054 have changed my name to Vishal Maxuel Mall

0070915738-1

I, KRISHNA DEVI, mother of, DAULAT RAM BHARDWAJ, Presently, residing at, DWARKA, SAMAR GOPALPUR (90), Distt.Rohtak, Haryana-124514, have changed my name, from KRISHNA DEVI to KISHANI DEVI, vide-affidavit date-31.07.2024.

0040741211-11

I, K V JALAJA, mother of, Anoop M P, permanent, residing at, Mannel, vayalar p.o, chertthala, alappuzha, kerala-688536, have changed my name from K V JALAJA to JALAJA, vide-affidavit date-31.07.2024.

0040741276-8

I, Jay Shree, W/O-Suresh Kumar P, R/O-B-9/169, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Jayshree Suresh for all purposes.

0040741288-2

I, Indresh W/o Lalit Bhati R/o Gate No.2 Sarupa Market, Salarpur Khadar, Noida-201304, Have Changed My Name To Namrata Bhati, For Future.

0040741211-1

I, Hitherto known as DHARMVEER ALIAS DHARM BEER, S/O-RAGHBIR, R/O-H.NO.54, CHAUPAL WALI-GALI, LAMPUR, PO:LAMPUR, DIST T-NORTH-WEST DELHI, DELHI-110040, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as DHARM BEER.

0040741211-2

I, Hitherto Known As Anita, W/o Sunil Kumar Jain, R/o-74-A, 3rd.Floor, Street.No.9, West-Azad Nagar, Krishna-Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Mamta Jain.

0040741279-3

I, Geeta Devi Sharma, mother of, Pradeep Kumar Sharma, presently, residing at, V.P.O.Kheri, Tehsil-Narnaul, Distt.-Mahendargarh, Haryana-123021, have changed my name from Geeta Devi Sharma to Geeta Devi, vide affidavit, date-31.07.2024.

0040741276-10

I, Gangavir Singh, S/o-Ram Dass, R/o F. 111, Gali No.9, Khajoori Khas, Karawal Nagar, North east Delhi, Delhi-110094, have chaged my name and shall hereafter be known as Ganga Bir.

0040741288-6

I, GOPAL BISHT, S/O-ANAND SINGH BISHT, R/O-BB/26C, SHALIMAR-BAGH (WEST), SHALIMAR-BAGH, DELHI-110088, have changed my minor child name, from AVYUKT BISHT to ARIN BISHT.

0040741274-7

I, Dinesh Kumar, S/o Jai Bhagwan Verma, R/O-180105, Block-M, 14th Avenue, Gaur City-2, Sec-16C, Greater Noida, G.B.Nagar, U.P-201318, have changed my name to Dinesh Kumar Verma Permanently.

0040741274-1

I, Deepak Choudhary, S/o Mr.Kamal Krishana Choudhary, R/O-House No-461, Ground-Floor, Sector-45, Gurgaon, Haryana-122003, have changed my name from Choudhary Deepak Kumar to Deepak Choudhary for all, future purpose.

0040741276-6

I, Brihmi Devi W/o LT Chand Ram R/o-791 Bayyanpur(207) Sonipat Haryana-131001 inform that Brahmi Devi, Birmi Devi, Brahami, Bhirmi Devi all these names belongs to the same person's name.

0040741211-3

I, BIMLESH KUMAR TIWARI, R/O-FLAT-NO-502 TOWER F AJNARA-AMBROSIA, SECTOR-118, NOIDA GAUTAMBUDDHA NAGAR, U.P-201301, HAVE CHANGED NAME OF MY MINOR SON, FROM SHREYASH. TO SHREYASH TIWARI.

0040741279-7

I, BALJEET SINGH, S/O-HARBHAJAN SINGH, R/O-KH.NO.18/20-A-BLOCK, 124, GALI NO-2, HARIT VIHAR, KAMAL PUR MAJRA, BURARI, DELHI-110084, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BALJIT SINGH.

0040741274-8

I, ANIL KUMAR SHARMA, S/o SHRI CHAND SHARMA, ADD-WZ-20, POSANGIPUR, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-110058, have changed my name to ANIL SHARMA.

0040741274-4

I, Ajay Kumar Bhola S/o Bhim Sen Bhola R/o Plot No.2060, B, 1st Floor Road No.5, Kongposh Colony Jain Nagar, Tirthankar Nagar Karala Delhi-110081, have changed my minor daughter name Vaibhavi Bhola aged 12 Years to Dinayra Bhola.

0040741211-5

I, ABHISHEK KUMAR, S/o SANTOSH KUMAR, R/O FLAT.NO.101, GANGA-YAMUNA RESIDENCY, SEC-1, BISHRAKH, BEHIND ACE-CITY, GAUTAM BUH-NAGAR, U.P-201306, have changed my name to ABHISHEK, for all future purpose.

0040741276-1

I, hitherto known as NIYATI SHAH D/O NARESH KUMAR SHAH W/O VARUN BHARDWAJ R/O D-263, NARMADA APARTMENTS, ALAKHANDA, KALKAJI, SOUTH DELHI, DELHI-110019 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NIYATI BHARDWAJ.

0070915779-1

I, Sunil Kumar Sachdeva, S/o Totar Ram Sachdeva, R/o B-16, Ground Floor, Opp. Rana Pratap Bagh, C.C. Colony, Malka Ganj, Delhi-110007, do hereby declare that Sunil Kumar Sachdeva and Suneel Sachdev, are the same person.

Henceforth, I have changed my name from Suneel Sachdev to Sunil Kumar Sachdeva for all future purposes.

0040741191-1

I, Subhash Chand S/O Attar Singh, R/o F- 274 Hanuman Mandir Lado Sarai South Delhi-110030, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Gautam Chaudhary.

0070915760-1

I, Srawan Kumar Bairwa s/o Ramchandra r/o WZ-250, FF, Guru Nanak Nagar, Tilak Nagar, Delhi-110018 have changed my name to SRAWAN KUMAR.

0040741202-1

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JHARKHAND STATE HOUSING BOARD

Harmu, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 834002, Jharkhand, Email: ec.ranchidivision@gmail.com

Notice Inviting Tender

Table with 7 columns: Sl. No., Tender Ref. No., Name of work, BOQ Amount (in Rs), Cost of Tender Document (in Rs), Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (in Rs), Time of completion. Contains 7 tender entries for construction work.

Mode of submission of bids: Online Tender. Date of publication of Tender on Website: Aug 05, 2024 at 10.00 Hrs. Bid Submission of Start Date: Aug 05, 2024 at 10.00 Hrs.

Note: Only e-tender will be accepted. Further details are available on Jharkhand Government e-procurement website https://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Tender Fee and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) is to be paid through online mode as per instruction of IT Dept. Govt of Jharkhand Letter no 120 dt 03.10.2023 and UDHD Govt of Jharkhand letter no 4847 date 11.10.2023.

PR 331282 Jharkhand State Housing Board(24-25)#D Executive Engineer

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BANGALURU Notice to the Respondents No.9 to 12 Filed order dated: 24.07.2024 R.F.A.No.1945/2017

MUTHOOT FINCORP LTD. GOLD AUCTION NOTICE. Regd. Office: Muthoot Centre, TC No 27/3022, Punnen Road, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India - 695001. Notice is hereby given for the information of all concerned that Gold ornaments...

Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (A Government of Maharashtra Undertaking). E-Tender Notice No./MIDC/GAD/Contract Labour/01/2024-25. Online Tenders are invited from the reputed & experienced Companies/Agencies...

Government of Jharkhand Directorate of Industries Jharkhand Government Tool Room, Ranchi. ONLINE TENDER NOTICE NIT No. 436 Dated 30.07.2024. Govt. of Jharkhand has set up state-of-the-art Tool Room & Training Centre...

बरेली विकास प्राधिकरण, बरेली विकास ज्योति, प्रियदर्शनी नगर, पीलीभीत रोड, बरेली (उ.प्र.) विविदा सह नीलामी के माध्यम से भूखण्ड प्राप्त करने का सुनहरा मौका

Table with 7 columns: क्रम सं०, सेक्टर, भूखण्ड का प्रकार, भूखण्ड का क्षेत्रफल (वर्गमी० में), कुल भूखण्डों की संख्या, दर रू० (प्रति वर्गमी० में), धरोहर धनराशि. Lists 12 land parcels for auction.

नोट:- 1. क्षेत्रफल-1980.00 वर्गमी० या उससे अधिक क्षेत्रफल की सम्पत्ति हेतु धरोहर धनराशि 5 प्रतिशत आरक्षित की गई है। 2. भूखण्डों के आवंटन सम्बन्धि अन्य नियम/शर्तें प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.bdainfo.org पर देखी जा सकती है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल दुमका

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

निविदा संख्या- 04/2024-25/RWD/EE/DUMKA दिनांक- 29.07.2024

Table with 7 columns: क्र. सं., आईटीके/संख्या, कार्य का नाम, लंबाई (कि०मी०), प्राकृतिक राशि (रु० में), अंक में, कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि. Lists 34 items for e-tendering.

वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि 05.08.2024. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय 27.08.2024 अपराह्न 6:00 बजे तक। निविदा शुल्क एवं अंतिम की राशि Online के माध्यम से जमा किया जाएगा।

Government of Madhya Pradesh Office of the Engineer-in-Chief Water Resources Department, Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Tulsī Nagar, Bhopal (M.P.). Email Id: ceproc.encyrd.bpl@nic.in. Tel:- 0755-2767635 / Fax:- 0755-2552406

NORTHERN RAILWAY e-Tender Notice. Name of work: Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of SCADA system of DEE-RRE with its location section for a period of Four Years. Approx. Cost of work: Rs.52,40,527.20/-

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा अति अल्पकालीन ई०-कोटेशन आमंत्रण सूचना (तृतीय आमंत्रण) अति-अल्पकालीन ई०-कोटेशन संख्या: WRD/MID/Jamtaara/Quo.Inv.Not.No.-06/2024-25 दिनांक-29.07.2024

WESTERN RAILWAY - VADODARA DIVISION CORRIGENDUM. Corrigendum to Tender Document of Tender No DRB BRC 071 of 2024-25 of Tender Notice No. DRB BRC 071 to 072 of 2024-25 dated 23.07.2024.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION DIVISION (E/M) U.P.JAL NIGAM (URBAN) GHAZIABAD. Letter No.: 1745/Vividh-7/91 Date: 31.07.2024 VERY SHORT TERM e-TENDER NOTICE

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, लघु सिंचाई प्रमण्डल, जामताड़ा अति अल्पकालीन ई०-कोटेशन सूचना (तृतीय आमंत्रण) अति-अल्पकालीन ई०-कोटेशन संख्या: WRD/MID/Jamtaara/Quo.Inv.Not.No.-06/2024-25 दिनांक-29.07.2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING. General Public is hereby informed that one Male (depicted in the photo) namely AKASH S/o Sunil Sharma R/o H.No.100, Rekha Ka Makan Near Shiv Mandir, Kureni, Narela, Delhi, Age-24 Years, has been reported missing since 03.06.2024 at approx 10AM from his Residence vide DD No. 77A Dated 16.07.2024 registered at Police Station Narela, Delhi.

Appeal for Identification. General Public is hereby informed that a male dead body Name: Unknown, S/o Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: approx 39 years, Height: 5'8", Complexion: Fair, Built: Medium, Wearing: Blue Lower, Was found in Western Yamuna Link Canal on 25.06.2024 Delhi. In this regard DD No. 87A, Dt. 25.06.2024 U/s 174A Cr.P.C. has been lodged in PS Narela Delhi.

संचालनालय खेल और युवा कल्याण युवा कल्याण टी.टी. नगर स्टेडियम, भोपाल, मध्यप्रदेश ई-निविदा सूचना. संचालनालय खेल और युवा कल्याण, मध्यप्रदेश, द्वारा क्रिकेट खेल सामग्री/उपकरण क्रय हेतु निर्माता अथवा उनके अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि से ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

SEARCH FOR MISSING. General public is hereby informed that a female namely Sonia Soni W/o Jitender Soni R/o H.No. 152/153, 3rd Floor, Sector-25, Rohini, Delhi Age: 48 years, Height: 5'8" Complexion: Fair, Built: Healthy, Face: Long, wearing Suit & Salwar, has been missing from her house since 14.07.2024 at 7:00 AM. In this regard a DD No. 68A, dated 19.07.2024 has been lodged at P.S. Shahbad Dairy, Delhi.

SBI State Bank of India
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch (SARB)
2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna - 800001
E-mail : sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

Publication of Notice regarding Possession of Property u/s13 (4) of SARFAESI Act 2002
Notice is hereby given under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, a demand notice was issued on the dates mentioned against each account and stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Act on the dates mentioned against each account.

The Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the STATE BANK OF INDIA for an amount and interest thereon.

The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act. in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name of Account/ Borrower & Address	Name of Proprietor/ Partners/Guarantor/ Owner of Property etc.	Description of the property mortgaged/ charged	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession Notice	Amount Outstanding
Smt. Lalita Kumari W/o Girdhari Pandit & Shri Girdhari Pandit S/o Radhe Shyam Pandit Add:- Ward No. 10, Kothiya, Dhubauli, Begusarai - 851129	Shri Girdhari Pandit S/o Radhe Shyam Pandit	All that part and parcel of land and building in the name of Shri Girdhari Pandit S/o Shri Radhe Shyam Pandit vide sale deed number 5669 dated 19.10.2020 situated at Mauza - Dhubauli, Pargana - Balia, Tauzi No - 736 and 656, Thana No - 336, Thana-Muffasil Begusarai, Anchal - Begusarai. Sub-Division and District-Begusarai. Khata No. - 255, Khesra No - 183, Area - 1 Katha. Boundaries :- North :- Ruksana Khatun urf Karki, South :- Ram Pukar Pandit, East :- Rasta (6.5 feet), West :- Md Ilyas S/o Md. Khudush.	10.04.2024	29.07.2024	Rs. 41,17,664.00 (Rupees Forty One Lacs Seventeen Thousand Six Hundred Sixty Four only) as on 31.03.2024 + accrued interest, charges other miscellaneous expenses etc from 01.04.2024 thereon

Date : 29.07.2024
Place : Begusarai
(Authorized Officer)
State Bank of India, SARB, Patna

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA
(Established vide Act No. 25 (2009) of Parliament)
MAHENDERGARH - 125031 (HARYANA)

Advt. No.: CUH/2024/Estt.Sec./I/583 Date: 31-07-2024

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for **Guest Faculty** positions in various Teaching Departments at Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh. Eligible Candidates shall appear before selection Committee along with application and supporting documents on the date and place notified on the University Website.

For Application Form and other related details please visit University website i.e. www.cuh.ac.in **REGISTRAR (I/C)**

योगसभाईशर-जीविकी और सपनेत जीविविज्ञान संखल
CSIR-INSTITUTE OF GENOMICS & INTEGRATIVE BIOLOGY
MALL ROAD, NEAR JUBILEE HALL, DELHI-07
Phone : 27662326, 27667806 / Fax : 011-27662099, 27667471

Engagement of Consultants in CSIR-IGIB, Delhi- 07
Advt. No. IGIB-01/2024/Consultant

CSIR- Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB) located in Delhi is inviting applications from eligible retired employees of CSIR/Central Autonomous bodies/ Central Government/PSUs for engagement as **Consultants** in CSIR-IGIB, Delhi-07 on short-term contract basis. The advertisement are in the field of **F&A, Works and Engineering Services, IT/Server related services**. The full advertisement along with the qualification criterion and application procedure can be found on www.igib.res.in. Interested candidates can visit the official website of CSIR-IGIB for further details.

Sd-
Administrative Officer
CBC 36214/1/0002/2425

IKF FINANCE LIMITED
HEAD OFFICE : # 40-1-144, Corporate Centre, M.G. Road, Vijayawada-520 010. Phone No. : 0866-2474644.

DEMAND NOTICE [Section 13(2)]

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) 1) M/s. HASEEB TRADERS Rep by its Proprietor Mr. Mohammad Haseeb, 2) Mr. Mohammad Haseeb S/o Mohammad Waseem and 3) Mrs. Anesa Bee W/o Mohammad Waseem have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the IKF Finance Limited and the loans have been classified as **Non-Performing Asset (NPA)**. The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unsealed and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name of Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s): 1) M/s. HASEEB TRADERS, Rep by its Proprietor Mr. Mohammad Haseeb, Shop No. 310, Laxminarayana, Krishna Upaj Mandi, Karod, Bhopal-462001, Madhya Pradesh State, Mob: 9827234516, 2) Mr. Mohammad Haseeb S/o Mohammad Waseem, R/o # 31, Near Madarsa Diniyat, Jins Road, Jhangirabad, Huzur, Bhopal, Bhopal District-462008, Madhya Pradesh State, Mob: 9827234516, 3) Mrs. Anesa Bee W/o Mohammad Waseem, R/o # 31, Near Madarsa Diniyat, Jins Road, Jhangirabad, Huzur, Bhopal, Bhopal District -462008, Madhya Pradesh State, Mob: 9039755385.

Date of Notice: 24.07.2024	Date of NPA: 03.07.2024
Amount outstanding (As on 23-07-2024): Rs. 16,23,364/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakhs Twenty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty Four Only).	

THE DETAILS OF PROPERTY/ADDRESS OF SECURED ASSET TO BE ENFORCED:
All that Shed No. 1240/A admeasuring 54.36 Sq. Mtrs or 585.00 Sq. Ft. Housing Board Colony, Karond, Berasia Road, Ward No. 77, Russali, Huzur Tehsil, Bhopal District - 462038, Madhya Pradesh and bounded by: East: Shed No. 1227; West: Approach Road; North: Shed No. 1239; South: 20 Feet Wide Road.

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and/or their Guarantor(s) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Place: Bhopal, Date: 31.07.2024
Sd/- Authorised Officer, IKF Finance Limited

भारत सरकार कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय
त्वरित कारपोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी- पेस),
आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंज़िल,
प्लॉट P-6,7,8, से.-5, आई.एम.टी. मानेसर,
गुर्गाँव, हरियाणा-122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

Government of India Ministry of
Corporate Affairs Centre for
Processing Accelerated Corporate
Exit (C-PACE) IICA Building, 7th
Floor, Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT
Manesar, Gurgaon, Haryana-122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

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.

