



Hindustan Times

FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.

Apple Mac

SUPERCHARGED

for college

With incredible performance and long-lasting battery life¹, Mac is made for campus life.



Go to [IndiaiStore.com](https://indiaistore.com) to find Apple Authorised Resellers near you.

₹10000* instant cashback on credit cards of |

	MacBook Air (with M2 chip)
MRP (incl. of all taxes), (256 GB, 1 N)	₹99900.00
Instant cashback	₹10000.00
Exchange bonus*	₹12000.00
Exchange value of your old laptop*	₹20000.00
Exchange Effective Price*	₹57900.00



Students and teachers can also avail discount up to 6% at select participating Apple Authorised Reseller stores.

*The limited period exclusive offer price of ₹57900.00 is computed on the MRP ₹99900.00 (incl. of all taxes) of MacBook Air M2, 256, (34.46 cm, 1 N). The illustrative Exchange Effective price calculated above on MRP is as reduced by ₹10000.00 Instant Cashback available on ICICI Bank Credit Card and SBI Credit Card Non-EMI and EMI & on ICICI Bank Debit Card EMI, and further reduced by exchange value of ₹20000.00 of Apple MQD32 MacBook Air (33.78 cm) Intel Core i5, 8GB RAM, 128GB HDD Model in a good working condition along with ₹12000.00 exchange bonus. The Instant Cashback offer of ₹10000.00 is valid exclusively on ICICI Bank Credit Card and SBI Credit Card Non-EMI and EMI & on ICICI Bank Debit Card EMI. The applicable Instant Cashback offer is valid for transactions made using Brand EMI option on Pine Labs and Paytm terminals and applicable on select online merchants via Pine Labs Payment Gateway. Processing fee and GST on interest component applicable as per Bank's terms and conditions. The Exchange bonus of up to ₹12000.00 is exclusively provided by the Apple Authorised Trade-in Provider (Cashify and Servify) at select stores at their sole discretion. Exchange bonus is valid only for transactions involving trade-in of eligible old devices valued at least ₹4000.00 or above. Eligible old devices valued between ₹4000.00 and ₹13000.00 will receive an exchange bonus of ₹7000.00 and devices above ₹13000.00 will receive an exchange bonus of ₹12000.00. The exchange bonus and trade-in value will be passed on as a credit or discount in the customer's invoice. Exchange Bonus offer can be clubbed with Cards cashback or Consumer Loans Offer. Customer's eligible old device trade-in value as diagnosed and assessed by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will be the final offer. Any other T&Cs as specified by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will apply. ¹Battery life varies by use and configuration. See apple.com/in/batteries for more information. The offers may be revised or withdrawn without any prior notice. Offer available till stocks last. An additional discount of up to 6% is available to eligible students and teachers for a limited period on select Mac products at select participating Apple Authorised Reseller stores at their sole discretion. For Terms & Conditions and store details log on to indiaistore.com. All trademarks, logos and brand names are the property of their respective owners. Product features vary by model. TM and © 2024 Apple Inc. All rights reserved.

There's never been a better time to switch to Mac.



MacBook Air

With the 34.46 cm (13.6") and 38.91 cm (15.3") models, there are more reasons than ever to choose MacBook Air. Supercharged by the M3 chip - and with up to 18 hours of battery life¹ - both laptops deliver incredible performance in a strikingly thin and ultra-portable design.

Go to [IndiaiStore.com](https://indiaistore.com) to find Apple Authorised Resellers near you.

₹10000* instant cashback on credit cards of



+

 Exchange bonus up to ₹12000*

+

Exchange value for old laptop of ₹20000*



Students and teachers can also avail discount up to 6% at select participating Apple Authorised Reseller stores.

*The Instant Cashback offer of ₹10000.00 is valid exclusively on ICICI Bank Credit Card and SBI Credit Card Non-EMI and EMI & on ICICI Bank Debit Card EMI. The applicable Instant Cashback offer is valid for transactions made using Brand EMI option on Pine Labs and Paytm terminals and applicable on select online merchants via Pine Labs Payment Gateway. Processing fee and GST on interest component applicable as per Bank's terms and conditions. Customers are advised to read the offer/agreement terms and conditions carefully. The Exchange bonus of up to ₹12000.00 is exclusively provided by the Apple Authorised Trade-in Provider (Cashify and Servify) at select stores at their sole discretion. Exchange bonus is valid only for transactions involving trade-in of eligible old devices valued at least ₹4000.00 or above. Eligible old devices valued between ₹4000.00 and ₹13000.00 will receive an exchange bonus of ₹7000.00 and devices above ₹13000.00 will receive an exchange bonus of ₹12000.00. The exchange bonus and trade-in value will be passed on as a credit or discount in the customer's invoice. Exchange Bonus offer can be clubbed with Cards cashback or Consumer Loans Offer. Customer's eligible old device trade-in value as diagnosed and assessed by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will be the final offer. Any other T&Cs as specified by Apple Authorised Trade-in Providers will apply. ¹Battery life varies by use and configuration. See apple.com/in/batteries for more information. The offers may be revised or withdrawn without any prior notice. Offer available till stocks last. An additional discount of up to 6% is available to eligible students and teachers for a limited period on select Mac products at select participating Apple Authorised Reseller stores at their sole discretion. For Terms & Conditions and store details log on to indiaistore.com. All trademarks, logos and brand names are the property of their respective owners. Product features vary by model. TM and © 2024 Apple Inc. All rights reserved.



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RISING RAJASTHAN

9-10-11 DEC 2024 • JAIPUR

REPLETE • RESPONSIBLE • READY



BHAJANLAL SHARMA
Chief Minister

NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

Rajasthan is Rising. Let's Grow Together!

Rajasthan has set out to realise Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of *Viksit Bharat@2047*, with its '*Viksit Rajasthan*' Action Plan for becoming a \$350 billion economy in next 5 years.

Rising Rajasthan goes beyond being an extraordinary 3-day Investment Summit.

It is the State's socio-economic transformational journey towards inclusive prosperity through... a journey with geographical equity, inclusivity, diversity, sustainability, promotion of MSMEs and job creation as its cornerstones.

The *Rising Rajasthan* Summit will be preceded by a series of Investor Meets in leading business cities across the country and the world, and Sector-focused Conclaves in Jaipur.

- 🌀 Rajasthan Opportunity Showcase
- 🌀 Strategic Sector Sessions
- 🌀 Country Sessions
- 🌀 One-on-one Business Meetings
- 🌀 MSME Conclave
- 🌀 Startup Conclave
- 🌀 Non-Resident Rajasthani Summit



Come, be a part of this Rising!

Department of Industries
Government of Rajasthan



Submit your Investment
Intent for MoU with
Government of Rajasthan



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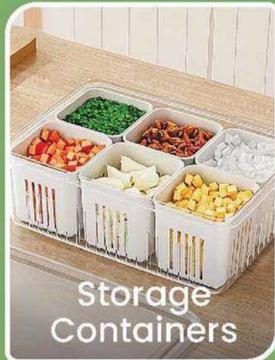
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UNDER ₹399



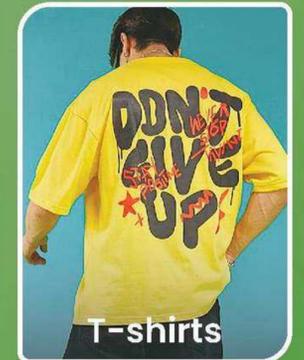
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MIN. 40% OFF



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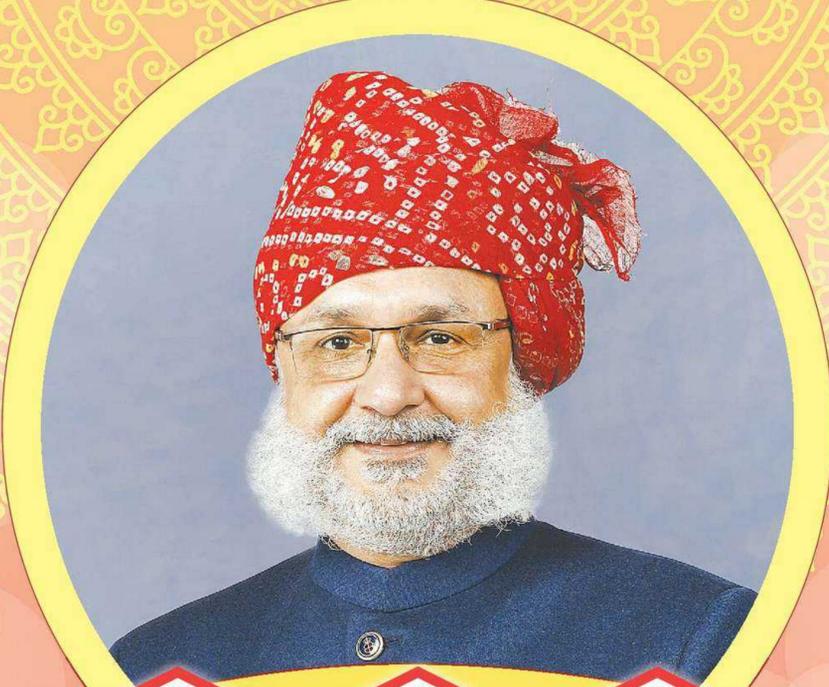
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10% OFF
on first app order*



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MDH

के चेयरमैन

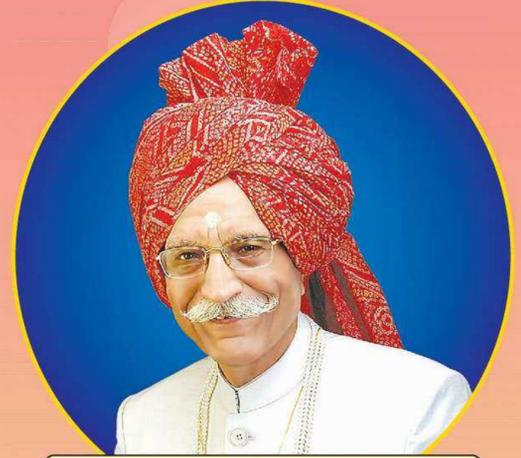
महाशय राजीव गुलाटी जी

के जन्मदिवस 2 अगस्त, 2024 पर हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएँ



Jyoti Gulati
Director MDH

Mahashay Rajeev Gulati
Chairman MDH



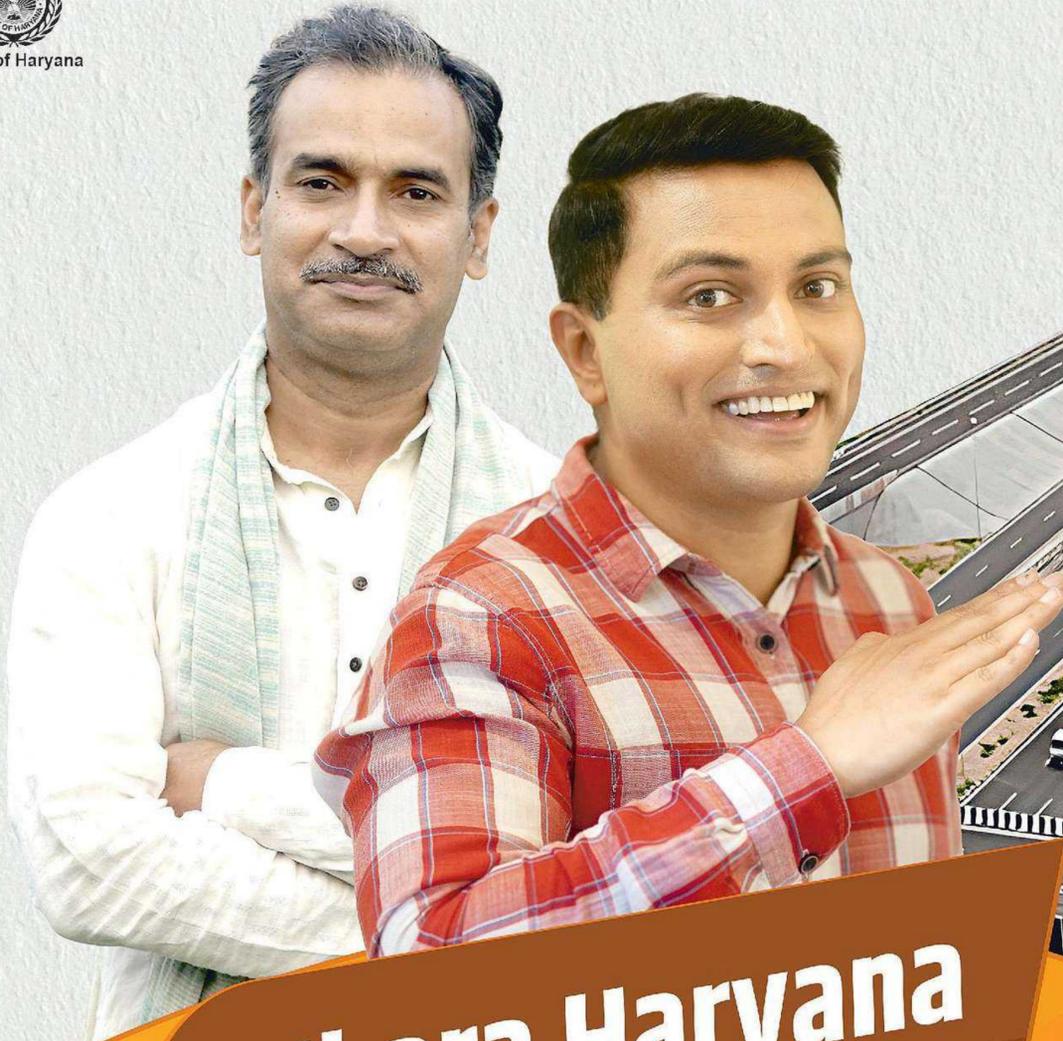
महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी
संस्थापक चेयरमैन, महाशियाँ दी हट्टी (प्रा०) लि०

महाशय चुन्नीलाल धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट एवं महाशय धर्मपाल धर्मार्थ ट्रस्ट द्वारा संचालित एवं संवर्धित संस्थान :

- महाशियाँ दी हट्टी प्रा० लि०, (दिल्ली, गुडगांव, फरीदाबाद, कुण्डली नागौर)
- सुपर डेलिकेसीज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड नई दिल्ली
- माता चन्नन देवी अस्पताल, (जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली)
- एम.डी.एच. इंटरनेशनल स्कूल (जनकपुरी एवं द्वारका, नई दिल्ली)
- महाशय चुन्नीलाल सरस्वती बाल मन्दिर (हरी नगर, नई दिल्ली)
- माता लीलावती सरस्वती विद्या मन्दिर, (टेगौर गार्डन, नई दिल्ली)
- महाशय धर्मपाल विद्या मन्दिर, (बेदगी, कर्नाटक)
- श्री संजीव गुलाटी चिकित्सालय एवं शोध केन्द्र (ऋषिकेश)
- माता लीलावती वैदिक संस्कृति प्रशिक्षण केंद्र (उदयपुर, राजस्थान)
- माता चन्नन देवी आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल, (पिल्लू खेड़ा, हरियाणा)
- महाशय धर्मपाल चैरिटेबल सोसाइटी
- महाशय धर्मपाल दयानन्द आर्य विद्या निकेतन (आसाम, एम.पी. झारखण्ड एवं नागालैण्ड)
- एम.डी.एच. गऊशाला (अजमेर, नागौर - राजस्थान)
- माता लीलावती श्री कृष्ण वैदिक कन्या विद्यालय (खुशीपुरा, मथुरा)
- एम.डी.एच.परिसर निर्वाण न्यास (अजमेर, राजस्थान)
- महाशय धर्मपाल वेद रिसर्च फाउण्डेशन (कालीकट, केरल)
- महाशय धर्मपाल हार्ट इंस्टीट्यूट (जनकपुरी, नई दिल्ली)
- एम.डी.एच. पार्क, (नागौर)
- महाशय धर्मपाल अंतरराष्ट्रीय अतिथि गृह, ग्रेटर केलाश, नई दिल्ली
- महाशय संजीव कुमार धर्मार्थ औषधालय, नालागढ़ (हिमाचल)
- महाशय धर्मपाल यज्ञशाला आर्य समाज, त्रिनगर, नई दिल्ली
- महाशय धर्मपाल स्वावलंबना गृह, सिरसा जेल, सिरसा (हरियाणा)
- महाशय धर्मपाल सर्वोदय विद्यालय मलारना चौड़ (राजस्थान)
- गुरुकुल यमुनावट मंडावली फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा)
- महाशय धर्मपाल सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं वैदिक शोध केंद्र हल्दीघाटी मार्ग उदयपुर
- महाशय धर्मपाल सर्वोदय विद्यालय एवं वैदिक शोध केंद्र नागौर (राज०)
- श्री सत्य सनातन वेद मंदिर रोहिणी, नई दिल्ली
- स्वामी आत्मानंद वैदिक गुरुकुल मलारना चौड़ जिला सवाई माधोपुर (राजस्थान)
- आर्योदय गुरुकुल संस्थान (जयपुर राजस्थान)
- आर्य समाज कोटपूतली, जिला जयपुर (राजस्थान)
- हवन उत्थान जन कल्याण समिति, मण्डावली, (दिल्ली)
- महर्षि दयानन्द योग धाम, अलवर (राजस्थान)
- सर्व भवन्तु सुखिनः ट्रस्ट, गाजियाबाद (यू० पी०)
- वानप्रस्थ साधक आश्रम (गुजरात)
- आर्य समाज श्री विजयनगर श्रीगंगानगर (राजस्थान)
- आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल शिवगंज, सिराही (राजस्थान)
- महर्षि पतंजलि इंटरनेशनल योग विद्यापीठ, मुजफ्फरनगर (यू० पी०)
- आर्यवीर दल उत्तर प्रदेश, गुरुकुल विश्वविद्यालय, वृंदावन
- श्री गोपाल गोशाला लोहारू, भिवानी (हरियाणा)
- महाशय धर्मपाल ओपन एअर थियेटर, भिवानी जेल (हरियाणा)
- महाशय धर्मपाल चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट टंकारा (गुजरात)
- महाशय धर्मपाल चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट अजमेर (राजस्थान)
- महात्मा रामलाल ट्रस्ट इंदरपुरी (दिल्ली)
- सनातन धर्म मंदिर गुरुग्राम
- महाशय धर्मपाल संस्कृत भवन गुरु विरजानंद संस्कृत कुलम हरी नगर, नई दिल्ली
- युगपुरुष महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) चैरिटेबल भवन एवं डायग्नोस्टिक सेंटर X-25 कड़कड़डूमा इंस्टीट्यूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली
- युगपुरुष संत महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) चैरिटेबल कैंसर निदान सहयोग हॉस्पिटल एवं रिसर्च सेंटर X-25 कड़कड़डूमा इंस्टीट्यूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली
- युगपुरुष संत महाशय धर्मपाल गुलाटी (एम.डी.एच.) आयुर्वेदिक, पंचकर्मा, योग एवं प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा स्वास्थ्य वर्धक एवं रोग निवारण धर्मार्थ संस्थान, खसरा नं० 259, 275, 276, ग्राम ईशाक नगर, तहसील मोदीनगर, जिला गाजियाबाद यूपी
- विश्वारा कन्या गुरुकुल रुड़की जिला रोहतक (हरियाणा)
- श्री महुयानन्द कन्या गुरुकुल महाविद्यालय चोटीपुरा, (उत्तर प्रदेश)
- संजीव गुलाटी स्मृति चिकित्सालय वन्देमातरम कुंज गंगा भोगपुर तल्ला पौड़ी गढ़वाल (उत्तराखंड)
- महर्षि दयानन्द वेद-विद्या आर्य गुरुकुल नली खुर्द (करनाल)
- श्रीमद् दयानन्द विद्यालय 119, गौतम नगर नई दिल्ली
- श्रीमद् दयानन्द आर्य ज्योतिर्मठ गुरुकुल, पौन्धा, देहरादून (उत्तराखंड)
- बाबा ब्रह्मदास गऊशाला (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- बाबा जमीन नाथ गऊशाला सेवा समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- जय बाबा मन्थानाथ गऊशाला, छातर
- जय बाबा धुणेवाला विकलांग गऊशाला समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- श्री कृष्ण गौशाला, नगुरां (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- नन्दी सेवा संघ, उचाना मण्डी (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- श्री गौशाला बाबा फुल्लू साध (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- जय दादा खेड़ा गऊशाला समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- बाबा दलीप गिरी डेरा गऊशाला समिति (जीन्द) हरियाणा
- श्रीमद्वयानंद उत्कर्ष आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल मेरठ
- आर्य समाज विजयनगर (अजमेर)राजस्थान
- महर्षि दयानन्द आर्य गुरुकुल एवं गोशाला भादस जिला मेवात हरियाणा
- आर्यवत खेल महासंघ जहांगीरपुरी, नई दिल्ली
- महर्षि दयानन्द सेवा समिति (पं.) जनपद एटा, उत्तर प्रदेश
- आर्य समाज निरसा धनबाद
- वेदविद्या शोध संस्थान (न्यास) कुरुक्षेत्र (हरियाणा)
- वेदविद्या आर्य गुरुकुल कन्धमाल (ओडिशा)
- वानप्रस्थ साधक आश्रम साबरकांटा (गुजरात)
- आर्य समाज सैक्टर-11, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली
- सार्वदेशिक आर्य वीर दल, मथुरा (उ.प्र.)
- महर्षि दयानन्द आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल समिति, शाजापुर (म.प्र.)
- आर्य समाज निरसा, धनबाद झारखण्ड
- आर्य कन्या गुरुकुल, शिवगंज, गुरुकुल - आर्य कन्या विद्यापीठ नजीबाबाद (उ.प्र.)
- आर्य गुरुकुल शिक्षा प्रबंध समिति, नोएडा (उ.प्र.)
- गुरु विरजानन्द स्मारक समिति ट्रस्ट, करतारपुर जालन्धर (पंजाब)
- श्रीमती चन्दावती कन्या गुरुकुल संस्कृत विद्यापीठ, कासगंज (उ.प्र.)
- वैदिक राष्ट्रनिर्माण गुरुकुल, लखनऊ (उ.प्र.)
- स्वामी कृष्णानन्द आर्य बालाश्रय चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट वेद मन्दिर ब्रह्मपुरी, दिल्ली
- आर्य समाज पूर्वी पंजाबी बाग, दिल्ली
- आर्य समाज शकसपुर, दिल्ली
- दर्शन योग महाविद्यालय, सुंदरपुर कुटिया, रोहतक
- दर्शनयोग धाम, संस्कृतिवन, गांधीनगर, गुजरात



Govt. of Haryana



Mhara Haryana

Non-Stop Haryana

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40 highways and expressways pass through Haryana

Construction of Ambala-Kotputli Greenfield Corridor (152-D) completed at a cost of ₹10,646 crore

The construction of 1350 km long national highways at a cost of ₹40,000 crore over the last 10 years

Ongoing construction of 11 new national highways totalling 1069 km

**Double Engine Government
Modern Roads Continuous**





Hindustan Times

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India shines at Olympics.



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Neeraj Santoshi and Vedant Chandhel
letters@hindustantimes.com

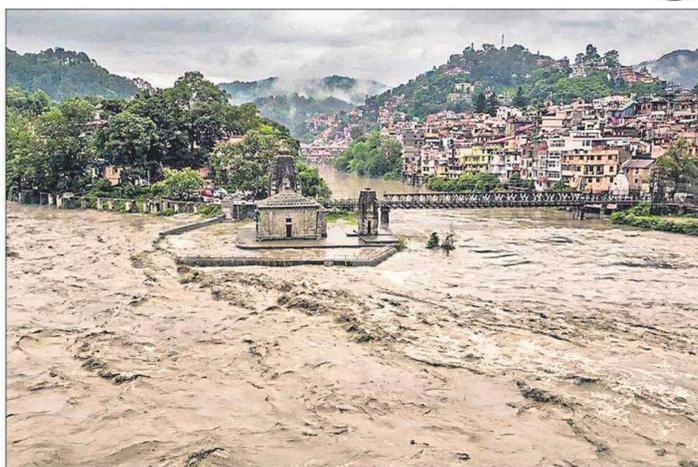
DEHRADUN/SHIMLA: Torrential rain pummeled Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand following a string of cloudbursts on Thursday morning, leading to brimming rivers sweeping away houses, wrecking bridges and decimating roads — the latest ecological challenges for the fragile hill states that have been battered by the climate crisis.

Authorities in the two states said that at least 17 people were killed and several others feared washed away, warning that the chances of finding survivors were dim despite relief efforts by teams from the army, the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), apart from state disaster relief forces and local police.

Four people were killed and over 50 missing following cloudbursts in Himachal Pradesh, where rains washed away key public infrastructure, including parts of the main highway between Chandigarh and Manali, according to officials aware of the matter. Meanwhile, four people were still in a tunnel that was cut off after a landslide in Kullu district, with authorities pausing rescue efforts after sunset, adding that they will resume on Friday morning.

In neighbouring Uttarakhand, at least 13 people were killed, six injured and one person remained

continued on →13



Water levels rose in the Beas due to a cloudburst, leading to heavy rain in Mandi on Thursday. ANI

56% of the rain in city this season has fallen on just three days: Data

Abhishek Jha
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NEW DELHI: Large swathes of Delhi were inundated on July 31, just over a month after a similar deluge following torrential rain in the early hours of 28 June. Even by the relatively recent trend of the monsoon across

India becoming more patchy — averages, the only thing that seems to matter to the India Meteorological Department, are in line with long-term trends, but are achieved by a few days of intense rain — the monsoon rainfall in Delhi in the first two months of the season is an outlier. According to gridded data

from IMD, Delhi received 56% of the total rain since June 1 — the official start of the monsoon season — in only three days. In the 1971-2020 average, which is currently used as the Long Period Average (LPA) or normal, the corresponding amount of rain in the same period took the city eighteen days. →P4



Tanuja Bisht, her son Priyansh

GHAZIPUR DEATHS UNDERLINE CITY'S INFRA COLLAPSE

NEW DELHI: A 23-year-old woman and her three-year-old son died after they allegedly fell into a waterlogged drain managed by DDA near the Ghazipur market in east Delhi, police said. The family of the victims alleged that a jurisdictional issue triggered a dispute between the Delhi and Uttar Pradesh police, delayed the search by two hours.

These deaths, among five in Delhi after Wednesday's rain, are emblematic of the infrastructural malaise that rears its head in the Capital every monsoon. →P4

AFTER OUTRAGE, DRIVER GETS BAIL OVER DROWNING OF IAS ASPIRANTS

Deepankar Malviya
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NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Thursday granted bail to the car driver who was held and charged with culpable homicide in connection with the death of three IAS aspirants in the flooded basement of an Old Rajinder Nagar coaching centre on July 27, noting that the charges against him were applied in "over-enthusiasm." →P5

Top court allows SC/ST subcategories in quota

Utkarsh Anand
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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday ruled that state governments have the authority to create subclassifications within the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) for the purpose of preferential reservations, in a verdict that will have far-reaching implications for reservation policies for marginalised communities.

By allowing subclassification, the Supreme Court has opened the door for states to identify and provide targeted benefits to the most disadvantaged subgroups within the broader SC/ST categories, provided they base their decisions on empirical evidence and rational criteria.

The decision by a seven-judge Constitution bench was passed with a 6-1 majority, with the

Court on creamy layer

EXCLUSION FROM QUOTA

Justice BR Gavai, in a judgment supported by CJI DY Chandrachud and 4 other judges, called for excluding creamy layer from SC/ST quota.

LIMITING BENEFITS

Justice Pankaj Mithal held in his judgment that reservation benefits should be extended to only one generation in a category.

"Reservation should be meant for only the first generation among a category and if the second generation has come up then benefits of reservation shall not be given."

The State must evolve a policy for identifying the creamy layer even from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so as to exclude them from the benefit of affirmative action.

majority overruling the apex court's earlier decision in the 2004 EV Chinniah case, which had held that subclassification within SC/STs was impermissi-

ble as it treated these groups as homogenous classes.

"Historical and empirical evidence demonstrates that the

continued on →15

Grisly Wayanad toll: 190 bodies, 100 body parts; hunt continues

Vishnu Varma
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WAYANAD: The devastation caused by landslides in Wayanad has taken a macabre turn, with rescuers now scouring through layers of slush and wrecked homes to retrieve body parts and ascertain the exact toll of the tragedy. Till Thursday, officials found 190 bodies and 100 body parts as the hopes of finding nearly 206 missing people alive waned in the north Kerala district amid stories of grief from families of the victims.

Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also visited the disaster-hit region, taking stock of the relief efforts and promising to help in the rehabilitation of scores of people.

"So far, the number of bodies found is 190. Additionally, we have retrieved 100 body parts. The number of missing is 206," revenue minister K Rajan said.

On ground zero of Kerala's worst monsoon tragedy since



Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in Wayanad. PTI

2018, teams from the army and the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) built a 190-foot Bailey bridge over the raging Iruvazhinji river, making it possible to press heavy machinery and ambulances into the rescue efforts.

"We need to search the entire area with heavy equipment which can move on the bridge. It will speed up all rescue and retrieval efforts," VT Mathew, a senior army official in charge of the rescue operations, said.

Sultan MK, 47, a daily wage

continued on →13
→RELATED STORIES ON P8

GST COLLECTION CROSSES ₹1.82L-CR, 3RD HIGHEST EVER

NEW DELHI: The gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue crossed ₹1.82 lakh crore in July, the third highest since the new tax regime was rolled out seven years ago, with a 10.3% year-on-year increase on the back of stricter compliance and a buoyant economy, according to the government data.

After refunding ₹16,282 crore out of the ₹182,075 crore gross revenue, the net collection in the month saw a 14.4% jump at ₹1,65,793 crore, showed the monthly collection data released on Thursday. →P9

8 INDIANS KILLED FIGHTING UKRAINE WAR, HOUSE TOLD

Rezaul H Laskar
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NEW DELHI: The government informed Parliament on Thursday that eight Indians have been killed while serving with the Russian Army so far, double the number formally acknowledged by the external affairs ministry. It added that the exact number of Indian nationals recruited into Russia's forces is not known. →P9

EC DIRECTIVE ADDS TO J&K ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS BUZZ

SRINAGAR/CHANDIGARH: The Election Commission has asked the administration of Jammu and Kashmir to transfer the bureaucrats posted in their home districts or those serving at the same location for three years, in a fresh indication that assembly polls in the Union territory were imminent.

A similar order has been issued to the chief secretaries of Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand, where polls are due later this year. →P10

IN SC, DELHI CHIEF SECY DEFENDS LG OVER TREE-FELLING

Abraham Thomas
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NEW DELHI: Delhi chief secretary Naresh Kumar, in a fresh affidavit, has told the Supreme Court that the Capital's lieutenant governor VK Saxena was "not told" about the need to obtain the permission of the apex court for the felling of trees in the southern Ridge during his visit to the site on February 2. →P6

Cool as Kusale: Shooter picks up India's third medal at Paris 2024

Swapnil Kusale had made a promise to himself soon after a spectacular implosion saw him go from sniffling an individual medal to sliding to fourth at last year's Asian Games. "That had to be my last."

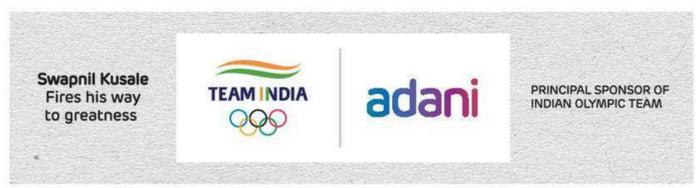
Less than a year on, at a stage when promises tend to evaporate under the heat of extreme mental duress, Kusale kept it. And off he went, rising this time instead of receding, from sixth to fifth to third in a testing final.

The 28-year-old ensured he ended there, delivering an impressive men's 50m rifle 3 positions bronze medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics with a score of 451.4 only below Ukraine's silver medalist Serhiy Kulish (461.3) and China's world record holder and champion Liu Yukun (463.6).

The medal is a first for India in the event, and the third at these Games. →P20



India's bronze winner Swapnil Kusale clicks a selfie with the other two medallists on Thursday. AP



Swapnil Kusale Fires his way to greatness. PRINCIPAL SPONSOR OF INDIAN OLYMPIC TEAM

Milestone for Nifty as index scales 25k peak

Nishant Kumar
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MUMBAI: The stock market closed at new highs on Thursday with the Nifty crossing the 25,000-point milestone, led by index heavyweights HDFC Bank and Reliance Industries.

On the fifth straight day of gains, the Nifty rose 60 points, or 0.24%, to close at 25,010.90, while the Sensex rose 126 points, or

0.15%, to close at 81,867.55. During the day, the two benchmark indices touched new highs of 25,078.30 and 82,129.49 respectively.

The broader markets were a different story. The BSE Midcap index fell 0.80%, while the Smallcap index lost 0.70%, over concerns of steep valuations.

Major European markets fell, reacting to corporate earnings. However, US stock futures were in the green as the US Fed signalled that rate cuts could start in September.

{ DOUBLE JEOPARDY } AUTHORITIES TURN BLIND EYE

Amid rain mess, kanwariyas with boomboxes add to traffic chaos, give Capital sleepless nights

Karn Pratap Singh
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NEW DELHI: At a time when much of Delhi is plagued by perennial waterlogging, a second spectre has worsened the plight of residents generally and motorists in particular — a massive increase in the number of Kanwar Yatra participants crossing the Capital over the past few days.

With agencies unwilling to act against them, hundreds of pilgrims have taken over several critical roads and junctions across the city, blaring deafening music from giant boomboxes installed on trucks, which sometimes ply on the wrong side, even during the dead of night, and disrupting the lives of millions who live or commute along the Yatra routes in east, southeast, and south Delhi.

continued on →15



A truck loaded with speakers during the Kanwar Yatra. SAKIBALI/HT

ROW OVER LAND BILL HINTS AT RIFT IN BJP'S U.P. UNIT

LUCKNOW: A controversial bill on regulating nazul land stumbled in the Uttar Pradesh legislative council on Thursday after state Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief Bhupendra Chaudhary himself proposed that the draft legislation be sent to a select committee, hinting at the rift within the party. →P10

{ MAINTAINABILITY } QUESTIONED BY MUSLIM SIDE

HC junks plea against Mathura temple suits

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PRAYAGRAJ: The Allahabad high court on Thursday rejected applications of Muslim petitioners challenging the maintainability of suits filed by Hindu worshippers demanding removal of the Shahi Eidgah mosque that abuts the Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi temple in Mathura.

The court held that all suits of Hindu worshippers were maintainable and fixed August 12 as the next date of hearing for the framing of issues, in a verdict that marks a victory for the Hindu side in the significant case.

The controversy is related to the Mughal-era Shahi Eidgah mosque at Mathura, which Hindu groups say was built by emperor Aurangzeb after demolishing a temple at the mythical birthplace of Lord Krishna. The suits filed by Hindu litigants seek removal of the Shahi Eidgah mosque as well as restoration of the temple.

HC FIXED AUG 12 AS THE NEXT DATE OF HEARING TO FRAME ISSUES, IN A VERDICT THAT MARKS A MAJOR VICTORY FOR THE HINDU SIDE

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continued on →15

SPORT  PARIS OLYMPICS

JULY 26 TO AUGUST 11

Watch out for today

GOLF

Time: 12:30PM
Men's Round 2

SHUBHAMKAR SHARMA, GAGANJEET BHULLAR

SHOOTING

Time: 12:30PM

25m pistol women's qualification precision
ESHA SINGH, MANU BHAKER

ESHA SINGH, MANU BHAKER

ARCHERY

Time: 1:19PM

Mixed team Round of 16
ANKITA BHAKAT/DHIRAJ BOMMADEVARA VS DIANANDA CHOIRUNISA/ARIF PANGESTU (INA)

ANKITA BHAKAT, DHIRAJ BOMMADEVARA

SKEET

Time: 1PM

Skeet men's qualification
ANANTH JEET SINGH NARUKA

ANANTH JEET SINGH NARUKA

ROWING

Time: 1:48PM

Men's single sculls Final D
BALRAJ PANWAR

BALRAJ PANWAR

JUDO

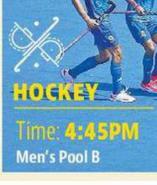
Time: 1:30PM

Women's +78kg Round of 32
TULIKA MAAN VS IDALYS ORTIZ (CUB)

TULIKA MAAN VS IDALYS ORTIZ (CUB)

SAILING

Time: 3:45PM

Women's dinghy Race 3 & 4
NETHRA KUMANAN

NETHRA KUMANAN

SAILING

Time: 7:05PM

Men's dinghy Race 3 & 4
VISHNU SARAVANAN

VISHNU SARAVANAN

BADMINTON

Time: 6:30PM

Men's singles quarter-final
LAKSHYA SEN VS CHOU TIEN CHEN (TPE)

LAKSHYA SEN VS CHOU TIEN CHEN (TPE)

ATHLETICS

Time: 9:40PM

Women's 5,000m Round 1
ANKITA, PARUL CHAUDHARY

ANKITA, PARUL CHAUDHARY

HOCKEY

Time: 4:45PM

Men's Pool B
INDIA VS AUSTRALIA

INDIA VS AUSTRALIA

MEN'S SHOT PUT QUALIFICATION

Time: 11:40PM

Men's shot put qualification
TAJINDARPAL SINGH TOOR

TAJINDARPAL SINGH TOOR

medalstally

COUNTRY	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1 China	11	7	4	22
2 France	8	11	8	27
3 Japan	8	3	4	15
4 Australia	7	6	4	17
5 USA	6	13	12	31
6 Britain	6	7	7	20
7 Korea	6	3	3	12
8 Italy	5	6	4	15
9 Canada	2	2	3	7
10 Germany	2	2	2	6
11 Netherlands	2	2	1	5
12 New Zealand	2	2	1	5
13 Romania	2	1	1	4
14 Hong Kong	2	0	2	4
43 INDIA	0	0	3	3

settingthepace



Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu Ying in action against Belgium's Lianne Tan in a women's singles group match at the Paris Olympics in the Porte de la Chapelle Arena on Wednesday. AFP

Tai Tzu: Greatness and a story of near misses in Majors

Sandip Sikdar
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Normally, if you've just beaten one of the best, if not the very best, players of your generation, that too at a stage like the Olympics, you'd be elated, celebrating with your team.