Sd/-
(Secretary)
Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi
CBC 09104/12/0002/2425

उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
46बी, आई०टी० पार्क, सहस्त्राचार रोड, देहरादून
E-mail: msukpcb@yahoo.com, रुसाफ: 0135-267092

पत्रांक - यू.के.पी.सी.बी./एच.ओ./एन.ओ.सी.(पी.एच.)-7948/2024/634 दिनांक 30.07.2024

पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई के लिये सूचना

श्री मनोज कुमार जोशी, पुत्र श्री गिरीश चन्द्र जोशी, ग्राम भिन्नगड़ी, तहसील गंगोलीहाट, जनपद पिथौरागढ़ द्वारा ग्राम भिन्नगड़ी, तहसील गंगोलीहाट, जनपद पिथौरागढ़ में प्रस्तावित भिन्नगड़ी सोपस्टोन माइनिंग (क्षेत्रफल-4.463 है०) की पूर्व पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई का प्रस्ताव उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, देहरादून के समक्ष प्रस्तुत किया गया है। प्रस्ताव के लिये राज्य स्तरीय पर्यावरण समाघात निर्धारण प्राधिकरण (SEIAA) द्वारा Terms of Reference निर्धारित किये गये हैं, जिनके अन्तर्गत प्रस्तावक के द्वारा झूपाट पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट एवं पर्यावरण प्रबंधन योजना तैयार कर प्रस्तुत की गयी है। पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा जारी ई.आई.ए. अधिसूचना 14.09.2006 (स्थापनाशोधित) के अनुसार उक्त प्रकार की परियोजनाओं के क्रियान्वयन से पूर्व लोक सुनवाई का प्राविधान है, जिस हेतु 30 दिनों का नोटिस समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से जन साधारण के संज्ञानार्थ दिया जाना आवश्यक है। लोक सुनवाई हेतु "पैनल" की संरचना उक्त अधिसूचना के अनुसूची निम्नवत् है:-

- जिलाधिकारी, जनपद पिथौरागढ़ या उनके द्वारा नामित / अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि जो जिला स्तरीय अधिकारी हो - लोक सुनवाई के अध्यक्ष।
- उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड के प्रतिनिधि।

प्रस्ताव से सम्बन्धित जमा समस्त अभिलेख (i) क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, 25-सुभाष रोड, देहरादून (ii) मुख्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, गौरा देवी पर्यावरण भवन, 46-बी, आई०टी० पार्क, सहस्त्राचार रोड, देहरादून (iii) क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, आवास विकास कालोनी, हल्द्वानी, जनपद नैनीताल (iv) कार्यालय जिलाधिकारी, पिथौरागढ़ (v) कार्यालय, जिला पंचायत, पिथौरागढ़ (vi) जिला उद्योग केन्द्र, पिथौरागढ़ में उपलब्ध हैं, जिनका कोई भी इच्छुक संस्था / व्यक्ति अवलोकन कर सकता है। झूपाट पर्यावरण प्रभाव मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट एवं सारांश की प्रति www.ueppcb.uk.gov.in पर भी उपलब्ध है।

श्री मनोज कुमार जोशी, पुत्र श्री गिरीश चन्द्र जोशी, ग्राम भिन्नगड़ी, तहसील गंगोलीहाट, जनपद पिथौरागढ़ द्वारा ग्राम भिन्नगड़ी, तहसील गंगोलीहाट, जनपद पिथौरागढ़ में प्रस्तावित भिन्नगड़ी सोपस्टोन माइनिंग (क्षेत्रफल-4.463 है०) की पूर्व पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई दिनांक 03.09.2024 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे से परियोजना स्थल में तत्समय कोविड-19 के संदर्भ में विद्यमान SOP के अधीन सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग, आवश्यक रूप से मास्क का प्रयोग, थर्मल स्क्रीनिंग एवं हैंडवॉश व सेनेटाइजर तथा अन्य सुरक्षात्मक उपायों के साथ निर्धारित की जाती है।

अतः सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि सम्बन्धित परियोजना के प्रस्ताव के सम्बन्ध में अपने मौखिक, लिखित, सुझाव, टीका टिप्पणियों एवं आपत्तियों इस कार्यालय अथवा बोर्ड के क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, आवास विकास कालोनी, हल्द्वानी में इस सूचना से सम्बन्धित विज्ञापन प्रकाशन की तिथि से 30 दिनों के अन्दर प्रेषित कर सकते हैं अथवा लोक सुनवाई के समय भी प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं।

सदस्य सचिव

FORM No. STK--6 PUBLIC NOTICE

[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public Notice :ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/527
Date: -10/07/2024

Reference:

(1) In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (29) companies in the state of Delhi under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S. No	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AA9156105	U45201DL2021PTC388699	INTUITIONS AND DECISIONS SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AA9119769	U74999DL2021PTC388702	CAUVERY SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AA9110434	U72900DL2022PTC402897	GREWISE TECHNOLOGY PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AA9099177	U63040DL2006PTC155958	SHIVIK INTERNET PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AA9042391	U29309DL2022PTC407303	GBA INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AA8995501	U36109DL2022PTC402299	PROMECENS BIOSYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AA8948823	U74900DL2010PTC198409	COMPLETE MEDI VEDA SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AA8944390	U55101DL2015PTC279578	STUDENT HOSTELERS ONLINE SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
9	AA8938643	U93000DL2020PTC362107	ZEST LIFE SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
10	AA8936345	U29309DL2017FTC322471	CHEMEX MODULAR INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
11	AA8936217	U15549DL2022PTC398448	WINCARE DRINKS PRIVATE LIMITED
12	AA8904587	U72200DL2021PTC384697	INKBLOT TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
13	AA8873786	U31100DL2022PTC393815	SUSDECO ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED
14	AA8863271	U65999DL2021PTC391494	ARNAV BHATIA HOLDINGS PRIVATE LIMITED
15	AA8296543	U70101DL2012PTC237224	CREST INFRA TECH PRIVATE LIMITED
16	AA8718090	U74899DL1985PTC020576	SHREE GOPAL MOTORS PRIVATE LIMITED
17	AA8658633	U22300DL2021PTC379390	ARYAKHAND TELEVISION PRIVATE LIMITED
18	AA8624135	U70102DL2010PTC203060	AVS REAL ESTATE PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED
19	AA8615042	U72900DL2020PTC364765	VXL LABS PRIVATE LIMITED
20	AA8614409	U93090DL2020PTC364188	MENON & MAZUMDAR INSTITUTE OF STARTING UP PRIVATE LIMITED
21	AA8331762	U33130DL1979PLC009933	RAPA RELAYS LIMITED
22	AA8353841	U74999DL2019PTC344523	KURRENT CONSULTING PRIVATE LIMITED
23	AA8613252	U52599DL2023PTC410127	PROFUNDITY MATERIALS PRIVATE LIMITED
24	AA8599946	U36999DL2022PTC403622	BENHEAVEN RETAIL PRIVATE LIMITED
25	AA8598025	U15490DL2016PLC306438	APPETIZERS AND SNACKS FOODS LIMITED
26	AA8567195	U63030DL20210PC389135	DTRAVCO (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
27	AA8550516	U92490DL2011PTC225649	KINGS JUNGLE PRIVATE LIMITED
28	AA8549350	U74999DL2016PTC309399	TPM ENTERTAINMENT PRIVATE LIMITED
29	AA8424687	U45400DL2007PTC169348	DELANCO BUILDCON PRIVATE LIMITED

ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266 Branch Office- Unit No. 710 A | 7th Floor | Corporate Park | B-109 | Sanjay Place | Agra -282002.

APPENDIX IV
[See Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]
Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a demand notice dated 15-05-2024 calling upon the borrowers Pradeep Kumar Shrivastava , Bhavana Shrivastava, mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 10,63,431.96/- (Rupees Ten Lac Sixty Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty One and Ninety Six Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and to the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act. read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 30th day of July of the year, 2024.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited for an amount of Rs. 10,63,431.96/- (Rupees Ten Lac Sixty Three Thousand Four Hundred Thirty One and Ninety Six Paise Only) and interest thereon. Borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section 8 of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
All That Piece And Parcel Of Plot No. 59, Admeasuring 59.54 Sq. Mtrs., Situated At Khasra No. 1099, 1100, 1092 & 1098, Shivani Residency, Nandlalpur, Mauja: Naraiich, Tehsil: Etmadpur, District: Agra, Uttar Pradesh 282066, And Bounded As:- East: Rasta 18 Ft. Wide West: Plot No. 62 North: Other's Land South: Plot No. 60
Date: 30/07/2024
Place: Agra
Authorised Officer
Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
2nd Floor, Biscoman Tower, Gandhi Maidan (West), Patna, Bihar - 800001

[Rule 8 (1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of the LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Ordinance, 2002 (Ord. 3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 23.11.2023 calling upon the loanee, **Anant Kumar Anand** under Loan A/c No. - 220200002721 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 12,83,893.55/- (Rupees Twelve Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Three rupees & Fifty Five paise only)** + Sarfaesi Charges and Other Charges within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The loanee **Anant Kumar Anand** having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the loanee and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Ordinance read with rule 9 of the said Rules on this 27th day of July of the year 2024.