Instead, Ratchanok Intanon crossed the net, shook hands before hugging a wailing Tai Tzu Ying before breaking down herself.

It was a delicate moment which touched the 8,000-strong crowd seated at the Porte de la Chapelle Arena in Paris that rose to applaud the Thai's sporting gesture and give the Chinese Taipei great a standing ovation as she walked off the stadium, having just played her last match at the Olympics.

"We knew it was our last match because she will retire after this, so it disturbed my feeling. I must do it (win) this time because I don't know about the next four years, whether I can play the next Olympics," said an emotional Ratchanok, who in Tokyo had lost to Tai Tzu in the quarter-finals.

"We will miss each other. We have the same style, when we play it's like facing the mirror. At the end of the match, I told her I was happy we got in together, and I hope she will get better day after day. She wished me good luck."

"Queen Tai", as she is fondly called by her fans, had already announced that 2024 would be her final season with the Paris Games her fourth and final attempt at winning an elusive gold. The 30-year-old came close the last time around in Tokyo, losing a close final to China's Chen Yufei.

Paris was going to be her last major tournament. Such is her repertoire that despite returning from a knee injury, expectations were high from the Taiwanese who wanted to get one last shot at stepping on to the top of the podium in Paris on Monday. Instead, the 30-year-old left the arena bawling her eyes out.

"I've been playing with Ratchanok for a long time, and our game is also similar, Tai Tzu wasn't able to display her intricacies and inventiveness due to a dodgy knee, for which she also took a medical timeout.

But throughout a career which started in 2009, Tai Tzu stood out with her quick feet, fluid movement and a malleable wrist—her most potent weapon—which made her the most deceptive player of her generation.

Never in a hurry and always playing with tranquility, Tai Tzu had the ability to persistently frustrate opponents by pushing boundaries and come out on top.

Full of poise, elegance and easy shot-making, her guile also meant Tai Tzu could single-handedly fill stadiums.

Those fans will surely miss the generational talent.

I wasn't ready for this event before I came here. I knew I wasn't in the best condition, but I tried my best. I know many people are cheering for me, but I know I'm not well.

TAI TZU YING,
Chinese Taipei badminton great

{ GOLDEN RUN } SOUTH KOREA'S REIGN IN ARCHERY

A tale of the undefeated

Since the women's archery team event made its debut at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, South Korean women have won gold every time. On Sunday in Paris, they extended their dominance, winning the 10th consecutive gold.

South Korea, the team to beat



Jeon Hun-young



Nam Su-hyeon



Lim Si-hyeon

★★★★★ 10/10

The South Korean women's team of Lim Si-hyeon, Nam Su-hyeon and Jeon Hun-young beat China in a shoot-off. The men's team of Kim Woojin, Kim Je Deok and Lee Woo Seok beat France to win gold.

South Korean men have now won seven of 10 gold medals since 1988.

★★★★★ 7/10

Team domination at the Games



The US men's 400m medley relay team has won gold in every Olympics since 1984 Los Angeles. The final in Paris is on August 4, where they have the chance to win their 11th straight gold. In fact, they have won gold on all 15 occasions they have competed in. Australia took gold at Moscow 1980 when the US led a boycott.

Why South Korea are a step ahead

Besides their rigorous training regimen with archers shooting around 400 arrows a day, six days a week, Hyundai Motors works with the federation to develop and provide archers state-of-the-art tech support.

Competition familiarity

At the Jincheon National Training Center, Korea created a replica of the Les Invalides archery range by the side of the Namhan River, chosen for its similarity to the wind patterns around the Seine River near the Games venue.



SOUTH KOREA

TECH SUPPORT

Self-adjusting shooting robot

The teams competed against a cutting-edge shooting robot for the Paris Olympics. This robot, equipped with sensors to measure wind direction and speed, adjusts its aim accordingly and maintains precision. The robot, weighing over 200kg, features advanced suspension technology that maintains balance on uneven ground. The robot consistently averages a score of 9.65 points, outperforming even the best archers, who typically score between 9.2 and 9.5 points.



Customized 3D-printed bow grips

These grips are made to fit each athlete's hand shape and minimize tolerances to unify the bow and the archer's hand, maximizing performance as a result.



Camera-based heart rate sensor

The heart rate monitor, first introduced at the Tokyo Olympics, measures heart rates using a video camera to analyze subtle changes in facial blood flow and helps archers manage their nerves by monitoring real-time heart rate fluctuations.



Multi-camera posture analysis system

A multi-camera system is employed to monitor the archer's posture consistency while shooting. This system allows athletes to view real-time footage and analyze their movements in slow motion, down to 0.125x speed.



Mission domination: Hitting the bullseye, the South Korean way

Avishek Roy

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NEW DELHI: Only one word describes South Korea's reign in archery. Domination.

And they are more dangerous when they come together as a team. Since the team event was introduced in archery at the 1988 Seoul Games, South Korean men have captured seven of the 10 gold medals. The women's team has been more ruthless in their chase of perfection—they won their 10th consecutive title in Paris.

The script could have been very different though. Up against China in the final, seasoned Jeon Hun-young, 21-year-old Lim Si-hyeon and 19-year-old Nam Su-hyeon were pushed to do something extraordinary and maintain their unblemished record. Against the backdrop of Esplanade des Invalides—one of the most iconic monuments in Paris—the Chinese women challenged the mighty South Korea. They came from behind to draw level at 4-4 taking the match to a shoot-off. There was more drama to unfold.

Under intense pressure, South Korea edged past China by the barest of margins—two of their arrows when checked by a judge through magnifying glass had landed closer to the line bordering the bullseye. Unreal!

Such moments in sport make it beautiful for spectators but equally cruel for competitors. Yes, luck does play its part, but can you prepare to win those freakish moments? This South Korean women's team was inexperienced at the international stage, so their preparation was meticulously



South Korea won the gold medal in the archery women's team final at the Esplanade des Invalides in Paris. AFP

planned in a way to make them mentally tough to handle any situation. Sessions were conducted by the river and in stadiums to deal with the vagaries of wind, noise and weather.

The archers shot against robots that had only one shot in its armour—a perfect 10. The archery range of Paris was replicated down to the last brick at Korea's National Training Centre to simulate match situations. All this prepared South Korea to deliver under extreme pressure.

So much goes into the team's preparation for the Olympics. But that's just the finishing touches being given after the archers are

groomed and nurtured from elementary school level and numerous archery clubs dotted across the country. Children are introduced to archery quite early as 7, 8-year-olds and brought up in a highly competitive environment.

"In Korea, professional coaches are deployed from elementary school, middle school, high school, university, and general business teams. Absolute value is instilled in the coaching of coaches and managers," renowned South Korean coach Baek Woong ki, who is coach of the Indian team, told Hindustan Times.

"The Korean team is strong in competition, because they practise

like it is a competition. In preparation for the Olympics, they practise in advance for all the things that can happen in the Olympic Games," said Baek, who guided the Korean archery team to gold medals at London 2012.

Teamwork lies at the core of their activities and that's the reason why they come out stronger in team events. Highly experienced coaches design goal-oriented training and call the shots in camps. In any given year, eight recurve men and eight recurve women are named to the Korean squad, with only half of those competing at the most prestigious events. "The national team is operated by the general manager, men's and women's team managers. Their period of stay is one year, and the archers who enter the village must follow the coach's instructions. Their period of stay is strictly observed and teamwork is fostered through various activities. Korean archers have clear and accurate goals," he said.

Repetitive training under different conditions makes their muscle memory stronger. When they draw the string of the bow, they are clear of the target and don't flinch. They usually shoot at least 400-600 arrows a day, depending at which level they are playing.

"The Olympics is such a big stage, and the pressure and weight of expectation is so high, so the coach and the manager have to make sure that the archers are stable and can shoot in normal conditions," he said.

That is easier said than done. Mental training is part of their grooming programme from a young age.

"They are mentally very strong. Even if one or two arrows go wrong, they cover it up like nothing happened," says Indian archer Jayalakshmi Sarikonda, who faced Korea in the finals of the Asian Archery Championships in 2015.

"The co-ordination between coach and player is superb. Their practice sessions are really tough. The weather conditions they train in, the facilities, they are all top class. Training is so structured."

Archers from around the world go to Korea to train, and their coaches are sought after. But replicating the same system has been difficult. The South Korean culture of teamwork, besides remaining grounded, goes a long way in shaping their personality.

"The recurve archers go to Korea to train but their mindset is unmatched. They are too strong. I remember a training session in Korea and we saw Olympic gold medalists coming, wearing the janitor's suit and cleaning the washroom. They then took their equipment, trained, cleaned up and left."

It is often said that making it to the Korean team is tougher than winning an Olympic gold medal. They have to go through a rigorous annual selection process.

"They practise the same technique 1000 times over which becomes their muscle memory. They derive confidence from a strong legacy they have built over the years," Jayalakshmi said.

Korea's success tells you there is no magic potion and nothing ever really succeeds like hard work. That's how you become Olympic champions and that is how you build a legend.

MY DELHI

DELHI GOVT SAYS IT WILL SEEK ₹5,200CR FROM CENTRE FOR MCD

HT correspondent

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi government will seek ₹5,200 crore from the central government for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to help it develop infrastructure such as drains and roads, urban development minister Saurabh Bharadwaj said on Thursday, a day after widespread waterlogging occurred across the city. Bharadwaj said that, unlike other urban local bodies of the country, MCD does not get grants from the central government. To be sure, the Centre provides grants to various urban local bodies located in states but since Delhi is a union territory, it does not get a share from this fund, a Delhi government official said.

"Every year, the people of Delhi pay more than ₹2.07 lakh crore to the central government as income tax. The central government gives money to various urban bodies of the country according to their population, but despite Delhi being the capital of the country, the central government does not give a single rupee to MCD. Considering the urban population of Delhi, the central government should give ₹5,243 crores to MCD every year," Bharadwaj said in a press conference at the Delhi Secretariat, which was also attended by mayor Shelly Oberoi.

Bharadwaj said that ahead of the budget, the Delhi government and MCD had requested that the central government allocate funds for it in the union budget. According to 2024-25 union budget documents, Delhi will receive ₹1,168 crore from the Centre in 2024-25, which includes components such as compensation for the 1984 riots victims, grants in lieu of share in central taxes and duties, contribution to Union Territory Disaster Response Fund and central assistance for externally aided projects such as the Chandrawal water treatment plant. The same amount was earmarked for Delhi under similar heads in the 2023-24 union budget.

HT reached out to the BJP which did not respond to queries seeking comments.

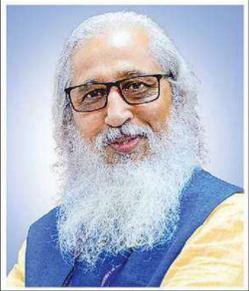


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02ND AUGUST 2024 - FRIDAY
Time : 10.00 AM

————— CHIEF GUEST —————



PROF. ANIL D. SAHASRABUDHE
Chairman of National Educational Technology Forum (NETF),
National Board of Accreditation (NBA) and
Executive Committee - National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)

————— GUEST OF HONOUR —————

SHRI. T.R. PARASURAMAN
Chairman, ASSOCHAM Karnataka State Development Council and
Senior Executive Advisor, Toyota Industries Engine India Pvt. Ltd.

————— —————

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5 tragic deaths capture wider malaise

Snehil Sinha, Hemani Bhandari and Paras Singh
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NEW DELHI: Drownings, electrocutions and house collapses. These three issues, which caused the deaths of at least five people on Wednesday night as a heavy downpour pounded the city, underscore an infrastructural malaise that becomes evident in Delhi during monsoon every year.

This collapse of urban infrastructure also points to the lack of accountability by authorities at various levels who are supposed to ensure the safety of a teeming city that home to tens of millions.

Drownings, blame game
The first reported fatalities on Wednesday night were perhaps the most heartbreaking. A 22-year-old woman and a her three-year-old son were killed after they fell into the Ghazipur drain near Khoda colony. When officials fished out their bodies, they said the mother was still clutching on to the arm of her son.

The story that followed their deaths was all too familiar — authorities traded blame on who caused the tragedy.

The Ghazipur drain is maintained by Delhi authorities on one side, and by Ghaziabad on the other. The victims were residents of Khoda Colony in Ghaziabad. The spot where the incident took place has a partially covered drain that was submerged in knee-deep water after Wednesday's rains. The waterlogging made it impossible to decipher where the footpath ended and where the drain started. Debris from construction work also lies next to it.

The incident raised several fundamental questions: Why was the drain left open and work unfinished? Why were people allowed to walk near an open drain in the first place? Why was there no signage or barricade warning people against walking near an open drain? How was there no clarity over the jurisdiction of the responsible civic body? And, most importantly, who was responsible?

Even among Delhi officials, the accountability was not clear. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) issued a statement alleging that the part of the drain where the incident occurred was under the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), which responded with identical allegations. "The road and drain where incident took place is under construction by DDA (DDA jurisdiction)," MCD said. In response, DDA stated that the total length of the drain is 1.35km, out of which, 1km of the drain, along with the adjoining road, was handed over to MCD a "considerable time ago". The remaining 350m of the drain, DDA said, is under its jurisdiction.

Electrocutions, negligence
At around 7pm, a 12-year-old boy was electrocuted to death when he went to play in a waterlogged street in a DDA colony in Dwarka's Bindapur. In another incident, also on Wednesday night, a 28-year-old

man was electrocuted at his home in Jaitpur. Police said he stepped out on his terrace to enjoy the rain when he touched a live wire.

These are not isolated incidents. They were the seventh and eighth deaths from electrocution in the city so far this monsoon, according to a tally by HT's reporters.

On July 24, a 26-year-old IAS aspirant was electrocuted to death here after he grabbed a gate, which was charged after coming in contact with a live power line. On July 25, a man, a 30-year-old, was electrocuted in Karawal Nagar. On June 28, a 39-year-old man was electrocuted in Rohini after brushing past a live wire on a waterlogged road. On July 13, a 34-year-old woman was electrocuted on a waterlogged road in Bhajanpura. Other electrocution deaths this monsoon included that of a BSES employee in Dwarka on June 14. On July 13, a cop died after coming in contact with a high-tension wire in Najafgarh.

A walk in a residential street nearly anywhere in Delhi will yield sights that are quite dangerous, especially during monsoon — a potentially lethal combination of waterlogging with exposed wires that millions cross daily.

Collapses, but no dangerous buildings

At 9pm on Wednesday, a 62-year-old man died after the roof of his shop collapsed amid heavy rainfall in Subzi Mandi. In Daryaganj, a wall-collapse crushed a large number of parked vehicles.

Injuries were also reported due to collapses in Defence Colony and Shastri Park.

The city has witnessed numerous such collapses since the onset of monsoon — most of which had not been captured in the pre-monsoon "dangerous building survey". Experts and stakeholders say the city lacks an efficient mechanism to detect and prevent collapse of dangerous buildings.

In fact, the civic body is yet to officially release the findings of this year's survey which was expected to cover 2.9 million properties. However, an MCD official said that only five properties were found dangerous — all located in East Delhi's Kalyanpuri and Pandav Nagar. "Notices were issued to another 57 buildings for carrying out repairs," the official added, asking not to be named. The civic body found no dangerous buildings in the Walled City, which has seen several collapses since.

This was the same story last year, when 3.1 million buildings were inspected, but only eight were found dangerous.

These surveys are carried out by the building and maintenance departments of civic bodies as a pre-monsoon exercise. "A visual survey" is carried out and if engineers notice structures which are bent or show cracks, then they inspect it from the inside. A notice to get the building repaired is issued, "a second civic official said, asking not to be named.

Amid all the red tape, the Capital's woes continue — unheard and unresolved.



The wall of Happy School in Daryaganj collapsed amid heavy rainfall on Wednesday night. There were no casualties.

RAJK RAJ/HT PHOTO

Boy playing in puddle electrocuted in Dwarka

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NEW DELHI: A 12-year-old boy was allegedly electrocuted in the DDA colony in Bindaur, Dwarka, southwest Delhi, after he went to play in a waterlogged area on Wednesday evening, police said.

Experts and stakeholders say the city lacks an efficient mechanism to detect and prevent collapse of dangerous buildings. In fact, the civic body is yet to officially release the findings of this year's survey which was expected to cover 2.9 million properties. However, an MCD official said that only five properties were found dangerous — all located in East Delhi's Kalyanpuri and Pandav Nagar. "Notices were issued to another 57 buildings for carrying out repairs," the official added, asking not to be named. The civic body found no dangerous buildings in the Walled City, which has seen several collapses since.

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Mudit Kumar

Police said the boy's father, Raman Kumar, 36, said his son was electrocuted near the house.

A case under Section 106 (1) (causing death by negligence) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita was registered. "We are looking to ascertain if there was any negligence," the officer added. A BSES official said the tragedy occurred "despite the division team shutting off power supply due to waterlogging".

A site inspection today revealed that no electrical leak and street light poles were properly maintained. It is important to clarify that two plastic pipes containing disconnected cables, which were found emerging from the ground, do not belong to the discom and appear to be internet wires. The exact cause of the incident is still not known and we are co-operating with the probe," the official said.

Woman, 3-year-old son drown in open drain; kin say cops' tiff delayed rescue

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NEW DELHI: A 23-year-old woman and her three-year-old son died after they allegedly fell into a waterlogged drain managed by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) near the Ghazipur paper market in east Delhi, police officers said, even as the family of the victims alleged that a jurisdictional issue regarding the location of the drain triggered a dispute between the Delhi and Uttar Pradesh police, leading to the loss of precious time and delaying the search and rescue operation by nearly two hours.

Eventually, locals said a team from the Ghazipur police station arrived at the scene at 9.30pm and fished out the bodies. The Delhi and UP police denied the allegations made by the family. Police identified the victims as Tanuja Bisht and her son Priyansh, who she was carrying in her arms at the time of the incident. According to officers, the drain was left open for desilting, which the woman missed as the area surrounding it was inundated, due to at least one-and-a-half feet, due to torrential rains on Wednesday. The question of jurisdiction



The open drain in Ghazipur on Thursday.

SAKIBALI/HT PHOTO

arose because the 1,350m long drain acts as a border between east Delhi and Khoda Colony in Ghaziabad. While most of it was permanently covered with concrete, some spots were opened for desilting — one of which the victims fell into. The open slots were supposed to be covered with removable concrete slabs. The bodies of the mother and son were recovered around 11.30pm from the drain — nearly 100m away from the spot where they fell at 7.40pm — by divers arranged by the Delhi Police and the rescue teams from the UP

administration. While the locals and relatives said that the child was in his mother's arms, police said that Priyansh slipped into the drain and his mother jumped in to save him.

"The two were returning home to Khoda Colony when Priyansh fell into the drain. Tanuja jumped in to rescue him," said deputy commissioner of police (east) Apoorva Gupta.

A 30-year-old relative of the victims, Pinki (single name), also jumped into the drain to rescue them, but some vegetable vendors and e-rickshaw drivers

62-YEAR-OLD MAN DIES AFTER THE ROOF OF HIS SHOP COLLAPSES ON HIM

NEW DELHI: A 62-year-old man died after the roof of his shop collapsed amid heavy rainfall in Subzi Mandi, north Delhi on Wednesday night.

Deputy commissioner of police (north) Manoj Kumar Meena said that the deceased was identified as Anil Gupta, a resident of Roshanara Road whose family had been running the shop, a cloth showroom, for more than 50 years.

Delhi Fire Services director Atul Garg said their control room received a call at 9pm regarding the incident after which five fire tenders were pressed into service. DCP Meena said that Gupta was closing the shop's shutters when the roof made of iron girders suddenly collapsed.

Gupta was pulled out of the debris in a six-hour-long operation and taken to St Stephens Hospital at 3am where he was declared dead.

An officer on condition of anonymity said that the building appeared to be dangerous and preliminary inquiry revealed that the vacation of the building was a sub-judice matter.

HTC

quickly pulled her out, police added.

Jurisdictional dispute
While negligence on the part of the civic agencies led to the incident, the family of the victims alleged that police delayed the rescue operation due to a jurisdictional conflict.

"My sister-in-law and nephew fell into the drain at 7.30pm. My brother, Govind Bisht (Tanuja's husband) called the police control room. But both Delhi and UP police said that the area did not fall under their jurisdiction. It was after 9.30pm that the Ghazipur police arrived and launched a search operation," said Narendra Bisht.

DCP Gupta denied the allegations and said that at 9.30pm, the SHO of Khoda police station (in Ghaziabad) called the SHO of the Ghazipur police station and said "The area fell in our jurisdiction". "The allegation of jurisdictional dispute is incorrect," said the DCP. Ghaziabad Police also denied the allegations and said that a first team reached the spot around 8.18pm.

With inputs from Peeyush Khandelwal

Half of city's rain has come in 3 days

Abhishek Jha
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NEW DELHI: Large swathes of Delhi were inundated on Wednesday night, just over a month after a similar deluge following torrential rain in the early hours of 28 June.

Even by the relatively recent trend of the monsoon across India becoming more patchy — averages, the only thing that seems to matter to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), are in line with long-term trends, but are achieved by a few days of intense rain — the monsoon rainfall in Delhi in the first two months of the season is an outlier.

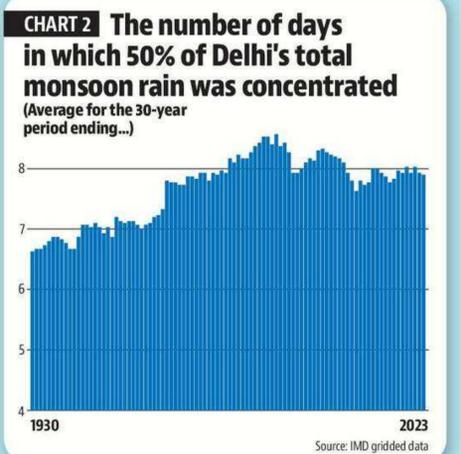
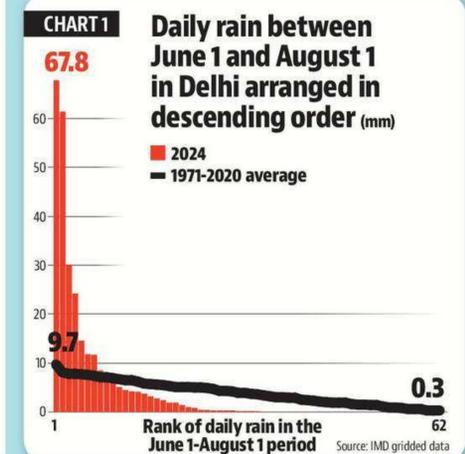
According to gridded data from IMD, Delhi received half of the total rain since June 1 — the official start of the monsoon season — in only three days. In the 1971-2020 average, which is currently used as the Long Period Average (LPA) or normal, the corresponding amount of rain in the same period took the city eighteen days (see Chart 1).

To be sure, the exact deviation from normal may vary across different weather stations.

This is because rain can have wide spatial variation even within cities, especially those as big as Delhi. For example, the Mayur Vihar weather station received 147.5mm rain in the 24 hours ending at 8:30am on August 1, compared to 107.6mm at the Safdarjung station.

Unlike data from individual stations, this analysis averages rain for a box bound by two latitudes and longitudes 0.25 degrees

Tracking monsoon's irregularity



apart. Because these grids are almost square-shaped, they overshoot the political boundaries of Delhi. However, this data allows one to look at long-term trends since 1901.

Uneven concentration
This shows that 50% of the monsoon rain in Delhi is concentrated in fewer days now than in the 1980s.

However, this concentration is not yet at its peak when considering 30-year averages (see Chart 2). The inconsistent increase

in rainfall skew in Delhi aligns with expectations from gridded data. As previously reported by Hindustan Times, 24-hour rainfall data does not indicate an increase in rain intensity in Delhi.

While it's possible that the amount of rain that falls in a span of a few hours has increased, this cannot be verified due to the lack of publicly available, long-term hourly data.

But even if rain's hourly intensity were decreasing in Delhi, the city's vulnerability to flooding would not. This is because of the rapid

expansion of settlement areas in the city at the expense of all other kinds of land. According to land cover maps from European Space Agency's Climate Change Initiative (ESA-CCI), settlements in Delhi have increased from 30% of its area in 1992 to 49% of its area by 2015.

Most of this 19-percentage point growth has come from agricultural land, but some also from forests, grasslands, and other areas.

This means that concretised area has increased at the expense of non-concrete area, which previously

allowed seepage and draining of rainwater.

This rapid concretisation is bound to flood a city unless it is compensated by a working drainage system.

As this monsoon and its death toll has shown, Delhi's drainage system is far from functional.

While the climate crisis and the volatility it has brought to rainfall patterns is indeed real, its evocation without highlighting the poor state of Delhi's and most of India's drainage systems is just an alibi for poor planning.



People hold each other while wading through a waterlogged road near Old Rajendra Nagar after heavy rainfall on Wednesday evening.

PTI

More rain fell in one day than in all of August 2023 or 2022

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NEW DELHI: Delhi got 107.6mm of rainfall between Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, marking yet another extreme weather event this monsoon as it eclipsed the total rainfall recorded in the entirety of August in 2023, as well as 2022, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD) data for the Safdarjung weather station, which is considered representative of Delhi weather.

This monsoon, Delhi has received 554.6mm of rainfall between June 1 and August 1, with two individual spells of 228.1mm on June 28 and 107.6mm on August 1 accounting for over 60.5% of the total.

Further, 107.6mm was the single highest-day rainfall recorded by the Safdarjung observatory since 2021, when 138.8mm of rainfall was recorded on August 21, 2021. The overall rainfall in August 2022 was 41.6mm and in August 2023 was 91.8mm.

To be sure, the rainfall recorded on the last day of a month is added to the total of the next month, i.e., the rainfall recorded since 6.30pm on July 31 will be counted under the total rainfall for August.

Between Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, at least seven stations across Delhi-NCR received over 100mm of rainfall, according to IMD data.

The Mayur Vihar weather station in east Delhi clocked 147.5mm, Delhi University sta-

tion logged 104.5mm, Safdarjung and Lodhi Road stations in New Delhi clocked 107.6mm and 107.5mm, respectively, Najafgarh station in southwest Delhi logged 113mm, and Pusa station in west Delhi logged 86mm.

Neighbouring Gurugram clocked 119.5mm, and Noida clocked 145mm of rainfall, indicating widespread and equally intense rainfall across NCR.

"Such rain occurred due to the monsoon trough coming over Delhi-NCR. Till Tuesday, it was south of its normal position, but made a transition on Wednesday. At the same time, moisture was being fed from both Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea, converging over Delhi from two directions to create a charged area," an IMD official said.

3 ELECTROCUTED NEAR IFFCO CHOWK IN GGM

GURUGRAM: Three pedestrians navigating a waterlogged August Kranti Marg near the Iffco Chowk Metro station were electrocuted on Wednesday night after a tree got uprooted and snapped a power supply cable following heavy rainfall in the area. Gurugram police officers said on Thursday.

The victims were identified as Devesh Bajpai, 34, Jaipal Yadav, 32, and Wasuzzama Siddiqui, 55. Officers said the incident occurred between 8pm and 9pm, but they received information about the same at 9.45pm. Inspector Ravi Kumar, SHO, DLF police station, Sector 29, said some commuters spotted bodies in the waterlogged street and alerted the police. "We reached the spot to find an uprooted tree, along with a broken power cable lying in the water. A team of DHBVN reached the spot after snapping the power supply to the area, after which the bodies were removed," he said. **HTC**

TWO KILLED IN GREATER NOIDA WALL COLLAPSE

GREATER NOIDA: A 62-year-old man and his 50-year-old wife died after a wall collapsed on their shanty in Ambedkar Nagar colony of Dadri, Greater Noida on Wednesday night following heavy rain, police said.

The deceased were identified as Sabur Ali and his wife Ameen. Officers said they received information about the incident around 11.45pm on Wednesday, prompting a team from the Dadri police station to rush to the Ambedkar Nagar colony.

"The boundary wall of a plot fell onto one of the adjacent shanties. The couple were buried under the debris. One of the locals dialled police emergency helpline number 112 following which police reached the spot. Our teams immediately rescued the couple from under the debris and with the help of locals, rushed them to a hospital," said Ashok Kumar, additional deputy commissioner of police, Greater Noida, adding that doctors declared the couple dead on arrival. **HTC**

{ RAJENDRA NAGAR CASE } DEATH OF IAS ASPIRANTS

Driver gets bail, court slams cops for 'over-enthusiasm'

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NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Thursday granted bail to the driver of a car who was arrested and charged with culpable homicide in connection with the death by drowning of three IAS aspirants in the flooded basement of an Old Rajendra Nagar coaching centre on July 27, noting that the charges against him were applied in "over-enthusiasm." The development came a day after the court dismissed the bail application of Manuj Kathuria, the accused.

"From the perusal of the record, it appears that the present applicant/accused was implicated in over-enthusiasm. He has been charged under Section 105 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of BNS (Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita), 2023, which is non-bailable as per Schedule I of the BNS (Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita), 2023," additional sessions judge Rakesh Kumar stated.

Kathuria was granted bail on a personal bond of ₹50,000 with one surety of the same amount. The



Security personnel outside the coaching institute. SANCHIT KHANNA/HT

court, however, ordered Kathuria to not make any comments about the case to the media.

On July 27, three IAS aspirants drowned when the illegal basement library of Rau's IAS Study Circle at Old Rajendra Nagar flooded following heavy rain.

In the wake of the incident, several arrests were made, including that of Kathuria—who was driving through the waterlogged road outside—with police arguing that his vehicle allegedly created waves that caused the institute's gate to break and flood the basement.

In his bail application, Kathuria argued that the first information report (FIR) contained no allegations against him, other than that he was driving on an already waterlogged road opposite the institute. He contended that civic authorities responsible for maintaining drainage facilities and preventing illegal coaching centres were shifting the blame for their failures onto him.

He also claimed that authorities were exploiting video footage that merely showed him driving through the affected area, unjustly

positioning him as a scapegoat for the incident. Kathuria argued that the case against him was based on conjectural CCTV footage that lacked scientific basis and relied solely on optical observations.

Special public prosecutor Atul Srivastava, representing the Delhi police, opposed the bail plea and requested that if bail were granted, Kathuria should be prohibited from interacting with media.

Granting him bail, the court considered the Delhi Police response, which indicated that the elements required to establish the offense under BNS section 105 were not sufficiently proven at this stage. The court also observed that the charges Kathuria now faces—BNS sections 106(1) (causing death by negligence), 115(2) (voluntarily causing hurt), 290 (negligent conduct with respect to buildings), 3(5) (common intention), and 281 (rash driving)—are all bailable.

Delhi Police in response stated that whether BNS section 105 is applicable could be better assessed after an expert team from IIT Delhi visits the site and submits its findings.

{ OPINION } FLOODING AT COACHING CENTRE

The driver's arrest is a blow to personal liberty

Amit Anand Tiwari



While the shock of the tragic drowning of three civil services aspirants still lingers, the outrageous police action of arresting Manuj Kathuria for driving his vehicle through the flooded street where the unfortunate incident took place was a horrifying blow to the personal liberty of a citizen. It has been reported that Kathuria's SUV, while passing through the water-logged road where the coaching centre's basement library is situated, caused ripples in the water, which allegedly breached the entrance of the coaching centre and flooded the basement. The police had charged Kathuria for, inter alia, culpable homicide not amounting to murder and for voluntarily causing hurt. This defied logic and militated against all common sense and legal provisions. Following the Delhi high court's censure, the charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder was later dropped. Kathuria has also received bail upon an appeal at the Tis Hazari court, against the magisterial court's denial of the same earlier in response to opposition from the Delhi Police.

Kathuria's arrest is reminiscent of the play Anand Nagari Chaupat Raja, Bhartendu Harishchandra's masterpiece about a king and his anarchical kingdom, where the death of a goat leads to an irrational pursuit to determine the culpability based on whose neck fits the noose. This incident not only raised significant concerns about the facts and circumstances surrounding the arrest of Kathuria by the police based on such absurd charges, but also highlighted a deeper, more troubling trend of the erosion of personal freedoms in the name of fixing accountability.

The absurdity began when the police decided to charge Kathuria with culpable homicide not amounting to murder. This was compounded when the magistrate, at the stage of remand, instead of outrightly rejecting these atrocious and far-fetched charges and releasing him, remanded him to a 14-day judicial custody. Thereafter, by denying him bail and prima facie accepting the validity of the charges, the magistrate defied all sense of legal logic and judicial decision-making.

In his order, the magistrate noted that the allegations against Kathuria are serious in nature, as the CCTV footage shows him driving his car in waterlogged road, causing large displacement of water despite being warned of the dangers ahead by passersby. The magistrate rejected the bail application without addressing the absolute lack of causal connection between Kathuria's driving and the fatal flooding or any knowledge on the part of Kathuria that his driving would cause the death of three students studying in the basement of one of the buildings by flooding.

The complete non-application of mind resulting in illegal and non-judicious exercise of the power of remand, and subsequent denial of bail by the magistrate is yet another instance of a citizen being unjustly deprived of his personal liberty in the most callous manner, and is simply reprehensible. The magistrate grossly failed to perform his judicial role as the first line of defence against the deprivation of liberty of citizens at the hands of arbitrary police powers.

Pertinently, apart from stating that Kathuria was driving through a flooded road, the police did not allege any wrongdoing on his part. It is beyond comprehension how a person could have been charged with the grave offence of culpable homicide not amounting to murder for merely driving through a flooded road, which is a norm in Delhi on any day that it rains. The logic, or the lack thereof, behind holding Kathuria accountable for the deaths, had it held longer,

would have also been applicable to the Delhi Commissioner of Police for his failure to ensure that the flooded road was cordoned off, and accordingly highlighted its absurdity.

Considering the police's history of trampling upon the personal liberty of the citizens, Delhi Police's actions might not come as a surprise. However, the complete non-application of mind by the magistrate in denying bail and remanding Kathuria to judicial custody was truly shocking and absolutely unpardonable. The abysmal state of affairs in matters of remand, which is a constitutionally prescribed check on arbitrary deprivation of liberty, is laid bare when most trial courts act mechanically as post offices for accused persons, merely receiving and forwarding them to jails.

Further, then the denial of bail by the magistrate without even considering the basic ingredients of the criminal charge, such as complicity, knowledge, remoteness, and parameters of grant of bail (the law says bail is the rule, jail is the exception), deprived Kathuria of his personal liberty for however short a time. Such incidences leave permanent scars on the affected individual's psyche.

This also leads to the inescapable conclusion that the lower judiciary needs to be sensitised and trained to apply its mind before remanding any person to custody. The judiciary, having been entrusted with guarding personal liberty of the citizens, should do this zealously. It should ask the authorities why a person should be sent to jail, instead of asking the person why he should be granted bail.

In Anand Nagari, the autocratic and irrational regime of the king, Chaupat Raja, comes to an end when the guru lures the king into hanging himself.

Thankfully, sense has dawned and the district court has set the course right.

Amit Anand Tiwari is senior advocate, Supreme Court. The views expressed are personal.

'Will use mayor corpus for drain fixes'

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NEW DELHI: Mayor Shelly Oberoi on Thursday said that vulnerable sections of Delhi's decades-old drainage system will be revamped or replaced using ₹500 crore of the mayor's corpus, after conducting a ward-wise survey, in the wake of waterlogging and multiple deaths due to rain-related incidents in the Capital.

Addressing a press conference after a review meeting with officials, she said many areas are still dependent on 20- to 30-year-old drains that have not been upgraded and have fallen into disrepair. "Officials were asked to prepare a list of drains at ward level which need to be improved. Departments have also been instructed to present an 'esti-

mate of expenditure' for each drain. Work on these will start soon so that problem of waterlogging in Delhi can be resolved and incidents like Rajendra Nagar do not happen again."

According to officials, Delhi's drainage master plan was formed in 1976 for a population of six million people, which is currently choking as the population has expanded to around 25 million. Piecemeal upgrades

have been taken up by drain-owning agencies, as a comprehensive plan has remained in the making for the last five decades.

In 2009, then lieutenant governor Tejendra Khanna directed agencies to make a new drainage master plan for Delhi. In 2012, the Delhi government announced IIT Delhi would be creating a plan soon, but when the plan was eventually submitted in 2018, it was not implemented, citing several flaws.

Oberoi said there are old brick barrels in many areas, where sewer and drain water flow together.

"The problem of waterlogging is most common in these areas which have common drainage-sewerage lines. Officials have been instructed to survey all these areas and take immediate action," she said.

Lutyens Delhi inundated yet again

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NEW DELHI: As rain battered the national capital on Wednesday night, hundreds of photos and videos started appearing on social media showing visuals of a waterlogged Lutyens Delhi. The road outside Makar Dwar at the new Parliament complex, corridors of Connaught Place, court complexes and social clubs in New Delhi were all submerged.

But the visual was nothing new—just a few days earlier, on July 26, parts of New Delhi were inundated by rainwater on a day that the city played host to World Heritage Committee meeting. Before that, on June 28, a heavy downpour brought New Delhi to a standstill. This begs the question why such episodes in Lutyens Delhi are becoming increasingly frequent?

The drainage system of the New Delhi Municipal Council



Waterlogged road outside Parliament's Makar Dwar. POSTED ON X

(NDMC) lies between the Ridge on the west and Yamuna on the east, marked by Ring Road on the south. Most of its drainage channels fall into the Kushak drain and Sunehri Pul drain, which join the Barapullah drain before reaching the Yamuna. Drainage from areas north of India Gate flow into the Yamuna

through Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) systems.

A senior NDMC official overseeing the drainage of said that the primary problem that Lutyens Delhi faces is construction on the Barapullah drain. "Due to construction work at Barapullah flyover and the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit

System, the width of the drain has become narrow at multiple sections. From INA till the outfall in Yamuna, a bottleneck has developed, which leads to a backflow of water," the official said, on condition of anonymity.

A second official said waterlogging increased due to multiple major infrastructure projects.

NDMC vice-chairman Satish Upadhyay said: "NDMC areas saw rainfall of approximately 110mm... While some areas experienced waterlogging, the situation was effectively managed by deploying a dedicated team equipped with pumps."

But residents and traders in are less than impressed.

Amit Gupta, a member of New Delhi Traders Association, said: "Water was flowing back from Panchkuian Road... many shops have suffered damages. The CP Middle Circle has a service tunnel with electrical facilities. It seems like we are sitting on a ticking bomb."

{ AMRAPALI CASE }

SC slams 'obstructionism' by Noida, Gr Noida authorities

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday pulled up the Noida and Greater Noida authorities for adopting an "obstructionist" approach by delaying approval for using the unused FAR (floor area ratio) in Amrapali projects, where 85% work on 37,000 housing units is over and funds are proving to be a major hurdle in completing the remaining flats before March 2025.

Summoning the chief executive officers (CEOs) of both Noida and Greater Noida authorities to court on August 14, a bench headed by justice Bela M Trivedi said, "We have seen in this matter, the approach of Noida and GNIDA has never been to cooperate. You have had an obstructionist approach."

The court was anguished over the non-compliance of its March 29, 2023, order directing both authorities to decide positively on the building/layout plans for use of unused FAR in seven Amrapali projects (two in Noida

and five in Greater Noida) within 15 days.

FAR is the ratio of the total built-up area against the total area of the plot.

The court-appointed receiver, the current attorney general R Venkataramani, informed the bench that he was yet to hear from the two agencies on the plans submitted by project contractor NBCC in April last year.

Senior advocate Siddharth Dave, appearing for NBCC, said when NBCC met Greater Noida officials on July 10, they were informed that the "issue of additional FAR has been delayed on the advice from the authorities' legal team".

"Your officers will be in trouble. This is not the way authorities should function," said the bench, also comprising justice SC Sharma.

Senior advocate Ravindra Kumar, appearing for the two authorities, submitted an affidavit on July 30, a copy of which was not supplied to the receiver or NBCC. Further, it was filed by a deputy director who had since been transferred.

The court directed CEOs of two authorities to file the affidavit within a week explaining their stand on the unused and purchasable FAR and deciding on the plans submitted by NBCC as per the March 2023 order.

Noida's counsel said the top court order of July 2019 only permitted the NBCC to complete the existing projects and not use excess FAR and sought to point it out in the affidavit to be filed before the next date.

NBCC said it is only increasing the number of units vertically to ensure that amenities available to residents along with green area do not get compromised.

SECOND PHASE OF DU UNDERGRAD ADMISSIONS OPEN

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi University (DU) on Thursday declared the commencement of the second phase of the undergraduate admissions.

The first stage of the second phase, that is, preference filling for programme and colleges through the university's Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS) portal will be open till 4.59pm on August 7.

The university also declared that the first stage of the admissions where students could register themselves through the CSAS portal will be open till 4.59pm on August 7.

The university will declare the simulated ranks at 5pm on August 11 and the preference change window will be open from till 11.59pm on August 12, it said.

The first seat allocation list will be out at 5pm on August 16 and the second list will be out at 5pm on August 25.

DU also said that it will use class 12 marks to fill in any vacant seats that are left after the seat allocation rounds through the CSAS.

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LG 'not told' SC assent was needed for felling trees: CS

Abraham Thomas
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi chief secretary Naresh Kumar has told the Supreme Court that lieutenant governor VK Saxena was "not told" about the need to obtain the permission of the top court for the felling of trees in the southern Ridge during his visit to the site on February 2.

Kumar submitted a fresh affidavit before the court, which was hearing a contempt petition against Delhi Development Authority (DDA), headed by Saxena, for the illegal felling of trees.

Kumar's response came after the court's July 12 order directing him to detail what transpired during the LG's visit to the site. The court, in its last order, said it was "not interested" in examining how the LG expedited the project to proceed in absence of the court's permission but wished to know if the same was brought to his

None of the officers... brought to the notice of the LG the orders passed by this court and/or the requirement of obtaining permission of the Tree Officer (to fell trees)

NARESH KUMAR, Delhi chief secretary

knowledge by any officers accompanying him on the occasion.

Kumar said that, to the best of his knowledge, "none of the officers present at the site brought to the notice of the LG the orders passed by this court and/or the requirement of obtaining permission of the Tree Officer (under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act (DPTA), 1994)". The affidavit was filed on July 30.

The contempt plea filed by Delhi resident Bindu Kapurea alleged that nearly 1,100 trees were felled in the Ridge without permission from the Supreme Court, as

required under directions in the MC Mehta case of May 1996.

The chief secretary told the court that the LG issued directions to all officers to expedite the completion of the project. However, he said, "directions by higher authorities during such visits to expedite completion of projects cannot be considered as direction to overlook/bypass the statutory provisions for expediting such works."

Affidavits were also filed by the additional principal chief conservator of forests, the Delhi government, and an engineer-member

of DDA, who were also present with the Saxena during his visit. Giving their versions of the visit, additional PCCF Suneesh Buxy said that the LG was told about the mandatory permissions required by the forest department under the DPTA and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, that were pending as of that date. "The forest department was advised (by LG) to expedite the process in this regard," the affidavit said.

The DDA affidavit also said that no official present at the spot briefed Saxena about the requirement to take the top court's nod.

The tree-felling took place between February 16 to 26. The DDA affidavit said that the trees were felled on a "mistaken notion" as the permission under DPTA and an order of Tree Authority passed on February 15 was already in place. The top court in March refused to allow DDA's application; however, by then the trees had already been cut.

{ MALI WAL ASSAULT CASE } COURT ISSUES NOTICE ON BIBHAV'S PLEA

SC slams Kejriwal aide: 'Shocked it is done to visitor at CM's residence'

Abraham Thomas
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday questioned the conduct of chief minister Arvind Kejriwal's aide Bibhav Kumar in a case of alleged assault of Rajya Sabha member Swati Malival and said it was shocked by the manner in which the incident took place at the CM's residence, as it issued notice on Kumar's bail plea and listed it for hearing on August 7.

The top court did not accept Kumar's lawyer, senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi's suggestion that Malival's complaint was concocted as she filed it three days after the alleged incident.

A bench headed by justice Surya Kant said: "The question is not whether the injuries are major or minor. We are shocked at the

KUMAR HAD MOVED THE TOP COURT, CHALLENGING DENIAL OF BAIL BY DELHI HC BY AN ORDER ON JULY 12

manner in which it is done to somebody visiting the CM residence." However, the court agreed to consider Kumar's bail plea and issued notice on the same. Kumar approached the top court challenging denial of bail by the Delhi high court by an order of July 12.

Singhvi said that Malival had come to the CM's residence and nobody had gone to her house to which the bench, also comprising justices Dipankar Datta and Ujjal Bhuyan said: "Is the office of CM a private residence? Does it need

these kinds of rules?... But see the way and manner in which the offence is done. What kind of power has gone into his head that she tells him to stop as she is having a particular physical condition, but he continues? It is inhuman."

The court posted the matter on August 7 to consider the charge sheet filed in this case on July 30. Seeking response from Delhi Police on Kumar's bail plea, it permitted the petitioner's lawyers to place the charge sheet on record.

Singhvi said that the allegation against Kumar is that of causing injury and grounds for granting bail are made out as there is no manner he can tamper with evidence with the charge sheet having been filed. The court replied: "If this kind of person cannot influence, who else can? If he can mis-

lead people by calling the staff from outside, can anybody dare to speak against him."

The bench wished to know if Kumar was a former aide of CM or a government servant. Singhvi clarified he is a former government servant, but is currently a political assistant who fixes appointments of CM. "What authority did you have at the office of CM that the victim did not have? You want to make a case as if some goon has gone into the house. And he is not even ashamed of what he has done."

Singhvi pointed out that Kumar has been in jail for 75 days. Singhvi said that the FIR was possible due to "friendly" police under a "friendly" lieutenant governor. The court refrained from entering that argument and said: "These are your internal political affairs."

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Mayank Austen Soofi



Five civil steps

The annual monsoon pilgrimage to Civil Lines in Gurugram

{ PUBLIC INTEREST }

Gurugram was trending yesterday morning on X (it was trending by its old name!). The reason: the ferocity of the Wednesday evening rains. Many citizens were yet again astonished at the recurring vulnerability of the so-called Futuristic City.

In such weather, its best to stay safe in your secured interiors. But when it rains England style—not a heavy downpour, like the one on Wednesday, but a steady light drizzle—then, like every monsoon, you ought to yet again make a rainy season stroll through the town's Civil Lines. Like all its cousins spread across India, Gurugram's Civil Lines was set up by the British to house the local administrators. Certain parts of the area are extremely peaceful and sparse, spattered with old bungalows and tree-side tea stalls (see photo of Parvati-Mahadev's chai stall under the khirni tree, snapped during an earlier monsoon). Follow the following steps.

First, step into the old wing of the Church of Epiphany. Its 19th century interiors include an elegant ceiling crisscrossed with dark wooden beams. During a downpour, the tall lancet windows sometimes get misty. Take off your shoes

outside the door.

Second, step into a lane just beside the Church of Epiphany. It teems with peacocks during the rains. The birds are not always visible but the wet air frequently fills up with their "main hoon, main hoon." Avoid stepping into weedy tall grass, for peacocks are said to hang around in grounds full of snakes.

Third, step into Yudd Smarak, the War Memorial, tucked in a corner of the Swatantra Senani Zila Parishad Hall. Raised in the year 2000, the tower lists the names of army men from Gurugram who sacrificed their life in the many wars—from World War I to the Kargil War. During the rain, water runs over the inscribed names, before falling down into the pool.

Fourth, step into Civil Line Walla, the roadside chhole bhature shack. No need to sing for this eatery. It enjoys a cult following, and is favoured by cricketer Virat Kohli.

Fifth, it used to be nestled in a corner of Civil Lines, attached to the fence of a private garden, close to the Church of Epiphany. The chai at Ramvilas's tea stall would be strongly flavoured with adrak, and was popular among the area's rickshaw pullers and labourers. The stall no longer exists, but as time passes, it is necessary to invoke our vanished landmarks, for a place is also made of its remembered and unremembered past.



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

HT Homage

OM SHANTI OM
1951 - 2024
With profound grief and sorrow,
we inform of the sad demise of our beloved
Mr. Rajeev Grover
Prayer Meeting to be held on
3rd Aug. 2024, 3 to 4.30 pm
at Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
(Entry from Gate No 3)

FONDLY REMEMBERED BY:
Shobha Grover (Wife) Veena & Dr S K Grover (Sister-in-law & Brother)
Ashish Grover (Son) Veena Grover (Sister-in-law)
Anjali & Surjo Sinha (Daughter & Son-in-law) Madhu Grover (Sister-in-law)
Rudra & Vedant (Grandsons) Sharda & Vinod Grover (Sister-in-law & Brother)
Jyoti Kapoor (Sister-in-law) Renu & Vineet Grover (Sister-in-law & Brother)
Grover, Sinha, Sachdeva, Thukral, Narang, Kalra & Wadhwa Families.
Nephews, Nieces, All Relatives & Friends.

Team of **H. L. S. (Asia) Ltd. & Austin Energy Services Pvt. Ltd.**

In Loving Memory of

S. Tirlochan Singh Lamba
(22.07.1945 - 02.08.2017)
You have been and will always be guiding force and inspiration to all of us.
Deeply Missed & Remembered by
LAMBA FAMILY FRIENDS & RELATIVES

In Memoriam
In Loving Memory of
My Beloved Mother
MRS. ANJANA BAL MARDHEKAR
Who Passed Away
This day in 2011.
May she always
Rest in peace.
Raghav Bal Mardhekar

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PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Namely: **Aslam @ Bambaiya, S/o: Sher Khan, R/o: E-44 - E-120, New Seema Puri, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide FIR No. 392/17 U/s 457/380/411/34 IPC registered at PS Farsh Bazar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said **Aslam @ Bambaiya** could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused **Aslam @ Bambaiya** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Aslam @ Bambaiya** is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 03.10.2024.
By Order
Akhil Malik
MM, Room No.38,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
DP/10124/SHD/2024

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SR. NO	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ END (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH	NDAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL CORPORATION SONIPAT	ESTIMATE FOR COMPLETION WORK OF AAGANWADI CENTER (BALA PAINTING/WATER TANK/ WHITE WASH/WATER FITTING ETC.) IN SIKKA COLONY UNDER MC SONIPAT. + 12 WORKS	CLOSING DATE 05.08.2024	1.44 CRORES	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01302260100 ee2mcs@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
RO NO 13/2025/40/284571/19/7

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE: SUNDARGARH AT/PO-SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address-serw_sundargarh@yahoo.com						
No. Tender Online - RWCCSNG - 06 of 2024-25, Letter No 1739 / Dtd. 31/07/2024						
e-Procurement NOTICE						
1.	Type of the Work:	Buildings (OMBADC & DMF)				
2.	Class of Contractor:	As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure				
3.	Time of Completion:	As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure				
4.	Detail Projects:	As per Annexure attached				
5.	Estimated Cost:	As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure				
6.	Other details:					
Procurement Officer		Big Identification No	Availability of tender On-line for bidding	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender	Date & Time of Opening of Tender	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCSNG-06 of 2024-25	08.08.2024 11.00 AM	28.08.2024 5.00 PM	27.08.2024 5.00 PM	29.08.2024 11.00 AM	Will be intimated separately

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Chief Engineer (Design & Quality Control), Chief Construction Engineer (IC) Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh
OIPR - 25/133/11/0011/2425

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, CONSTRUCTION WING,
UTTARAKHAND PEYJAL NIGAM
E-32 JUDGE FARM HALDWANI, DISTT.- NAINITAL (PIN 263139)
Letter No.: 1623/Nivida-Anubandh/Udham Singh Nagar/192 Date : 01-08-2024

E-Tender Notice

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Tender Value Without GST (Rs. In Lakh)	Period of Completion
1.	Construction of School Building and Residential Buildings for Eklavya Aawasiya Vidyalaya at Bazpur, District-Udham Singh Nagar	Rs. 896.84	18 Months
2.	Construction of Hostel Building at Eklavya Aawasiya Vidyalaya, Bazpur District-Udham Singh Nagar	Rs. 366.07	12 Months

3. Date and Time of availability of Bid documents in the portal: 02-08-2024 (11.00 hrs)
4. Online Bid submission: End date :- 16-08-2024 (17.00 hrs)
5. Date & Time of Technical bid Opening :- 20-08-2024 (11.00 hrs)
6. Name and Address of the Officer inviting bid: - General Manager (Kumaon), Nirman Wing, Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Haldwani.
7. Pre-bid meeting details (if required) Date & Place :- 05-08-2024 (11.00 hrs) Project Manager Construction Unit Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam, Udham Singh Nagar.
8. For further details, details of subsequent Amendment / correction documentation etc. may be obtained from the e-Procurement portal www.uktenders.gov.in GENERAL MANAGER

WESTERN RAILWAY - AHMEDABAD DIVISION
VARIOUS BRIDGE WORKS
E-Tender Notice No. 09 of 2024-25 dated: 23.07.2024 Sr. No.1; e-Tender No. DYCE-BR-ADI-06-2024-25-R (1) Name of Work: Bhavnagar Division: Providing Inspection pathway, Jacking beam arrangement and painting of various bridges under the jurisdiction of Senior Section Engineer (Bridge) Bhavnagar & Senior Section Engineer (Bridge) Junagadh. Approximate NIT Cost: ₹ 6,03,34,801.51 Bid Security Cost/EMD: ₹ 4,51,700.00/- Sr. No.2; e-Tender No. DYCE-BR-ADI-09-2024-25 Name of Work: Ahmedabad Division: Schedule Painting work of steel girders of ROBs in Sabarmati-Gandhidham section under jurisdiction of Senior Section Engineer (Bridge) Ahmedabad. Approximate NIT Cost: ₹ 94,64,204.40/- Bid Security Cost/EMD: ₹ 1,89,300.00/- For Both Tenders: Closing date and time of e-tender: 16-08-2024 at 15:00 Hrs. Address of the Office: Dy. Chief Engineer (Bridge), Ahmedabad, Divisional Railway Manager Office Premises, Opp. Gujarat Cancer Society Hospital, Asarva, Naroda Road, Amdapura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat-380 016. Website for participating e-tender: www.reps.gov.in Ad-120
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{ 'FINANCIAL STABILITY' } HINDU MARRIAGE ACT, SECTION 26

Adult offspring entitled to maintenance: HC

Shruti Kakkar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Thursday held that adult offspring are entitled to interim maintenance till they are studying and are not financially stable, under the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act (HMA).

While Section 26 of HMA enables the court to pass interim orders with respect to the custody, maintenance and education of minor children, consistently with their wishes, the court said that gainful employment in today's competitive world may be feasible only after the child has pursued education beyond 18 years of age and thus, the

scope of education under the provision cannot be restricted. "A child who is pursuing his education would be entitled to maintenance under Section 26 of the HMA, even after he attains the age of majority, till the time he is pursuing his education and is not financially independent... Mostly, the child would have cleared his high school (Class 12) at the age of 18 years and would be looking to join a college/university for further studies. It is only after completion of a college/university degree and in some cases, completing a post-graduate/professional degree, would the child be able to secure employment," a bench led by justice Rajiv Shukhder, and com-

prising justice Amit Bansal, said. The bench said, "In fact, it can safely be concluded that in today's competitive world, gainful employment may be feasible only after the child has pursued education beyond 18 years of age... Therefore, the scope of education in Section 26 of the HMA cannot be restricted only till the time the child attains the age of 18 years."

The court enhanced the scope of Section 26 while dealing with a cross-appeals plea filed by a couple challenging the family court's August 16, 2018, order directing the husband to pay ₹1.15 lakh per month to his wife and ₹35,000 to his son till the time he attains the age of 26 or

becomes financially independent, whichever is earlier. The family court had ruled that the wife and the son were entitled to enhanced maintenance in view of the increased expenditure of the growing child and as per the wife's requirements commensurate with her social status. The court had also ruled that the wife's application for enhanced interim maintenance could not be decided in a timely manner since the husband had adopted delay tactics. The husband had sought to set aside the judgment, and the wife had sought to enhance the interim maintenance. In this case, the couple got married in December 1998 and

had a son from their wedlock in May 2001. They started living separately in January 2004 and the husband later filed for divorce on grounds of cruelty. However, the husband, during the pendency of the wife's application for enhanced interim maintenance, withdrew the divorce petition in 2016. In its ruling, the bench upheld the family court's order. "Taking a holistic view, in our considered view, the amounts claimed by the wife in her enhancement application totalling ₹1,45,000/- per month seems to be just and reasonable taking into account the financial position of the husband and the fact that the wife is unemployed," the court said.

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Joint Commissioner
NESTS, New Delhi

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CGM/MTC acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No: DFCC-EL-GBN-Maint-SCADA-OT-02. Name of Work: Comprehensive, Preventive and Breakdown Maintenance /AMC of SCADA system in Khurja-Dadri section of EDFCC/DFCCIL for a period of 24 (Twenty-Four) months under the jurisdiction of CGM/Meerut. Estimated Cost of Work: Rs. 61,07,125.00 (including GST) (Rs. Sixty One Lakh Seven Thousand One Hundred Twenty Six Only). Bid Security: Rs. 1,22,200.00 (Rs. One Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Two Hundred Only). Period of Completion: Total 24 Months. Date of uploading of Tender: 02.08.2024. Date & Time of closing of Tender: 23.08.2024, 15:00 hrs. Date and Time of opening of Tender: 23.08.2024, 15:30 hrs. Address for communication: Chief General Manager/MTC/DFCCIL OFFICE at 3rd Floor, Shree Balaji Commercial Complex, Plot No. C-2, Pocket B, Sec-1, Vaid Vyas Park, By Pass NH-58, Meerut-250002. Help Desk for E-Tendering and Phone No.: For any clarification, help & registration for E-Tendering & matter relating to Digital Signature, Contact at help desk of www.irps.gov.in and Phone No. 011-23761525. Availability of tender documents: The Tender documents can be downloaded from www.irps.gov.in. DFCCIL may issue Addendum (s)/Corrigendum (s) to the Tender document, if any, which shall be issued at least seven days in advance of date of opening of tender and placed on the website www.irps.gov.in only.
Chief General Manager, DFCCIL, Meerut

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उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय
(खाद्य एवं सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग)
(भारत सरकार) कल्याणपुर, कानपुर
दिनांक: 01.08.2024

सूचना

विषय: ETP की निविदा प्रस्तुत करने की तिथि में विस्तार हेतु

राष्ट्रीय शर्करा संस्थान में "Modernisation/Renovation of ETP" हेतु दिनांक 12.07.2024 को समाचार पत्रों में जारी निविदा के प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 12.08.2024 तक विस्तारित की जा रही है। विस्तृत विवरण संस्थान की वेबसाइट www.nsi.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है। अन्य शर्तें अपरिवर्तित रहेंगी।
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Notes:
1. Additional information on standalone financial results is as follows:

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended (30/06/2024)	Corresponding quarter ended (30/06/2023)	Previous year ended (31/03/2024)
1	Revenue from operations	3,349.11	3,130.47	12,404.01
2	Net Profit for the period / year (before tax, exceptional items and share of (loss) / profit of joint venture)	642.65	593.56	2,359.25
3	Net Profit for the period / year before tax (after exceptional items and share of (loss) / profit of joint venture)	642.45	593.36	2,358.74
4	Net Profit for the period / year after tax and share of (loss) / profit of joint venture	494.35	456.61	1,811.31
5	Net Profit for the period / year after tax (after non controlling interest and share of (loss) / profit of joint venture)	500.12	463.88	1,842.68
6	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (comprising profit for the period / year (after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax))	487.06	443.15	1,750.82
7	Paid-up equity share capital (Face Value of ₹ 1 each)	177.23	177.20	177.20
8	Reserves (excluding Revaluation/capital Reserve)	10,084.84	9,227.08	9,586.58
9	Securities Premium Account	547.68	534.15	534.39
10	Net worth	10,262.07	9,404.28	9,763.78
11	Outstanding Debt	1,304.09	1,394.78	1,365.09
12	Debt Equity Ratio	0.13	0.15	0.14
13	Earnings per share (Face value of ₹ 1 each) (not annualised)			
	(a) Basic	2.82	2.62	10.40
	(b) Diluted	2.82	2.61	10.38
14	Debt Service Coverage Ratio	17.65	21.07	17.39
15	Interest Service Coverage Ratio	24.02	29.39	23.21
16	Other Equity	10,187.36	9,254.00	9,689.10

For and on behalf of Board of Directors
Place: New Delhi
Date: 01 August 2024

Mohit Burman
Chairman
DIN : 00021963

CENTRE FOR RAILWAY INFORMATION SYSTEMS
CRIS
Tender No.: 01245238

Subject: - Hiring of Pay Per Use Common Storage. Date of Closing: 22.08.2024 at 15:30 hrs. Documents can be downloaded from Website www.irps.gov.in. For future modification/extensions pl. see www.irps.gov.in.

Hindustan Times
HT City

KRI & KA: LOVE IN GREECE?

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Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited
(A Government of India Enterprises - Mini Ratna Category-I)
CIN : L74899DL1999GOI01707

Registered & Corporate Office: 11th Floor, B-148, Statesman House, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi-110001
Tel.: 011-23311263-64, Fax: 011-23311259 Website: www.irctc.com e-mail: investors@irctc.com

INTIMATION REGARDING 25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING ("VC") / OTHER AUDIO-VISUAL MEANS ("OAVM").

NOTICE is hereby given that the Twenty Fifth (25th) Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of the Members of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited ("the Company") will be held on Friday, August 30, 2024 at 12:30 P.M. (IST) through Video Conferencing ("VC") Other Audio-Visual Means ("OAVM") to transact the business as set out in the Notice convening the 25th AGM, in compliance with MCA Circular dated September 25, 2023, SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/PoD-2/PIR/2023/167 dated October 7, 2023 and other notifications in force and in compliance with the provisions of the Act and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 ("SEBI (LODR) Regulations").

In compliance with aforesaid Circulars of MCA & SEBI, electronic copies of the Notice of the 25th AGM and the Annual Report for the financial year 2023-24 will be sent only to those members whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Company/ Registrar and Share Transfer Agent (RTA)/ Depository Participant(s). The aforesaid documents will also be available on the Company's website at www.irctc.com and on the website of the Stock Exchanges, viz., BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively, and National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") (agency for providing the remote e-voting facility and e-voting system during AGM) at <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com>. A member can request for the physical copy of the Annual Report for the FY 2023-24 by sending a requisition at investors@irctc.com.

Manner of casting vote through e-voting:
Members may note that the Company will be availing e-voting services of NSDL to enable its members to cast their vote on resolutions set forth in the Notice of the 25th AGM.
The Company has fixed Friday, August 23, 2024 as the "cut-off date" for determining the eligibility of the members to vote by remote e-voting or e-voting during the AGM.
Members may also note that the remote e-voting period shall commence on Tuesday, August 27, 2024 (9:00 A.M.) (IST) and end on Thursday, August 29, 2024 (5:00 P.M.) (IST). Additionally, the Company will be providing e-voting system for casting votes during the AGM.
Record Date, Dividend and Tax on Dividend:
Members may further note that the Board of Directors of the Company at their meeting held on May 28, 2024 has recommended a final dividend of ₹4.00/- per share on the face value of ₹2/- per share, subject to approval of the Shareholders at the 25th AGM. The "Record date" for the purpose of determining the members eligible to receive dividend for financial year 2023-24 is Friday, August 23, 2024.
The Final Dividend will be paid through various online transfer modes to the members who have updated their bank account details. For Members, who have not updated the bank account details, dividend warrants/demand drafts / cheques will be sent to the registered addresses in due course.
Pursuant to Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013, the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will remain closed from Saturday, August 24, 2024 to Friday, August 30, 2024 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of Annual General Meeting and for payment of final dividend for financial year 2023-24, if declared at the AGM. In accordance with Finance Act, 2020, payment of dividend will be subject to deduction of tax at source (TDS) at applicable rates. In order to enable us to determine the appropriate TDS rate, members are requested to submit the relevant documents in accordance with the provisions of the Act. A detailed notice regarding "Communication w.r.t. Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) on Final Dividend for the Financial Year 2023-24" is hosted at the website of the Company, www.irctc.com. For more details, please refer to the Notes to the Notice of 25th AGM.
Manner of registering KYC details including email addresses, bank details for receiving Dividend electronically, if declared in the AGM:
SEBI vide its Circular dated November 17, 2023, read with circulars dated November 3, 2021, December 14, 2021 ("SOP Circular") introduced common and simplified norms for processing investor's services requests by RTAs and norms for furnishing PAN, complete address, email address, mobile number, specimen signature, bank details and Nomination ("KYC details").
Members are requested to follow the below mentioned procedure for registration/ updation of their KYC details.

In case of, Physical Holding	Members holding physical shares are requested to register/update their email addresses and bank account details by sending a duly signed request letter in Form ISR-1 along with supporting documents to the RTA of the Company i.e. Alankit Assignments Limited, Alankit House, 4E/2 Jhandewalan Extension, Near Jhandewalan Metro Station, New Delhi - 110055, or scanned copy on email at kycupdate@alankit.com through their registered mail ID and provide the following details/documents:
	1. for registering email address: a) Folio No., b) Name of shareholder, c) Email ID, d) Mobile No. e) Copy of PAN card (self-attested), f) Copy of Address Proof (self-attested) g) Copy of share certificate (front and back).
	2. for updating Bank Account details: a) Name and Branch of the Bank in which you wish to receive the dividend, b) the Bank Account type, c) Bank Account Number, d) MICR Code Number, e) IFSC Code, and f) Copy of the cancelled cheque/Passbook bearing the name of the first shareholder.
	3. Members may please note the documents for KYC updation may be sent through self-attested and dated hard copies to the above mentioned address of RTA or through electronic mode, provided that these are sent through E-mail id of the holder registered with RTA and all documents should be self-attested by the Shareholder and in case of joint holders, by first joint holder.

In case of, Demat Holding	Please contact your Depository Participant (DP) and register your email address and bank account details in your demat account, as per the process advised by your DP.
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In case of any queries/grievances, Members may refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Members and participation in AGM and remote e-Voting user manual for Members" available at the download section of <http://www.evoting.nsdl.com> or call at the toll free no.: 022-4886 7000 and 022-2499 7000. Members may also write an email to company@investors@irctc.com.

Place : New Delhi
Date : 01.08.2024

By order of the Board of Directors of IRCTC Ltd.
Sd/-
(Suman Kalra)
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

SPOTLIGHT | RAIN FURY

After cloudburst, Himachal braces for floods



Part of a building collapsed in Kullu; people on a bridge over a swollen Beas River in Mandi; NDRF officials during a rescue operation in the Samej Khad of Rampur area in Shimla; on Thursday.

ANI/PTI

In Wayanad, a community emerges to help with relief

Vishnu Varma
letters@hindustantimes.com

MEPPADI: A little after 1pm, the loudspeaker at the Meppadi camp cracked into life. "Lunch is ready. People are requested to come down to the ground floor. Those from outside and volunteers should allow inmates to eat first," a booming voice says. Under a large black coloured tent in front of the Government HS school in Meppadi, now doubling up as a relief centre for those displaced by flashfloods in Wayanad that have left at least 190 dead and over 200 missing, a lunch of boiled rice, sambar and assorted stir-fried vegetables is served.

In Meppadi, 13 kilometres away from Chooralmala and 15 kilometres away from Mundakkai, the two villages worst affected by the landslides that struck Wayanad in Kerala on Tuesday morning, the government lower and higher secondary schools have both turned into relief camps that house over 300 people. They have lost homes and families, and yet there is some succour in these camps, with a steady stream of food, water and medicines pouring in; and doctors and even a trained psychiatrist tending to those in need.

Five years ago, in August 2018, Kerala faced another monsoon tragedy when large-scale floods were reported in large parts of

OFFICIALS SAID THAT LESSONS LEARNT OF RELIEF AND RESCUE IN 2018 WERE BEING USED TO MITIGATE FURTHER CRISIS IN WAYANAD

central and southern districts of Kerala, leaving over 420 people dead. Officials, however, said that despite the loss of life, lessons learnt of relief and rescue then, were now being used to mitigate further crisis in Wayanad.

At the Meppadi government school for instance, teacher staff rooms on the ground floor have been converted into offices where chief coordinators—from different government departments—sit with codified lists of those currently in the camp, elderly who need critical care, children and pregnant women. On the blackboard of the staff-room are listed two categories of supplies—those present in large quantities, and those which are urgently needed. Every hour, mini trucks arrive at the school, bringing in supplies, causing these lists to be updated. "We have contact numbers of people who are donating supplies such as clothes, food, blankets, sanitary items, masks and medicines.

When we are short of supplies, we give them a call and they arrive promptly," said a school teacher, working as a coordinator at the camp. "Till Wednesday, food for inmates came from outside. But from Thursday morning, we have started a community kitchen," she said.

At the same school, a kindergarten classroom is now a clinic, stacked with medicines on a table, with four doctors and nurses evaluating patients around the clock. A second classroom has Ayurveda practitioners.

Dr Ajay, one of the allopathic doctors who works at a government cooperative hospital in Vadakara, said, "Many inmates are presenting symptoms of fever, body pain and rashes. To prevent a viral fever epidemic and the spread of leptospirosis, we are prescribing doxycycline as a prophylactic. For those with hypertension and diabetes, we have adequate medicine supply."

Another lesson learnt from 2018, officials said, was the key presence of a trained psychiatrist at the relief centre. 44-year-old Sherina Najumuddin, for instance, who survived the landslide in Mundakkai along with her two daughters and elderly in-laws, said, "Both my daughter's have not been able to sleep for two days. They have seen the landslide and the horror of that night. I must get a counsellor to speak to them."

Man loses 26 family members in tragedy

Vishnu Varma
letters@hindustantimes.com

MEPPADI: It is a little after noon on Thursday, and just outside classroom 7-A of the Government Higher Secondary School in Meppadi sits a man who is very likely the embodiment of the human cost of the tragedy.

Sporting a dhoti and a T-shirt, a brown shawl over his head, Sultan MK, 47, a daily wage labourer, is well built, his face covered by a mask. The only visible part of his face are his eyes; eyes that have cried copious tears over the past two days; eyes that are swollen and red.

Minutes before, Sultan had risen, walking to one of the 16 mobile freezers kept in the classroom, the overpowering stench of formaldehyde coming through every time one is opened. He nodded his head in identification, and returned. The body was that of Afzal, his 43-year-old younger brother.

It is an exercise he has had to do over and over again. In the early hours of Tuesday morning, massive landslides hit Wayanad in Kerala, essentially wiping out the villages of Chooralmala and Mundakkai, in what is the state's worst monsoon tragedy since 2018.

At least 190 people are dead, and over 200 missing, with hopes that anyone will now be found alive fading fast. Twenty-six people from Sultan's family were among the missing. So far, 10 of their bodies have been identified so far. "Afzal's body was retrieved by locals from the Chaliyar river near Pothakallu. We were able to identify him because his face was more or less intact. In all, we have found 10 bodies. There are 16 more to go," Sultan says, his voice barely above a whisper.

In the three-storeyed government school which has doubled up as a mortuary, several survivors like Sultan, have spent two days looking for their families.



Birthday greeting cards hang on the wall of a destroyed home in Wayanad.

REUTERS

Yet, the number and scale of Sultan's personal tragedy is so grave, that he has difficulty remembering who is dead, and who is missing.

He had known something was wrong on Monday morning. The rain kept pelting down in his village of Mundakkai, nestled among tea plantations, and he didn't think it was safe anymore. "I told my wife and three kids to pack some clothes and headed to a relative's home five kilometres away. One of my relatives was also undergoing a surgery so I left for the hospital," said Sultan. His wife and kids are safe, at the camp.

As he left, he told Afzal and his family, who lived next door, to relocate. But they went to Chooralmala; the second village that has ceased to exist. "They thought it would be safe. But the landslide wiped out both villages," he said. Among the dead yet to be found are elderly relatives, women and children— aunts, uncles and cousins— among them a one-year-old child. "If they had moved out everyone from both villages by Monday evening, it wouldn't have been such a massive tragedy," he said.

A little after 12.30pm, one of Sultan's friends walks up to him, and mumbles in his ear. Sultan stands, robotic in his movements, and enters the classroom again, looking for one of his own.

After a warm July, IMD warns of wet Aug, Sept

Jayashree Nandi
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India recorded its second warmest July since 1901 in terms of mean temperatures and the warmest July by night time temperatures, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Thursday. July was also dominated by "exceptionally heavy rainfall" and flooding in several parts of the country including Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Kerala.

There could be more flooding, especially in September. Rainfall over the entire country during the second half of the southwest monsoon season (August and September) is most likely to be above normal (>106% of the long period average or LPA). LPA for the second half of monsoon for the period of 1971 to 2020 is about 422.8mm.

To be sure, that doesn't mean the entire month is going to be wet. If the patterns of past monsoons (over at least the last 10 years) are any indication, there will likely be dry stretches (sometimes long ones), interspersed by intense showers.

There are also likely to be regional variations. For instance, while there is a 1.8% surplus in rainfall over the country this season, this breaks down as a 18.4% deficiency in northwest India, a 18.9% deficiency in east and northeast India, a 16.8% excess over central India, and a 26.7% excess in Peninsular India.

In the second half of the mon-

FOR EAST AND NORTHEAST INDIA, THIS WAS THE WARMEST JULY SINCE 1901. CENTRAL INDIA RECORDED THE WARMEST JULY IN TERMS OF MIN TEMP AND NORTHWEST INDIA, THE THIRD

soon season, according to IMD, normal to above normal rainfall is most likely over the country except many parts of northeast and adjoining areas of east India, Ladakh, Saurashtra, Kutch, and some isolated pockets of central and peninsular India.

Hot July

For east and northeast India, this was the warmest July since 1901 in terms of both average and minimum temperatures. Central India recorded the warmest July in terms of minimum temperatures and northwest India, the third warmest. IMD officials did not comment on whether extremely warm conditions led to extreme rainfall episodes, but they did say that the so-called heat low was more intense than normal.

This July, there were 1,030 heavy rainfall (11.5 cm to 20.5 cm) events and 193 extremely heavy rainfall events. This is

marginally lower than what was seen last year but higher than 2020, 2021 and 2022.

During August, above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over many parts of the country, except for some areas in the Gangetic plains, central India, and the southeast coast, where normal to below-normal maximum temperatures are likely.

Kerala and Delhi

An orange alert was issued for parts of Kerala on July 29 and for Delhi on July 30 (for July 31). IMD officials said on Thursday. "An orange alert implies that agencies should be prepared to take action. In orange alert very heavy rain up to 20 cm is expected. For Delhi also, orange alert was issued on July 30 and 31. Orange alerts imply 'be prepared to act'. Do not wait for a red warning to take action," said M Mohapatra, director general, IMD.

Intense rain and cloudbursts

Mohapatra added that parts of Delhi recorded extremely intense spells of rain with the magnitude of around 89mm (8.9cm) in an hour on Wednesday night. IMD defines extremely intense rain as rainfall of 50-100mm in an hour. "We are not calling it cloudburst but these are extremely intense spells of rain. Again heavy rain was forecast," said Mohapatra adding that parts of Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand recorded similar events.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi consoles a person at a relief camp at Meppadi on Thursday.

PTI

3 trapped in basement die, one washed away as rains lash Raj

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

JAIPUR: At least four people were killed in rain-related incidents in Rajasthan on Thursday, as heavy rain paralysed large parts of the state, as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted more rainfall in the coming days.