The loanee in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD for an amount **Rs. 12,83,893.55/-** + Sarfaesi Charges and Other Charges and interest thereon.

The loanee attention is invited to provisions of section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Original Deed No. 1904/2019, Mauza- Chak Mohammad Chisti, Thana No- 201, Thana- Gangabrigge Hajipur, Khata No - 44, Khesra No - 340, within the registration Sub-District- Hajipur and District - Vaishali. **Boundary - North -** Farik Lekhyakari, **South -** Hal Kewaleadar Digar Banambhar Haza, **East -** Ten Feet Wide Road, **West -** Farik Lekhyakari

Date : 27.07.2024
Place : Hajipur
Authorised Officer
(LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD)

(2). Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but if/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.

(3) Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.

(4) Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Irkan Tirkey
Assistant Registrar
Centre for Processing Accelerated
Corporate Exit
CBC 07123/11/0256/2425

EXPRESS Careers

Khasdar Shri Govindrao Adik Law College
Newasa Road Naka, Shirrampur,
Tal-Shrirampur, Dist-Ahmednagar (M.S).
Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune,
NAAC Accredited and ISO certified. (Non Grant Basis)

Applications are invited for the following posts.

Sr. No.	Post	Qualification	Reservation
1.	Principal (1)	Post graduation in English / Sociology/ Economics / Political Science / Law - Ph.D with 15 years Teaching Experience	Open to all
2.	Assistant Professor (Law) (5)	LL.M., SET/ NET/ Ph.D	ST-1,SC-1, DT(A)-1, OBC-1, SEBC-1.
3.	Assistant Professor (Non-Law) (4)	M.A/SET/NET/Ph.D in English / Sociology/ Economics/ Political Science (Each one) on academic basis.	Open to all

Note : • Interested candidates need to apply with detailed bio-data, self attested copies of all marksheets, certificates, PAN card, Aadhar Card, age and domicile certificate, approvals and two passport size photos within 20 days from the date of publication of this advertisements to the above address. • Qualifications, experience, service conditions & pay scale shall be as per the norms of the UGC/ BCI/ Govt/ SPPU/ Trust policy. • Reservation : A reserved category candidate must obtain the acknowledgement receipt after submitting the application to the Law College. • A copy of the acknowledgement receipt and application set should be scanned in pdf format and sent to the e.mail id:reservation@unipune.ac.in of Reservation cell, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Ganeshkhind, Pune-07 for information • College is likely to get grants as per orders of Hon'ble High Court /Apex Court.

Adminstrator, Khasdar Shri Govindrao Adik Law College, Newasa Road Naka, Shirrampur (M.S) 09881971789, 09766097006, 7058942801.

AMBIT
Acumen at work

ADVISORY

It has come to our attention that certain unknown entities/ individuals have formed fraudulent WhatsApp groups, using the names, pictures & likeness of some of Ambit's employees.

These unknown entities/individuals have also been creating fake profiles, pages, handles on social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Telegram) and misusing Ambit's name, our logo and also impersonating some of our research analysts.

Ambit Pvt. Ltd., along with its Group companies, subsidiaries and affiliates, are all regulated entities and none of our employees, partners, directors nor any other affiliates, have ever created any such accounts/pages/profiles that endorse dubious activities of promising high returns or giving out stock-related advice.

We recommend that you only trust communication from Ambit's authorized relationship managers/service teams and Ambit's official pages/handles on social media.

Any person dealing with any other unauthorized entities may do so at their own risk, and Ambit or its Group companies cannot be held responsible.

Any other unauthorized communication or profile/group must be immediately reported to the Police or cybercrime cell or stock exchanges. Ambit too has approached the relevant regulatory authorities and cybercrime cell, to ensure compliance and cooperation.

In lieu of the recent increase in frauds in financial services, we urge you to be vigilant, conduct a thorough search and do your due diligence before acting on any stock-related advice or money transfers.

**JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED**

CIN No. U40108JH2013SGC001702

Singhbhum Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur, 1st floor Co-Op. Bank Building Bishtapur, Jamshedpur.

e-mail- sesa.jsr13@yahoo.in Ph. No. 0657-2320495 (o).

Tender Notice

Online tenders is invited from reputed and experienced agencies for outsourcing of the services of computer operator under Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur.

NIT No	Name of Particulars	EMD	Cost of BOO
58/PR/JBV NL/24-25	Engagement / Supply of Computer Operators indifferent offices, certificate Court of Districts & VUSNF under Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur.	200000/-	11800/-
Availability of tender document on website		02.08.2024	at 10:00 a.m.
Last date and time for uploading of E-Tender		28.08.2024	up to 05:00 p.m.
Last date and time for online submission of cost of BOQ and Earnest Money		28.08.2024	up to 05:00 p.m.
Date of Opening of Techno-Commercial Part		29.08.2024	at 05:00 p.m.
Date and time for opening of tender Part-II (Price Part)		To be Further communicated	
Tendering Officer and address for communication		General Manager(Tech), Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur	
Bid Processing Fees		Rs. 11800 /-	
EMD		Rs. 200000 /-	
Offer Validity (Days)		180 days from last date of Bid Opening.	
Date and time for opening of tender Part-II (Price Part)		To be Further communicated	

1. Guidelines for online submission of bids can be downloaded from the website <http://jarkhandtenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders can download the bid from the website <http://jarkhandtenders.gov.in>

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचाव। कृपया अपनी शिकयतों को टॉल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करावें।

Sd/-

General Manager (Tech)
Electric Supply Area, Jamshedpur**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गोड्डा

ई-पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (चतुर्थ कॉल)ई-निविदा संख्या - 07/2024-25/R4/RWD/EE/GODDA दिनांक : 29.07.2024
कार्य का विवरण: मुख्यमंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना अन्तर्गत कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गोड्डा द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र. सं.	आईडीडीके संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	प्रखंड	कार्य का नाम	प्राकृतिक राशि (लाख में)	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि / अवधि
1		पथरगमा	पी0डब्ल्यू0डी रोड से खुद तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ-1.250 कि०मी०)		
2		बसंतराय	बाघाकोल से मोकलचक तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.715 कि०मी०)		
3		पथरगमा	द्वारीचक से चंदपुर तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.125 कि०मी०)		बारह कोरड इकतीस लाख हजार तीन सौ रूपये मात्र
4		बसंतराय	महेशपुर से वरुण तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ-2.575 कि०मी०)		
5	RWD/GODDA/14/STPKG/02/2023-24	बसंतराय	केनापुर से सोहरा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ-3.600 कि०मी०)	1231.753	15(पन्द्रह) माह
6		बसंतराय	सोहरा से राहा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ-1.800 कि०मी०)		
7		पथरगमा	कोरका मोड़ से बरहारा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 3.800 कि०मी०)		
8		पथरगमा	लतीना से देवघरा जागीर तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ-4.600 कि०मी०)		
9		पथरगमा	परिधमी पड़दा से बशीपुर भागा सोनवर्मा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ-2.700 कि०मी०)		
1		गोड्डा सहर	मुकुन्डीह दिक्वानी से रमला सधाली तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 2.978 कि०मी०)		
2		गोड्डा सहर	धीनादाब से कोवादाब भागा कुमरडीह तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 2.000 कि०मी०)		
3		गोड्डा सहर	सरनी पथ से सुन्दरमोड़ तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 2.050 कि०मी०)		
4		गोड्डा सहर	पी0डब्ल्यू0डी पथ से भारती किता तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.250 कि०मी०)		तेरह कोरड सात लाख सन्तानवे हजार छह सौ रूपये मात्र
5	RWD/GODDA/18/STPKG/04/2023-24	गोड्डा सहर	पी0डब्ल्यू0डी पथ से कुबजीघाट तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 2.200 कि०मी०)	1307.976	15(पन्द्रह) माह
6		गोड्डा सहर	पी0डब्ल्यू0डी पथ से घिलौना भद्राही तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 3.150 कि०मी०)		
7		गोड्डा सहर	पडरा से रमला सधाली तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.175 कि०मी०)		
8		गोड्डा सहर	पी0डब्ल्यू0डी पथ घमसाई से छोटी कल्याणी तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 5.900 कि०मी०)		
9		गोड्डा सहर	मंजवारा मोड़ से लतीना भागा बड़ी कल्याणी तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 3.600 कि०मी०)		
10		गोड्डा सहर	रूपियामा से कटरा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.800 कि०मी०)		
1		पथरगमा	बारकोप मोड़ से रंगाटाड़ होते हुए बांसिदा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 5.200 कि०मी०)		
2		पथरगमा	गांधीग्राम से रामपुर चिलरा होते हुए बलियामोड़ तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 5.000 कि०मी०)		
3		पथरगमा	मालरामपुर से चुनाकोटी तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.985 कि०मी०)		
4		पथरगमा	मालरामपुर से चैनपुर (पाट निस्तार) तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.800 कि०मी०)		ग्यारह कोरड अस्सी चौरासी हजार एक सौ रूपये मात्र
5		पथरगमा	पथरगमा से रूपचक होते हुए दुमड़ी बसंतराय तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 4.200 कि०मी०)	1180.841	15(पन्द्रह) माह
6	RWD/GODDA/15/STPKG/07/2023-24	पथरगमा	बर्मासिया बंक से रामपुर होते हुए केन्दु मोड़ तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 2.100 कि०मी०)		
7		पथरगमा	मलसुधिया उच्च विद्यालय से बोहा होते हुए खैरयाही बरडा तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 6.100 कि०मी०)		
8		पथरगमा	गायछंद मोड़ से होमोपैथिक कॉलेज परसपानी तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.300 कि०मी०)		
9		पथरगमा	जेकेला से गंगटा कलान तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 1.250 कि०मी०)		
10		पथरगमा	बोहा स्कूल से तिलौलिया तक पथ का सुदृढीकरण कार्य। (लॉ- 2.500 कि०मी०)		

- वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि: 05.08.2024
- ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय: 22.08.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय: 24.08.2024 अपराह्न 11.30 बजे।
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता: कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, गोड्डा।
- ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का मोबाईल नं०- 9973573276
- परिणाम विपन्न की राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार अग्रधन की राशि देय होगी।
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि का ई-शुल्क भुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रधन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jarkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।कार्यपालक अभियंता
ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग,
कार्य प्रमण्डल, गोड्डा

PR 331333 Rural Work Department (24-25)_D

**Mines and Geology Department****District- Siwan**

Govt. of Bihar

Short Term Notice Inviting E-Auction for Settlement of Sand ghats(Through E-Procurement mode over <https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in>)

बिहार बालू खनन नीति, 2019 (यथा संशोधित) तथा बिहार खनिज (समानुदान, अवैध खनन, परिवहन एवं भंडारण निवारण) नियमावली, 2019 (यथा संशोधित) में उल्लेखित प्रावधानों के तहत बालूघाटों की अगामी पाँच वर्षों के लिए PR No-10245 (Mines) 2022-23, PR No- 11674 (Mines) 2022-23, PR No-12468 (Mines) 2022-23, PR No-13870 (Mines) 2022-23, द्वारा प्रकाशित विज्ञापन का पूर्व में धार बालूघाटों को फलसख शूच्य/ रद्द निविदा प्राप्त बालूघाटों का पुनः अल्पकालीन निविदा निम्न कार्यक्रमानुसार कराया जाएगा :-

ई-नीलामी कार्यक्रम-

क्र. सं.	बालूखण्ड/ बालूघाट	ई-नीलामी- बीड प्रैक्टिस का समय एवं स्थान	निविदा दस्तावेज कि की शूलक (5,000/-) जमाकर निविदा दस्तावेज डाउनलोड प्रारंभ करने की तिथि	अग्रधन राशि एवं ऑनलाइन जमा राशि निविदा दस्तावेज अपलोड करने की तिथि एवं समय	तकनीकी निविदा की ऑनलाइन प्रारंभ होने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-नीलामी प्रारंभ होने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-नीलामी समाप्ति की तिथि एवं समय
01	इकाई-01 (ग्यासपुर घाट)		दिनांक 08.08.2024 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न	दिनांक 15.08.2024 को अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक	दिनांक 19.08.2024 को 05:00 बजे अपराह्न तक	दिनांक 21.08.2024 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न	दिनांक 21.08.2024 को 01:00 बजे अपराह्न
02	इकाई-02 (डुमरहर घाट + केवटलीया घाट)		दिनांक 08.08.2024 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाह्न				
03	इकाई-03 (दरौली घाट + दरौली टोला मेलहानी घाट)						
04	इकाई-04 (कोशीला त्रिकालपुर घाट + बालपुर घाट + सिसवन 1 घाट)						

- बालूखण्डों/ बालूघाटों की विस्तृत विवरणी जिला के वेबसाइट <https://siwan.nic.in> पर उपलब्ध है।
- बालूघाटों की बंदोबस्ती ई-नीलामी प्रक्रिया ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल <https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in> से कराया जाएगा।
- ई-नीलामी द्वारा कराई जा रही बंदोबस्ती में भाग लेने वाले व्यक्ति/ कम्पनी/ फर्म को ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल <https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in> पर निवेदन कराना अनिवार्य होगा।
- एतद संबंधी समस्त सूचना (यथा- नीलामी कार्यक्रम, सुरक्षित जमा राशि, अग्रधन राशि, नीलामी प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क इत्यादि) विस्तृत रूप से जिला के वेबसाइट <https://siwan.nic.in> / विभागीय वेबसाइट <https://state.bihar.gov.in/mines/CitizenHome.html> एवं ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट पोर्टल <https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in> पर उपलब्ध है।
- एतद संबंधी समस्त सूचना हेतु ई-टेंडरिंग/ ई-प्रोक्वोरमेंट हेल्पडेस्क- mjunction services limited, RI complex, 2nd floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, PS-Shastri Nagar, Patna-800014, Bihar Toll Free number-18005726571, खनिज विकास पदाधिकारी, सिवान (मो नं० 9122079407), आईडीटी नेशनल, सिवान (मो नं०-8114593936) से सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

विस्तृत जानकारी www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdibihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

PR. No. 005070 (Mines.) 2024-25

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

समाहर्ता
सिवान**Information & Public Relations Department**
Government of Jharkhand, Suchana Bhawan, Ranchi.**Request for Proposal (RFP)**Online RFP are invited from eligible reputed qualified firms/companies with sound Technical and Financial capabilities for Selection of Social Media Management and Monitoring Agency.
1. The following table provides a quick overview of the key activities and some important information about this RFP:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Details
1.1	RFP Reference No.	1116
1.2	RFP issuing Authority	Director, Information & Public Relations Department Government of Jharkhand, Address:-Suchana Bhawan, Ranchi.
1.3	Name of the Project	Selection of Social Media Management and Monitoring Agency
1.4	Date of issue of tender document	31-07-2024; 05:30 PM
1.5	Last date and time of submission of RFP document	08-08-2024; 03:00PM
1.6	Last date of receipt of query	03-08-2024; 03:00 PM
1.7	Date of opening of Bids / RFP	09-08-2024; 03:00 PM
1.8	Date of Presentation	On same day after the opening of technical bid.
1.9	Mode of Submission of Tender / RFP	Online at www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in
1.10	EMD	The bidders are required to submit the EMD amounting Rs. 5,00,000/- (Five Lakh only) through Online Mode
1.11	Address of communication	Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Jharkhand, Suchana Bhawan, Ranchi. Tel: 0651-2281522, 0651-2282458

The Terms & Conditions and detailed copy of the RFP document should be obtained from departmental website (www.prdjarkhand.in) or may also be downloaded from the website www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in. The Bidder will submit the tender at the website of Jharkhand Government (www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in).

Director

PR 331415 IPRD(24-25)#D

Information & Public Relations Department

कार्यालय झुमरीतिलैया नगर परिषद**अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

ई-निविदा सूचना सं०-J.M.C/03/2024-25 Date - 31-07-2024

क्र. सं.	मू. का नाम	कार्य का नाम	प्राकृतिक राशि (in Rupees)	अग्रधन की राशि (in Rupees)	निविदा शुल्क (in Rupees)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1.	15वें वित्त आयोग	Construction Of Shelter Home For Urban Homeless/Floating Population (Male/Female) At Addi Bangla At Ward No-14.	94,62,873	1,89,300	10,000	9 Month
2.	15वें वित्त आयोग	Construction Of RCC Drain From Sanjay Yadav House Towards Samsan Ghat With One Culvert At Ward No-25.	35,72,530	71,500	10,000	6 Month
3.	15वें वित्त आयोग	Construction Of RCC Drain From Anirudh Pandey House Via Mahavir Rai House To Primary School Kahar Tola At Ward No-22.	45,23,546	90,500	10,000	6 Month
4.	15वें वित्त आयोग	Construction Of RCC Drain At Both Side In Kailash Coffee Gali At Ward No-12	35,71,131	71,500	10,000	6 Month
5.	15वें वित्त आयोग	Construction Of Bitumenous Road From South Corner Of Ashram To Gujhandi Road At Ward No-01	1,37,44,531	2,74,900	10,000	9 Month

- Only E-Tender will be accepted**
- नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग अन्तर्गत समुचित श्रेणी में निबंधित संवेदक निविदा में भाग ले सकते हैं।
- वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि: 06.08.2024 (पूर्वाह्न 10.00 बजे से)।
- ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय: 13.08.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि: 14.08.2024 अपराह्न 3.00 बजे।
- हेल्पलाइन नम्बर: 7903772765, 8505948858
- E-Procurement में Tender Fee एवं EMD की राशि ऑनलाइन सूचना प्रोद्योगिकी एवं ई-गवर्नेंस विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची का आदेश नं०-120, दिनांक-03.10.2023 एवं नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग, झारखण्ड, राँची का पत्रांक 05 /विधि(टेंडर)-12 /2023 /नविदि-04847 (अनु०), दिनांक- 11.10.2023 के तहत ली जायेगी।**
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी। विशेष जानकारी विभागीय वेबसाइट <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> पर देखी जा सकती है।