In Jaipur, the basement of a house in Vishwakarma area was flooded early on Thursday morning, trapping 13 people. "Around 13 people were stuck when the basement was flooded with about 12ft water," said DCP West Amit Budaniya.

"An SDRF team was immediately rushed to the spot and they rescued nine people," Budaniya said.

After an eight-hour long search, SDRF managed to rescue one person while bodies of three people were recovered. The deceased were identified as Purvi Saini (6), Puja Saini (19), and Kamal Shah (23).

"There are a lot of houses in the area where people are living



Police and NDRF personnel outside the basement that was flooded, in Jaipur on Thursday.

PTI

in basements. We are appealing them to vacate the basements considering their safety. The administration has also sealed a lot of institutes and organisations in the city where the basements are operational. Legal action will be taken against them," he said.

Following the incident, chief minister Bhajan Lal Sharma declared a compensation of Rs 5,00,000 to the kin of the

deceased.

In the city's Bagru area, the body of a minor boy was recovered hours after he was washed away when a drain overflowed.

Several parts of the city were waterlogged till late in the evening, with even the entrance of the Jaipur Airport inundated. Major roads, including Sikar Road and Ajmer Road, were flooded causing major traffic disruption.

Centre tables amendments to disaster management act amid divergent views

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Union government on Thursday introduced the Disaster Management (Amendment) Bill 2024 in the Lok Sabha, proposing key changes to the existing Disaster Management Act of 2005, including a new authority for cities.

The bill seeks to establish an Urban Disaster Management Authority for state capitals and cities with municipal corporations to address urban disasters, and proposes creating a "disaster database" at national and state levels.

Under the new legislation, the National Disaster Management Authority and State Disaster Management Authorities would be empowered to prepare disaster management plans, a task previously handled by executive committees at the national and state levels. The authorities would also be allowed to appoint experts and consultants.

The bill's objectives cite the government's efforts to mainstream disaster management in

EXPERTS, WHO HAVE SEEN THE COPY OF THE BILL, SAID SOME OF THE AMENDMENTS WERE LONG DUE AND PRACTICAL

development plans, align with Finance Commission recommendations, and incorporate lessons from past disasters.

"The Disaster Management Act, 2005 has been reviewed in consultation with all stakeholders including state governments," said the objective and reasons for bringing the bill that was introduced in the Lok Sabha by minister of state for home affairs Nityanand Rai.

Experts, who have seen the copy of the bill, said some of the amendments were long due and practical.

Its key provisions include creation of a comprehensive disaster database including assessment, fund allocation, expenditure, pre-

paredness, and risk registers, the formation of an Urban Disaster Management Authorities chaired by municipal commissioners, with district collectors as vice-chairpersons, and empowering the NDMA to assess disaster risks, including emerging threats, and issue updated mitigation guidance.

Disaster management professional, Col (Retd) Sanjay Srivastava, from Climate Resilient Observing Systems Promotion Council (CROSP) and faculty at The Energy and Resources Institute School of Advanced Studies, said: "There are key changes. SDMA and NDMA will be able to prepare the plan, which is a good move. They know the terrain and geography of the state well. The plans, earlier prepared by National Executive Committee (NEC) and the State Executive Committee (SEC) are by bureaucrats using borrowed wisdom. In a state like West Bengal, the disaster management plan for a city like Kolkata or Burdwan, will be different from a hill district like Darjeeling. The local administration knows the issue well and

can make specific plans. They have been empowered to bring in experts who know the subject well."

However, opposition leaders raised concerns.

Congress MP Manish Tewari sought clarification on the constitutionality of the Bill. Tewari said that the government needs to amend the Concurrent List to include a separate entry for Disaster Management. Tewari pointed out that given the increasing frequency of disasters and the fact that local authorities are usually the first responders, there is a need for a clear law with well-defined legislative powers.

TMC MP Saugata Ray also opposed the Bill. He said, "Multiplicity of authorities leads to confusion. The Kerala Chief Minister is saying they did not receive warnings, while the Union Home Minister is saying warnings were given."

Rai responded to this. He said, "The first responsibility to respond to a disaster is of the state; we are not interfering through this Bill."

LEADERS REACT

It is quite a painful experience to see that people lost their family members and houses...

RAHUL GANDHI,
Congress MP



There are so many missing people. We have recovered so many bodies. The workers recovered many bodies from Chaliyar River. Many body parts were also recovered

PINARAYI VIJAYAN,
Kerala chief minister



Saving valuable human lives is the top priority at the moment and all government machinery will focus on this.

SUKHVINDER SINGH SUKHU,
Himachal Pradesh CM.



HC junks Muslims' pleas on Mathura temple suits

Jitendra Sarin
letters@hindustantimes.com

PRAVAGRAJ: The Allahabad high court on Thursday rejected applications of Muslim petitioners challenging the maintainability of suits filed by Hindu worshippers demanding the removal of the Shahi Eidgah mosque that abuts the Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi temple in Mathura.



The controversy is related to the Shahi Eidgah mosque at Mathura, which Hindu groups say was built after demolishing a temple. ANI

The court held that all suits of Hindu worshippers were maintainable and fixed August 12 as the next date of hearing for the framing of issues, in a verdict that marks a victory for the Hindu side in the significant case.

The controversy is related to the Mughal-era Shahi Eidgah mosque at Mathura, which Hindu groups say was built by emperor Aurangzeb after demolishing a temple at the mythical birthplace of Lord Krishna. The suits filed by Hindu litigants seek removal of the Shahi Eidgah mosque as well as restoration of the temple.

"On reading of the plaints as a whole and in a meaningful manner, perusal of the material placed on records, consideration of the arguments advanced by the rival parties, and settled legal propositions, I conclude that the plaints in all the suits of the plaintiffs disclose a cause of action and they do not appear to be barred by any provisions," said the court.

The Hindu side welcomed the verdict. Vishnu Shankar Jain told reporters that with the dismissal of the maintainability plea, the high court will continue to hear all the cases. "The Hindu side will next

move the Supreme Court asking it to vacate its stay on an earlier Allahabad high court order that had allowed a survey of the mosque."

The Muslim side said it will challenge the high court order in the apex court. "We will challenge the Thursday order of the Allahabad high court before the Supreme Court where August 5 is fixed on various other aspects related to issue of Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi and Shahi Eidgah Mosque," said Tanveer Ahmed, the secretary and counsel for management committee of Shahi Eidgah Mosque.

The high court held that these suits are not barred by the Limitation Act, Waqf Act and the Places of Worship Act, 1991, which locks the religious character of any religious structure as it existed on August 15, 1947.

It also said the suit was not barred by a compromise dated October 12, 1968. With this, justice Mayank Kumar Jain has paved the

way for all 18 consolidated suits to be heard on their merits.

The court said the objections raised by the Muslim side could not be decided without framing of issues and considering evidence. "The constructive possession of the deity over the land from the time immemorial and the legality and validity of the compromise dated 12.10.1968 are questions of fact that can only be proved by the evidence to be led during the trial."

"What relief can and cannot be granted has to be decided by this court on the basis of the pleadings and evidence available on record. Besides this, the plaintiffs have claimed several reliefs such as cancellation, declaration, mandatory injunction as well as for possession which are subject to evidence to be led during the trial," it added.

The court rejected the argument of the Muslim side that the structure was a Waqf property as per the notification of February 26, 1944. "The present superstructure

came into existence on the basis of the compromise dated 12.10.1968. It is also to be taken into consideration that during several rounds of litigation, prior to institution of Suit No. 43 of 1967, nowhere it was pleaded that the suit property was a Waqf property... Thus, at this stage it cannot be assumed the suit property was notified as a "Waqf property" under this notification."

Justice Jain reserved his verdict on June 6, 2024 after hearing pleas of the Shahi Eidgah mosque committee and the UP Sunni Central Waqf Board.

The Muslim side argues that a compromise was drafted between Shri Krishna Janam Sthan Seva Sansthan (earlier known as Shri Krishna Janam Sthan Seva Sangh) and the Shahi Eidgah Masjid committee in 1968, and the land on which the Masjid stands was given to the masjid committee. Later, the compromise was affirmed by a court in an order passed in 1974. But the Hindu side says that in the 1968 compromise, the deity was not a party and that the Shri Krishna Janam Sthan Seva Sansthan was not empowered to decide on the pact because it only managed day-to-day activities.

The BJP welcomed the decision. "The construction of a grand temple at Ram Janmabhoomi happened after the judgment of the Supreme Court. I am confident that in the coming time, Shri Krishna devotees will also get justice," said Uttar Pradesh deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya.

"I welcome the decision given by the court," deputy CM Brajesh Pathak said.

8 Indians killed while serving in Russian Army: Govt in RS

Rezaul H Laskar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The government informed Parliament on Thursday that eight Indian nationals have been killed so far while serving with the Russian Army, double the number formally acknowledged by the external affairs ministry.

Minister of state for external affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply to a question that the exact number of Indian nationals recruited into Russia's armed forces is not known, though 63 Indians have sought early discharge.

The external affairs ministry had till now acknowledged the death of only four Indian nationals while serving with the Russian military on the frontlines of the conflict with Ukraine. Most of the Indians were recruited as support staff, such as cooks and helpers, and accompanied their units to the warzone. "Eight deaths have been reported where the citizenship of

12 Indians have already left Russian armed forces while 63... are seeking early discharge

KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH,
MoS for external affairs

the deceased has been verified as Indian," Singh said while replying to a question from AAP MP Sandeep Kumar Pathak. "Information available currently indicates that 12 Indian nationals have already left the Russian armed forces while another 63 individuals are seeking early discharge," he added.

The government has received requests for facilitating the early discharge of "some Indian nationals purportedly recruited into the Russian armed forces in unclear circumstances". He added, "The

exact number of such Indian nationals is not known."

The recruitment of Indians into the Russian military became a hot button issue following the deaths of several nationals earlier this year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the issue when he met Russian President Vladimir Putin for the annual bilateral summit in Moscow last month, and the Indian side reportedly secured a promise that all such persons would be speedily sent back.

In June, India also demanded a "verified stop" to the recruitment of Indian nationals in the Russian Army. Singh said the government has provided financial support for transporting the bodies of four Indian nationals to the country and it will do the same for other cases when required.

In addition, Russia has informed the Indian side that compensation will be paid to the families of the dead Indians in "accordance with the contracts signed by them", Singh said.



Bhopender Yadav
GOVT WILL SUBMIT ITS VIEWS ON NEED FOR AMENDING FOREST ACT IN SC

Jayashree Nandi
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The environment ministry will present its views on the need for amending the Forest Conservation Act 1980 in the Supreme Court, Union environment minister Bhopender Yadav told the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

He was responding to a set of questions from Trinamool Congress lawmaker Saket Gokhale, who asked Yadav if the Supreme Court had passed an interim order on February 19 stating that the definition of forest will continue as per the SC's 1996 judgment and not according to forest conservation amendment act that was brought by the Centre last year. He also sought to know the rationale behind the government choosing and expanding the definition of forest in the forest conservation amendment act.

Yadav said as per Forest Survey of India's assessment, India has recorded a net increase of 1,540 sqkm in forest cover.

"SC had also published a judgment on 12 December 1996 which said forests should be defined as per the dictionary meaning of the word. In the 1980 FC Act because of the provision of dictionary meaning of forest so many developmental projects were getting affected. In the amendment we have explained what cannot be considered forest," Yadav said.

The FC Amendment Act was brought in last year to bring clarity on what may not be considered forests. "There is no change of definition. The matter is subjudice at the moment. We will put all our views in front of the SC..." he said.

The ministry also informed the Rajya Sabha that there will be surveillance towers and geo-fencing to oversee tribal settlements of the Shompen around the Great Nicobar Infrastructure Project. It also said the Centre has accorded the In-principle/Stage-1 approval for diversion of 130.75 Sq km forest land for sustainable development in Great Nicobar Island.

Cong using trolls to amplify small railway incidents, claims Vaishnaw

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NEW DELHI: Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday accused the Congress of using its "social media troll army" to amplify small incidents on the railway network and create fear among 20 million-plus passengers.

Replying to a debate on the Demand for Grants of Railways in the Lok Sabha, Vaishnaw targeted the previous Congress-led governments for allegedly ignoring the safety of passengers by delaying the implementation of the automatic train protection system.

"Unfortunately, during the 58 years of Congress rule, the automatic train-protection (ATP) system was not implemented on even one km on Indian Railways till 2014," Vaishnaw said.

Countering the opposition's claims on railway safety, the minister said: "When Mamata Banerjee was the railway minister, she used to give the accident numbers that decreased from 0.24 to 0.19



Ashwini Vaishnaw

to infuse fear in more than two crore passengers who use the railway network daily."

The minister also listed out initiatives taken by the government to improve safety on the railway network by eliminating unmanned level crossings, implementation of electronic interlocking at railway stations for better management of train movements and introduction of Kavach, the automatic train protection system.

The Lok Sabha approved the Demands for Grants of Railways to the tune of ₹7.89 lakh crore.

Opposition members raised slogans demanding Vaishnaw's resignation over multiple train accidents in the recent past before staging a walkout.

"Ashwini Vaishnaw is not taking his moral responsibility. In the last two months, four goods trains have derailed. In the last 2-3 months, 14 people have died in rail accidents... the minister should introspect and understand whether he should remain in the post or resign," Congress lawmaker Gaurav Gogoi said.

No surveillance provision in Telecom Act: Min

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NEW DELHI: Pemasani Chandra Sekhar, the minister of state for communications, told Rajya Sabha on Thursday that the Telecommunications Act, 2023, does not have any provisions for telecom surveillance, in response to a question by Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Mausam Noor.

"The Act does not have provision for telecom surveillance," the

response read. This response, however, struck experts as odd given that section 20 of the act, which was brought into force on June 26, provides for interception for national security, public order, and other allied reasons.

"The parliamentary response from the minister of state for communications is baffling as Section 20 of statute clearly provides for interception in certain circumstances. Hence, the response as provided on the floor of the house

that the 2023 statute contains no provision for surveillance is beyond comprehension in face of expressed statutory language, especially when he admits that Section 20 has been brought into force," Priyadarshi Banerjee, partner at Delhi-based Banerjee & Grewal Advocates, said.

"Interception is a subset of surveillance. The two cannot be disconnected," Banerjee explained.

The executive director of digital rights organisation Internet Free-

dom Foundation, Prateek Waghre too said the response was puzzling since "Section 20(2) of the Telecommunications Act, 2023, includes interception powers, much like Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885".

Noor had also asked for a list of authorised agencies that can order "telecom surveillance" under the Telecom Act, and the oversight mechanisms in law that can stop the abuse of telecom surveillance by security agencies.

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.- 33004/99

REGD. NO. D. L.-33004/99

संकेत नमस्ती

भारत का राजपत्र

The Gazette of India

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असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं० 2533] नई दिल्ली, मंगलवार, जुलाई 9, 2024 / आषाढ 18, 1946
No. 2533] NEW DELHI, TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024/ASHADHA 18, 1946

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 9th July, 2024

S.O. 2668(E).— Whereas, by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Railways, number S.O. 3903(E), dated the 04th Sep 2023 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii), dated 04th Sep 2023 and issued under sub-section (1) of section 20A of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for the purpose of execution, maintenance, management and operation of the Special Railway Project, namely, Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor Project in the district Gurugram, in the State of Haryana;

And whereas, the substance of the said notification has been published in the daily local newspapers, namely, "Times of India" dated the 13th Sep, 2023, and "Danik Jagran" dated the 13th, Sep, 2023 under sub-section (4) of section 20A of the said Act;

And whereas, 02 objections have been received & the same was considered & resolved as per rule by the Competent Authority

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 20E of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the report of the Competent Authority, and in the exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 20E of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the Schedule annexed hereto shall be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 20E of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the Schedule annexed hereto shall vest absolutely in the Central Government free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, for the Special Railway Project, namely, Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor Project in the district Gurugram, in the State of Haryana. visit the following web site link or scan the QR code.

District:- Gurugram
Name of the Sub Tehsil/Tehsil/Taluka:
Farrukhnagar

20E Pataudi
S.O. 2668(E) 09-07-2024

[F. No. 8-W/HRIDC/W.Spl/2019]
BRAJ BHUSHAN SINGH TOMAR,
Chief Administrative Officer (C)

Publication Date 09.07.2024
https://www.hridc.co.in/pdf/20EGazette3rdAdd.Pataudi.pdf

Haryana Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation

(A Joint Venture of Govt. of Haryana & Ministry of Railways)

http://www.hridc.co.in

Haryana Orbital Rail Corridor (HORC)

QR Codes of references:

https://egazette.gov.in

20A Pataudi
S.O. 3903(E) 04-09-2023

3. Notification to acquire land u/s 20A of Railway Act 1989
https://www.hridc.co.in/pdf/3rdAdditional20APataudi.pdf

Verdict seeks policy to define 'creamy layer' in SC/ST quota

Utkarsh Anand

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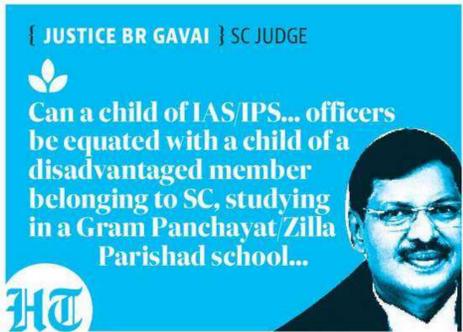
NEW DELHI: In a forward-looking judgment, justice BR Gavai on Thursday articulated the need for the exclusion of the "creamy layer" within the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) from the benefits of reservation policies so as to ensure that the benefits of affirmative action reach those who are genuinely in need, rather than those who have already transcended their social disadvantages.

Justice Gavai's concurring opinion, delivered as part of a broader ruling that affirmed sub-classification within the SC/STs, delved into the contentious issue of the "creamy layer" and its exclusion from the benefits of affirmative action.

Historically, the Supreme Court in the nine-judge bench decision in the Indra Sawhney case (1992) had confined this principle to the Other Backward Classes (OBCs), explicitly stating that it had "no relevance in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes." However, Justice Gavai challenged this long-held position, arguing that it is time to re-evaluate the exclusion of the creamy layer from SC/ST reservations in light of contemporary realities.

"When the nine-judge bench in Indra Sawhney held that applicability of such a test insofar as Other Backward Classes are concerned would advance equality as enshrined in the Constitution, then why such a test should not also be made applicable to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes," he wondered. Creamy layer refers to people who are above a certain income bracket - ₹8 lakh per annum for OBCs - and thus, excluded from quota benefits.

Justice Gavai drew on the reasoning from Indra Sawhney, where justice Jeevan Reddy had emphasised that if some members of a backward class advance significantly in terms of social, economic or educational status, they no longer share the same level of



JUSTICE BR GAVAI | SC JUDGE

Can a child of IAS/IPS... officers be equated with a child of a disadvantaged member belonging to SC, studying in a Gram Panchayat Zilla Parishad school...



disadvantage as the rest of the group. In such cases, the connecting thread between them and the remaining class snaps, making them "misfits" in the class, justice Reddy had held, while adding that excluding these advanced members would actually benefit the truly backward.

This reasoning, according to justice Gavai, was equally applicable to SC/STs, especially given the disparities within these communities. "By judicial interpretation, the equality enshrined in the trinity of Articles 14 to 16 of the Constitution has been considered to be equal treatment among equals and unequal treatment among unequals. The question that will have to be posed is, whether equal treatment to unequals in the category of Scheduled Castes would advance the constitutional objective of equality or would thwart it? Can a child of IAS/IPS or Civil Service Officers be equated with a child of a disadvantaged member belonging to Scheduled Castes, studying in a Gram Panchayat/Zilla Parishad school in a village?" he asked.

"It is logical that in such a situation, his children are not given the benefit of reservation. By giving them the benefit of reservation, other disadvantaged members of that backward class may be deprived of that benefit," the judge held. Their continued inclusion in the reservation pool, he maintained, could undermine the very

purpose of affirmative action.

The judge's opinion was supported by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, and justices Vikram Nath, Pankaj Mithal, Manoj Misra and Satish Chandra Sharma.

Justice Gavai also addressed the argument that the advancement of a few members does not negate the backwardness of the entire caste or tribe - an idea encapsulated in the saying "one swallow doesn't make the summer."

Justice Gavai, in his 281-page judgment, analysed the stark disparities within SC/ST communities, particularly between urban and rural populations, drawing a contrast between the educational opportunities available to children of SC/ST members in urban areas, who may attend prestigious schools and receive additional coaching, and those in rural areas who may only have access to basic education. The judge asserted that treating these two groups as equals under the reservation policy would "obliterate equality principle enshrined in Constitution."

Justice Gavai's judgment also firmly rejected the argument that sub-classification could lead to reservations being manipulated for political purposes, noting that the safeguards within the constitutional framework and judicial oversight ensure that any such classifications must be reasonable and justifiable.

India's quota policy now like a swelling balloon: Judgment

Utkarsh Anand

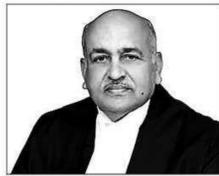
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Justice Pankaj Mithal, while concurring with the majority view on sub-classification within the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), delivered a sharply critical opinion against the broader caste-based reservation policy in India, as he described the existing system as a "trap" that perpetuates division and dependency, rather than fostering genuine equality.

His opinion, though in line with the majority on the issue at hand, emphasised that caste should no longer be the basis for reservation and that other criteria, such as economic status, living conditions and vocation, should be considered instead.

While calling for a periodical review of the reservation policy to ensure that it remains relevant and effective, justice Mithal also advocated for limiting reservation benefits to the first generation within a family, arguing that once a family has benefited from reservation, subsequent generations should not be eligible. This, he suggested, would prevent the creation of a "vested interest" in reservation and ensure that the benefits of social justice policies are more widely distributed. "I would not be suggesting dismantling of an existing building without erecting a new one in its place which may prove to be more useful," he said.

Justice Mithal's opinion highlighted skepticism about the efficacy and long-term consequences of reservations based solely on caste. In his view, the policy, initially intended to uplift the marginalised, not only failed to achieve its intended goals of social and



Justice Pankaj Mithal

economic upliftment but also "revived casteism".

Questioning the very premise of caste-based reservations, the judge regretted that the Constitution's vision was for a casteless society, yet the reservation policy inadvertently entrenched caste divisions rather than dissolving them.

Directing his criticism at the long-term sustainability of the reservation system, the judge said: "It is common understanding that what is conceded once to appease any class cannot be taken back. So are the benefits extended to the reserved category of persons under the Constitution. Each concession once made, just goes on swelling like a raisin/balloon. This actually happened with the policy of reservation also."

He maintained that reservation is one of the modes of helping or uplifting the status of the OBCs/SCs/STs but anyone suggesting another or a better way of helping the so-called depressed classes or the down-trodden or the marginalised persons of the society is immediately pounced upon as "anti-Dalit". Justice Mithal also lamented the burden that the reservation policy has placed on the judiciary, noting that it has led to an "enormous" amount of litigation, particularly in the high courts and Supreme Court.

UTTAR PRADESH | AMID RIFT IN STATE BJP

After row in assembly, Nazul bill sent to panel

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LUCKNOW: A controversial bill on regulating Nazul land stumbled in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council on Thursday after state Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief Bhupendra Chaudhary himself proposed that the draft legislation be sent to a select committee, hinting at the rift within the party.

The 100-member council, in which the BJP holds a 79-member majority, passed all other bills in front of it, including one to add more teeth to the state anti-conversion law and another to establish a state capital region, but unanimously decided to send the Uttar Pradesh Nazul Properties (Management and Utilization for Public Purposes) Bill, 2024 to a select committee.

The bill - which empowers the state to reclaim Nazul properties (government properties), which have been leased out to private individuals and entities, for public use and development activities - was passed in the UP assembly on Wednesday amid an uproar by the Opposition and condemnation even by two BJP members - former minister Siddharth Nath Singh and BJP legislator Harshvardhan Bajpai.

The surprising turn of events comes amid a tussle for control within the state's party unit. Deputy chief minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, who held a series of meetings with the BJP top leadership in Delhi last month and set off speculation of a rift with chief minister Yogi Adityanath, was seated next to Chaudhary when he proposed the bill be sent to a select committee. No member objected to the motion when it was put to a voice vote by the chair Manvendra Singh, after it was introduced in the House. "The bill should be referred to Pravar Samiti (Select Committee)," Chaudhary said.

After referring the bill to the select committee and passing all other bills, the legislative council was adjourned sine die.

Nazul land has been leased to various private individuals and entities as grants issued under the Government Grants Act 1895 and

THE LEGISLATION EMPOWERS THE STATE TO RECLAIM NAZUL PROPERTIES (GOVT PROPERTIES), WHICH HAVE BEEN LEASED OUT TO PRIVATE PERSONS AND ENTITIES

the subsequent Act of 1960.

The Opposition has termed the legislation "draconian" and "anti-people". On Wednesday, when the bill was tabled in the assembly, it was opposed not only by the Samajwadi Party but also two lawmakers from the BJP and a third from ally NISHAD party.

BJP MLA Harshvardhan Bajpai said: "... According to law, the government has to protect the interest of the tenant. In several cities, people are residing [on Nazul land] for over hundred years. The bureaucrats might have told the government that people are residing in big bungalows whereas the truth is that majority of them are the poor residing in one or two rooms... The poor people must be given rights to freehold Nazul land."

NISHAD party MLA Anil Kumar Tripathi said: "The new law is anti-people." SP MPs rushed into the well of the assembly, raised slogans against the government and sat on dharna.

Parliamentary affairs minister Suresh Kumar Khanna had to assure the House that EWS will be given relief in the bill. "No person will be deprived of the property if they have been allotted by the authority under the law," he said.

The controversy comes amid a tussle for power within the BJP.

Maurya, an OBC leader, set off speculation of the rift first with his speech on July 14 and then a post on X three days later, following his meeting in Delhi with party chief JP Nadda. Then, this week, he said elections are not won on the strength of the government but by the party. At the heart of the divide is the BJP's poor Lok Sabha performance, which saw the party's tally fall from 62 to 33.



Yogi Adityanath

IF I WANTED FAME, I WOULD HAVE GOT IT IN MY MUTT: CM

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LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday lashed out at the Opposition, saying he is not working merely to earn a salary and that his government will continue with its development works to transform the state, remarks that also come amid differences in the local unit of the BJP after its dismal performance in the Lok Sabha elections.

"You feel scared of the bulldozer but this is not for the innocent but only for the guilty, who are playing with the trust of the state's youth... businessmen and daughter's security... who creates nuisance inside the state and makes it difficult for people to live peacefully. It is my duty, am not here to do a job, definitely not. Whoever will do it (indulge in nuisance) will also pay for it. That is why am here... That we will fight them..." he said in the legislative assembly.

The Opposition has often slammed the state government over its use of bulldozers as an instrument of enforcing the law.

Yogi continued: "This is not an ordinary fight... nor one for fame. If I wanted fame... I would have got it in my mutt... The Opposition is misguiding the people and raising unnecessary issues."

Amid his continuous attack on the Opposition, he later said: "Our feet are firm on the ground. We will make plans for the state and continue with the drive to transform Uttar Pradesh."

Some leaders have blamed the Yogi government's performance for the party's dismal performance in the Lok Sabha elections.

'Only Parl can make alterations to Presidential List'

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NEW DELHI: Justice Bela M Trivedi on Thursday dissented from the majority ruling of the seven-judge bench concerning the sub-classification of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), holding that states lack the authority to sub-classify, subdivide, or re-group the castes, races, or tribes that are designated in accordance with the President's exercise of constitutional powers.

Diverging from the stance of the other six judges on the bench, justice Trivedi noted that states have neither executive nor legislative power to sub-classify the castes, races or tribes specified as the "Scheduled Castes" in the Presidential List notified under Article 341 of the Constitution.

The judge underscored the

finality and sanctity of the Presidential List, adding that once a caste, race or tribe is included in this list, it becomes a "Scheduled Caste" for all constitutional purposes, and this status cannot be altered by any authority, except Parliament through legislation.

Highlighting that not even the president has the power to vary the list once notified, she said this interpretation is crucial for maintaining the homogeneity and special status of SCs across the country. The judge clarified that Article 341 creates a "deeming fiction" whereby all castes, races, and tribes included in the Presidential List are collectively regarded as SCs, regardless of the criteria used to recognise them in a particular state.

"Thus, the etymological and evolutionary history and background of the nomenclature



Justice Trivedi underscored the finality and sanctity of the Presidential List.

"Scheduled Castes," coupled with the Presidential Orders published under Article 341 of the Constitution, make the Scheduled Castes, a homogenous class. The necessary corollary would be that all the members of all the castes, races and tribes enumerated in the Presidential List are deemed to be "Scheduled Castes" for the purposes of the Constitution and

they all would be entitled to all the benefits granted or reserved for the Scheduled Castes..." she held.

Justice Trivedi took a firm stance against the power of states to make any variations to the Presidential List, stating that there is no provision in the Constitution that allows states to alter the list for the purposes of reservations under Articles 15 and 16. She referenced the actions of Andhra Pradesh and Punjab, where attempts were made to pass legislations that would sub-classify SC/STs for reservation benefits. These attempts, the judge said, amounted to "tinkering" with the Presidential List, which is expressly prohibited by Article 341(2).

Her dissent argued that such state actions, even if well-intentioned as affirmative action for the "weaker of the weakest"

castes, are unconstitutional and represent a "colorable exercise of power" - an attempt to achieve indirectly what cannot be done directly. She warned that any such sub-classification by states could lead to reverse discrimination, violating the principle of equality enshrined in Article 14 of the Constitution.

Justice Trivedi's dissent also addressed the importance of judicial discipline, particularly the doctrine of stare decisis, which obliges smaller benches to follow the decisions of larger benches unless there is a compelling reason to deviate. She expressed concern that the majority opinion undermined the settled law established by the Constitution Bench in EV Chinniah (2004), which had held that the states do not have the power to sub-classify SC/STs.

DHINDSA OUSTED FOR 'ANTI-PARTY ACTIVITIES', SAYS AKALI DAL LEADER

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CHANDIGARH: The Shiromani Akali Dal on Thursday expelled its patron and senior leader Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa from primary membership for "anti-party activities".

The decision came a day after the senior Akali leader took on party chief Sukhbir Singh Badal and rejected the expulsion of eight rebel leaders.

The Badal-led outfit earlier expelled eight leaders, including former MP Prem Singh Chandumajra and ex-Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee chief Bibi Jagir Kaur, who revolted against the party chief, for alleged anti-party activities. The Shiromani Akali Dal also expelled ex-MLA Gurbpartap Singh Wadala and former ministers Parminder Singh Dhindsa, Sikandar Singh Maluka, Surjit Singh Rakhra, Surinder Singh Thekedar and Charanjit Singh Bar.

A three-member disciplinary committee - led by Balwinder Singh Bhundar - on Thursday expelled Dhindsa, who was serving as the party patron, from its primary membership. The committee also included Maheshinder Singh Grewal and Gulzar Singh Ranike. "Today, Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa has been ousted from the party," Bhundar said. It was the party that had made him patron, he said.

UGC permits central varsities to conduct their entrance exams

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NEW DELHI: The University Grants Commission (UGC) has allowed central universities to conduct their own entrance exams or admit students on the "basis of marks in the qualifying examination" if seats remain vacant in undergraduate and postgraduate courses after admissions through Common University Entrance Test (CUET).

The UGC on Thursday released a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for central universities to fill vacant seats and said, "Keeping the seats vacant for an entire academic year is not only a waste of resources but also results in denial of quality higher education to many students who aspire to pursue higher studies in central universities."

UGC chairman M Jagadeesh Kumar said, "We should not leave any seats vacant. Every seat is valuable in our universities. The universities must make all efforts to ensure that students are offered admission in your university so that no seat is left unfilled."

UGC also said the CUET scores will remain the "primary criteria" for admitting students and that UGC has already written to all central universities to admit students on the basis of



UGC has released guidelines for central varsities to fill vacant seats.

this test.

If vacancies persist, universities may conduct their own entrance exams or "the concerned department of the University may conduct a screening test," the SOP said. The university can also admit students based on qualifying exam marks.

Additionally, "students who appeared in CUET, but may or may not have applied to the respective university for the courses/programmes earlier may also be considered," it added. UGC said the "entire admission process has to be based on merit and transparency" and that "the reservation roster shall apply for admission to courses/programmes in all cases."

Universities are required to ensure the "timely completion of the entire admission process so that no student faces any kind of academic loss."

ECI directive adds to buzz over J&K polls

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SRINAGAR/CHANDIGARH: The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Wednesday asked the administration of Jammu & Kashmir to transfer out those bureaucrats posted in their home district or had been at the same location for three years, in a fresh indication that assembly polls in the Union Territory are imminent. To be sure, these instructions are a routine exercise held routinely before elections, and similar orders have been issued to the chief secretaries of Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand, where elections are due later this year.

The last assembly elections in the region were held in 2014,



The last assembly elections in J&K were held in 2014, with a coalition government of BJP and PDP coming to power. HT FILE

with a coalition government of the BJP and the PDP coming to power. The BJP, however, withdrew its support in June 2018, and the state came under President's rule. On August 5, 2019 however, Article 370 was abro-

gated and the state bifurcated into two Union territories - Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

In June this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that fresh polls would indeed be held in Jammu & Kashmir, also raising hopes of a restoration of statehood thereafter.

A letter from the ECI to Jammu & Kashmir's chief secretary and chief electoral officer, dated July 31, said no official connected directly with polls "shall be allowed to continue in the present district of posting if she/he is posted in her/his home district or if she/he has completed three years in that district during last four years or would be completing three years on or before September 30, 2024." "I am

directed to state that the terms of existing state legislative assemblies of Haryana, Jharkhand and Maharashtra are up to November 3, 2024, January 5, 2025, and November 26, 2024, respectively, and election are due in 2024. Further, the election to the legislative assembly of UT of Jammu & Kashmir is also due in near future," the letter said.

The move, officials said, is aimed to ensure impartiality and prevent undue influence or familiarity which might affect the sanctity of the election process. The ECI's directive underscores its commitment to conducting free and fair elections and maintaining the integrity of the electoral process and ensuring a level playing field for all, an official said.

In a first, woman general takes over key medical post

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NEW DELHI: Lieutenant General Sadhna Saxena Nair, 59, on Thursday took over as the Director General Medical Services (Army), becoming the first woman to be appointed to the top position, the army announced.

She was earlier the first woman doctor to be appointed Director General Hospital Services (Armed Forces). She graduated from the

Armed Forces Medical College, Pune with a distinguished academic record and was commissioned into the Army Medical Corps in December 1985, the army statement said.

To be sure, three-star women doctors have held the equivalent posts in the air force and navy.

The navy's medical services wing is also currently headed by a woman officer, Vice Admiral Arti Sarin.

Nair holds a post graduate degree in family medicine,



Lieutenant General Sadhna Saxena Nair

diplomas in maternal and child health and health care manage-

ment and has also undergone two-year training in medical informatics at AIIMS, New Delhi.

She trained in CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear) warfare with the Israeli Defence Forces and in military medical ethics with the Swiss Armed Forces, the statement added.

She was also the first woman principal medical officer of Western Air Command and the IAF's Training Command. Military doctors can be

U.P. JUDICIAL PANEL GIVES CLEAN CHIT TO POLICE IN ATIQ, BROTHER'S KILLING

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LUCKNOW: A judicial commission formed to probe the murders of gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmed and his brother Khalid Azeem in police custody has ruled out the possibility of "conspiracy" or "negligence" by authorities, according to a report tabled in the Uttar Pradesh assembly on Thursday.

The report by the five-member panel, which was led by Allahabad high court judge (retired) Arvind Kumar Tripathi, gave a clean chit to the police and said it was not possible for them to avoid the murders that took place when Atiq and his brother Khalid, alias Ashraf, were being taken for routine medical check-ups at a hospital in Prayagraj on April 15.

Atiq - a former five-time state legislator and former Lok Sabha member who had 100 cases against him - and Ashraf were arrested in connection with the 2023 murder of lawyer Umesh Pal, who was the prime witness in the 2005 killing of Bahujan Samaj Party lawmaker Raju Pal. Ahmad was a prime accused in the 2005 case as well.

Both had arrived at Colvin Hospital premises and were talking to the media, ringfenced by policemen, when they were fired at by three assailants, who were posing as journalists, in full public view.

"The incident... cannot be said to be the result of a pre-planned conspiracy executed by the State Police... The incident... was not the result of police negligence nor was it possible for them to avoid the incident," it said. It said there was no negligence on part of the 21 policemen who were part of the security that was escorting the deceased for the medical exam.

posted from one service to another and don the rank of the service.

She was nominated as an expert member of the Dr Kasturirangan committee for drafting part of the medical education component of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2019.

She is married to Air Marshal KP Nair (ret'd) and has the unique distinction of being a daughter and sister of military doctors, and the wife and mother of Indian Air Force fighter pilots.

India, Vietnam agree to enhance trade, boost security cooperation

Rezaul H Laskar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India and Vietnam agreed on Thursday to bolster defence cooperation for greater stability in the Indo-Pacific and to redouble efforts for freedom of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea in the face of China's assertive actions in the region.

Following talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his visiting Vietnamese counterpart Pham Minh Chinh, the two sides also agreed on measures to bolster trade and economic cooperation, including elevating two-way trade from the current level of \$15 billion, removing trade barriers and establishing an economic diplomacy dialogue.

Vietnam has emerged as a key partner for India among the members of the Association of South-east Asian Nations (Asean) for both trade and security issues. At the same time, Vietnam has looked to bolster its defence and security ties with India against the backdrop of its territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea.

Speaking at a media interaction following his talks with Chinh, Modi said the two sides had adopted a new Plan of Action to strengthen the bilateral com-



PM Narendra Modi with his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Minh Chinh, at the Hyderabad House on Thursday. ARVIND YADAV/HT

prehensive strategic partnership established in 2016.