प्रशासक
झुमरी तिलैया, नगर परिषद

PR 331399 (Urban Development)24-25*D

**झारखण्ड सरकार****कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय,**

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज, विकास भवन, साहेबगंज

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

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

क्र. सं.	आईडीडीके संख्या	प्रखण्ड	कार्य का नाम	प्राकृतिक राशि (₹ मं)	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेंडर कॉल सं.
1	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 05/2024-25	पटना	पी0एम0जी0एस0वाई सड़क रांगा से मोडली टोला होते हुए सीतापहाड़ पी0एम0जी0एस0वाई सड़क तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-1.720)	136.346	एक करोड़ छत्तीस लाख चौरासी हजार छः 9 माह	एक
2	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 06/2024-25	पटना	पी0एम0जी0एस0वाई सड़क ईटामोखर से गुम्मा पहाड़, केशविपडी, गुटटीअरन होते हुए तेगड़ा तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-5.545)	792.114	सात करोड़ बिरानवे लाख ग्यारह हजार चार 18 माह	
3	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 07/2024-25	पटना	आर0ई0ओ0 सड़क रक्सी से अमर मिटटा भागा छोटा गुम्मा पहाड़ (लॉ-2.10)	394.580	तीन करोड़ चौरानवे लाख अनाठान हजार 18 माह	
4	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 08/2024-25	पटना	आर0ई0ओ0 पथ रक्सी से दुमरिया चौक भागा बिराजपुर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-3.361)	314.351	तीन करोड़ चौदह लाख पचास हजार एक सौ 15 माह	
5	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 09/2024-25	बरहेट	लोगाई चौक पी0डब्ल्यू0डी सड़क से सलगा टोला बथान होते हुए बोरिया सीमा तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-4.375)	355.150	तीन करोड़ पचान लाख पन्द्रह हजार 18 माह	
6	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 10/2024-25	बरहेट	कदमा पी0डब्ल्यू0डी सड़क से बड़ा कदमा होते हुए पहाड़पुर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-3.305)	598.043	पांच करोड़ अठानठान लाख तीसलस रूपये 18 माह	
7	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 11/2024-25	बरहेट	रघुनाथपुर पी0डब्ल्यू0डी सड़क से रघुनाथपुर मोड़ी टोला होते हुए जमरी पहाड़ तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-1.40)	144.313	एक करोड़ चौआलीस लाख एकतीस हजार 9 माह	
8	RWD/SAHIBGAN J 12/2024-25	बरहेट	बरहेट-रांगा आर0ई0ओ0 पथ से मॉडल स्कूल रांगा तक पथ निर्माण कार्य। (लॉ-2.30)	229.513	दो करोड़ जनीस लाख एकान हजार तीन सौ 12 माह	
कुल:-				2964.41	उनतीस करोड़ चौसठ लाख एकतालीस हजार	

- वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि- 07.08.2024
- ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय- 16.08.2024 अपराह्न 05.00 बजे तक।
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रधन की राशि Jharkhandtenders.gov.in के माध्यम से ऑनलाइन मोड में स्वीकार की जाएगी।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय- 17.08.2024 अपराह्न 11.00 बजे।
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :-कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्यप्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज, पिन-816109
- ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का मोबाइल नं०- 8292371115
- विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट-<https://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in> में देखा जा सकता है।

PR 331356 Rural Work Department(24-25)#D

SRO/-

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग,
कार्य प्रमण्डल, साहेबगंज**जल संसाधन विभाग**

शोध एवं प्रशिक्षण प्रमण्डल-2, शोध भवन, खगौल, पटना

अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं०-09/2024-25

(आईटएम रेट

FORMER PAK PM Imran Khan has offered to hold "conditional negotiations" with the powerful military as he serves a year in jail. Khan, in a post in X on Wednesday, said one of the conditions for talks was that "clean and transparent" elections be held and "bogus" cases against his supporters be dropped. He said he had appointed Mahmood Khan Achakzai, a close political ally, to represent him in discussions. **REUTERS**

MOST SENIOR MILITIA LEADER TO HAVE BEEN KILLED SINCE START OF WAR IN GAZA

Hezbollah top commander Shukr killed in Israeli strike on Beirut, body found

Focused, high quality and contained: Israel's Defence Minister praises forces who carried out Beirut attack

REUTERS
BEIRUT, JULY 31

THE BODY of Hezbollah military commander Fuad Shukr has been found in rubble in the southern suburbs of the Lebanese capital Beirut, two security sources told Reuters on Wednesday.

Hezbollah had confirmed early Wednesday its senior commander Shukr had been in a building in the southern suburbs of Beirut when it was targeted by an Israeli strike. Israeli military announced late Tuesday it had killed Shukr, whom it blamed for an attack that left a dozen youngsters dead in Golan Heights.

Hezbollah has denied any involvement in Saturday's attack. Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said Shukr "the blood of our people has a price, and that there is no place out of reach for our forces to this end".

A senior security source from another country in the region confirmed Shukr had died of his wounds. At least two women and two children were also killed, medical and security sources said.

Hezbollah on Wednesday said Israel had attacked a residential building in the southern suburbs of Beirut, a stronghold for the group, and that "a number of citizens" had been killed and others wounded. It said Shukr "was present in this building at the time" but that the group was still awaiting definitive results on his fate. Shukr was an adviser to Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah.

His apparent killing marks the most senior Hezbollah commander to have been killed in nearly 10 months of exchanges of fire between the Israel and Hezbollah, taking place in parallel with the war in Gaza.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said on Wednesday that Israel is not seeking to escalate war but is preparing to handle all scenarios, while praising forces who carried out an attack in Beirut overnight. During his visit, Gallant spoke with officers regarding Israel's killing of the top commander in Hezbollah, who Israel says was responsible for an attack Saturday in Golan Heights.

"The performance (last) night in Beirut was focused, high quality and contained," Gallant said, according to a statement from his office. "We don't want war, but we are preparing for all possibilities, and that means you must be prepared as needed, and we will do our job at all the levels above you," he said.



(Clockwise from left) A building in Beirut damaged in an Israeli strike on Tuesday; Lebanese army in Beirut after an Israeli strike on Tuesday. Reuters; a general strike in West Bank after Haniyeh's killing, on Wednesday. Reuters & AP



Tough-talking face of Hamas, Haniyeh had been on Israel's hit list since Oct 7

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIRUT, JULY 31

ISMAIL HANIYEH, Hamas' supreme leader in exile who landed on Israel's hit list after the militant group staged its surprise October 7 attacks, was killed in an airstrike in the Iranian capital early Wednesday. He was 62.

Hamas said Haniyeh was killed at his residence in Tehran in an Israeli airstrike after he attended the swearing-in ceremony of Iran's new president. Israel has not commented on the accusation.

Haniyeh's death makes him the latest Hamas official to be killed by Israel since the Hamas-led October 7 attacks.

While Hamas' Gaza leader Yahya Sinwar is believed to have been the mastermind of the attacks, Haniyeh, seen as a more moderate force in Hamas, lauded them as a humiliating blow to Israel's aura of invincibility.



Ismail Haniyeh at Iran President Masoud Pezeshkian's swearing-in in Tehran on Tuesday. Reuters

"The Al-Aqsa flood was an earthquake that struck the heart of the Zionist entity and has made major changes at the world level," Haniyeh said in a speech in Iran during the funeral of late Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi in May.

Haniyeh was also under the eye of the International Criminal

Court, whose chief prosecutor sought arrest warrants against him and two other Hamas leaders, Sinwar and Mohammed Deif, for war crimes and crimes against humanity. Similar requests were issued for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister

Yoav Gallant.

Haniyeh lived in self-imposed exile in Qatar since 2019 and the threats against him did not prevent him from travelling.

His role in Hamas leadership also cost him his closest relatives. In April, an Israeli airstrike in Gaza killed three of Haniyeh's sons. Hamas said four of the leader's grandchildren were also killed as well as his sister in a separate strike last month.

Haniyeh, who was born in Gaza's urban Shati refugee camp, joined Hamas when it was founded in 1987. He served as an aid to Ahmad Yassin, the group's founder, and rose throughout the years until he became its top political leader in 2017.

Hani Masri, a veteran Palestinian analyst who met Haniyeh several times, said the late leader's personality was a natural fit for the head of the group's political bureau in Doha. He described him as having been sociable and well spoken.

EXPLAINED
E

All eyes on Yahya Sinwar

WHILE HANIYEH was nominally Hamas's political chief, his influence was more limited than the title suggested. Yahya Sinwar, its military leader, wielded a decisive veto on any cease-fire proposal due to his control on the ground in the enclave, according to US and Israeli officials. A number of Hamas leaders, including Sinwar, are seen as more radical than Haniyeh, who was a relatively pragmatic counterpoint. His death "will make a cease-fire much more difficult to achieve," said Hugh Lovatt, a senior policy fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations.

No talks on new political chief now, says Hamas

Beirut: Hamas has a history of swift and smooth replacement of fallen leaders killed in Israeli airstrikes. But after Ismail Haniyeh's assassination in Iran's capital, "we are not discussing this matter now," a Hamas official tells The Associated Press when asked about the process.

The group's Shura council, the main consultative body, is expected to meet soon, likely after Haniyeh's funeral in Qatar, to name a new successor.

One expert on Palestinian organizations says the choice is likely between Khaled Mashaal, a veteran Hamas official and former leader, and Khalil al-Hayyah, a powerful figure within Hamas who was close to Haniyeh.

Hamas' new political leader will have to decide on whether to continue the military option, and become essentially a guerrilla and underground group, or choose a leader that can offer political compromises. That's an unlikely option at this stage. **AP**

CAMPAIGN STILL SILENT ON V-P NOMINEE

Harris to hold 1st rally with running mate next week in Philadelphia



Vice President Kamala Harris arrives for a campaign rally in Atlanta on Tuesday. AP

REID J. EPSTEIN
WASHINGTON, JULY 31

VICE PRESIDENT Kamala Harris will hold her first rally with her running mate next Tuesday in Philadelphia, the first stop in a four-day tour of the battleground states next week, her campaign said on Tuesday night.

Harris's campaign insisted that the travel schedule did not mean anything about whom she might select as her vice-presidential nominee, though one contender, Gov. Josh Shapiro of Pennsylvania, was raised in the Philadelphia suburbs.

Philadelphia is also the biggest city in the largest battleground state, and happens to be within an easy train ride from both New York and Washington, the home bases for much of the national news media.

After the Tuesday rally in Philadelphia, Harris and her running mate will on Wednesday begin a circuit with stops in western Wisconsin; Detroit; Raleigh, N.C.; Savannah, Ga.;

Phoenix; and Las Vegas, the campaign said.

The second stop in western Wisconsin is within the Minneapolis television market, where voters have long been familiar with Gov. Tim Walz of Minnesota, who is also considered one of Ms. Harris's leading options for a running mate.

The travel schedule released by the campaign suggests that Ms. Harris will name her running mate no later than next Tuesday, earlier than the dead-

line on Aug. 7 that her campaign set last week to have the vice-presidential nominee in place. Reuters was first to report that she was scheduled to campaign with her running mate next week.

While the vice president's team began the search for a running mate by seeking vetting materials from a dozen people, just five are said to remain in serious consideration: Shapiro; Walz; Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona; Gov. Andy Beshear of Kentucky; and Pete Buttigieg, the transportation secretary. **NYT**



Police fire teargas as protesters return to Bangladesh streets

REUTERS
DHAKA, JULY 31

POLICE IN Bangladesh fired tear gas and lobbed sound grenades on Wednesday to scatter protesters marching to demonstrate against violence that killed at least 150 people this month during student-led agitation against job reservations.

Police said they had to use force when protesters in Sylhet broke through barricades to head for the courts.

"We requested the protesters to move from the road, but they didn't listen and instead attacked the police, forcing us to disperse them with tear gas and stun grenades," said regional deputy commissioner Azbahar Ali Sheikh.

Dhaka, the capital, and the southern port city of Chittagong were among several places where police and protesters scuffled, domestic media said.

The number of casualties was not immediately clear, though media reported some injuries and detentions. Wednesday's "March for Justice" was called by the Students Against Discrimination group that was at the forefront of protests against quotas.

Although the students had agreed to call off their protest after the Supreme Court scrapped most quotas on July 21, they turned out again to demonstrate against the deaths, arrests, and government intimidation in this month's violence.

International rights groups have condemned close to 10,000 arrests over the past two weeks. At an event in Dhaka, Hasina said Bangladesh had appealed to the United Nations and various international bodies for help.

"We seek their assistance in conducting a proper investigation and ensuring punishment for those responsible," she added.

Stabbings in UK's Southport spur violence, police brace for escalation

REUTERS
SOUTHPORT, JULY 31

POLICE ARE prepared for further trouble in the English seaside town of Southport after violent clashes followed the deaths of three young girls in a frenzied knife attack at a dance class, the area's top officer said Wednesday.

A 17-year-old male was in police custody on suspicion of murder and attempted murder after the bloody rampage on Monday at a "Taylor Swift yoga and dance



People attend a vigil for the victims of the knife attack in Southport on Tuesday. Reuters

workshop", a summer vacation event for children aged 6 to 11.

More than 50 officers suffered injuries in disturbances in Southport on Tuesday night that took place after false information that the suspect behind the stabbings the day before was a radical Islamist migrant.

"Just to reassure the communities of Southport, who I am sure are really worried about 'are we going to see this again tonight?' - we are absolutely planning for this evening and for the weekend ahead," said Serena Kennedy, chief constable of Merseyside Police.

Russian military begins third round of tactical nuclear drills

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MOSCOW, JULY 31

THE RUSSIAN military on Wednesday began a third round of drills with tactical nuclear weapons, part of the Kremlin's messaging to force the West to limit its support for Ukraine.

The Russian Defence Ministry said the drills will feature units of the central and southern military districts armed with Iskander short-range missiles. They will practice receiving nuclear



People take cover during a drone attack in Kharkiv on Wednesday. Reuters

weapons for storage and deploying them to launch areas. The

maneuvers will also include air force units that will arm their warplanes with nuclear weapons and perform patrol flights.

Meanwhile, Ukraine's air force said on Wednesday it repelled one of Russia's largest drone attacks of the war overnight, shooting down all 89 drones launched at Kyiv and other areas. The attack primarily targeted Kyiv and the surrounding region where authorities said more than 40 drones were shot down. An air raid alert remained in place most of the night.

WITH REUTERS INPUTS

THE 62-YEAR-OLD WAS A HOUSEHOLD NAME IN BRITAIN FOR OVER TWO DECADES

Former BBC top news anchor pleads guilty to indecent child pictures charges

SAM TOBIN
LONDON, JULY 31

FORMER BRITISH TV presenter Huw Edwards, the long-time face of the BBC's flagship news programme, pleaded guilty on Wednesday to three counts of making indecent pictures of children.

Edwards was the BBC's highest paid journalist and top news anchor until he quit in April, following allegations he had 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, which caps a dramatic fall from grace, was his first in public since then.

Edwards made his way through a throng of photographers and camera crews into London's Westminster Magistrates' Court, where he admitted having been sent several indecent images of children between December 2020 and August 2021.

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", in-



Huw Edwards arrives at a London Court on Wednesday. AP

cluding 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.

PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEOS Hope said seven of the 41 images were of the most serious kind and that two of those seven were pornographic videos of a child possibly aged between seven and nine years old. The last indecent image was

sent to Edwards in August 2021, when the man who sent it said "the male in the film was quite young-looking and that he has more images which are illegal", Hope said.

He added that Edwards told the male "not to send him illegal images and no more are sent from this point", though the chat continues and further legal pornographic images were sent.

Edwards' lawyer Philip Evans emphasised that the charges to which his client had indicated guilty pleas related only to images that were sent to him via

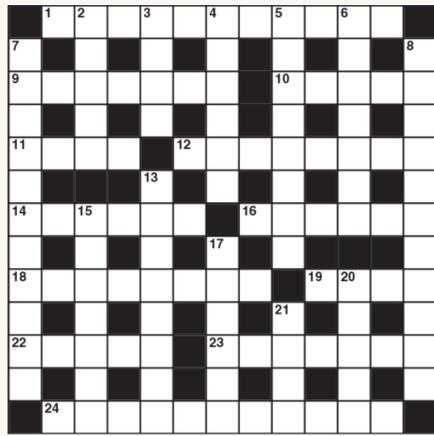
WhatsApp.

"There is no suggestion in this case that Mr Edwards has in any way made, in the traditional sense of the word, any images in any physical way or created any images of any sort," Evans said.

Edwards made no comment as he left the court building.

Claire Brinton of Britain's Crown Prosecution Service said in a statement: "Accessing indecent images of underage people perpetuates the sexual exploitation of children, which has deep, long-lasting trauma on these victims." **REUTERS**

CROSSWORD 5431



- ACROSS**
- 1 Recovering from the hardest part of a steep climb (7,4)
 - 9 Excluded from participation without a chance (3,2,2)
 - 10 Inert form of chemical of growing importance (5)
 - 11 Painter involved in yoga (4)
 - 12 In the autumn boot out this (8)
 - 14 Mince pie to include a drug (6)
 - 16 Open the brandy with the game and get drunk (6)
 - 18 Its contents go to pot (3,5)
 - 19 Concept that's less than perfect (4)
 - 22 Fast and quiet in attack (5)
 - 23 Smouldering anger? (7)
 - 24 Public announcements of secret rites (6,5)
- DOWN**
- 2 A record number of runners in the field (5)
 - 3 You'd expect to see him in the height of fashion (4)
 - 4 People going into an assembly (6)
 - 5 New layer not in florid style (8)
 - 6 Competitor, presumably not an outsider (7)
 - 7 It's helpful to carry out a successful revolution (2,1,4,4)
 - 8 What dead men do on being held up by informers (4,2,5)
 - 13 Take an attitude over something that's beneath you (8)
 - 15 Having trouble, so off to Spain (2,1,4)
 - 17 Nowadays the opening is loose (6)
 - 20 Study directions altogether stupid (5)
 - 21 Cliff sometimes left by accident (4)

Solutions Crossword 5430 Across: 1 Rumpus, 4 Ascribes, 9 Ageing, 10 True love, 12 Sang, 13 Aries, 14 Curt, 17 Disinfectant, 20 Bacon and eggs, 23 Laud, 24 Umber, 25 Etra, 28 Goatherd, 29 Skates, 30 Thoughts, 31 Patron Down: 1 Rhapsody, 2 Meekness, 3 Urns, 5 Street trader, 6 Reel, 7 Brogue, 8 Sheets, 11 Order of merit, 15 On tap, 16 Snide, 18 Agitator, 19 Assassin, 21 Slight, 22 Rubato, 26 Thug, 27 Skua