"New steps have been taken for cooperation in the field of defence and security...The agreement on a \$300-million credit line will strengthen Vietnam's maritime security," Modi said.

Noting that Vietnam is an "important partner" in India's "Act East" policy and Indo-Pacific vision, Modi said: "We share unison in our views regarding the Indo-Pacific region. We support evolution, not expansionism."

Chinh said the two sides would redouble their efforts for peace, stability and security in the South China Sea, and for the peaceful settlement of disputes based on

respecting international law, especially the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982. "We agreed to share information and work together to make the South China Sea into the waters of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation, where safety, security and freedom of navigation and overflight is upheld," he said, speaking in Vietnamese.

Chinh proposed that in the field of trade and investment, the two sides should double bilateral trade and investment over the next three to five years, for which a new mechanism would be needed. He said the two sides will establish an economic diplomacy talks at the

level of deputy foreign minister.

Later in the day, delivering the Sapru House Lecture at the Indian Council of World Affairs, Chinh suggested that the two countries should work on a new trade and economic cooperation agreement. He also invited greater Indian investments in key areas such as infrastructure, air and maritime connectivity, and oil and gas.

A joint statement issued by India and Vietnam said both sides agreed on closer cooperation for removing trade barriers. They said the ongoing review of the Asean-India Trade in Goods Agreement should lead to a more user-friendly, simple and trade facilitative regime.

Vietnam welcomed Indian investments in high technology, IT, manufacturing industries, textiles, semiconductors, renewable energy, while India sought investments from Vietnam in agriculture, aquaculture, wood processing, urban development, production of bamboo and forestry products, digital technology and e-vehicles, the joint statement said.

Modi and Chinh virtually inaugurated an Army Software Park at the Telecommunications University in Nha Trang that was built using an Indian grant of \$5 million. The facility serves as an IT and foreign language centre and

carries out digital transformation missions for the military and other sectors.

The two sides finalised two dollar credit line agreements worth \$300 million. They also signed seven agreements, including memorandums of understanding (MoUs) between the Central Agricultural University in Imphal and the Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences for cooperation in agricultural research, and between Vietnam's justice ministry and India's law ministry on cooperation in the legal field.

Modi said the two sides also decided to emphasise cooperation on terrorism and cyber security, and an agreement had been reached between the central banks of the two countries for digital payment connectivity.

Chinh referred to India's role as the voice of the Global South and said the country has an "increasingly greater role and status in the world" to contribute to peace, stability, development and prosperity. "The Asia [and] Indo-Pacific is a locomotive for growth for the world, but it is also where major power politics are taking place fiercely. Security challenges, especially non-traditional security challenges interspersed with each other are becoming fiercer," he said.

India lodges protest as fisherman dies in incident with SL navy

Rezaul H Laskar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday made a strong protest to Sri Lanka over a collision between the country's naval vessel and an Indian fishing boat that killed a fisherman and left another missing.

The external affairs ministry called in Sri Lanka's acting high commissioner, Priyanga Wickremesinghe, on Thursday morning to register a protest over the incident. The external affairs ministry said in a statement. Tensions between the two sides over fishing have grown since a Sri Lankan Navy personnel was killed during an operation to seize an Indian fishing boat in July.

A collision was reported early on Thursday morning between a Sri Lankan naval vessel and an Indian fishing boat at a location five nautical miles north of Katchatheevu island. "Out of the four Indian fishermen who were on board the vessel, one unfortunately lost his life and another is missing," the statement said.

Two of the fishermen were rescued and brought ashore to Kankesanthurai. A search is underway for the missing Indian fisherman.

Officials of the Indian consulate in Jaffna were directed to go to Kankesanthurai and extend all

MEA CALLS IN SRI LANKA'S ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER TO REGISTER PROTEST

The external affairs ministry called in Sri Lanka's acting high commissioner, Priyanga Wickremesinghe, on Thursday morning to register a protest over the incident. We expressed our shock and anguish at the unfortunate loss of life," the statement said.

India's high commissioner in Colombo, Santosh Jha, also raised the matter with the Lankan government later, it added.

The Indian government has "always emphasised the need to deal with issues pertaining to fishermen in a humane and humanitarian manner", it said. "Existing understandings between the two governments in that regard must be strictly observed. Utmost efforts should be made to ensure that there is no recurrence or resort to the use of force."

India attaches the highest priority to the safety and security of Indian fishermen, and issues related to them have been raised regularly at the highest levels with the Sri Lankan leadership.

'POTENTIAL THREAT': INDIA ASKS CITIZENS TO LEAVE LEBANON

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday urged its citizens living in Lebanon to leave the country because of "potential threats in the region" following the escalation of tensions due to the killing of leaders of Hamas and Hezbollah.

In the second advisory issued within a day, the Indian embassy of Beirut also advised Indian nationals not to travel to Lebanon. The Indian mission has issued three advisories since July 29. There are nearly 4,000 Indian nationals in Lebanon, according to official figures.

"In view of recent developments and potential threats in the region, Indian nationals are advised against travelling to Lebanon till further notice," the latest advisory said without any reference to the killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and Hezbollah leader Fuad Shukur in Israeli strikes. **HTC**

INDIA TO HOST ITS BIGGEST AIR FORCE WAR GAMES ON TUE

Rahul Singh
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Tarang Shakti 24, the biggest air combat exercise to be hosted by India, will be held in August-September, involve the participation of 10 foreign air forces and 18 countries as observers, and allow the country to showcase its indigenous military capabilities to the world, Indian Air Force vice chief Air Marshal AP Singh said.

The exercise will be conducted in two phases: from August 6 to 14 at the Sullur air base in Tamil Nadu, and August 29 to September 14 in Jodhpur. Each phase will involve the participation of 70-80 aircraft including fighter planes, helicopters, special operations planes, mid-air refuellers and airborne warning and control system aircraft, IAF officers aware of the matter said.

"One of the goals is to showcase the booming indigenous defence ecosystem and highlight the self-reliance drive. The Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA Mk-1), Prachand light combat helicopter, Dhruv advanced light helicopter and its armed version Rudra are among the locally produced assets taking part in the drills," Singh said on Wednesday at a curtain-raiser to the exercise.

{ INDIA-RUSSIA PROJECT }

Extended fuel cycle to bolster TN nuke plant

Rezaul H Laskar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Russia's nuclear energy corporation has begun implementing the nuclear fuel supply contract for future units of the Kudankulam atomic power plant that will allow the reactors to have an extended fuel cycle.

Rosatom has started work on the contract covering nuclear fuel needs during the entire lifetime of Units 3 and 4 of the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in Tamil Nadu, starting from the initial loading of the reactor cores. These two units, powered by VVER-1000 reactors, are currently being constructed.

RUSSIAN FIRM SAID UNITS 3 AND 4 WILL BE LAUNCHED WITH EXTENDED NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE OF 18 MONTHS

Work done by Russian and Indian specialists on Units 1 and 2 at Kudankulam, which are already operational, has helped extend the nuclear fuel cycle from 12 to 18 months. Units 3 and 4 will be launched with the extended nuclear fuel cycle of 18 months, Rosatom said in a statement.

The fuel cycle is the time of con-

tinuous operation of a nuclear reactor before it is shut down for unloading irradiated fuel and loading fresh fuel.

Units 3 and 4 of the Kudankulam power plant will be the "first VVER-1000 reactors in history to be launched in an extended 18-month fuel cycle," said Natalia Nikipelova, president of TVEL Fuel Company under Rosatom.

"This is a result of our successful cooperation in recent years, as the efficient solutions which have been previously implemented at similar reactors in Russia and China were also introduced at the Kudankulam operational power units," she said. While working on Units 1 and 2, Russian and Indian

specialists have done a lot of work to improve the efficiency of the reactors by introducing advanced nuclear fuel and extended fuel cycles, Rosatom said.

Since 2022, the Kudankulam nuclear power plant has been supplied with TVS-2M nuclear fuel with an improved design. "The new fuel ensures more reliable and cost-efficient operation of reactors due to its rigid skeleton, new-generation anti-debris filter and higher uranium mass," it said.

Operation in longer fuel cycles improves the economic efficiency of nuclear power plants as the reactor is shut down less often for fuel reloading and generates more energy during the year.

Clashes in Manipur after security forces use tear gas on protesters

Thomas Ngangom
letters@hindustantimes.com

IMPHAL: Clashes broke out between Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) residing in a relief camp and security forces in Imphal East district of Manipur on Thursday after tear gas was used to disperse a protest rally by the camp residents demanding their rehabilitation.

IDPs from Akampat relief camp attempted to march towards chief minister N Biren Singh's residence at Babupara, but were stopped by forces soon after they exited the camp gate, leading to an altercation.

CM TELLS HOUSE THAT 226 PEOPLE HAVE DIED DUE TO ETHNIC VIOLENCE AND OVER 59,000 ARE DISPLACED

Security forces, including the state police, fired tear gas shells at the rally to disperse the crowd. The protesters retaliated by pelting stones at security personnel.

Around 10 protesters were rushed to a hospital after they complained of suffocation due to tear gas. They were discharged after first aid.

Since May 3 last year, Manipur has witnessed ethnic clashes between Meiteis and Kukis.

When the matter was brought to the notice of the state assembly, CM Singh said: "There are elements which are politicising certain issues that cannot be immediately handled now..."

He also informed that 226 people have died due to the ethnic violence in the state and over 59,000 displaced people are sheltered in relief camps.

Meanwhile, a delegation of journalists met the CM, demanding action against a police officer who allegedly assaulted a journalist during the IDPs' protest.

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In which year did India win its first Olympic gold medal in hockey?

A. 1928	B. 1932
C. 1936	D. 1948

1st August Answer

Who was the first Indian to win an individual Olympic medal?

B. Norman Pritchard

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HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH : JABALPUR NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-tenders / online tenders are invited from experienced and reputed Firms/Organizations / Original Equipments Manufacturer (OEM) for the purchase of One Heavy Duty MFD Machine for the High Court of Madhya Pradesh under Buyback Option under the specifications, terms and conditions mentioned in the bid document. The last date of online tender submission is 21st August, 2024 before 06:00 P.M. The sealed tender complete in all respect addressed to "Registrar General, High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur" must be submitted before 05:00 P.M. on 22nd August, 2024. The technical bids of the tender shall be opened on 23rd August, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. The detailed tender document is available in the official website of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh www.mphc.gov.in and Government e-procurement portal www.mptenders.gov.in.

Sd/-
REGISTRAR GENERAL

G-14349/24

INVEST UP NOTICE INVITING TENDER

FOR 'REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL' (RFP) FOR Selection of Consultancy Firm for Analyzing Potential Pumped Storage Projects (PSP) sites in Uttar Pradesh.

Invest UP invites e-Bids from Consultant Companies, for the "Selection of Consultancy Firm for Analyzing Potential Pumped Storage Projects (PSP) sites in Uttar Pradesh". The details of submission of e-Bids are available in the RFP document available at the e-Tender Portal <https://etender.up.nic.in> and Invest UP website: www.investup.org.in.

The schedule of e-Bid is as follows:-

S.No.	Description	Date & Details
1	Pre-bid Meeting (at Invest UP office)	7 th August 2024 at 3:00 PM
2	Bid Submission Closing Date	28 th August 2024 at 4:00 PM

Invest UP reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids or annul the bidding process without assigning any reason thereof.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) (E-Procurement Module)

The Executive Engineer, Tissa Division, HPPWD Tissa P.O. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the percentage Rate bids, in electronic tendering system, from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of tender form (Rs.)	Class	Completion period
1	Construction of Junas to Mulwas road Km 0/0 to 1/500 (SH- Formation Cutting between Rd 0/0 to including dumping places.)	1518488.37	30369.77	500.00	D and C	3 Months
2	M/T & CD work on link road to village Vedyali Km 0/0 to 1/600 (SH- C/900 mm dia hume pipe culvert at Rd 0/855 & 1/080 along with wing walls)	990058.70	19810.00	350	D and C	3 Months

KEY DATES:

- Starting Date for downloading : 03.08.2024 at 10.00 AM
- Deadline for submission of Bid : 12.08.2024 at 11.00 AM
- Date of Technical bid opening : 12.08.2024 at 11.30 AM

The undersigned has right to extend or cancel the bids without debaring any reasons there-of. The Bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in

Executive Engineer
Tissa Division, HPPWD Tissa, Pin-178316
Email: ae-ts-hp@gov.in
On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh

DPR HP-1195

GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA Public Works (East) Division, Pune - 411 001

Phone No. 020/26122457 Web- www.mahapwd.gov.in & e-mail- eastpune.ee@mahapwd.gov.in

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 36 FOR 2024-2025

The Executive Engineer, Public Works (East) Division, Pune - 411 001 invites bids for following work from Registered as well as unregistered Contractor, and full filling the qualifying criteria for C-Form Tender Format as per Maharashtra Government, Public Work Department G.R. No. CAT/2017/Pra.Kra-08/Bldg-2, dt. 27/9/2018 and Public Work Department Matralaya Mumbai Circular No. CAT/2017/Pra.Kra-08/Bldg-2, dt. 22/10/2018. Bids document can be downloaded from website <https://mahatenders.gov.in> Executive Engineer reserves all rights to accept or reject bids. Conditional bids will not be accepted.

NAME OF WORK AND ESTIMATE COST LIST

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost Rs.	Earnest Money Deposit	Time limit for Completion	Cost of e-tender Form Fee	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of Major Bridge across Karha river Jejuri Morgaon Baramati Road SH-120 to Km 63/00 to Morgaon Baburdi kharathi Aajangao road MDR 130 Km 14/500, VR 290 Village Kharathi, Tal. Baramati Dist. Pune	11,17,14,448/-	5,59,000/-	18 Months (Including Monsoon)	Rs.3540/- (With GST 18%)	Registered as well as Unregistered Contractor
2	Construction of Major bridge on baramati ring road sh 122 km 13/850 on karha river Tal. Baramati, Dist. Pune	9,71,87,394/-	4,86,000/-	18 Months (Including Monsoon)	Rs.3540/- (With GST 18%)	Registered as well as Unregistered Contractor

E-tender - Time Table

- Period of Downloading of bid documents/ Sale start and end dates: Dt. 02.08.2024 @ 10.00 hrs. to Dt. 09.08.2024 @ 18.00 hrs.
- Pre-bid Meeting in the Office of Chief Engineer, P. W. Region Office, Pune, Old Central Building, Pune-411001. Dt. 05.08.2024 @ 12.00 hrs.
- Period of Bid Submission/ Bid Submission Start and End date. Dt. 02.08.2024 @ 10.00 hrs. to Dt. 09.08.2024 @ 18.00 hrs.
- Bid Opening Period Dt. 12.08.2024 @ 18.00 hrs. (If Possible) (In the office of Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle, Pune.)

Note:

- All eligible/interested contractors are downloading and mandated to get enrolled on e-tendering portal "<http://mahatenders.gov.in>".
- For online payment related issues, kindly send email with Bank Reference Number to this email ID merchant@sbi.co.in. You may also contact 022-27560149 for clarification.
- Other terms & condition Displayed in online e-tender form. Right to reject any or all online bid of work without assigning any reasons thereof is reserved.
- Above only Tender Notice is displayed on P.W.D. website "www.mahapwd.gov.in".
- Online Blank Tender Downloading fee and Earnest money shall be paid via online using NEFT/RTGS or payment gateway mode.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Public Work (East) Division, Pune 411 001.

DGIPR/2024-25/ROC 1450

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM FLOOD AND RIVER EROSION MANAGEMENT AGENCY OF ASSAM. (FREMAA)

Address: 4th Floor, Assam Water Centre Basistha Chariali, NH 27 Guwahati, Assam-781029, Phone / Fax-(0361)2309896, Email: ceo-fremaa@assam.gov.in, Website: www.fremaa.assam.gov.in

No. FREMAA(P)/TECH/WB/94/2023/25T- 380

REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB) National Competitive Bidding (Two-Envelope Bidding Process with e-Procurement)

The Chief Executive Officer, Flood & River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) invites Request for Bid (RFB) under National Competitive Bidding from reputed firms/company/registered contractors having experience in interior works as follows:

Name of Work	Approximate Value
Interior Works of Office Setup for AITEC & CSD Society in 2nd Floor, Assam Water Centre, Basistha	Rs. 56,79,135/- (Inclusive of all taxes)

Complete RFB documents shall be available on website <http://fremaa.assam.gov.in> and www.assamtenders.gov.in from 05.08.2024. In this connection, A pre-bid meeting is scheduled to be held on 12.08.2024 at 2 PM (14:00 HRS) in the Conference Hall of FREMAA.

Intending bidders are required to register in the e-tender portal of the Assam Govt. www.assamtenders.gov.in and participate through e-tender portal only. The last date and time of submission of bid is on 05.09.2024 at 2 PM (14:00HRS)

Any addendum/corrigendum to the bidding documents will be uploaded in the aforementioned websites only.

Janasanyog/CF/946/ 24/2-Aug-24
Chief Executive Officer, FREMAA

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Company website: www.gphpholdings.com
Contact : Mr. Aditya Khatror M: 9871996654

CHANGE OF NAME

I. DEEPAK Kumar Attwar S/O Sh. Dinesh Kumar R/o B-463, Jahangir Puri, North West Delhi-110033 inform that my name is mentioned in Aadhar Card as Deepak Kumar Attwar & Deepak Kumar in my bank account. Both Deepak Kumar Attwar & Deepak Kumar are same person.

I. SAURABH Sethi S/O Rajeev Sethi, R/o B-230, Sector 122, in Front of Cleo County NoIDA, Gautam BGDh Nagar, U.P.-201301 have changed spelling of My Name from Saurabh Sethi to Saurabh Sethi. Saurabh Sethi & Saurabh Sethi one and same person and in future spelling of name would be Saurabh Sethi.

I. JITENDER Kumar, S/O Sh. Kamal Kumar, R/o C-349, Street No. 41, Mahavir Enclave, Part-3, New Delhi 110059. I have corrected my father's name from Kulu Ram to Kamal Kumar in my passport.

I. VIDHYA Devi W/O J.C-388638L Sub Ajan Kumar Singh R/o Vill-Pratappur PO- Majhwar, Teh & Distt - Chandauli U.P.- 22204. I have changed my name from Vidhya Devi to Vidya Devi for all future purposes vide Notary Delhi affidavit dated 29-07-2024.

I. PRADEEP Bhardwaj S/O Bhim Singh Bhardwaj R/O 170, Roshan Garden Part-2, Old Kakrola Road, Najafgarh, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110043 have changed my minor daughter's name from Sarah to Sarah Bhardwaj for future.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENTIRE SECOND FLOOR OF PROPERTY BEARING NO. F-24, SITUATED AT VASANT VIHAR, NEW DELHI, MEASURING 9945 SQ. YDS., (OR SAY 1000 SQ. YDS. APPROX.)

"Be it known to all that my client has agreed to purchase the Entire Second Floor, along with 22.5% undivided, indivisible and impartible ownership rights in the Plot of Land measuring 994.5 Sq. Yds., (or say 1000 Sq. Yds., approx.) Bearing No. F-24, situated at Vasant Vihar, New Delhi [say "said Portion of the said Property"], from Shri Navjyot Singh Sachdev (alias Shri Navjot Singh Sachdeva, Shri Navjot S/o Late Shri Dharam Bir Singh Sachdeva (Late Shri D.B.S. Sachdev, alias Late Shri Dharam Bir Singh Sachdeva) [say "Owner"] who has represented himself to be sole, absolute and exclusive owner of the said portion of the said property and has further represented that the said portion of the said property is free from all sorts of encumbrances (registered or un-registered) including but not limited to prior sale, gift, mortgage, charge, lien, claims, disputes etc. Further the owner and my client have also agreed to get the above property re-constructed and thus cause re-construction of a fresh residential building. My client has already paid Advance Money and part sale consideration to the owner against purchase of said Portion of the said Property.

That Previous Original Perpetual Sub-lease Deed Dated 16.10.1968, duly Registered as Document No. 7342, in Addl. Book No. 1, Volume No. 2086, on Pages 8 to 14, on 10.12.1968, with the Sub-Registrar, New Delhi, in favour of Shri Dharam Bir Singh Sachdev S/o Shri Waryam Singh is reported as missing/lost.

Any other person(s) having any claim against, into or upon the said property or any part thereof by virtue of sale, inheritance, agreement, contract, mortgage, lien, charge etc., on the basis of the aforesaid misplaced/lost document, or otherwise howsoever and of whatsoever nature is hereby required to notify the same in writing along with supporting documentary evidence to the undersigned within 15 days, from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my client shall conclude the sale and any claim and/or objection if any shall be considered as waived and abandoned and shall not be binding upon my client.

AMIT GUPTA (Advocate)
C-13, Pamposh Enclave, New Delhi-110048. Tel. 26284741, 26284569

CHANGE OF NAME

I. KAMALABAI M/o No 15173569H Hasidhar Satish R/O Vill- Kuntegaon & PO- Ladhia, Teh- Bhalki, Distt- Bidar (Karnataka) - 585411 have changed my name from Kamalabai to Kamal Bai & date of birth from 01 Jul 1965 to 01 Jan 1968. My real and true name is Kamal Bai and date of birth is 01 Jan 1968.

I. PARTH S/o Sh. Parasuram, R/o KB-1 Karpurpuram, Govindpuram, Ghaziabad (UP)-201013 have changed my name from Parth to Sankalp Kumar for all future purposes.

I. SUNIL Kumar Sharma. S/O Jagdish Prasad Sharma R/O D-504 Aditya mega City Indirapuram Ghaziabad changed my name from Sunil Kumar Sharma Jagdish to Sunil Kumar Sharma for all future use.

I. KUSUM Garg D/o Sudershan Goel, A/1203, Ekta Garden, IP Extension, Delhi-110092 declare that my actual & correct name is Kusum Garg. Kusum Garg and Gunjan Garg is only one and same person.

I. POONAM W/O Amit Kumar Yadav R/o H-10, 1417, 1st Floor, Green Park Society, Sec-16, Faridabad, Distt. Faridabad 121002 have changed my name to Poonam Yadav for all future purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. UMESH Bali S/O Sh. Ved Prakash Bali R/o House No. 2L, 4th, NIT, Faridabad, Haryana-121001 have changed my name from Umesh Lal S/O Ved Prakash Bali for all future purposes.

I. ABRAHAM S/O PD Thomas R/o 26/78, Surya Kunj Colony, Phase 1, Kail Pkwy, Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043, have changed my name from Abraham, for all future purposes.

I. PUSHPENDER Singh S/O Girraj Singh R/O H No-RZ-155, Street No-36, Sadh Nagar, U.P.-201092 My name Wrongly mentioned in my graduation certificate & my correct & actual name is Pushpender Singh S/O Girraj Singh And Pushpender Singh S/O Girraj Singh Both Are the Same Person.

I. KRITIKA Sunil Sharma D/O Sunil Kumar Sharma R/O D-504 Aditya mega City Indirapuram Ghaziabad changed my name from Kritika Sunil Kumar Sharma to Kritika Sunil Sharma for all future use.

I. SAROJ Devi W/O No-1C389455F, Sub Ajan Kumar R/O Vill- Chaswal, Po-Sajao Pigi, Tehsil-Sarkaghat, Distt-Mandi, State- Himachal Pradesh -175025, I have changed my name from Saroj Devi to Saroja Devi for all future purposes vide Notary Delhi affidavit dated 29-07-2024.

I. BHAWANI Singh S/O Inder Singh R/O Village- Bazeppur Sany, PO- Kota, Teh & Distt - Saharanpur (UP)- 247555 have changed my name to Kabir Singh before Government of National Capital territory of Delhi.

CHANGE OF NAME

I. EKTA Kirwal W/O Sh. Mohit Kumar R/O H.No.A-33, Top Floor, Gurudwara Lane, Near Aggarwal Sweets, Pandav Nagar, Akshardham, New Delhi-110092. My name Wrongly mentioned in my daughter birth certificate as Ekta Mohit Kumar. I confirm that my actual & correct name is Ekta Kirwal.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ENTIRE GROUND FLOOR OF PROPERTY BEARING NO. C-192, SITUATED AT GREATER KAILASH PART-I, NEW DELHI

"Be it known to all that my client(s) has agreed to Purchase Entire Ground Floor, with exclusive space for Two Car Parking having separate entry gate in the still and also One Servant Quarter in the Rear Portion of the Still Area, along with proportionate (22.5%) undivided, indivisible and impartible ownership rights in the land underneath Measuring 300 Sq. Yds., Bearing No. C-192, situated at Greater Kailash Part-I, New Delhi [say "said Portion"] from (1) Mrs. Sushma Suri W/o Shri Anoop Kumar Suri and (2) Shri Ankan Suri S/o Shri Anoop Kumar Suri, who have represented themselves to be absolute and exclusive owners of the said portion and have further represented that the said portion is free from all disputes, litigations, charges, liens and other encumbrance(s) whatsoever.

Any other person(s) having any claim against, into or upon the said portion or any part thereof by virtue of sale, inheritance, agreement, contract, mortgage, lien, charge etc., or otherwise howsoever and of whatsoever nature is hereby required to notify the same in writing along with supporting documentary evidence to the undersigned within 15 days, from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my client shall conclude the sale and any claim and/or objection if any shall be considered as waived and abandoned and shall not be binding upon my client.

AMIT GUPTA (Advocate)
C-13, Pamposh Enclave, New Delhi-110048. Tel. 26284741, 26284569

LOST & FOUND

THE ORIGINAL allotment letter of my house no. A-23, Patel Nagar-II, somewhere in its certificate has also been issued on 31.07.24. Its use will be illegal. If anyone gets the above documents, please inform me by phone. Usman Ali son of Abdul Majeed resident of A-122 Patel Nagar II Ghaziabad U.P. 201001 Mobile: 9810005020

I. SMT. Sushma Rani, W/o Brijpal, R/O H.No. 75, Ward No. 20, Mohalla Khali Khurd, Distt. Palwal, purchased the above-mentioned property from Jagatpal, S/o Harish Chand. My original property is Will No. 3069 dated 10.02.1975 which is lost somewhere. If anyone finds it then contact the above address or mobile number 9811428418.

AUCTION NOTICES

E-AUCTION For Niger Embassy New Delhi 06 August 2024 Vehicle With Documents Auction of Vehicle belonging to NIGER EMBASSY, New Delhi, will be held on Tuesday the 6th August-2024, at 14:30 through E-auction. Security deposit of Rs. 1,00,000/- per 4-wheeler, in favour of Accurate Auctioneers, should be deposited before 05:00pm on or before 05th August-2024. Inspection of the vehicle can be done at 3rd August-2024 from 11:00 to 13:00 hrs. at NIGER EMBASSY, Ambassade de la Republique du Niger, F/ 8/22, Murikha Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi. Bidder must submit identity and address proof along with security money. And create EMD submit request on website. *DETAILS OF VEHICLES:- Manufacturer-MERCEDES BENZ, MODEL-C-CLASS (2007-2010) 2006CGI (2011-2014), Year of Purchase-2013, Seating capacity-1+4 seater, Fuel type-Diesel, Engine-2143 cc, KMS covered-68454 approx. Insurance validity-Upto 24 August 2024. Road Tax exemption-UN Number plate-15CC21. Pollution certificate-n/a detailed Terms And Conditions And Photos Attached With Message. Accurate Auctioneers 9868215515, 8076863359

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for general information that due to the catastrophic flood which happened in July 2023, all medical records of patients admitted to Sant Parmanand Hospital, Civil Lines, from January 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017, and daycare records from April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, have been irrevocably lost. These records were stored at our Yamuna Bazar Hospital.

Yatendra Chaudhary
Director- Human Resources

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the document being original conveyance Deed dated 17.02.2023 executed between M/s M3M India Private Limited (formerly known as M3M India Limited) having its registered office at Cabin-1, Lfr. F-22, Sushant Shopping Arcade, Sushant Lok, Phase-I, Gurugram, Haryana, issued in the name of Mrs Geeta Pant and Dr Ajit Pant have been misplaced and not traceable.

1. Conveyance Deed Document /Vasika No. 9734 dated 18/07/2004 Registered office at Sub Registrar, Gurugram, Haryana.

2. Possession Letter and Allotment Letter issued by Gulab farms Pvt.Ltd.&Sweet Peas Pvt.Ltd A lost report has been duly lodged L.R.No. 411758/2023 dated 05/05/2023 with the police station at Crime Branch, Delhi.

If anyone finds the above documents, please return to or contact 9891387317
Email: anant99@icloud.com or the undersigned

S. Anand Advocate
Supreme Court Of India
Sector-D, Pocket-1/1406,
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi/110070

Be it known to all that (i) Mrs. Kanta Golani W/o Shri D.W. Golani and (ii) Shri Sanjay Golani S/o Shri D.W. Golani, (say Owners), representing themselves to be the joint, absolute and exclusive owners of property bearing No. C-2/53, situated at Safdarjung Development Area, New Delhi-110016, has agreed to sell and transfer (a) Entire Ground Floor with Front Lawn & Rear Courtyard (with right to dig-out, construct and own the Entire Basement), (b) Entire First Floor and (c) Entire Second Floor (without any Terrace Rights above Second Floor) along with 77.5% undivided share/rights in the plot of land measuring 209.032 Sq. Mtrs. along with rights of re-construction of the said property (with right to dig-out, construct and own the Entire Basement), free from all encumbrances, charges, lien etc. and my client shall proceed to complete the transaction, free from all encumbrances whatsoever, in terms of the already agreed arrangement/agreement as bonafide purchaser and no claim of whatsoever nature shall be entertained thereafter.

Naresh Gupta (Advocate)
C-75, Greater Kailash Part-I,
New Delhi-48. Tel. 011-29235175

HT Classifieds

For Classifieds advertising please call Ad Sales Team on:

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Abhishek Tiwari: 9899865804

NOIDA & GHAZIABAD

Gaurav: 8630242501

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{ NAMES 13 ACCUSED } PAPER LEAK CASE

CBI files 1st charge sheet in NEET case

Neeraj Chauhan
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday filed its first charge sheet in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Undergraduate, or NEET-UG, exam paper leak probe, naming 13 accused people while adding that its investigation was still going on.

The federal agency said in a statement that it used "advanced forensic techniques, artificial intelligence, CCTV footages, (mobile) tower location analysis, etc to gather evidence against the accused".

It has so far arrested 40 people including an alleged mastermind of the paper leak from a Hazaribagh school, several MBBS students who acted as

solvers, and facilitators.

Among those named are Nitish Kumar, Amit Anand, Sikanter Yadvendu, Ashutosh Kumar-1, Roshan Kumar, Manish Prakash, Ashutosh Kumar-2, Akhilesh Kumar, Avdesh Kumar, Anurag Yadav, Abhishek Kumar, Shivnandan Kumar and Ayush Raj.

The anti-corruption probe agency initiated a larger conspiracy probe in the leak on June 23, acting on a reference from the Union ministry of education, which said the exam was marred by irregularities, cheating, impersonation and other malpractices.

It formed special teams to investigate the leaks in different states and carried out raids at 58 locations in the last 39 days.

THE CENTRAL AGENCY FORMED TEAMS TO PROBE THE LEAKS IN DIFFERENT STATES AND CARRIED OUT RAIDS AT 58 LOCATIONS

A CBI spokesperson said the agency "is continuing further investigation against other accused/suspects and on other aspects of the case". "As and when further investigation against these accused/suspects is complete, supplementary charge sheet (s) will be filed," the spokesperson added.

The Supreme Court last month instructed the National

Testing Agency (NTA) and the central government to submit affidavits detailing their actions and asked for a status report from the CBI. Acknowledging compromise in NEET-UG exam due to a question paper leak, the Supreme Court also directed the NTA to outline measures taken to identify beneficiaries of the leak. The court, however, stopped short of scrapping the test, as requested by some petitioners.

In its affidavit, the Union government said there were no large-scale breach of confidentiality in the pan-India examination and opposed scrapping the exam that was held, arguing that such a move would disrupt the academic calendar and is unnecessary due to the lack of widespread evidence of mal-

practice.

The 2024 NEET-UG, conducted by the NTA for admissions to MBBS, BDS and other related undergraduate courses across India, has been beset with a series of allegations ranging from question paper leaks, inflated marking and arbitrary allowance of grace marks - issues that became a nationwide flashpoint for political parties and students.

This year's examination was conducted on May 5 at 4,750 centres in 571 cities, including 14 abroad, with 2.3 million candidates appearing for it. The results, declared on June 4, raised further suspicions when 67 candidates achieved perfect scores of 720, with several of them belonging to the same examination centre.

NORTH INDIA RAINS

missing after overnight showers rocked the state's brittle infrastructure and prompted authorities to rescue 1,500 pilgrims stranded on various spots along the Kedarnath Yatra route.

Over the past 24 hours, heavy showers also lashed Rajasthan, where four people were killed, Delhi, which reported six deaths in rain-related incidents, Gurugram, where three people were electrocuted, and Noida, where two died in a house collapse.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Thursday warned that a reprieve may not be forthcoming, with north India predicted to receive rain for at least five more days. It issued a red alert for Himachal Pradesh, warning Kangra, Kullu and Mandi districts of strong spells of rain on Friday.

Crucially, severe rain in Himachal Pradesh in July last year triggered a domino effect that engulfed parts of Punjab and Haryana, and eventually led to the Yamuna river swelling in Delhi and swallowing vast swathes of its banks in the Capital's worst floods ever. To be sure, Himachal Pradesh recorded more than 300 cloudbursts at the time.

On Thursday, the Himachal Pradesh emergency operation centre said the state reported cloudbursts in Kullu, Paddar in Mandi and Rampur in Shimla districts.

A cloudburst near Shrikhand Mahadev, Kullu, on Wednesday night triggered flash floods in Sarpara, Ganvi and Kurban drain, which in turn fed the larger Samej Khud drains in Rampur, killing two people and leaving about 30 missing, said Shimla superintendent of police (SP) Sanjeev Kumar Gandhi.

The showers pushed up levels of the Pavarti and Beas rivers in Kullu, sending sheets of water roaring downstream. Landslides also wrecked the Manali-Chandigarh National Highway at several places, said an official.

Kullu deputy commissioner Torul S Raveesh also said a breach was reported in the Malana Dam, but assured that the situation "is under control".

Chief minister Sukhvir Singh Sukhu convened an emergency meeting of senior officers.

"The cloudburst incident took place around 4:40am. Around 50 people are missing and two bodies have been recovered. Heavy rain is expected in the next 36 hours. The DC (district commissioner), SDRF, and NDRF teams have reached the spot. I have also spoken to the Union home minister (Amit Shah)," said Sukhu.

Shah assured Sukhu of central

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

assistance and NDRF support.

Himachal Pradesh received an average of 37.7mm rainfall on Thursday, nearly three times the normal of 9.3mm. Shimla, Kullu and Mandi reported an excess of 264%, 453% and 300% respectively.

Uttarakhand received 37.8mm of rain in 24 hours till 8:30am on Thursday, but much of this was concentrated in Haridwar and Dehradun.

Sharp showers began lashing the state around 8pm on Wednesday. As the water gushed downstream, water levels in the Alaknanda river Rudrapurayag began shot up to 1,974.6m at 10pm, just a metre short of the warning level.

The local Met office said Dehradun clocked 172mm of rain.

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhama visited Jakhanyali village and met families of those killed.

Authorities rescued more than 1,500 pilgrims stranded on the Kedarnath route.

Tarkeshwar Singh, a pilgrim from Nepal said, "I left for Kedarnath Dham from Gaurikund on Wednesday. But, I stopped because it started raining heavily and was stranded. I was rescued by an NDRF team that arrived in the morning".

has informed the government that all those, who could be rescued from the landslide site, have been brought to safety. No one else is remaining."

He added that the government will now focus on rehabilitating those affected. "Rehabilitation work will be done at the earliest. The most important thing is giving psychological support to the survivors. We have to avoid the spread of an epidemic," he said after the meeting.

Vijayan said the rescue efforts were likely to continue given the scale of the disaster. "This rescue attempt is not something that can be resolved in a short period of time. As of now, 12 ministers are camping in Wayanad. Now the all-party meeting has decided that four ministers will camp here to coordinate the rescue operations," Vijayan said, adding that revenue minister K Rajan, forest minister AK Saseendran, PWD and tourism minister PA Mohamed Riyas, and SC/ST department minister O R Kulu will camp in the district.

Former Wayanad MP Rahul and Congress's candidate for the bypoll to the seat Priyanka, reached Chooralmala donning translucent blue raincoats and were briefed by officials about the rescue operations.

"This is a huge tragedy... Today I feel how I felt when my father died. Here, people have not lost just a father, they have lost their brothers, sister, parents and their entire families. We should all stand with them," Rahul said.

He added that the tragedy should be declared a natural disaster considering the scale of devastation. "Let's see what the government says. This is not the time to talk about political issues. People require help here. They are in shock and they require medical assistance," he said.

Priyanka said the pain people were experiencing was unimaginable. "We are here to help them and to give as much support and comfort as we can," she said.

US President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin extended their condolences over the tragedy. "Our prayers are with the victims of this tragic event, and we mourn with the families who have lost loved ones," Biden said in a statement.

The Russian Embassy in India in a post on X said: "President of #Russia Vladimir Putin sent a condolence message to President of #India Droupadi Murmu & Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi over the tragic consequences of the landslides in #Kerala."

UNION GOVT LIFTS CURBS ON DIRECT PURCHASE OF RICE

NEW DELHI: The Centre has allowed states to directly purchase rice from the federal Food Corporation of India (FCI) without going through a bidding process, unlike private buyers, beginning August 1, food and consumer affairs minister Pralhad Joshi said on Thursday.

The Centre had barred states from buying FCI-held rice last year amid a cereal price spiral, prompting protests by opposition-ruled states, especially Karnataka.

"The decision has been taken to reduce the huge surplus of stocks prior to the commencement of the new procurement season. States deficient in the grain will also be helped by this," the minister said.

HT had on June 3 reported that the Centre was planning to resume selling rice to state governments. Joshi also said for better grip on inflation, 16 new commodities were being added to the consumer affairs ministry's price monitoring system, for which an app has been launched. Under the open-market sales scheme, the food and public distribution department will directly offload grain to states for ₹2,800 per quintal.

The minister also said the Centre would continue the sale of subsidised wheat and rice under the 'Bharat' brand, which was slated to run till June 30.

India, China risk falling into mid-income trap: World Bank

Zia Haq
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: More than 100 nations, including India and China, face "serious obstacles" in their transition to high-income developed economies amid increasing chances of getting stuck in the so-called middle-income trap, the World Bank said in its flagship World Development Report 2024 released on Thursday.

The bank said since 1990, only 34 middle-income nations were able to leap to the high-income category. "Middle-income countries will have to work miracles. They can't rely on the old playbook. That's like driving a car in the first gear and trying to go fast," it said.

The main challenge for a total of 108 middling countries is that traditional growth environments of connected trade and open economies no longer exist or are fast crumbling. Climate change is an additional hurdle because adaptation mechanisms will cost poor countries more than the rich, it said.

"Drawing on lessons of the past 50 years, our report finds

THE BANK SAID SINCE 1990, ONLY 34 MIDDLE-INCOME NATIONS WERE ABLE TO LEAP TO THE HIGH-INCOME CATEGORY

that as countries grow wealthier, they usually hit a trap at about 10% of annual US GDP per person - the equivalent of \$8,000 today," said Indermitt Gill, the World Bank's chief economist, in a statement. "That's in the middle of the range of what the World Bank classifies as middle-income countries."

The global economic order is increasingly being marked by rising geopolitical tensions, de-globalisation, offshoring and protectionism, changing trade in complex ways, the bank said.

If middle countries don't change their economic models, then it will take China more than 10 years just to reach one-quarter of US income per capita, Indonesia 70 years and India 75 years, the report said.

It noted India's aim to become a developed nation by 2047 as a laudable goal.

The report unveiled its first-ever three-stage roadmap to avoid a stall in progress: invest, infuse and innovate. Each phase will require a different mix of policies, the report added.

While least developed economies need to keep focussing on asset creation, capital investments for too long alone aren't sufficient for mid-level countries to raise per capita incomes, the report said.

Countries, such as India, now need "infusion", or the import of an array of foreign technologies, which must be then widely diffused, along with a highly skilled workforce.

Old, especially inefficient, state-run and private-sector companies, must be replaced by numerous new firms in the economy, which should not be dominated by a few large enterprises, the report said.

In the final phase, these economies must get into the innovation mode, the report said, citing Korea as an exceptional case, with a current per capita income of \$33,000.

16 HELD, 8 COPS FACE ACTION OVER U.P. GROPING CLIP

LUCKNOW: A woman was groped by a rowdy group on a water-logged street here, prompting the arrest of 16 men, action against eight policemen including a DCP and a cryptic remark in the assembly by Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath. He said a "bullet train" will be run for the offenders.

The alleged offenders were arrested after the woman who was riding pillion on a motorcycle was targeted Wednesday on a water-logged street in the posh Gomti Nagar area.

Five police personnel, including the local police station in-charge, and deputy commissioner of police (East Lucknow), additional DCP and assistant commissioner of police (ACP) were shunted, an official statement said Thursday.

Speaking in the assembly on the state's supplementary budget, Yogi referred to the incident, naming two of the alleged offenders. "The first criminal is Pawan Yadav, the other criminal is Mohammed Arbaaz. These are people of 'sadbhavana' (goodwill)," he said, and suggested that no "Sadbhavana train" will be run for them.

"In my bullet train chalgai, chinta mat karo (The bullet train will run for them, don't worry)... And preparations are being made for the bullet train," he said.

Ordnance Equipment Factory, Hazratpur
Firozabad (U.P.) 283103
A Unit of Troop Comforts Limited
Govt. of India Enterprise, Min. of Defence

No. OEFH/1839/Consultant/Admin Dated 01-08-2024
Sub: Hiring of Consultant

Ordnance Equipment Factory, Hazratpur, Tundla, Firozabad a unit of Troop Comforts Limited, Govt. of India Enterprises, Ministry of Defence is urgently requiring:- "CONSULTANT TO AID IN DESIGNING, PRODUCTION LIAISONING AND MARKETING OF AIRFORCE PRODUCT/AIRBORNE PRODUCTS"

For detailed information regarding criteria, scope of work and ADMISSIBLE allowances/Benefits visit our website <https://troopcomfortslimited.co.in> Home Page under LINK Notice and circular-"HIRING OF CONSULTANT"

For any query, please feel free to contact the HR/Admin at Mobile No. 9406710273 Email-oeffzestt@ord.gov.in
Note: Last Date for offer submission: 10.08.2024

Sr. Manager HR
For General Manager

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Deepak Kumar S/o Sh. Anil Kumar R/o H No-B-433, Gali No-6, Prem Vihar, Shiv Vihar, Delhi.** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 107/2017, U/s 498-A/406/34 IPC P.S.: Harsh Vihar, Delhi,** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Deepak Kumar,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Deepak Kumar,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Deepak Kumar,** accused of **FIR No. 107/2017, U/s 498-A/406/34 IPC P.S.: Harsh Vihar, Delhi,** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **13.09.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Nidhi Bala
MM, Room No-08 Shahdra
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/9980/NE/2024
(Court Matter)

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Aman Khan @ Haroon S/o Ishrak @ Azam Khan R/o Village Sangrampur, District Badaun-243632 (UP)** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence case **FIR No. 14/2024 u/s 419/420/120B IPC at P.S. Cyber (Mandir Marg), New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Aman Khan @ Haroon** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Aman Khan @ Haroon** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proceeding u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Aman Khan @ Haroon** accused of **FIR No. 14/2024 u/s 419/420/120B IPC at P.S. Cyber (Mandir Marg), New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on **08.10.2024.**

By Order: Ms. Nabeela Wali,
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate,
Court No. 26, G.F. Annexe Building,
Patiala House Court, New Delhi

DP/10119/ND/2024

भा.क. अनु. प. - राष्ट्रीय कृषि आर्थिकी एवं नीति अनुसंधान संस्थान (निसाप)
देव प्रकाश शास्त्री मार्ग, पुसा, नई दिल्ली-110012
ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics & Policy Research
Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, Pusa, New Delhi-110 012

No. 15(9)/2023-NIAP Dated: 01.08.2024

WALK-IN INTERVIEW

Walk-in Interview will be conducted at ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, D.P.S. Marg, Pusa, New Delhi-110012 for filling-up the positions under various project mentioned below:

S. No.	Temporary Post	No. of Post (tentative)	Salary (Per month)	Date of Walk-in-Interview
1.	Research Associate	02	Rs. 54000/- + HRA as admissible for Doctoral Degree and Rs. 49000/- + HRA as admissible for Master's Degree	22.08.2024 at 10.00 AM
2.	Senior Research Fellow	01	Rs. 31,000/- per month + admissible HRA for 1st & 2nd Year and Rs. 35,000/- per month + admissible HRA for 3rd Year for Master's Degree	23.08.2024 at 10.00 AM

The vacancies shown above may increase or decrease. For further details regarding Educational Qualifications, emoluments, age limit, etc. candidates may visit this institute website i.e. www.niap.icar.gov.in.

(Assistant Administrative Officer)

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a Girl namely **Arzoo D/o Vidyandand R/o H. No. 33 Gali No. 09 Sukhbir Nagar Karala, New Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped from her Home Since 17.07.2024 at 02:00 AM, In this regard, a **DD No. 96A Dt. 17.07.2024,** has been registered at **P.S.: Begum Pur, Delhi.** The description of the missing Girl as under.

Age: 19 years, **Height:** 5'4" **Face:** Round, **Build:** Medium, **Complexion:** Shallow. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out her but no clue has come to light so far. Any person is having information or clue about this missing Girl may kindly inform to the following.

Ph. No. 011-24368638, 24368641
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in S.H.O
Fax No. 011-24368639 PS: Begum Pur, Delhi
DP/10029/RD/2024 Ph No. 9311439793, 8882844803

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

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Sandeep Kashyap, S/o: Sh. Guru Prashad, R/o: G. No.-10, Phool Bagh Colony, Nouchandi, Meerut, U.P.** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **Case FIR No. 9385/2020, U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S.: Nand Nagri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Sandeep Kashyap** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Sandeep Kashyap** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sandeep Kashyap** accused of **FIR No. 9385/2020, U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S.: Nand Nagri, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **11.09.2024.**

By Order
Sh. Aridaman Singh Cheema
Metropolitan Magistrate

DP/10109/NE/2024
(Court Matter) Room No. 19, Karkardooma Court, Delhi

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004

No.: JDA/EE/RRP-1)/2024-25/2 Date: 31.07.2024

NOTICE INVITING BID
JDA/RRP-1)/2024-25/NIB-2

Online Bids are invited upto 6.00 PM of 07.08.2024 for "Road site plantation on Southern Ring Road from Agr Road to Tonk Road Chainage 0+000 to 19+700 including 2 year maintenance. JDA Jaipur" Estimated cost Rs. 302.11 Lacs. Details may be seen in the Bidding Document at our office or the website of State Public Procurement Portal : www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in
UBN No. JDA2425WS0B00204

To participate in the bid, bidder has to be:

- Registered on JDA website www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in For participated in the Bid, the Bidder has to apply for the Bid and pay the Bidding Document Fee & RISL Processing Fee online only and Bid Security declaration stamp.
- Registered on e-Procurement Portal of Government of Rajasthan www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for online e-Bid submission.

Raj.Samwad/C/24/3119 Executive Engineer (RRP-1)

FOREST SURVEY OF INDIA
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Government of India
P.O. - IPE, Kaulgarh Road, Dehradun-248195

F. No. 22-351/2023-(pt-1)-FGD-1433 Date: 01.08.2024

REQUIREMENT OF ONE PROJECT SCIENTIST (Programmer) ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

Forest Survey of India, Dehradun invites on-line applications from eligible candidates for one post of Project Scientist (Programmer) on contract basis for a period of one year, which may be extended, based on the requirement & performance.

A selection process, which will consist of written test, hands-on test and interview, will be held in August, 2024 at Forest Survey of India, Kaulgarh Road, Dehradun. For details, please visit FSI's website www.fsi.nic.in.

Joint Director (FGD)
Ph.: 0135-2755037, 2753893

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) name **Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown, age 50-55 years.** He was found Dead Near Loop Flyover ISBT Near Pink Booth Nigam Bodh Ghat, Kashmir Gate, Delhi. on 26.07.2024 **DD No. 62A,** has been lodged at **P.S. Kashmiri Gate, Delhi.** body has been preserved for identification at Mortuary of Saubzi Mandi. His physical description is as under.

Sex: Male, **Age:** 50-55 years, **Height:** 5'7" **Build:** Thin, **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Wearing:** Black Pant. Any person having information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address and telephone number:-

S.H.O
PS: Kashmiri Gate, Delhi
Ph No.: 9599879034

DP/10045/N/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown found dead on 30.07.2024 at Haiderpur Water Treatment Plant, Rohini, Delhi.** In this regard **DD No. 98 A, dated 30.07.2024** has been lodged at Police Station, K.N.Katju Marg, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: Approx 30-50 Year, Height: 5'9" feet, Highly Decomposed dead body, Wearing: Naked Body.

If anyone have any information or clue about this new born deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO
Police Station, K N Katju Marg, Delhi
Ph.: 8750870327

DP/10084/RD/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON
See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Ajay Bhadoriya @ Satender Singh, S/o: Raghu Raj Singh, R/o H. No.-202, Jwala Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi,** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 344/2020, U/s 354A/506 IPC, P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Ajay Bhadoriya @ Satender Singh** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Ajay Bhadoriya @ Satender Singh** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant); Proclamation is hereby made that **Ajay Bhadoriya @ Satender Singh** the said accused of **FIR No. 344/2020, U/s 354A/506 IPC, P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **07.10.2024.**

By Order
Ms. Isra Zaidi
Metropolitan Magistrate, 1st Class,
Mahila Court-02, Room No.-60,
Shahdara, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/9867/SHD/2024
(Court Matter)

e-Tender Notice
Superintending Engineer (PMGSY)
M. R. R. D. A, Chh. Sambhajinagar Region,
e-Tender Notice No. 23/2024-25 (Nanded)

e-tender is being published on www.mahatenders.gov.in after 11.00 am on 02.08.2024 up to 18.00 pm for the improvement of roads in Nanded district as per the table shown below under Mukhya mantri Gram Sadak Yojana-Phase-II (Batch-1).

Tender Notice No.	Funding Source	Name of Block	Total Packages (No of works)
23/2024-25	Research & Development (State)	Nanded,	RD-NDD-A083 (09)
		Naigaon, Mahur,	RD-NDD-A085 (09)
		Kinwat, Mukhed,	RD-NDD-A086 (09)
		Kandhar, Bhokar,	RD-NDD-A089 (09)
		Ardhapur &	RD-NDD-A091 (10)
		Mudkhed	

Note :- Further notification & Clarification will be published on website.

Sd/-
(Dhanjay C. Jadhav)
Executive Engineer (PMGSY)
M. R. R. D. A., Nanded

Sd/-
(Vilas H. More)
Superintending Engineer (PMGSY)
M. R. R. D. A, Chh. Sambhajinagar

DGIPR/2024-25/ROC 1471

Government of Punjab
Tender Reference No.: EE PWSSD NO. 2/Amritsar/30/2024 **Date:** 31.07.2024
The Department of: Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Division No. 2 Amritsar invites Bid for Civil Work.
Closing Date & Time: Closing Date: 27.08.2024 Time upto 1.00 PM
Pre-Bid Meeting Venue: Date: 19.08.2024 [Sr. No. 1 Tender 11.00 AM]
 Date: 20.08.2024 [Sr. No. 2 Tender 2.00 PM]
 [Sr. No. 3 Tender 11.00 AM]
 [Sr. No. 4 Tender 2.00 PM]
 At O/o Superintending Engineer, P. W/S & Sew. Circle, Amritsar, Near Sunrise Multispecialty Hospital, Hide Market, Amritsar. Mob. 83609-07229, Email:- eepwssds2@gmail.com
 For Detail login to : (https://neproc.punjab.gov.in)
 Note:- Any Corrigendum/addendum, to the Tender notice shall be published on the above website only.
 Sd/-
Executive Engineer
 Punjab W/S & Sew. Division No. 2
 Amritsar
 36267

कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, खण्ड-नई दिल्ली
वीकानेर हाऊस, पंडारा रोड, नई दिल्ली-110011
 क्रमांक:- 376 दिनांक: 26.07.2024
निविदा सूचना संख्या: 02/2024-25
 राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से खण्ड नई दिल्ली के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न निर्माण कार्य (कुल 11 कार्य) राशि रुपये 22.61 लाख के लिये पी.डब्ल्यू.एफ. एण्ड ए.आर. पार्ट-II अप्रॉपियेट 16 दिनांक 01.07.99 से लागू एवं सम-सम पर फंजीनग नियमों सम्बन्धी विविध विभाग द्वारा जारी आदि दिनांक संशोधित परिश्रमों के अनुसार इस विभाग में उपयुक्त श्रेणी में फंजीनग ठेकेदारों से माहौलबन्ध निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा प्राप्त इस कार्यालय में दिनांक 05.08.2024 (12.30 बजे) तक निविदा शुल्क एवं अमानत राशि जमा कराकर प्राप्त किया जा सके है। उक्त निविदाएं दिनांक 05.08.2024 को दोपहर 2.30 बजे तक प्राप्त की जाकर उसी दिन दोपहर 3.00 बजे उपस्थित निविदादाताओं के समक्ष खोली जायेगी।

S. No.	Name of work	UBN No
1	Repair & maintenance works in Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03481
2	Replacement of C.M. Garage Door and other repair works in Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03482
3	Repair work in C.M. security Block & other maintenance works in Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03484
4	Repair & Maintenance works in G.Manager quarter at Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03485
5	Urgent repair work in Quarter No 2/23 Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03486
6	Replacement of damaged Bamboo Jaffery at Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03487
7	Addition/Alteration work in Manager Quarter (J-1) Jodhpur House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03488
8	Essential repair work in Residential Quarters of Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03490
9	General repair of sanitary, Joinery Items of Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03492
10	Various civil repair and maintenance work in Jodhpur House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03494
11	Supply of sanitary, Civil and Joinery items of Bikaner House New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03498
12	Temporary kitchen between barrack No. 1 and 2 Bikaner House, New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03500
13	Repair of C.C. Road at Gate No. 3 Bikaner House, New Delhi	PWD2425WSOB03503

राजकुमार
 अधिशाषी अभियन्ता,
 सा.नि.वि. खण्ड नई दिल्ली
 फोन नम्बर 011-20848003
 Dpr/c/6757/2024

RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPOORTHALA TENDER NOTICE
 On behalf of the President of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Production, Rail Coach Factory Kapurthala is inviting open e-tender, based on single packet system from eligible and capable tenderers through Indian Railways portal www.ireps.gov.in for the under mentioned work on prescribed tender format.
1. Open E-Tender No.: RCF-KXH-DYCEEP-2024-25-2A. **2. Name of Work:** Complete wiring work including handling and installation of equipments in LWACCN Coaches. **3. Place of work:** Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. **4. Approx. cost:** Rs. 59,00,000/- (Rs. Fifty nine lakh only). **5. Cost of tender documents:** Free of cost. **6. Earnest money:** Rs. 18,00,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Eighteen Thousand only). **7. Quantity of Coaches:** 200 Nos. **8. Period of completion:** 12 months. **9. Availability of Tender Documents for Viewing & downloading:** (From 29.07.2024 (11:00 Hrs) to 19.08.2024 (11:00 Hrs) on Website www.ireps.gov.in) **10. Date & Time of closing of tender:** 19.08.2024 at 11:00 Hrs. **11. Date & Time of Opening of tender:** 19.08.2024 at 15:00 Hrs. **12. Validity of tender:** 1. 60 days from the date of opening of tender. 2. Participation by Association of Partnership (AOP)/Joint Venture (JV) firms are not allowed for this tender. **3. (a)** Advance to contractor is not applicable. **(b)** Purchase preference clause is not applicable. **(c)** Price variation clause is not applicable. **13. Website particulars:** www.ireps.gov.in. **Eligibility Criteria and Credentials:** Eligibility Criteria and Credentials of Bidders for Apply/ Installation including Handling, Testing, Commissioning of Readymade Cable Harness in LHB AC/ NON AC Coach Variants and Other Special Coaches at RCF. The following Eligibility Criteria including Credentials for Apply/ Installation, Testing, Commissioning of Ready made Cable Harness(es) in LHB AC/ NON AC Coach variants & Other Special Coaches being manufactured at RCF, shall be applicable: **1.0 Similar Nature of Work:** 1.1 The Bidder shall have experience of successful completion of the following similar nature of Work on ICF/LHB AC/Non AC, MEMU/EMU (Conventional or 3-Phase) and other Special Railway Coaches, Metro Coaches. "Complete wiring/re-wiring of Coaches including Installation, Testing & Commissioning of at least any five of the equipments viz. Switch Board Cabinets/ Main Electrical Control Panel, Control panels Lights/Fans, Inter Vehicular Couplers, PAS/PIS/PAPIS, RMPUS/ AC Package Unit, Transformers, Battery Chargers such as EBC/RBC etc., WSP, Feeder Junction Boxes, DG Sets, Main/Aux. Converters/Inverters, Under slung Main Switch Groups including Handling, Complete Connections/End Terminations along with other associated allied works for any above type of Rolling Stock".
 OR
Supply & apply of cable Harness for Coaches including Installation, Testing & Commissioning of at least any five of the equipments viz. Switch Board Cabinets/ Main Electrical Control Panel, Control panels Lights/Fans, Inter Vehicular Couplers, PAS/PIS/PAPIS, RMPUS/ AC Package Unit, Transformers, Battery Chargers such as EBC/RBC etc., WSP, Feeder Junction Boxes, DG Sets, Main/Aux. Converters/Inverters, Under slung Main Switch Groups including Handling, Complete Connections/ End Terminations along with other associated allied works for any above type of Rolling Stock". **2.0 Special Technical Criteria:** 2.1 Class "A" Electrical License: Bidder shall have valid Class 'A' Electrical License issued by the Competent Authority.
 Note: 1. for submission of electronic offers, bidders will have to get themselves registered one time on irepswebsite, online without any payment. 2. Bidders are required to obtain the class III digital signature certificate with company name from certifying authorities, as per the list available on website www.cca.gov.in 3. Helpdesk details: helpdesk.ireps@cris.org.in Phone: 011-23370704,24102855 4. The tender notice is also available on website www.ref.indianrailways.gov.in
 Dy. CEE/ Production
 Dy. Chief Plant Engineer-II, Rail coach Factory, and Kapurthala on behalf of President of India invites E- Tenders against Open Tender No. RCF-EL-MTC-64AA-ET-24-25. Closing Date/Time 19.08.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Tenderer will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Tenderer are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through payment modes available ON IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. **Open E-Tender No.:** RCF-EL-MTC-64AA-ET-24-25. **Name of work:** A) Supply, Installation, erecting and commissioning of Exhaust Fan, Man Coolers, LED Light, Occupancy Sensor in Different store wards and offices in workshop area RCF Kapurthala. B) Replacement of DSL in SAS, SMS & Bogle shop in workshop area RCF/KXH. **Appx. Cost:** Rs. 1,02,01,235.82. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 2,01,000.00. **Tender Cost:** nil. **Completion Period of work:** 120 days. **Availability of Tender Documents for view and download:** From 05.08.2024 to 19.08.2024 (15.00 Hrs.) on website www.ireps.gov.in. **Tender Closing Date & Time:** 19.08.2024 at 15.00 hrs. **Tender Opening Date & Time:** 19.08.2024 at 15.05 hrs. **Validity of Offer:** 90 days. **Website particulars:** www.ireps.gov.in. **Eligibility Criteria:** An electrical contractor license with a supervisor competency certificate and a person holding a permit (Wireman act) as per Regulation 29 of the Central Electricity Authority (Measure relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulation 2010 or latest /as per Rules 45 of the Indian Electricity Rules 1956. **Dy. CPE-II CORRIGENDUM:** The following amendments are authorized against (1) **Tender No.:** RCF-CE-WA-EOT-38-24-25. **Name of Work:** Extension of wheel shop by 96M x 20M in RCF Kapurthala. **Advertised Value may be read as** Rs. 6,37,04,433.01 **instead of** Rs. 6,47,02,904.99. **Earnest Money may be read as** Rs. 4,68,600.00 **instead of** Rs. 4,73,600.00. **Date of opening may be read as** 16.08.2024 **instead of** 08.08.2024. **Bidding start date may be read as** 02.08.2024 **instead of** 25.07.2024. All other terms & conditions will remain the same. For details, please log on IREPS website www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in.
 Dy. C.E.
 R.O. No. 52-M/2024-25 **Dated:** 01.08.2024

Reserve Bank of India/ भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
Estate Department/ संघदा विभाग
Patna/ पटना
Advance Tender Notice
 The Reserve Bank of India, Patna invites applications for empanelment of contractors for the work "Merger of 150 flats to create 75 flats including its internal renovation / modernization and other works at Digha Staff Quarters, RBI, Patna". The estimated cost of the work is ₹ 20 crore and is to be completed within twelve (12) months.
 Only contractors with about 7 years' experience in similar work and having completed minimum three similar completed works each costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of the estimated cost or two similar completed works each costing not less than the amount equal to 50% of the estimated cost or one similar work costing not less than the amount equal to 80% of the estimated cost during last five years need to apply in the prescribed form which can be had from the office of the Reserve Bank of India, Estate Department, Patna upto 17.00 hours on August 23, 2024 or may download from Bank's website. Application forms duly filled in and enclosed in a sealed cover addressed to Regional Director, Estate Department, Reserve Bank of India, South Gandhi Maidan, Patna will be received in his office upto 17.00 hrs on August 23, 2024. No further tender notice will be published in the press for the work referred above and issue of the tender forms will be restricted among selected applicants.
 The Bank reserves the right to withhold the issue of application forms to any party or reject any/all applications without assigning any reason therefor.
 Please refer to our website www.rbi.org.in for further details.
 Regional Director
 (Bihar)
 Date: 02/08/2024

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE
 For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Chg.), Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites sealed e-tender on 'Single Packet System' for following work from experience and capable tenderers.
Name of work: Work of Surface Defect Detection on Wheel of LHB Coaches by Eddy Current Array (ECA) technique during D-3 schedule at coaching depots of Delhi Division for period of two years.
Work place: Delhi **Period of work:** Two (02) Years
Advertised Value: ₹23,86,425.84 (including provision of GST)
Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹2,69,300/- through net banking or gateway only
Tender Document Cost: Nil
Date and Time availability of E-tender Document: From 31.07.2024 to 22.08.2024 at 14.00 hrs.
Date & Time of E-tender Closing: 22.08.2024 at 14.00 hrs.
Date & Time of E-tender Opening: On 22.08.2024 after 14.00 hrs., if the date of opening happens to be holiday then E-tender shall be opened on the next working day
Place for opening E-Tender: Mechanical Department, Divisional Railway Manager's Office Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-55
 Note: The complete particulars of the tender may be found in website www.ireps.gov.in.
No.: 197-S-258-ECA Testing-24 Dated : 31.07.2024 2347/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
 General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown**, was found in unconscious state on Date 27.07.2024, Platform No. 1, Near Pillar No. 13, Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi. He was admitted to LBS Hospital at Khichpur, Delhi, where the doctor declared him dead during treatment on 29.07.2024. In this regard **DD No.: 18A, Dated 29.07.2024**, has been lodged at Police Station Anand Vihar Railway Station, Delhi
 Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:
Sex: Male, **Age:** about 65 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Hair:** White, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Green T-Shirt & White Lower. The dead body of deceased preserved for 72 hours in LBS Hospital Mortuary for identification.
 If any one having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed undersigned.
 SHO
 Police Station Anand Vihar Railway Station,
 Delhi, Ph.: 8750871314
 DP/10182/Rly/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
 General Public is hereby informed that a male person Namely: **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown** was found Near National Gandhi Foundation, Delhi on 21.06.2024 at 11.00 a.m. In this regard **DD No: 42A dated 21.06.2024** has been lodged at P.S IP Estate, Delhi.
 The description of the deceased is given as below:
Name: Unknown, **Sex:** Male, **Complexion:** Dusky, **Height:** 5'6", **Wearing:** Sky Color Half Shirt and Blue Pant.
 Sincere efforts have been made by local police to identify the deceased but no clue has come to light so far. Anyone having information about the deceased, please inform the undersigned.
 SHO
 PS - IP Estate, Delhi
 Ph.: 9868388400
 DP/10096/CD/2024

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
विद्युत परिषद मण्डल
132 के.वी.0 विद्युत उपकेन्द्र हंसारी, झॉसी
उपरोध पावर ट्रांसमिशन कारपोरेशन लि०
निविदा सूचना
 अनुभव्य कार्यदाता संस्थाओं/फर्मों से ई-टेंडर के माध्यम से निम्न कार्य सम्पादन हेतु ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। आमंत्रित ई-निविदाओं से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत जानकारी वेबसाइट www.etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। निविदाओं को बिना कारण बताये अस्वीकार करने का अधिकार, अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत परिषद मण्डल, झॉसी के पास सुरक्षित रहेगा। निविदा सन्धुभ संख्या, कार्य/आपूर्ति का संक्षिप्त विवरण, धरोहर राशि (धरा), निविदा खतने की तिथि (निति), निविदा शुल्क (निशु) जी०एस०टी० सहित का विवरण निम्नवत है:-
 ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या-ई०टी०एस०-11/ई०टी० सी०जे०-24-25 वि०पा०म० झॉसी के अन्तर्गत जिला झॉसी एवं जालौन में स्थापित 132 के०वी० टी० टी० का आंशिक डिस्चार्ज परीक्षण का कार्य। (धरा रु०-2,500/-, निशु रु०- 590/-) निति 22.08.2024
 निविदा के परिशिष्ट/शुद्धि पत्र/निरस्तोकरण/विस्तारिकरण/पुनः निविदा आमंत्रण हेतु नियमित रूप से उपरोक्त वेबसाइट देखना चाहिए।
 "राक्षित में विजयी रहें"
 अधीक्षण अभियन्ता
 विद्युत परिषद मण्डल, झॉसी
 संख्या-693/ई०टी०सी०जे०/अकार्य दिनांक 01.08.2024

Have fun with facts on Sundays
 Catch the latest column of
TWTW
 THE WEEK THAT WAS
 A quiz on the week's development.
NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
 No. Dy. CE/CI/AGC/TN/2024/12
 Dated: 31/07/2024
1st Corrigendum
 Following modification in above tender notice is made in tender No. Dy. CE/CI/AGC/TN/2024/12 Dated: 11/07/2024

Field Name	Existing Value	Modified Value
Advertised Value (₹)	₹1174012582.43	₹1151735461.99
Earnest Money (₹)	₹6020100.00	₹5908700.00

 Tender Document Updated tender document
 12/14/24(DG)
 North central railways @CPNCR www.nccr.indianrailways.gov.in

कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियन्ता (जगतपुरा जौन)
नगर निगम, ग्रेट जयपुर
 (जयपुरी लोक आवाज के पत्र, जयपुर, जयपुर)
 दिनांक - 31/07/2024
ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या - 11/2024-25
 केन्द्र एवं राज्य सरकार के सभी विभागों में पंजीकृत उपयुक्त श्रेणी के ठेकेदारों एवं नगर निगम ग्रेट, जयपुर के पंजीकृत निविदादाताओं से अधिशाषी अभियन्ता जगतपुरा जौन से संबंधित विकास कार्य हेतु निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। कार्यों की अनुमानित लागत टेण्डर बेचे जाने तथा प्राप्त करने की तारीख टेण्डर शर्तों और सम्पूर्ण विवरण नगर निगम ग्रेट, जयपुर की वेबसाइट www.jaipurmc.org.com पर राजस्थान सरकार के पोर्टल <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> तथा <http://epproc.rajasthan.gov.in> पर देखी व डाउनलोड की जा सकती है। उक्त निविदाओं को (sppp.rajasthan.gov.in) पोर्टल पर अपलोड करना दिया गया है।
 (UBN No. - JMC2425WSOB00387)
 अधिशाषी अभियन्ता,
 जयपुर लोक आवाज के पत्र, जयपुर
 राज.संख्या/वी./24/313

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
NIB
 On line bid is hereby invited from qualified bidders / service providers / vehicle owners for providing hiring Services of 8 No's LCV & 8 No's HCV total 16 No's functional vehicles with Drivers & POL per Km rate basis for three years at various circles in (T&C), Jaipur Zone. Bids are to be submitted online in electronic format on website <http://epproc.rajasthan.gov.in>. sealed bids of painting work of structure & equipments at 400 KV GSS Heurapura (TN-82), 132 KV GSS Puranghat (TN-83) are also invited in offline mode under this circle. The Bid documents/specifications are also available for viewing at <http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in> & www.rvpn.co.in. Further extension of dates/amendments, if any, will be uploaded on above referred website only.
UBN - VPN2425SOB01005
UBN - VPN2425WSOB01007
UBN - VPN2425WSOB01006
 Superintending Engineer
 (T&C-JPR City)
 RajSanwad/C/24/3126 RRPVN/TR-6281/2024

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-Tendering Tender Notice
 Divisional Railway Manager (Works) N.C. Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work.
E-Tender No.: JHS-ENGG-E-2024-155 **Approx Cost :** 30659029.66
Description of work : Khairat-Bhimsen Section : Construction of Limited Height Pedestrian subway at the location of closed LC No. S-80A at km 1421/9-1422/0 between Kathara road and Sirharta stations of Jhansi division.
Earnest Money: 303300.00, **Date of Closing Tender:** 23.08.2024 at 15:00 hrs. **Date of completion/period from issue acceptance letter :** 08 Months. **Tender online can be submitted upto 15:00 hrs on 23.08.2024.** * For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website www.ireps.gov.in 1357/24 (D)
 North central railways @ www.nccr.indianrailways.gov.in @ CPNCR

कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी, प्रतापगढ़
 जिला - प्रतापगढ़ (राज.)
No. Accts/2024-25/2160 **DATE: 22.07.2024**
NOTICE INVITING BID
 Bids for LAB REAGENT AND LAB EQUIPMENT year 2024-25 CMHO PARTAPGARH are invited from interest bidders upto 12.08.2024. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the E PROC PORTAL AND spp portal.
UBN No. MHS2425GLRC01737
CHIEF MEDICAL & HEALTH OFFICER
DIST. PRATAPGARH (RAJ.)
 Dpr/c/6741/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION
 General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown**, was found in unconscious state on Date 30.07.2024, Near Metro Gate No. 5, Rajeev Chowk Metro, Connaught Place, New Delhi, Delhi. He was admitted to LHMC Hospital at Delhi, where the doctor declared him dead on 30.07.2024. In this regard **DD No.: 41A, U/s 194(1) BNSS, Dated 31.07.2024**, has been lodged at Police Station Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.
 Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:
Sex: Male, **Age:** about 40 years, **Height :** 5'7", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Thin, **Face:** Round, **Hair:** Black, **Wearing:** Purple T-Shirt & Orange Cap and Bare feet. The dead body of deceased preserved for 72 hours in LHMC Hospital Mortuary for identification.
 If any one having any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be informed undersigned.
 SHO
 Police Station Connaught Place,
 New Delhi-110001
 DP/10140/NDD/2024 Ph.: 011-23747100, 233644139, 9540140296

Have fun with facts on Sundays
 Catch the latest column of
TWTW
 THE WEEK THAT WAS
 A quiz on the week's development.
NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
 No. Dy. CE/CI/AGC/TN/2024/12
 Dated: 31/07/2024
1st Corrigendum
 Following modification in above tender notice is made in tender No. Dy. CE/CI/AGC/TN/2024/12 Dated: 11/07/2024

Field Name	Existing Value	Modified Value
Advertised Value (₹)	₹1174012582.43	₹1151735461.99
Earnest Money (₹)	₹6020100.00	₹5908700.00

 Tender Document Updated tender document
 12/14/24(DG)
 North central railways @CPNCR www.nccr.indianrailways.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK/ NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION HARYANA, BHIWANI	SCANNING, DIGITAL EVALUATION OF ANSWER BOOKS OF J.D. ED. EXAM JULY/AUGUST-2024	30.07.2024 07.08.2024	90 LAACES	www.bseh.org.in	9306383433 asoc@bseh.org.in

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocurment.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
 RO NO 13/2025/20/28439/19/7

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP./ AUTH	NAME OF WORK/ NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP./ AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AMBALA SADAR	BEAUTIFICATION OF NIGHT STREET FOOD MARKET NEAR GANDHI GROUND AMBALA JAGADHRI ROAD M.C. AMBALA SADAR (PACKAGE 1, 2 AND 3)	26.07.2024 08.08.2024	3.37 CRORES	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	mcambalasadar@gmail.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaprocurment.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in
 RO NO 13/2025/20/28439/19/7

CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN RANGIYA DIVISION
Tender Notice No.: 41-ENGG-RNY-2024-25, **Dated:** 29-07-2024; E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **SN-1; Brief Description of Item:** Construction/Repair of road against the work- New Bongaigaon Jn.-Goalpara Town-Kamakhyia Jn. (DN & SL)-CTR(P)-53.70 Km for removal of D mark rails. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,32,27,590.80. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,16,100/-; **Date & time of closing/opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 19-08-2024.** For complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>
 DRM (Works), Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
 Serving Customers With A Smile

RE-FURBISHED OF GLUED JOINTS
E-Tender Notice No. 39-Engg-RNY-2024-25. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Brief Description of Item:** Re-fabrication of Glued joints (in situ) against the work- New Bongaigaon Jn.-Goalpara Town-Kamakhyia Jn. (DN & SL)-CTR (P)-53.70 Km for removal of D mark rails. **Tender Value:** ₹ 78,27,500/- **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,52,600/- **Date & Time of closing of tender:** 15:00 hrs. of 19-08-2024 & opening at 15:00 hrs. of 19-08-2024 at DRM (W), Rangiya office. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in
 DRM (W), Rangiya
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
 Serving Customers With A Smile

North Eastern Railway
Online E-Tender Notice
Dy. CME/Repair for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur for and on behalf of President of India invites Single tender through on line (E-Tendering) for the following works:-
S.No. : 1, E-Tender Notice No. & Name of the work : Tender No. - "19-GKP-MWS-2024-25"
 "Refurbishment of 13112 Nos. of Timken make UIC-130 CTRB of LHB Coaches." **Estimated Cost :** Rs. 24,95,75,125.60, **Earnest Money :** Rs. 13,97,900/-, **Last Date of tender submission :** Upto 11.00 hrs., **Date 22.08.2024, Cost of the Tender Forms :** Nil, **Period of Contract :** 24 Months.
 The details of above tender are also available on Indian Railway website www.ireps.gov.in.
 Dy. CME/Repair, Mechanical Workshop, CPRO/Mech-49 N.E. Railway, Gorakhpur
Do not smoke Bid/Cigarette In train

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

N.I.T. No.	14(A,B,C,D,E,F,G)/ 24-25/WE	
Name of work with its location	(A)	Estimates for Repair & Maintenance of Parks under ADE/N/HT/NDLS
	(B)	Annual maintenance of Lawns/Parks and hedges in the S/O SSE/HT/BH & HN2M under ADE/N/HT/NDLS.
	(C)	Annual maintenance of Lawns/Parks and hedges in the S/O SSE/HT/DKZ under ADE/N/HT/NDLS.
	(D)	Covering of open nalha with RCC slab and provision of RCC culvert box at Tilak Bridge Railway Colony in the S/O SSE/W/BH under ADE/N-E-III.
	(E)	Repair and maintenance of parking areas, walking pathway, jogging track, Highrise fencing and extension of terrace area and other allied works in Rail Eco Park in the S/O SSE/W/SMM under ADE/N-E-III.
	(F)	Improvement to road surface and drainage system boundary wall between PK road railway colony & NRCH up to block 141 and in the campus of P.K. road in the section of SSE/W/PG under ADE/N-E-I.
Approx Cost of work	(A)	Rs. 5999989.54
	(B)	Rs. 7999933.85
	(C)	Rs. 6999975.29
	(D)	Rs. 1999996.55
	(E)	Rs. 15499978.43
	(F)	Rs. 9999999.89
EMD amount	(A)	Rs. 120000.00
	(B)	Rs. 160000.00
	(C)	Rs. 140000.00
	(D)	Rs. 250000.00
	(E)	Rs. 227500.00
	(F)	Rs. 200000.00
Completion period of Work	(A)	24 Months
	(B)	24 Months
	(C)	20 Months
	(D)	08 Months
	(E)	06 Months
	(F)	08 Months

Date and time for

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

SC/ST SUB-CATEGORIES

SCs are a socially heterogeneous class. Thus, the state in exercise of the power under Articles 15(4) and 16(4) can further classify the SCs if (a) there is a rational principle for differentiation; and (b) the rational principle has a nexus with the purpose of subclassification," the verdict said.

Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, and justices BR Gavai, Vikram Nath, Pankaj Mithal, Manoj Misra and Satish Chandra Sharma comprised the majority while justice Bela M Trivedi dissented. The bench rendered six separate opinions. CJJ Chandrachud wrote an opinion for himself and justice Misra while justices Gavai, Nath, Mithal and Sharma wrote separate but concurring opinions. Justice Trivedi's dissenting opinion affirmed the 2004 Chinnaiiah ruling.

Significantly, one concurring judgment also called for identifying and excluding the "creamy layer" from SC/ST reservations, extending a concept hitherto used only for other backward classes (OBC) to weed out economically well-off people from the ambit of quotas. Another judge called for reservation benefits to be extended only for one generation.

"The State must evolve a policy for identifying the creamy layer even from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so as to exclude them from the benefit of affirmative action. In my view, only this and this alone can achieve the real equality as enshrined under the Constitution," justice BR Gavai said, and was supported by CJJ Chandrachud, and justices Vikram Nath, Pankaj Mithal, Manoj Misra and Satish Chandra Sharma. The majority ruling acknowledged the social and economic diversity within SC/ST communities and allowed states to provide targeted benefits to the most disadvantaged subgroups, thereby promoting a more equitable distribution of affirmative action.

Marking a significant shift in the landscape of reservation policies in India, the court held that the SC/ST communities are "not homogenous" but are a "socially heterogeneous class"

and that there are varying degrees of backwardness within these groups that ought to be addressed by the State for the fulfilment of the constitutional goal of social equality.

The ruling held that subclassification within SCs does not violate Article 341 (presidential order identifying SCs) of the Constitution, provided that it does not lead to the exclusion of any caste from the list of SC. However, any preference or exclusive benefit to certain castes within such reserved categories must be justified by data and empirical evidence, it declared. To be sure, the judgment interpreted only Article 341 because that was the bone of contention in the case before it, but the principles enunciated in the verdict applies to both SCs and STs.

Holding that states can create subclassifications within SC/STs if there is a rational basis for doing so, such as inadequate representation of certain castes in public services, the majority verdict stated that the states must collect data on this inadequacy and demonstrate that it is linked to the caste's backwardness. The judgment also stated that "the State must establish that the inadequacy of representation of a caste/group is because of its backwardness."

Simultaneously, the court made it clear that states would not be allowed to set aside all of the seats designated for SC/STs in favour of a single subclass, disregarding all other castes on the list and that the subclassification would also be amenable to judicial review.

This judgment is poised to have a profound impact on the implementation of reservation policies across India, empowering state governments to tailor their reservation policies to address the nuanced and diverse needs of marginalised communities. This ruling also has the potential to influence future debates on reservation policies in India, particularly in relation to other marginalised groups.

This debate stemmed from the long-standing issue of whether all subgroups within SCs and STs, which are constitutionally recognised as homogenous classes, should be treated equally or if a more granular approach should be allowed to ensure that the most disadvantaged within these groups receive adequate benefits.

The genesis of this legal battle lies in the 2004 Supreme Court judgment in EV Chinnaiiah vs State of Andhra Pradesh, where a five-judge bench ruled that subclassification within SCs/STs was not permissible. This judgment held that SCs and STs form homogenous classes and that any attempt to create subgroups for preferential treatment would violate the principle of equality. It further held that tweaking with the reservation policy by the states violated Article 341 of the Constitution. This provision allows the President of India to notify a list of SCs for each state and stipulates that the list can only be modified by parliament. This ruling became the basis for several legal challenges, particularly against state policies that sought to provide specific benefits to certain sub-castes within the SC/ST categories.

A significant case in this context involved the Punjab government, which in 1975 issued a notification dividing its existing 25% reservation for SCs into two categories - half of the reserved seats were earmarked for Balmikis and Mazhabi Sikhs, with the remaining half allocated to other SC groups. This notification was quashed by the Punjab & Haryana High Court in 2006, citing the Chinnaiiah judgment. In response, the Punjab government passed the Punjab Scheduled Caste and Backward Classes (Reservation in Services) Act, 2006, which introduced a "first preference" reservation for Balmikis and Mazhabi Sikhs. However, this too was struck down by the high court, leading to an appeal in the Supreme Court.

In 2020, a five-judge bench of the Supreme Court referred the matter to a larger bench, observing that the Chinnaiiah judgment required reconsideration.

Over three days of hearings in February 2024, the seven-judge bench grappled with the complex arguments for and against subclassification. The Union government, along with several states including Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Telangana, strongly supported subclassification, arguing that it is essential for ensuring that the benefits of reservation truly reach the most marginalised within the SC/ST communities. On the other hand, opponents of subclassification argued that it could lead to political manipulation and the fragmentation of SC/ST unity.

The CJJ's judgment held that inter-se backwardness within the SC/STs is a roadblock to achieving substantive equality. "Subclassification is one of the means to achieve substantive equality. The doctrine of classification gives content to the guarantee of equal protection of the laws. Under this approach, the focus is on the equality of results or opportunities over equality of treatment...The principle of subclassification will be applicable to the Scheduled Castes if the social positions of the constituents among the castes/groups is not comparable," it said.

Drawing on the precedent set by the nine-judge bench verdict in the Indra Sawhney case (1992), which upheld subclassification within Other Backward Classes (OBCs), the court ruled that this principle could also be extended to SC/STs under Articles 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution that empowers the State to make special provisions for the socially and educationally backward classes.

One of the pivotal aspects of the judgment was the interpretation of Article 341(1) of the Constitution, which deals with the identification of SCs. This judgment clarified that the provision does not create a homogenous class but allows for the inclusion of various castes within the SC category, each of which can be treated differently based on empirical evidence.

Additionally, the court addressed the role of Article 335, which mandates that the claims of SC/STs should be considered in public appointments,

consistent with the maintenance of administrative efficiency. The judgment ruled that efficiency should be interpreted in a manner that promotes inclusion and equality, rather than as a limitation on the power of states to grant reservations. The ruling stressed that the "efficiency of administration must be viewed in a manner which promotes inclusion and equality".

The judgment clarified that the State's course of action is subject to judicial review and that the subclassification followed must be justified based on empirical data gathered by the State.

"While the State may embark on an exercise of subclassification, it must do so on the basis of quantifiable and demonstrable data bearing on levels of backwardness and representation in the services of the State. It cannot, in its whims or as a matter of political expediency," held the court.

The judgment further clarified that although sub-categorisation based on each caste is permissible, there can never be a situation where seats are allocated for every caste separately.

KANWARIYAS

The mess is unlikely to get any better until the weekend, with more kanwariyas expected to enter Delhi till Friday, when the 12-day pilgrimage wraps up.

Representatives of resident welfare associations said people have repeatedly complained about the menace for several years, but have now given up hope on authorities taking any action against the annual pandemonium.

"It's wrong to say that we do not take action against unruly participants of the Kanwar Yatra. We stop vehicles fitted with boomboxes and ask kanwariyas to lower the volume. Sometimes, we even snap the wires of their sound system," said a senior Delhi Police officer who asked not to be named.

The large influx of kanwariyas - travelling on foot, motorcycles, or in auto-rickshaws, cars, and trucks, and accompa-

nied by "volunteers" armed with sticks and rods who are often seen threatening motorists - has disrupted traffic, leading to serpentine snarls in several parts of the city, especially during the morning and evening rush hours.

On Thursday, locals alleged that kanwariyas broke vehicles in Rajouri Garden. A resident who asked not to be identified said that he saw kanwariyas damaging a bus and a car.

However, police claimed that when they visited the spot, they saw the wheel of a vehicle being used by kanwariyas damaged.

Commuters are now caught in a double whammy - potholed, inundated roads on one hand and unruly kanwariyas on the other.

And the police are not to be seen.

Not that the rare police person around does what needs to be done.

"Even police personnel on the roads hardly do anything to clear the jams," said Shashi Pandey, a resident of Patparganj.

Commuters across the city complained of bumper-to-bumper traffic on key stretches, including Outer Ring Road, Delhi-Meerut Expressway, Delhi-Noida Direct flyway, Mathura Road, Kalindi Kunj-Jasola Vihar Road, GT Karnal Road between Apsara border and Kashmir Gate, among others, despite police setting up traffic diversions and restrictions on routes used by kanwariyas.

"It usually takes me 50 minutes to reach work in Lajpat Nagar from my house in Indirapuram. But over the last two-three days, the travel time has increased by 20-30 minutes because of the high volume of traffic along the Delhi-Meerut Expressway. There are five or six Kanwar camps on the route. The kanwariyas sit on the roadside or park their vehicles, narrowing the driving space for others, causing long traffic jams," said Shailendra Mishra, an accountant.

The traffic police should ensure the road is not encroached outside such camps.

Similar encroachments dot Delhi's Outer Ring Road.

No peace, no quiet

People living in housing societies along kanwar routes complain that the blaring music means they don't get a moment of peace for several days and nights. The worst-hit are senior citizens, infants, school-going children, and those with heart and high blood pressure ailments.

They said the loud music rattles their doors and windows.

"This problem aggravates during the night as many such vehicles pass through the highway. The sound of the boomboxes wakes us up the moment the religious procession passes by our flat," said Anurag Kashyap, a resident of Mayur Vihar Phase 2.

Worse, in a brazen show of strength, many kanwar trucks insist on driving through residential colonies.

Triveni Mahajan, secretary of the Friends Colony RWA, said the city's extant noise pollution norms are no hindrance for kanwariyas. "Residents of Friends Colony and Maharani Bagh are facing a significant issue with loud music from trucks and tempos loaded with boom boxes passing by on the Mathura Road and the Ring Road, especially during late-night hours. This situation is particularly frustrating as the relevant regulations aren't being enforced and no local body is taking any proactive steps to check them or get involved," he said.

Mahajan added, "The music is detrimental to the health and well-being of residents, especially senior citizens and people with heart disease."

Kanwariyas disagree. "How do our music systems disturb people? We only play devotional songs on the music system while on the move. We travel a long distance carrying holy Ganga water from Haridwar to our home. The journey is tough and full of difficulties and pain. The music played on the boomboxes gives us a kick. We dance to the tune of the songs and forget our pain,"

said Gautam Kataria, a resident of Rohtak in Haryana.

Laita Prasad Shrivastava, RWA president of Priyadarshini Apartments in IP Extension (Patparganj), blamed authorities for the nuisance.

"We have almost given up. The matter was brought to the attention of the police several times in the past three-four years. But when nothing happened, we had no option but to accept this nuisance as an annual disturbance," said Shrivastava.

Regarding residents' complaints, at least two police officers, who wished to remain anonymous, said preventive measures are being taken to address the nuisance.

Police said kanwariyas have resorted to violence on a slew of occasions.

"A few days ago, two incidents were reported in Uttar Pradesh, where kanwariyas damaged two separate vehicles over a minor accident. On Friday (August 1), some kanwariyas blocked a road in west Delhi's Rajouri Garden following damage to the wheel of the vehicle on which kanwar was being carried," said a second police officer who asked not to be named.

Deputy commissioner of police (east) Apoorva Gupta said, "Because stopping vehicles playing loud music on boomboxes on the spot has become difficult for multiple reasons, we have started taking pictures of such vehicles and their registration number plates. We will issue them fines for violating the rules."

"We are aware of the situation and have now decided to increase the deployment of police personnel at border points connecting Uttar Pradesh to ensure vehicles playing loud music are not allowed to enter the city," said additional commissioner of police (eastern range) Sagar Singh Kalsi.

The effectiveness of these measures listed by Kalsi were evident on Thursday during the evening peak hour on Outer Ring Road, when a large, slow-moving kanwar truck, blasting loud music made its way through the choked arterial thoroughfare.

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
CORRIGENDUM

NO. PW-JD/E-Tender/2024-25
In online Tender called vide this office letter No. JD/E-Tender/2024-25-2707-09-28 Dated 08.07.2024 Tender ID 2024_PWD_90773_1 namely 'C/O M/T of Jhagan-Golchu-Garhi-Kothu road 0/0 km to 5/645 (SH- FC, Passing Place, R/Wall, B/Wall, Cross Drainage HPC Road Side drain, GSB, M/T parapets and Furniture) five year maintenance under NABARD RIDF-XXIX, in uploaded schedule of quantity at Column No.6. Total Amount without GST' be read as "Total Amount with GST" and key dates are further extended upto 08.08.2024.

Executive Engineer
HPPWD Division Jubbait
Jubbait

DPR HP-1179

कार्यालय कलेक्टर, जिला दक्षिण बस्तर, दन्तेवाड़ा (जिला निर्माण समिति)

ःः मेनुअल पद्धति प्रथम निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना ::

निविदा विज्ञापन क्र. 02/ जि.नि.स./लो.नि.वि./24-25 दन्तेवाड़ा, दिनांक 29/07/2024 एकीकृत पंजीयन प्रणाली अन्तर्गत सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत टेकदारों से निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु मेनुअल निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :-

क्र.	कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (रु. लाख में)
1	आस्था विद्या मंदिर सोकीदार क्वार्टर किन्दुल (जी-3) भवन का निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण सहित)	210.08
2	आस्था विद्या मंदिर स्टाफ क्वार्टर किन्दुल भवन निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण सहित)	597.69
3	आस्था विद्या मंदिर कन्या छात्रावास भवन किन्दुल का निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण सहित)	769.87
4	आस्था विद्या मंदिर (स्कूल) किन्दुल भवन निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण सहित)	751.52
5	आस्था विद्या मंदिर बालक छात्रावास भवन किन्दुल का निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण सहित)	769.87
6	जिला दन्तेवाड़ा के रानीबाग में भक्त निवास के भू-नल एवं प्रथम तल का निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण सहित)	319.45
कुल 06 कार्य		3418.48

2. उपरोक्त निर्माण कार्य की निविदा को सामान्य शर्तें, धरोहर राशि, विस्तृत निविदा विज्ञापन, निविदा दस्तावेज व अन्य जानकारी कार्यालयीन अवधि में कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।
3. प्रत्येक कार्य हेतु निविदा प्रपत्र प्राप्त करने की अन्तिम तिथि 21-08-2024 है।
(कलेक्टर महोदय द्वारा अनुमोदित) अपर कलेक्टर/नोडल अधिकारी (जिला निर्माण समिति) जिला दक्षिण बस्तर, दन्तेवाड़ा

G-242501479/5

Office of The Principal, Autonomous State Medical College, Gonda.
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M.No.8858004085
website: www.asmcgonda.org
Add:Autonomous State Medical College, In-front of Circuit House, ChhavaniSarkar, District Gonda, Uttar Pradesh-271001

Letter No: 1156 /ASMC/Advertisement-2/2024-25, Date: 01, August, 2024

Advertisements

Applications are invited in prescribed format for the regular posts of Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant professor at Autonomous State Medical College, Gonda U.P. Details of the posts are mentioned below. For Details visit college website: www.asmcgonda.org Last date to apply 21 August, 2024

Sr. No.	Name of Specialty	Professor		Associate Professor		Assistant Professor	
		No of Posts	Category	No of Posts	Category	No of Posts	Category
01	Orthopedics	01	OBC	01	SC	--	--
02	Ophthalmology	--	--	01	SC	01	SC
03	Obstetrics and Gynecology	01	SC	01	UR	01	OBC
04	Anatomy	01	OBC	01	UR	01	OBC
05	Anesthesiology	01	UR	01	UR	01	OBC
				01	SC	01	OBC
06	Oto-rhino-Laryngology	--	--	01	OBC	--	--
07	Community Medicine	--	--	01	SC	01	EWS
						01	SC
	UHTC	--	--	--	--	01	OBC
08	General Medicine	01	SC	01	UR	01	SC
				01	OBC	01	UR
				01	UR	--	--
09	General Surgery	01	UR	01	OBC	01	SC
				01	UR	01	SC
10	Dermatology, Venereology and Leprosy	--	--	01	SC	01	OBC
11	Pediatrics	01	OBC	01	OBC	01	OBC
12	Pathology	--	--	01	UR	01	EWS
						01	SC
13	Pharmacology	01	SC	01	SC	01	UR
						01	OBC
14	Physiology	01	OBC	--	--	01	SC
15	Forensic medicine and toxicology	01	UR	01	OBC	--	--
16	Microbiology	01	OBC	--	--	01	SC
17	Biochemistry	--	--	01	OBC	01	OBC
18	Radiodiagnosis	01	UR	01	OBC	01	SC
Total		12		21		21	

**Principal
Autonomous State Medical College
Gonda**

Soban Singh Jeena Government Institute of Medical Science & Research Almora
Near Vikas Bhawan, Pandeykhola, Almora, Distt-Almora-263601 (Uttarakhand)
e-mail - principal.gmcalmora@gmail.com, Website - <http://www.ssjgimsalmora.org> & Mob. No. +91 9412410759

Letter No.:-84 GMCA/G-1/2022-23/ Almora Date: 01st August, 2024

Walk-In-Interview

"Walk In interview" against 10 vacant post of "Junior Resident" post(s) as per Departmental requirement of Soban Soban Singh Jeena Government Institute of Medical Science & Research Almora on 01 year contractual basis will be held on dated 08th August, 2024 (Thursday) at 10:00 AM. Interview will be held at "Office of the Principal, Soban Soban Singh Jeena Government Institute of Medical Science & Research Almora, Near Vikas Bhawan, Pandeykhola, Almora, Distt.-Almora, Uttarakhand-263601".
Salary: Junior Resident - Rs. 76,600/- pm
1- Qualification & Age - As per NMC norms.
2- Reservation - As per Rule of Uttarakhand Govt.

Principal
SSJ Govt. IMSR Almora
Almora

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER (THROUGH E-TENDERING PROCESS ONLY)

M.P. Power Generating Co. Ltd. invites e-tenders from reputed Contractor/Firm/Service Provider/Joint Venture/Transporter for the following jobs:-

Tender No.	Tender Particulars	Estimated Cost in Rs. (Inclusive of Taxes)/ Period/Tender Cost in Rs.	EMD in Rs.	Date and Time for Closing of Online Submission	Date & Time of E-Opening of Tender
2024_MPPGC_354794_1	Hiring of 26 Nos. Semi-Skilled personnel for providing assistance in day to day operation & maintenance related works at THC Sirmour.	1.14 Crore/ 5,000/- / 24 months	2,00,000/-	30.08.2024 Up to 16:00 hrs	03.09.2024 from 15:30 hrs. onwards
2024_MPPGC_354795_1	Hiring of 15 Nos. Semi-Skilled personnel for providing assistance in day to day office works at THC Sirmour.	61.69 Lakhs/ 2,000/- / 24 months	1,23,400/-	28.08.2024 Up to 16:00 hrs	30.08.2024 from 15:30 hrs. onwards
2024_MPPGC_354796_1	Work contract for assistance in day to day electrical and mechanical maintenance works at 3 x 105 MW THPS-I Sirmour.	47.51 Lakhs/ 1,000/- / 24 months	95,100/-	20.08.2024 Up to 16:00 hrs	22.08.2024 from 15:30 hrs. onwards
2024_MPPGC_354797_1	Hiring of one No. Diesel Jeep (6+1) Seater Bolero, for Bhootpur Security staff for Patrolling of Beehar Barrage, Tons Barrage, Link canal, Power Channel and power house and other premises of THC Sirmour, for monthly run of 3000 KM with two additional driver.	22.06 Lakhs/ 1,000/- / 24 months	44,200/-	02.09.2024 Up to 16:00 Hrs.	04.09.2024 from 15:30 Hrs. onwards
2024_MPPGC_361005_1	Hiring of 01 No. Air conditioned Ambulance compliant with latest National Ambulance code, provided with Mono-block stretcher, Nursing and First Aid Kit, Oxygen Cylinder and with facilities as required for standard Ambulance, Engine capacity 1900 CC and above (Petrol/Diesel Version popular model Tata winger Ambulance and equivalent) for transportation of patient for THPS Dispensary sirmour upto 2000 Km on monthly basis and round the clock availability.	24.56 Lakhs/ 1,000/- / 24 months	49,200/-	21.08.2024 Up to 16:00 Hrs.	23.08.2024 from 15:30 Hrs. onwards

It is mandatory for prospective bidders to get registration on website www.mptenders.gov.in by making online registration fees payment. Further for detailed NIT, eligibility criteria, tender documents etc., please visit website www.mptenders.gov.in.

M.P. Madhyam/115670/2024 Save Electricity Addl. CHIEF ENGINEER (THC)



OPINION

The
Hindustan Times
ESTABLISHED IN 1924

OUR TAKE

Fix accountability for the drownings

HC's rebuke underscores the farcical probe in the case where scapegoats are being used to shield systemic corruption at highest levels

If the deaths of three civil service aspirants in Delhi by drowning was a tragedy, what has unfolded since has been little short of a farce. The authorities have chosen to ignore mounting evidence of violation of building rules and norms by influential people who run coaching centres in the Capital in spaces no bigger than cubbyholes, cramming as many students as possible into airless boxes for profit. There has been little action against the laxity of oversight agencies and engineers, who allowed such coaching centres to mushroom and expand, and no crackdown against other agencies that didn't clean the sewers and stormwater drains which allowed sheets of water to pile up and smash through the gates of the coaching centre basement, marooning the three students in the library.

Instead of looking at the governance limbo that ensured that the Old Rajinder Nagar area was again inundated on Wednesday just days after the initial tragedy, the authorities have embarked on a strange mission to pin responsibility on small fry and junior officials. The biggest example of this is the arrest and charging of a man who was driving through the waterlogged area. Though the Delhi high court has now granted him bail, the police saying the man was a reveller who caused waves of water to crash through the gates of the basement made for a sorry spectacle. The high court has now taken note of this "strange" and "shoddy" probe and lambasted the Delhi government for failing to upgrade the city's infrastructure due to what it termed a "freebies culture".

On Wednesday, a bench comprising acting chief justice Manmohan and justice Tushar Rao Gedela did not mince words, calling the incident a case of "criminal neglect" and a symptom of "infrastructure breakdown at the larger level". The bench expressed dismay that while the police had arrested a passerby, they had not acted against or even investigated the role of Municipal Corporation of Delhi officials, whose negligence contributed to the tragedy.

The court is right. The tragedy, the latest in a series of similar mishaps, underlines that Delhi's infrastructure is crumbling, its governance is hopelessly caught between feuding centres of power, and its monitoring systems, non-existent. These lacunae need serious investigation and long-term fixes, not knee-jerk responses that attempt to shield powerful men and women who did not do their job. It's the least that Tanya Soni, Shreya Yadav and Nevin Delvin deserve.

West Asia on the brink, West needs to step in

Israel has torpedoed whatever feeble chances there were of a ceasefire in West Asia, by killing Hamas politburo chief, Ismail Haniyeh. Perceived to be the restrained and pragmatic one among the hardline Hamas leadership, Haniyeh was to represent the outfit in the talks, and conciliator Qatar is right in saying that there can't be further progress with one of the interlocutors dead. But the repercussions go beyond the ceasefire. The threat of a wider war in West Asia is now real.

Haniyeh was killed in the Iranian capital, within hours of having attended the investiture of the country's new president, Masoud Pezeshkian. This made a carefully calculated response by Iran, as was the case in April when Israel killed one of its military commanders in Syria, quite unlikely. A face-saver attack wouldn't do, which is why Iran has ordered "direct" retaliation against Israel. At the same time, a bigger axis against Israel is evolving — apart from Iran, Türkiye has vowed revenge for the Gaza deaths. And Israel is already locked in conflict with the Yemeni Houthis and Lebanon's Hezbollah. Just hours before killing Haniyeh, Israel killed Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukur in Beirut. Whether Israel can outmuscle this axis or not, a widening of the war will only mean more deaths, and, thereafter, more countries forced to fall in rank behind either side.

Israel's allies — primarily the US — need to make it clear that it no longer has their support in a war that has killed over 40,000 civilians. Failure to get it to stop in Gaza, all October 7 justifications notwithstanding, has brought the region to the precipice. There can be no soft-peddalling now on telling Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has staked his political career on the war, to back off.

OVER THE HORIZON

Arunabha Ghosh



For industrial growth, green trade will matter

India must prepare strategic responses for four kinds of trade barriers that will impact its climate ambitions and energy security concerns

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman identified manufacturing and services, and energy security among her budget priorities. For both, the budget seeks, "appropriate energy transition pathways that balance the imperatives of employment, growth and environmental sustainability". To capitalise on these priorities, India must heed developments in international trade and its growing — but increasingly complex — links with energy security, the climate crisis, and environmental regulation.

Climate risks are now an economy-wide concern. Extreme weather can damage ports, airports and other infrastructure, resulting in supply chain disruptions. These spillover into the wider economy: Insurance costs of physical damage, food price shocks, and upsetting manufacturing and employment targets.

Meanwhile, industrial and trade policies in foreign jurisdictions could disrupt climate action elsewhere. After decades of advocating against government support to industries, advanced

economies have doubled down on (green) industrial policy, such as the United States' (US) Inflation Reduction Act and the European Union's (EU) Green Deal Industrial Plan.

A related challenge is the continued concentration of sustainable finance in advanced economies. In 2019, China, the US and the EU had ~30%, ~10%, and ~16% shares of global clean energy spending. By contrast, India got ~3% and Africa received ~1%. By the end of 2024, these ratios would have barely budged. Further, when central banks in rich countries raise interest rates to combat inflation, the cost of finance for foreign currency-denominated debt for clean energy projects goes up. With the costs of intermediate imported goods also rising, manufacturing of cleantech finished products becomes even harder.

Energy and resource efficiency are critical for maintaining industrial competitiveness. Industry in India has consistently suffered due to high energy costs for them. But in rapidly growing economies, the push for energy efficiency can only go some of the way. With absolute energy demand rising, disruptions in the supply of fossil fuels or clean energy create major concerns. Trade agreements must respond to these concerns now by ensuring the security of supply of the fuels of the future.

India must prepare strategic responses for four kinds of trade barriers that will impact its climate ambi-

tions and energy security concerns. First, price measures. Council for Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) estimates that almost \$10 billion of India's exports to the EU could come under the purview of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The UK has also announced that it will implement a CBAM by 2027. The US is considering border adjustments for embedded carbon in traded goods. Rather than hope for relief from a moribund World Trade Organization, India must calculate the exposure to various sectors but also the opportunity that arises from sustainability measures, which could give Indian industry an edge in greener trade. The ongoing Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with the EU and the UK should also consider how India's sustainability measures receive equivalent treatment so that our exports can jump some green tariff walls.

Secondly, non-price measures. Sustainability-driven non-tariff measures (NTMs) are on the rise (from 8% of all NTMs notified to the WTO in 1997 to 19% in 2021). EU regulations target heavy industries like chemicals as well as jobs-intensive industries such as textiles, vehicles and consumer electronics, which could adversely impact up to \$27 billion of India's exports to the EU.

India also has a strong interest in developing clean technologies with wide applications across industrial sectors. Green hydrogen is one, but



Sustainability-driven non-tariff measures (NTMs) are on the rise from 8% of all NTMs notified to the WTO in 1997 to 19% in 2021

other intermediate goods, such as green steel, green cement, and green ammonia, are also important. What defines them as green? Standards and certification have a long history of being used as non-tariff barriers; cleantech is no exception. For instance, in green hydrogen, we find gaps in India's standards at various stages of the value chain, namely production (such as biomass pyrolysis), storage (say, liquid hydrogen), transportation (through pipelines), or applications (say, aviation fuels). Filling gaps in standards and finding ways to align with other countries should be a priority, especially when billions of dollars are being invested.

Thirdly, highly concentrated cleantech supply chains. Over 80% of upper-middle-income economies and 90% of lower-middle-income economies face concentrated imports (for rich countries, the ratio is under 60%). The poorer the economy, the greater the challenge for building green industries. India depends heavily on a handful of countries to meet more than 80% of its solar cell and module requirements. Unilateral industrial policy can help only to an extent. India needs strategic trade relationships where its comparative advantage in manufacturing certain components can be paired with that of key trading part-

ners. Interdependent value chains can make India and its partners gain more cleantech export competitiveness.

Fourthly, intellectual property for cleantech. Five countries — Japan, the US, Germany, China, and South Korea — hold approximately 85% of renewable energy patents published during 2000-23. Most environmental patents granted will remain valid until after 2030, creating barriers for developing countries to attain them. Asking for technology transfer sounds nice in rhetoric but has a poor record in practice. India must leverage its renewed thrust on R&D for cleantech development and co-development with partner countries. Just customs duties on imports will prove insufficient.

Historically, trade has defined national development and international politics. The global economy is now being shaped by disruptive shifts in energy systems, advanced technologies and financial architectures. India's industrial and trade policies and strategies must evolve too. The linkages between energy, trade and climate are too important to be left to simplistic formulations and response measures.

Arunabha Ghosh is CEO, Council on Energy, Environment and Water. The views expressed are personal

The case for including North Bengal in NEC

The integration of North Bengal into the North Eastern Council (NEC), which has gained attention recently, is not a novel concept. It is actually a viable solution that addresses various challenges the people of North Bengal face. The region has long been neglected, with the meagre development in West Bengal so far being Kolkata-centric, and only South Bengal reaping its benefits.

Given the continued inattention to North Bengal, the people of the area have often demanded its separation from the rest of the state. Thus, North Bengal has seen a number of political movements centred on separation — statehood calls raised by the Gorkhas, Rajbanshis, and Kamtapuris reflect the frustration of some of the neglected communities.

The eight districts located north of the Ganga in the state — Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Alipurduar — are collectively called North Bengal. Historically, this area was a transitional zone between Eastern India and the great Gangetic plain. Today, these districts are among the most neglected parts of West Bengal, despite being vital both strategically and from the security perspective.

A major part of North Bengal is defined by the Siliguri Corridor, which is significant due to its location near the so-called Chicken's Neck that links the northeastern states to the rest of India. The Siliguri Corridor also neighbours Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and China, and connects India to South East Asia and East Asia through Myanmar. This makes it strategically important to India. The massive improvements in infrastructure in the Northeast are there for all to see. The need of the hour is to develop the Siliguri Corridor as a bridge to South East Asia by augmenting its infrastructure and plugging it into emerging trans-Asian connectivity networks. This might be possible only if North Bengal is independently resourced.

Across the world, economic synergies within sub-regions divided by political boundaries are being regenerated. Common infrastructure and economic spaces that acknowledge this contiguity are the foundation of such arrangements. The concept of a composite Northeast is an acknowledgement of this rationale. Viewed from this perspective, the synergies that can be exploited by — and the logic of — linking North Bengal to the Northeast are evident. Moreover, by including the Siliguri Corridor, the Northeast will assume a contiguity with Sikkim that it is currently lacking.

The benefits of such arrangements spread beyond their epicentres. Bengal has always been a maritime state. Strengthening land linkages with the Northeast via North Bengal would create an opportunity for the whole of the state to expand its historical role as the gateway to the Bay of Bengal. The economic weight of the hinterland, which made Kolkata (Calcutta) port one of the great economic hubs of its time, would be rekindled by reviving this organic connection to the Northeast.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's focus on

developing infrastructure in the Northeast, Neighbourhood First and Act East foreign-policy pillar gives North Bengal a historic opportunity. The NEC, as the nodal agency for the economic and social development of India's Northeast, gets ~10% of annual budgets of all central ministries. The common roadblocks to development that the northeastern states share are applicable to North Bengal as well but the benefits of the NEC do not extend to the region and its people.

The Northeast, from Sikkim in the west to Arunachal Pradesh in the east, in the eastern Himalayan range and, as such, the ethnic groups in these areas share significant cultural and ethnic similarities. The populations of Darjeeling and Sikkim predominantly comprise groups such as the Lepchas, Bhutias, and Nepalis. Their shared

physical characteristics are a testament to their common ancestry. The lifestyles of the people in Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh are closely linked to their mountainous environment. Darjeeling and Kalimpong are the only hilly districts of West Bengal, and owing to the terrain, residents face distinct challenges that can't be addressed by the 'one size fits all' policies of the West Bengal government. Additionally, areas of North Bengal, including Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar, Uttar Dinajpur, and Alipurduar, exhibit cultural affinities with Assam. The Rajbanshi, Adivasi, and various tribal communities, such as the Bodos and Rabhas, inhabit both regions. These groups have intermingled over centuries, resulting in shared cultural traits and practices. Assamese is widely understood and spoken in parts of North Bengal, alongside Bengali.

Despite the immense potential, North Bengal faces myriad issues that hinder its progress, from infrastructural deficiencies to socioeconomic disparities. Its road and rail networks are insufficient to support its growing population and economic activities. Frequent landslides and flooding, exacerbated by poor drainage systems, further disrupt connectivity. Health care and education services in North Bengal are also lagging. Economic development is another area of concern. While agriculture remains the backbone of its economy, it is marred by low productivity, and inadequate access to modern agricultural techniques and markets. The tea industry, a significant economic driver, faces challenges such as fluctuating global prices, labour disputes, and environmental degradation. The region grapples with socio-political issues, including ethnic tensions and demands for greater autonomy.

These challenges underscore the current lack of resources to leverage the region's strengths. Consequently, making North Bengal a part of the NEC is a potential solution. A well-administered, well-resourced, and secure North Bengal region holds immense significance for the country, both strategically and economically.

Harsh Vardhan Shringla is former foreign secretary, and former ambassador to the US, Bangladesh and Thailand. The views expressed are personal

URSULA VON DER LEYEN | EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRESIDENT

With our AI Act, we create guardrails not only to protect people and their interests but also to give businesses clear rules and certainty

On the European Union's landmark law on Artificial Intelligence which came into force on Thursday

Bangladesh quota protests a metaphor for discontent

Bangladesh's student-led protests began as peaceful demonstrations against a controversial quota system in government jobs but have since morphed into violent nationwide unrest. This exposes deep-seated tensions in Bangladesh's society and raises questions about the country's governance. The 30% quota for descendants of freedom fighters in government jobs, part of a broader system established in the aftermath of the country's independence in 1971, has long been a contentious issue. While intended to honour sacrifices made during the war of independence from Pakistan, it has increasingly been viewed by many as an anachronistic policy that undermines meritocracy and perpetuates inequality. The students' demands were straightforward: Abolish this quota and give jobs on merit. They argued that the system failed to reflect the needs and aspirations of contemporary Bangladesh. Their cause quickly gained traction, resonating with a broader segment of society frustrated by limited economic opportunities and perceived governmental nepotism.

The government went in heavy-handed, deploying police and paramilitary forces. This disproportionate use of force only broadened anger against the administration. As the protests grew, so did the violence. Clashes erupted between demonstrators and pro-government supporters, particularly members of the ruling party's student wing, the Bangladesh Chhatra League. The resulting chaos has led to a shocking toll: Hundreds have died, with thousands more injured. Attacks on journalists have stoked fears about press freedom. The government's decision to impose a communications blackout, blocking internet and social media access, has only exacerbated the situation. Ostensibly aimed at disrupting the organisation of protests, it has instead fuelled speculation about the true extent of the unrest and the government's attempts to control the narrative.

In response, the Supreme Court ordered a reduction in the freedom fighters' quota from 30% to 5%, with 93% of jobs to be allocated based on merit. While this decision has been cautiously welcomed by protest organisers, it has not been enough to quell the unrest.

The government attributes the unrest to opposition parties, particularly the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, claiming they are instigating violence under the cloak of the student movement. However, the student protesters assert their political neutrality, emphasising that their demands are centred on establishing a fair,

merit-based system that benefits all citizens, rather than serving any political agenda.

The persistence of the protests, even after the concessions, points to deeper issues at play. The demonstrations have become a vehicle for expressing a range of grievances, from widespread corruption and economic inequality to concerns about democratic backsliding under an increasingly authoritarian rule. During 2014-2024, Bangladesh's electoral landscape has been characterised by limited competition. The BNP and its allies, for most parts, abstained from participating in the elections, resulting in contests that lacked broad political representation. This crisis lays bare the complex challenges facing Bangladesh. A 15.75% unemployment rate among young people translates to about 21.48 lakh unemployed youths aged 15-29, representing 83% of the country's total unemployed population, underscoring the need for youth-focused job creation and skill development initiatives. On one hand, the country's GDP expanded at an impressive average rate of 6.4% per year from 2016-21, and poverty fell from 44.2% in 1991 to 13.8% in 2016-17. On the other, it grapples with high youth unemployment, political polarisation, and a struggle to balance its historical legacy with the demands of a rapidly modernising society. The quota system has become a flashpoint in this debate. Its reform highlights the need for Bangladesh to find new ways of honouring its past while fostering a more inclusive economic future.

As Bangladesh moves forward, several key issues demand attention. First, there is an urgent need for dialogue between the government and protesters to address not just the quota system but the underlying concerns fueling the unrest. Second, the heavy-handed response to the protests calls for a re-evaluation of law enforcement tactics and a commitment to protecting citizens' right to peaceful assembly. Third, the crisis underscores the need to create more opportunities for Bangladesh's growing youth population. With a significant demographic dividend on the horizon, the country must focus on job creation, skills development, and rewarding merit and innovation.