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Some days you're a __, some days you're a __. -Price Cobb (3...10)

NEIIS EIINDDH

CELNU ELOBGW

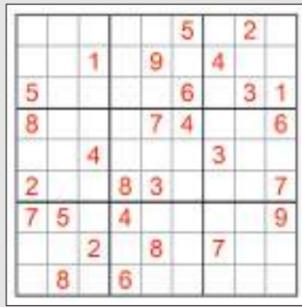
SOLUTION: NISEI UNCLE, HIDDEN, BOWLER. Answer: Some days you're a bug, some days you're a windshield. -Price Cobb

Difficulty Level 3s

Instructions
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 5638



NORTHERN RAILWAY

Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement System

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following item:-

S. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
1	09242042	Key Bolt With Nut	281142 Nos.	26.08.2024
2	07240473	Foot Step Complete for LHB Coaches	5432 Nos.	27.08.2024
3	09242411	Centre Pivot Liner	10701 Nos.	27.08.2024
4	19240885	Twin Beam LED Head Light	848 Set	27.08.2024
5	19240632	Elastic Ring Adalathan Ring	884 Nos.	27.08.2024
6	07240207	Control Arm Assembly Left	935 Nos.	28.08.2024
7	07240146	Secondary Lateral Damper for Fiat Bogie	1769 Nos.	30.08.2024
8	07241825	Face Plate, for Buffer Plunger	7753 Nos.	02.09.2024
9	01241778	Structure Bond 40mm x 6mm MS Flat	5929 Nos.	09.09.2024
10	07241972	Kit of Brake Gear Bushes	3422 Set	18.11.2024

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained.

Tender Notice No.: 38/2024-25 Dated 31.07.2024 2341/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P. C.

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Dinesh S/o Padam Singh** R/o C-133, Tagore Garden Khyala, Delhi have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 356/2020 U/s 188/269 IPC.**, has been registered at **P.S. Khyala, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Dinesh** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the **Dinesh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused of **Dinesh** of **FIR No. 356/2020 U/s 188/269 IPC., registered at PS. Khyala, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **07.09.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Sukriti Singh, Ld. MM,
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/9660/WD/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a male person namely **Sompal S/o Unknown** R/o Apna Ghar Ashram Pooth Khurd, Delhi-110039 has been missing/ kidnapped from BSA Hospital Sec 6 Rohini, **Delhi** since 19.07.2024 at 10:00 AM In this regard, a **DD No. 84A,** has been registered at **P.S.: North Rohini, Delhi.** The description of the missing male person as under.

Age: 50 years, **Height:** 5'7" **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Slim, **Wearing:** Blue Colour Kurta & Pajama, Sleeper in the feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. Any person is having information or clue about this missing male person may kindly inform to the following.

Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in
Fax No. 011-24368639
DP/9486/RD/2024

S.H.O
PS: North Rohini, Delhi
Ph No. 011-27048211

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Rupa Tirkey, D/o: Budhan Tirkey, R/o: WP- 336, Village Wazirpur, Ashok Vihar, Delhi** has been kidnapped/ missing from her residence since 19.07.2024 at 3.00 p.m. In this regard a missing report case vide **FIR No.244/2024 dated 20.07.2024 U/s. 137(2) BNS** has been registered at **PS-Ashok Vihar, Delhi.**

Her Physical description is as under:-
Sex: Female, **Age:** 16 Years, **Height:** 4' 9", **Complexion:** Dark, **Built:** Normal, **Face:** Round. **Wearing:** Blue Colour Salwar Suit and Blue Colour Slipper.

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 having any information about this person please inform undersigned.

SHO
PS- Ashok Vihar, Delhi
Ph. No. 011-25704008, 25704009

DP/9897/NW/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely: **Rizwan, S/o: Nizam Ahmad, R/o: K-5/16, Gali No.6, Bajrangbali Mohalla, Moujpur, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide **FIR No. 79/2016 U/s 279/337 IPC** registered at **PS Welcome North East District, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said **Rizwan** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Rizwan** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Rizwan** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before **03.09.2024**.

By Order
Aridaman Singh Cheema
MM-03, Shahdara Court No.19,
Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/10000/NE/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified Male (depicted in the photo) name: **Unknown,** residence and family is **Unknown** about 50 years of age was found dead in **Shop No. 20, Meharchand Market, Lodhi Colony, New Delhi on 13.07.2024.** In this regard a vide **FIR No./DD No. 17-A, Dated 13.07.2024** has been lodged at **PS Lodhi Colony, New Delhi.** The dead body was preserved for 72 Hrs in AIIMS Hospital Mortuary. His physical description

is as under:-
Sex: Male, **Age:** About 50 years, **Height:** 5' 9" ft., **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **ID Mark:** Mole on left side of nose, **Wearing:** Blue colour Shirt and dark green colour Dhoti.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers:-

SHO
PS: Lodhi Colony, New Delhi
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **Ph.: 011-24611753**
E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **Mob.: 8750870829**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641
Fax No.: 011-24368639 **DP/10096/SD/2024**

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Deepak, S/o Ramgopal, R/o: A-88, Gali No. 6, Balmiki Chowk, Jagatpuri, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 651/2023, U/s 454/380/411/34 IPC, P.S. Jagatpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Deepak** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Deepak** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Deepak** accused of **FIR No. 651/2023, U/s 454/380/411/34 IPC, P.S. Jagatpuri, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **26.09.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Aayushi Saxena
Metropolitan Magistrate-05
Room No. 07
Karkarduma Court, Delhi

DP/9956/SHD/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that this boy (depicted in the photo) namely **Rahul S/o Santosh Kumar R/o Gali No. Zero, Village Wazirabad, Delhi** has been missing/ kidnapped from **J-207, Sanjay Basti, Timarpur, Delhi** since 23.07.2024 at 23:09 Hrs. In this regard a **FIR No./DD No. 115-A, Dated 23.07.2024** has been registered at **PS Timarpur, Distt. North Delhi.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this boy but no clue has come to light so far. His physical description is as under:-
Sex: Male, **Age:** 20 years, **Height:** 5' 8" ft., **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Long, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Black colour Shirt and blue colour Jeans and blue colour shoes in feet.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing/ kidnapped boy may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO
PS: Timarpur, Delhi
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **Ph.: 011-23812734, 23814421**
E-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641** **Mobile: 8750870130**
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 **DP/10069/N/2024**
Fax No.: 011-24368639

GOVT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF, WATER RESOURCES ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR

'e' Procurement Notice No. CEMKS 02 of 2024-25

1 Name of the work :- Protection to scoured bank on Nuna Karandia right embankment from village Bahakandia to Dhasahi.

2 Amount put to Tender :- Rs. 9,27,18,549/-

3 Bid Document Cost :- Rs. 10,000.00 (online)

4 E.M.D :- Rs. 9,27,200/-

5 Class of Contractor :- "A" Class & Special Class

6 Period of Completion :- 12 calendar months

7 Other details are as follows

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender Online for bidding		Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-1)
		From	To	
Chief Engineer & BM, Mahanadi Kathajodi System, Bhubaneswar	CEMKS MND 01 of 2024-25	03.08.2024 17.00 hrs	19.08.2024 17.30 hrs	20.08.2024 11.00 hrs

8 e-mail ID :- **celmbbsr@yahoo.co.in**

Further details conditions can be seen from the Govt. website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager
Mahanadi Kathajodi System
Bhubaneswar

OIPR 32252/11/0002/2425

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Name: Unknown @ Mishra, S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age:** About 30 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Oval, **Complexion:** Fair, **Identification:** Tatoo mark on right hand "मिश्रा, wearing dark grey colour T-shirt and light blue jeans was found dead on footpath near Nehru Nagar in the jurisdiction of **P. S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi.** In this regard **G.D. No. 20A dated 30.07.2024** has been lodged at **P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi.** Dead body has been preserved in the mortuary of Lady Harding Hospital, Delhi for 72 hours.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers.

SHO - P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi.
Tel. No. 011-25725652,
25751048, 8750870432

DP/10089/CD/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Azahar, S/o Riyaz, R/o Parkash Ka Makan, G.No. 01, Bhram Puri, Welcome Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR NO. 25845/2021, U/s 411/34 IPC,** registered at P.S.: Welcome, North East Distt, Delhi and the warrant has been returned writing upon it that the said accused **Azahar** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Azahar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Azahar** accused **FIR NO.25845/ 2021, U/s 411/34 IPC,** registered at P.S.: Welcome, North East Distt, 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 Court No. 19
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/10007/NE/2024
(Court Matter)

Appeal for Identification

General public is hereby informed that one person namely: **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age:** About 60-65 Yrs., **Height:** 5'0", **Sex:** Male, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** White Colour Kurta Pajama, **Place of Recovery:** Found Dead near MCD Office, Town Hall, Chandni Chowk, Delhi.

In this regard **DD No. 33A, Dated 29.07.2024** has been lodged at **Police Station: Kotwali, Delhi.** Any clue come to notice please inform undersigned.

SHO
PS.: Kotwali, Delhi
Ph.: 8750870121, 9873494176

DP/10094/N/2024

INDIAN English Newspaper

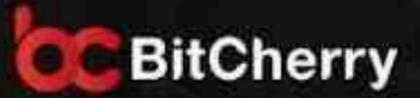
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