How Bangladesh navigates this crisis will be crucial in determining its path forward as a democracy and an emerging economic power in South Asia. The challenge now is to channel the energy of these protests into constructive dialogue and meaningful reform, ensuring progress benefits all, not just a select few.



Syed Mumir Khasru

Syed Mumir Khasru is chairman, IPAG India, an international think tank. The views are personal

WORLD

Iran, its allies plan revenge but may avoid sparking all-out war

Premier Benjamin Netanyahu has said that Israel is prepared for any 'aggression' against it following threats of retaliation for the killings of top Hamas and Hezbollah figures

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

BEIRUT, LEBANON: Iran and armed groups backed by it are preparing coordinated action meant to deter Israel but avert all-out war, sources and analysts said, after the killings of top Hamas and Hezbollah figures.

On Wednesday, Iranian officials met in Tehran with representatives of the so-called 'axis of resistance' — a loose alliance of Tehran-backed groups hostile to Israel — to discuss retaliation for the deaths of Hamas's leader and Hezbollah's top military commander, said a source close to Lebanese group. "Two scenarios were discussed: a simultaneous response from Iran and its allies or a staggered response from each party," the source who had been briefed on the meeting told AFP, requesting anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei threatened a "harsh punishment" for the killing of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, which the group blamed on Israel, also vowing revenge.

Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah was speaking on Thursday at the funeral of Fuad Shukur, the group's top commander leading operations in Lebanon's south, where the group has been exchanging near-daily fire with Israel since the Gaza war erupted in October.

"You do not know what red lines you crossed," Nasrallah said, addressing Israel during a speech broadcast at top commander Shukur's funeral. "The enemy, and those who are behind the enemy, must await our inevitable response."



Iranians follow a truck carrying the coffins of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh and his bodyguard who were killed in an assassination blamed on Israel, during their funeral ceremony in Tehran, Iran, on Thursday. AP

"There is a very strong likelihood that the response will be coordinated... among other resistance actors," said Amal Saad, a Hezbollah researcher and lecturer at Britain's Cardiff University. "It's going to greatly deepen the tactical coordination between Iran" and the groups it supports across the region, she said, naming Lebanon's Hezbollah, Palestinian movements Hamas and Islamic Jihad, Yemen's Houthis rebels and Iraq's Hashed al-Shaabi force.

A leader of the Islamic Resistance of Iraq, a loose alliance of pro-Iran groups, told AFP that "Iran will lead the first response with the participation of Iraqi, Yemeni and Syrian factions, striking military targets, followed by a second response from Hezbollah".

The White House said the two killings hours apart "don't help" regional tensions, though National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said that Washington saw "no signs that an escalation is imminent". Health authorities in Hamas-

Hamas military chief killed in July airstrike in southern Gaza: Israel

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

JERUSALEM: Israel's army confirmed on Thursday that Hamas military chief Mohammed Deif was killed in an airstrike last month in the southern Gaza Strip. "Mohammed Deif, the Osama bin Laden of Gaza was eliminated" on July 13, defence minister Yoav Gallant said.

This is a "significant milestone in the process of dismantling Hamas" in Gaza, Gallant added. The army said fighter jets had struck Khan Yunis on July 13 and "following an intelligence assessment, it can be confirmed that Mohammed Deif was eliminated in the strike".

He was killed along with one of his top commanders, Rafa Salama, the military said. Health authorities in Hamas-



Mohammed Deif AP

run Gaza said more than 90 people had been killed in that strike but Hamas has denied Deif was among them.

"Deif initiated, planned, and executed the October 7th massacre," the military said.

Deif became head of Hamas's armed wing, Ezzedine al-Qasam Brigades, in 2002. He was

among Israel's most wanted man for nearly three decades and on a US list of "international terrorists" since 2015.

Deif, whose real name is Mohammed Diab al-Masri, was born in the Khan Younis refugee camp in 1965.

The word Deif means "visitor" or "guest" and some say he chose it because he was always on the move with Israeli hunters on his trail, never spending more than one night in the same place.

His enemies dubbed him the "cat with nine lives" because of his many close calls with death.

In 2014, Israel launched an airstrike on Gaza, killing Deif's wife and a seven-month-old son.

It was Deif who announced the start of the Hamas attack — operation "Al-Aqsa Flood" — in an audio message on October 7.

Harris is Indian, turned Black recently: Trump's fake claim sparks anger

Prashant Jha
letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Former President Donald Trump, the presumptive Republican nominee for the 2024 US presidential election, made controversial remarks on Wednesday questioning Vice-President Kamala Harris's racial identity, claiming she was "always Indian" and only recently "became a Black person."

Trump made the clearly false — and some critics allege even racist — assertion while speaking at a gathering of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) in Chicago, Illinois, on Wednesday.

"I have known her a long time indirectly, not directly very much, and she was always of Indian heritage. And she was only promoting Indian heritage," Trump said. "I didn't know she was Black until a number of years ago when she happened to turn Black. Now she wants to be known as Black. So I don't know — is she Indian or is she Black?"

Harris, who is biracial, dismissed Trump's remarks later that evening at a pre-scheduled Black sorority event. "It was the same old show: the divisiveness and the disrespect," she said. "The American people deserve better. We deserve a leader who tells the truth. A leader who does not respond with hostility and anger when confronted with the facts."

The vice-president added, "We deserve a leader who understands that our differences do not divide us — they are an essential source of our strength."

A leader of the Congressional Black Caucus termed it as "extremely offensive" to Black communities.

Trump's comments earlier came in response to a question from ABC News journalist Rachel Scott about whether Trump considered Harris a "DEI candidate," referring to diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives.

Trump initially asked for clarification on the term before making his remarks about Harris's racial identity.



Donald Trump speaks on a panel of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) convention in Chicago, Illinois. REUTERS

an Indian mother, Shyamala Gopalan, who met while participating in civil rights movement activities in Berkeley, California, in the 1960s. In her memoir, "The Truths We Hold", Harris wrote about her upbringing and her mother's approach to raising biracial children in America.

"From almost the moment she arrived from India, she chose and was welcomed to and enveloped in the Black community," Harris wrote of her mother. "It was the foundation of her new American life... My mother understood very well that she was raising two Black daughters. She knew that her adopted homeland would see Maya and me as Black girls and she was determined to make sure we would grow into confident, proud Black women."

Throughout her life, Harris has embraced both sides of her heritage. She attended Howard University, a historically Black institution in Washington D.C., where she joined Alpha Kappa Alpha, a Black sorority. Later, while in law school at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in the mid-1980s, Harris was elected president of the Black Law Students Association.

The White House, in a rare comment on a statement by a candidate, strongly condemned Trump's statement. Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said, "As a person of colour, as a Black

woman who is in this position, that is standing before you at this podium, what he just said... is repulsive. It's insulting." She added, "No one has any right to tell someone who they are, how they identify. That is no one's right. It is someone's own decisions."

Gregory Meeks, a Democratic leader of the Congressional Black Caucus and ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, criticised Trump's remarks as part of a pattern of lifelong bigotry. "Donald Trump using the largest convening of Black journalists to publicly question Vice-President Harris' identity as a Black woman and insult her intelligence is extremely offensive to Black voters across our country," Meeks said.

Despite the backlash, Trump and his campaign doubled down on their line of attack. The former president's team posted a four-year-old video on social media showing Harris cooking Indian food with Indian-American producer and writer Mindy Kaling, where both celebrated their Indian, particularly South Indian, roots.

Trump wrote on his social media platform, Truth Social, "Crazy Kamala is saying she's Indian, not Black. This is a big deal. Stone cold phony. She uses everybody, including her racial identity!" However, the video does not show Harris denying her Black identity, only celebrating her Indian heritage.

Britain halts further rise to Family Visa minimum income threshold

Press Trust of India
letters@hindustantimes.com

LONDON: A planned "incremental" hike in the minimum income threshold for British nationals and permanent residents applying to bring family members to join them in the UK, a move impacting several Indian families, has been shelved by the new Labour Party government.

UK home secretary Yvette Cooper told the House of Commons in a written statement this week that there will be no further hike on the current £29,000 annual income requirement until the independent Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) completes a review into the impact of the hikes on families.

The MAC has also been tasked to review the reliance of some key sectors on international recruitment, in particular IT and engineering, which rely on "significant levels" of international recruitment, including

IT'S BEING CAPPED AT £29,000 UNTIL AN INDEPENDENT COMMITTEE COMPLETES A REVIEW INTO THE IMPACT OF THE HIKES ON FAMILIES.

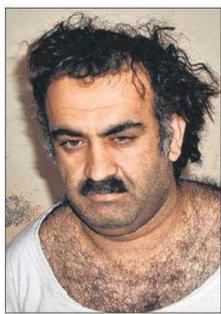
from India. "The family immigration rules, including the minimum income requirement, need to balance a respect for family life with ensuring that the economic well-being of the UK is maintained," home secretary Cooper stated.

"To help ensure that we reach the right balance and have a solid evidence base for any change, I will commission the MAC to review the financial requirements in the family immigration rules. The minimum income requirement is currently set at £29,000, and there will be no further changes

until the MAC review is complete," she notes.

As part of a package of measures to curb migration in December last year, the then Prime Minister Rishi Sunak-led Conservative government had announced that from April this year, the minimum salary or income required by British nationals to sponsor long-term Family Visas for spouses or parents will rise from £18,600 to £29,000 and then be followed by further increases to £38,700 — in line with the minimum income requirement for the Skilled Worker Visa route.

Analysts had flagged that this steep hike will have a wide-ranging impact on the family plans of those on lower incomes. Indians made up the second-highest cohort under the Family Visa category in 2023 (5,248), after Pakistanis (14,330) and ahead of Bangladeshis (3,534) as the top three nationalities sponsoring such visas, as per UK Home Office statistics from earlier this year.



Khalid Sheikh Mohammed AP

MAIN PLOTTER OF 9/11 ATTACKS IN THE U.S. AGREES TO PLEAD GUILTY

Associated Press
letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, accused as the mastermind of Al Qaeda's September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, has agreed to plead guilty, the defence department said on Wednesday.

The development points to a long-delayed resolution in an attack that killed thousands and altered the course of the US and much of the Middle East.

Mohammed and two accomplices, Walid bin Attash and Mustafa al-Hawsawi, are expected to enter the pleas at the military commission at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as soon as next week.

Defence lawyers have requested the men receive life sentences in exchange for the guilty pleas, according to letters from the federal government received by relatives of some of the nearly 3,000 people killed outright on the morning of September 11.

Terry Strada, the head of one group of families of the nearly 3,000 direct victims of the 9/11 attacks, invoked the many relatives who have died while awaiting justice for the killings when she heard news of the plea agreement.

"They were cowards when they planned the attack," she said of the defendants. "And they're cowards today."

WSJ journalist among 26 released in Russia's prisoner deal with the West

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

ANKARA/WASHINGTON: US reporter Evan Gershkovich and former US marine Paul Whelan were among 26 prisoners released on Thursday in Ankara in a major swap involving Russia, Belarus and five western countries, Turkey announced.

Ten Russians, including two minors, were handed over in return for 16 westerners detained by Russia, said a statement released by the Turkish presidency. It hailed a "historic prisoner exchange operation" organised by its MIT national intelligence service.

President Joe Biden hailed the prisoner swap with Russia that saw the return of Gershkovich and Whelan on Thurs-

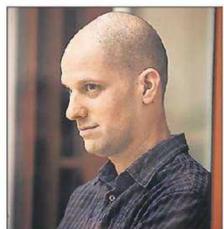
day as a "feat of diplomacy" that has ended their "agony".

Wall Street Journal (WSJ) journalist Gershkovich was released just weeks after being sentenced by a Russian court to a 16-year prison term for espionage. As well as Gershkovich and Whelan, German Rico Krieger, who was imprisoned in Belarus, was among those freed.

Krieger had been facing the death penalty for photographing military sites before President Alexander Lukashenko pardoned him on Tuesday.

Russian opposition politician Ilya Yashin, jailed for denouncing Russia's Ukraine offensive, was another of those released by Moscow.

On the other side of the swap, Germany released Russian intelligence colonel Vadim



Evan Gershkovich REUTERS

Krasikov, jailed in Germany for the killing of a Chechen separatist, the statement from Turkish presidency added.

Thirteen of the detainees freed by Russia went to Germany and three to the United States. Prisoners were flown to Ankara from the United States,

Germany, Poland, Slovenia, Norway, Belarus and Russia, it added. "The prisoners were transported to Turkey by a total of seven aircraft, including two from the US and one each from Germany, Poland, Slovenia, Norway, and Russia, as part of the prisoner exchange operation."

'US had been working on deal to free Navalny'
The United States was working on a deal that would have freed detained Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny when he died in Russian custody, the White House said on Thursday. "We had been working with our partners on a deal that would have included Alexei Navalny, and unfortunately, he died," US national security adviser Jake Sullivan said.

{ **DISPUTED VENEZUELA POLLS** } MUSK KEEN TO TAKE ON MADURO PHYSICALLY

Maduro, Musk battle it out online

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

CARACAS: Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, whose claim to victory at the polls has been widely contested, is no friend of Elon Musk, and the feeling is clearly mutual, with their war of words escalating amid the political crisis in Caracas.

Musk — who leads SpaceX and Tesla, and owns the social network X — is a capitalist icon who backs Donald Trump, meaning he is everything that the socialist Maduro despises.

Maduro has accused Musk of being behind "attacks against Venezuela" and possibly the mastermind of an alleged "computer hacking" at the National Electoral Council (CNE), which declared Maduro the winner of Sunday's vote without providing



Elon Musk (left) and President Nicolas Maduro AP, BLOOMBERG

detailed data. "The attacks, I am sure, were directed by the power of Elon Musk," Maduro said.

Late on Tuesday, Maduro addressed hundreds of supporters from his balcony — and once again attacked the 53-year-old Musk. "Venezuela, as I said yesterday and today, is facing domestic and international aggression from world powers,

and now it is evident that Elon Musk is obsessed with the idea of taking over Venezuela and ruling it from abroad," Maduro said. "All those who come after Venezuela, we will eliminate them."

After the vote, and the announcement of the results, Musk said on Sunday: "Shame on Dictator Maduro" and "What a travesty."

As the dispute went viral on X, Musk said he was willing to take on Maduro physically, adding that if he lost, he would take the Venezuelan strongman on "a free ride to Mars".

"Elon Musk, let's fight," Maduro told a press conference.

"But come over here, in the Poliedro (stadium), just you and me. If I beat you, Elon Musk, I'll take you up on the trip to Mars, but you're coming with me."

17-year-old suspect in Britain stabbings in rare ruling

Associated Press
letters@hindustantimes.com

LONDON: The 17-year-old boy charged with murdering three girls and stabbing 10 other people in a dance class was named in court on Thursday partly to counter misinformation about his identity that has been blamed for triggering violent protests across England.

Judge Andrew Menary said his decision to allow Axel Rudakubana to be named was exceptional given the boy's age. But he said the teen will lose his right to anonymity when he turns 18 next week and continuing to shield his identity could allow false information about his name and immigration status to metastasize.

"Continuing to prevent the full reporting has the disadvantage of allowing others to spread misinformation, in a vacuum," Menary said in Liverpool Crown Court.



A mother looks at her child laying flowers for the victims of a knife attack in Southport, northwest England, on Wednesday. AFP

Prime Minister Keir Starmer convened a meeting with British police chiefs to address the crisis after officers in several cities have been pelted with bottles and rocks during two nights of violent clashes. Starmer condemned the "thugs" in the "marauding mobs" that attacked some of the same officers who had responded to the

horrific stabbing. "This is not protest, this is violent disorder and action will be taken," Starmer said.

The attack Monday on children at a Taylor Swift-themed summer holiday dance class shocked a country where knife crime is a long-standing and vexing problem, though mass stabbings are rare.

'Up to 1,500 dead in N Korea floods'
SEOUL: North Korea may have sustained "heavy casualties" from recent downpours, Seoul said on Thursday, with a media report claiming up to 1,500 people could have died. AFP

Bangladesh bans Jamaat-e-Islami
DHAKA: Bangladesh on Thursday banned the Jamaat-e-Islami party, terming the party as a "militant and terrorist" organisation. AP

175,000 die of heat per year in Europe
COPENHAGEN: Extreme heat kills over 175,000 people a year in Europe, where temperatures are rising quicker than the rest of the globe, the World Health Organization's European branch said on Thursday. AFP

e - Tender Notice
Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana,
Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association, Latur
e-Tender Notice No. 25 /2024-25 (Latur)

The Superintending Engineer, PMGSY, MRRDA, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar Region, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar invites the bids in electronic tendering system published on <https://mahatenders.gov.in> for Construction & Five Year maintenance of Roads Sanctioned Under R&D State Total Packages - 04 (Total Road works - 28) in Latur District.

Date of Sale & Submission starts from Date - 02.08.2024 at 11.00 am respectively. Ends on Date - 16.08.2024 at 17.00 pm. Respectively.
Further notification & Clarification will be published on website.

Sd/-
(A. A. Khairadi)
Executive Engineer
(PMGSY),
MRRDA, Latur
DGIPR/2024-25/ROC 1468

(Sd/-)
(Vilas H. More)
Superintending Engineer
(PMGSY), MRRDA,
Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar

e-Tender Notice
Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
Maharashtra Rural Road Development Association Jalna.
e-Tender Notice No. 21/2024-25

Under Mukhya Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, E-Tender is being published on www.mahatenders.gov.in this website after 11:00 o'clock on 02.08.2024, for the improvement of roads in Jalna district as per the chart shown below. Ends on Dt. 16.08.2024, at 17.00 pm Respectively.
Further notification & Clarification will be Published on Website.

E-Tender Notice No.	Fund Head.	Total of Packages/ Number of Works.
21/2024-25	State Fund (R&D)	03 Packages (27 Works)

Sd/-
(P. G. Khadekar)
Executive Engineer (PMGSY)
MRRDA, Jalna.
DGIPR/2024-2025/ROC 1477

Sd/-
(V. H. More)
Superintending Engineer (PMGSY)
MRRDA, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar Region.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tenders through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)

S Tender No. & Date	Name of work with its location	Approx. Cost of work	Amount of Earnest Money	Completion period of the work	Date & time for submission of tender & opening of tender
1 32-W-PSC-SLABS-DLI Date 31.07.2024	CASTING OF PSC slab Replacement of steel girders upto 12.2m with PSC slabs of DLI division.	₹ 5,02,44,475.21	₹ 401200/-	(12) Twelve Months	Upto 14:00 hrs on 24.08.2024 Opening of tender after 14:00 hrs on same day

Note : Above tenders are available on website, IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in, where complete details of Tender can be seen & downloaded.
2346/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

F. No. RCI-13012/3/2021-ESTT
Rehabilitation Council of India
A Statutory Body of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Government of India
8-22, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi — 110016

Walk-in-interview

Rehabilitation Council of India will conduct walk-in-interview for the following vacancy to be engaged purely on contract basis, as per the details mentioned below:

Name of the Post	No. of post	Consolidated Remuneration	Project	Date of walk-in-interview
Controller of Examination	01	Rs. 60000/- p.m.	NBER	16.08.2024

For more details regarding eligibility criteria, age, etc. and other details, please visit www.rehabcouncil.nic.in

CBC 38115/11/0004/2425 Member Secretary, RCI

Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh
Directorate of Geology & Mining
Indravati Bhawan, Block-4, Second Floor, Nawa Rajpur, Atal Nagar, Rajpur, Chhattisgarh - 492002, India
30 July 2024

Notice Inviting Tender
Invitation of bids for grant of Composite Licence of mineral blocks

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10B/11 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 (as amended from time to time) notified there under, Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh has identified following Mineral Blocks for electronic auction and hereby invites bids for the purpose of grant of Composite Licence (CL) :

Sl No	Name of the Block	Mineral	District	Area (Ha)	Exploration Agency	Tender Price (INR)*
1.	Saraipani Dadar Bauxite Block	Bauxite	Kabirdham	258	MECL	01 Lakh
2.	Sendurkhar Bauxite Block	Bauxite	Kabirdham	66	MECL	01 Lakh
3.	Bangaon North Gold Block	Gold	Jashpur	402	GSI	50,000
4.	Mendrabhar Bhagora Gold Block	Gold	Jashpur	3850	MECL & GMSI	50,000

*Excluding GST

Accordingly, Financial bids are invited in digital format only and Technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format from Eligible bidders.

Terms and conditions, deadlines etc. for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. The Model Tender Document for the mineral blocks and mineral block summary are available free of cost in electronic form and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Ltd. (<http://www.mstc.commerce.com/auction/home/mcl/index.jsp>) and websites of Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh (www.chhattisgarhmimes.gov.in) for the purpose of information only.

Those interested and eligible for bidding can participate in the bidding only after online purchase of the Tender Document on payment of the non-refundable tender fee as mentioned above (Applicable Goods and Service Tax (GST) shall be payable on Reverse Charge Mechanism), from the website of e-auction platform provider MSTC Ltd. Bidder shall be able to make payment of the Tender Document fee through RTGS/ net banking (through the payment gateway of e-auction platform). After registration at MSTC website, interested & eligible bidders can purchase the Tender Document. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain Login ID and password necessary for participation in the e-auction process.

Last date for online purchase of Tender Document is **Wednesday, 11 September 2024**, and last date for submission of the bid is **15:00 Hours IST on Friday, 13 September 2024**. Any further communications, amendments etc. shall be available on the above website of MSTC and the websites of Mineral Resources Department, Government of Chhattisgarh.

Director
Geology & Mining, Chhattisgarh
G-242501454/4

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण
प्रथम तल, कॉमर्शियल कॉम्प्लेक्स, ओमेगा-1(पी-2), ग्रेटर नोएडा
Toll Free No. 18001808296 वेबसाइट : www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com

पत्रांक : वाई.ई.ए./भूलेख/619/2024 दिनांक : 01.08.2024

सार्वजनिक सूचना

निम्नलिखित भूमि यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा अपनी सहमति के आधार पर काश्तकारों से क्रय किया जाना प्रस्तावित है:- ग्राम चकजलालाबाद के सैक्टर सैक्टर 24ए व 22ई व ग्राम चकवीरमपुर के सैक्टर 32 के अन्तर्गत आने वाले खसरा नम्बराना

क्रमांक	सैक्टर/ ग्राम का नाम	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	खसरे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे० में)	खातेदार का नाम व पता	तहसील से प्राप्त रिपोर्ट के आधार पर काश्तकार का हिस्सा	काश्तकार का विक्रय हेतु क्षेत्रफल (हे० में)
1.	24ए	11	120	0.3790	जगदीश, राजेन्द्र, रौदास व विजना पुत्रगण होशियार सिंह निवासी रौनीजा, तहसील जेवर जनपद गौतमबुद्धनगर।	1/4	0.0948
2.	24ए	11	127	0.0630	कुमरपाल पुत्र ज्ञानी सिंह नि० ग्राम रौनीजा।	1/4	0.0157
3.	22ई	06	82/2 85/2 84/3स	0.1050 0.1520 0.2820	गुरुदत्त पुत्र सूखा निवासी रौनीजा, तहसील जेवर, जनपद गौतमबुद्धनगर।	1/4	0.0263 0.0380 0.0705
4.	चकवीरमपुर	172 119 120	63 66 145	0.2210 0.5230 0.0290	अशोक पुत्र नैपाल सिंह व किरन देई पत्नी नैपाल सिंह नि० ग्राम चकवीरमपुर, हाल निवासी मुक्तिवाडा शिकारपुर, बुलंदशहर।	2/2210 3/5230 72/290	0.0002 0.0003 0.0072

उपरोक्त भूमि क्रय किये जाने में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित रूप में 15 दिन के अन्दर अधोहस्ताक्षरी को अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।

डिप्टी कलेक्टर
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे प्राधिकरण

यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान के अतिरिक्त प्लॉटिंग/हाउसिंग/कॉलोनी या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह से अथवा है। सामान्यतः इस प्रकार की खरीदकरोख से पूर्णतः सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनाइज्ड के ग्रामक विज्ञापनों से बचें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com देखें।

Govt. of Bihar
Bihar Education Project Council
Shiksha Bhawan, Rashtra Bhasha Parishad Campus,
Saidpur, Rajendra Nagar, Patna-800 004

SHORT NOTICE INVITING EOI
(<https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in>)

I. Bihar Education Project Council (BEP/C), Patna, invites "Expression of Interest (EOI) from experienced & qualified manufacturer/OEMs for Empanelment as supplier for "ICT Labs" [includes Supply, Installation, Commissioning and maintenance of Hardware, Software & Peripherals and Computer Education Services (including manpower etc.)] under ICT & Digital Initiatives intervention in approx. 4465 Government Secondary/Senior Secondary Schools across Bihar on Build Own Operate and Transfer (BOOT) Model for five years.

II. The complete EOI documents can be seen on and downloaded from the website <https://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in>.

III. This EOI does not constitute an offer by the Department and is not a financial bid.

IV. Schedule of EOI Process (Events):

Sl	Information	Details
1.	Eol No. and Date of availability	BEP/C/ICT/2024/3200, Dated: 30.07.2024 available for download from 30.07.2024, 08:00 PM onwards on website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
2.	Last date for submission of Eol	14.08.2024, 4:00 PM Submission of Response through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
3.	Review of Received Eol proposals (Tentative)	14.08.2024, 4:30 PM onwards
4.	Presentation-cum-Demonstration (if required)	Intimated through formal letter.
5.	Contact person	Shri Shahjahan, Administrative Officer, BEP, Shiksha Bhawan, Bihar Rashtrabhasha Parishad Parishad, Saidpur, Rajendra Nagar, Patna 800004. Contact No: 7258888166

For further details please visit www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdibihar

(Shahjahan)
Administrative Officer
Bihar Education Project Council
PR.No.005115 (B&C) 2024-25

नरो की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

SPECIAL BRANCH
POLICE HEADQUARTER,
M.P., BHOPAL

No. SB/Store/2024-25 (278), Bhopal, Dated 31.07.2024

"ONLINE E-TENDER NOTICE"

E-tender are invited by Assistant Inspector General of Police, Special Branch (G) M.P. Bhopal on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following item on website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app> :-

S. No.	Name of Item(s)	Qty.	Tender Fees (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender No.
1	Safari Suit	301	2,000/-	45,000/-	1 st Tender
2	Garam Suit	301	3,000/-	72,000/-	1 st Tender

1. Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is non refundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & must submit online through website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app>.

2. Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police (www.mppolice.gov.in)

3. Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website : <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app>

4. Tender Schedule :

No.	Tender Activity	Date & Time
i	Submission of written queries- through e-mail : sec25-sb@mppolice.gov.in	12/08/2024 up to 16.00 hrs.
ii	Pre Bid Meeting along with written queries	13/08/2024 at 11.00 hrs.
iii	Bid Submission Start Date	18/08/2024 at 10.00 hrs.
iv	Last date of online e-Tender submission	29/08/2024 up to 16.00 hrs.
v	Bid will be opened on	30/08/2024 up to 16.00 hrs.
vi	Demonstration from	05/09/2024 at 11.00 hrs.

D.I.G. of Police
(Intelligence) M.P. Bhopal
Tel.No. 0755-2443654

G-14369/24

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Jammu and Kashmir Power Transmission Corporation Ltd
Office of the Executive Engineer
Transmission Line Maintenance Division-I (TLMD-I), Bemina, Srinagar
Ph. No. 0194-2492427, 9419181913 E-mail: tlmd1tech@gmail.com

TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No. : 07/JKPTCL/TLMD-I/SGR/2024-25 Date: 31.07.2024

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of UT of Jammu & Kashmir, e-Tenders (in Two Covers) from reputed, experienced, competent and financially sound Electrical Contractors/Firms/Joint Ventures fulfilling the eligibility criteria specified in the standard bidding document are invited online for the works detailed below.

e-Tenders need to be accompanied with a non-refundable Tender Fee in the form of Demand Draft pledged to Executive Engineer, Transmission Line Maintenance Division-I, Bemina, Srinagar for Rs. 1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand Only) and EMD amounting to Rs. 46,200.00 (Rupees Forty-Six Thousand and Two Hundred Only) in the form of CDR/FDR/BS as security deposit pledged to Executive Engineer, TLMD-I, Bemina.

Cover-I: The bidding process line. However, hardcopies consisting of Tender Fee and EMD in accordance with General Terms and conditions of SBD (original instruments) in cover-1 should reach to the office of Executive Engineer, TLMD-I, Bemina, Srinagar (Phone No. 9419181913) one day after the last date for online submission of e-Bid.

However, after opening of the tenders on-line, L1 Bidder will be called to submit his/her Original/Photocopies of documents viz. relevant documents valid and renewed contractor License/Labour Registration Certificate, GST registration, PAN card, TIN No. and all other documents related to the bid for synchronization with Techno-commercial evaluation.

Cover-II: The bidder shall upload online rates as per detailed BOQ enclosed as Annexure-A. Thereafter shall be inclusive of all taxes etc.

The Standard Bidding Document shall be kept available at website <http://www.jktenders.gov.in>.

S. No.	Scope of the Work	Estimated Cost (In Lac)	Tender Fee (In Rs)	EMD (In Rs)	Time of Completion
1.	Upgradation of Infrastructure at 132/33 KV, 100 MVA Badampora GSS by way of: 1. Twinning of conductor of 33KV Buses at 132/33 KV, 100 MVA Badampora GSS, 2. Modification of existing kitchen, PLCC room & Battery room including Electrification work of kitchen at Badampora GSS.	23.07372	1000.00	46200.00	45 Days

The information regarding schedule of downloading of the tender document, seeking of clarifications and submission dates there of is as per the table below:

CRITICAL DATES SCHEDULE

e-NIT No. : 07/JKPTCL/TLMD-I/SGR/2024-25 Date: 31.07.2024

1.	Issue of NIT	31.07.2024
2.	Downloading of bidding documents (Start)	31.07.2024 (02.00 PM)
3.	Start date for seeking clarifications	31.07.2024 (02.00 PM)
4.	End date for seeking clarifications	03.08.2024 (04.00 PM)
5.	End date for replies to clarifications	05.08.2024 (04.00 PM)
6.	E-Bid submission (start) date & time (uploading of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF formats)	01.08.2024 (10.00 AM)
7.	E-Bid submission (end) date & time (Submission of e-tender fee, bid security and other supporting documents in PDF formats)	22.08.2024 (02.00 PM)
8.	Last date for submission of Hard Copy of e-Bid	23.08.2024 (04.00 PM)
9.	Online Techno-Commercial e-Bid opening date and time.	24.08.2024 (02.00 PM)
10.	Venue of opening of Techno-Commercial Bids	Office of the Executive Engineer, TLMD-I, Bemina
11.	Cost of e-bid document	Rs. 1000.00
12.	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 46200.00

Only the bidders possessing the qualifying criteria as mentioned in the SBD should participate in the bidding process.

Clarifications can be sought from the office of the undersigned (Phone No. : 9419181913) or on E-Mail addresses: tlmd1tech@gmail.com

Before participating in the bids, the bidder shall visit the site of work, have first hand assessment of the tendered job and acquaint himself with the site of work and local conditions. The bidder shall make first hand assessment of the expenses involved with the actual execution of the contract at various sites and accordingly quote the prices. Any item or items required for arriving at the goal corresponding to a particular job item description in BOQ but not exclusively mentioned there in shall be treated to be included in the particular job item description without incurring any further financial liability on JKPTCL.

The Corporation (JKPTCL) reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason therefor.

The Bidders are advised to furnish and upload complete bidder address including address of place of business along with all valid Landline/Mobile Nos./fax Nos plus-mailing addresses.

No. : TLMD-I/TS/24-25/07A/1324-28
Sd/-
Dated: 31.07.2024
DIPK-NB-1144-24

Executive Engineer
TLMD-I, Bemina Sgr

SOUTH BIHAR POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED
(Registered Office: Viduyatbhawan, Bailey Road, Patna - 800021)
A Govt. Of Bihar Undertaking (Department of Rural Electrification)
CIN-U40109BR2012SGC018890
[Short Tender Inviting Notice]
(Through e-procurement mode only - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

[Tender Notice]

Online tender is being invited by Chief Engineer, Project-I (Rural) for Turnkey Contract for Construction of Three number 2X10MVA, 33/11 KV GIS PSS at (Sri Ram School (Kankarbagh), Between Simri and Paina (Bihta), Bhagwatipur (Khagaul) with associated 33 KV & 11 KV lines in PESU (East), Patna (Rural). The details are as below:-

Sl. No.	NIT NO.	Electric Supply Circle	Estimated Cost (inclusive of GST) Rs in Lakhs.	EMD (Rs in Lakhs.)	Cost of BOQ/Tender Document (INR)	Bid Processing Fee (INR)
1	62/PR/SBPDCL/2024	PESU (East) & PESU (W) Circle	4179.713	54.80	25000 + GST @18% (i.e.Rs.29500)	As per actual

The Timeline for the above tenders are as follows:

Bid Submission Start Date:-	19.08.2024, 11:30 Hrs onwards
Bid Submission Due Date:-	10.09.2024, up to 17:00 Hrs
Physical document as required in the Tender Document submission End Date	11.09.2024, up to 17:00 Hrs
Techno-Commercial Bid Open Date:-	12.09.2024, 12:30 Hrs Onwards
Date of Opening of Price Part:-	To be notified after techno-commercial bid evaluation

Pre-Bid Discussion

Pre-bid Query Submission Type:-	Through email till 22.08.2024. ceresbpdcl@gmail.com
Pre-bid Discussion Date:-	22.08.2024, 2:30 Hrs
Venue Details:-	Conference hall 3 rd Floor, UrjaBhawan, Viduyatbhawan-III, Bailey Road, Patna - 800021

The RFP documents can be downloaded from website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in. Subsequent information / notification/corrigendum/Extension / Cancellation will be available only on website of eproc i.e. www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.

PR. No. 005161 (B&C) 2024-25 Chief Engineer, Project-I (Rural)

For further details please visit : www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdibihar

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

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER, TECHNICAL CELL, EPC MISSION, PLANNING DEPARTMENT, LUCKNOW
(technicalcellpepmision@gmail.com)

Letter No.: 2628 /General/Technical Cell/2024 Date: 31/07/2024

Notice Inviting Request For Proposal (RFP) (Press Note)

Chief Engineer, Technical Cell, Planning Department Govt. of U.P., Lucknow on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites RFP for Project Monitoring Consultant from reputed firms having experience and expertise in the field of Architecture & Engineering for shortlisting for the following work to be executed on EPC Mode. The detailed RFP documents are available on Uttar Pradesh Government e-tender portal <http://www.etender.up.nic.in>.

No.	District	Name of Work	Approx. Cost (without GST)	Maximum Consultancy Fee	Cost of Bid Document	Tender Fee	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (1% of Consultancy Fee)	Time of completion
1.	Meerut	PMC work for Construction of 100 bedded Trauma Center at LRM Medical College, Meerut, U.P., India on EPC Mode	Rs. 50.00 Cr.	Rs. 75.00 Lacs	Rs. 5000+ GST	Rs. 300+ Rs. 54 GST	Rs. 0.75 Lacs	75 Days for Architecture Design Consultancy + 18 Months for Construction Work + 36 Months for Defect Liability Period
2.	Prayagraj	PMC work for Construction of 100 bedded Trauma Center at Swaroop Rani Nehru Medical Hospital attached with Motilal Nehru Medical College Campus, Prayagraj, U.P., India on EPC Mode	Rs. 50.00 Cr.	Rs. 75.00 Lacs	Rs. 5000+ GST	Rs. 300+ Rs. 54 GST	Rs. 0.75 Lacs	75 Days for Architecture Design Consultancy + 18 Months for Construction Work + 36 Months for Defect Liability Period

Period for downloading of RFP document from 07.08.2024 at 11:00 am to 27.08.2024 upto 05:00 pm.

Pre bid conference to be held on date 14.08.2024 at 11:30 am in the office of CE (Technical Cell), Planning Department, Yojana Bhawan, Lucknow. The queries can be sent to mail ID- technicalcellpepmision@gmail.com.

Last date of submission of bid document 28.08.2024 upto 03:00 pm (Online).

Submission of Technical bid in hard copy dated 29.08.2024 upto 05:00 pm in the Office of Chief Engineer, Technical Cell, EPC Mission, Planning Department, Yojana Bhawan, Lucknow-226001

Opening of Technical Bid 28.08.2024 at 03:30 pm (Online).

The price quoted by the consultant is exclusive of GST.

Executive Engineer,
Technical Cell, EPC Mission,
Planning Department, Lucknow
UP-218013, Dt. 01.08.2024
Website : www.upgov.nic.in

Govt. of Bihar
Flood Management Improvement Support Centre (FMISC), 2nd Floor, Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Anisabad, Patna-800002, Water Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar

Expression of Interest (EOI)

For
Engagement of Individual Consultant (Environmental Safeguard Expert) under
Bihar Water Security and Irrigation Modernization Project (BWSIMP)

Ref No. : ESE/BWSIMP/EOI/07/2024-25

1. The proposed Bihar Water Security and Irrigation Modernization Project (BWSIMP) will cover the state of Bihar, focusing more on districts impacted by flood, water-logging and drought. As the project title suggests, the GoB has embarked upon a new path of water resources management. This is a comprehensive initiative covers efficient irrigation and flood risk management and drought proofing through multi-stakeholder participation in planning and management, after needed institutional strengthening and capacity building exercise. The project will ensure positive economic and environmental outcomes for the state. It would enable completion of the Kosi Canal Project, restore age-old dams and protect river embankments. Additionally, it includes crucial projects of intra-linking of rivers, not only to control of excess water flow from major rivers to mitigate floods but also to provide irrigation source for drought districts. The project would employ new techniques for long-term protection of river embankments. Furthermore, advanced measures will be implemented in vulnerable areas along rivers to safeguard them for long-term erosion.

2. Joint Director, Flood Management Improvement Support Centre (FMISC), Water Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar now invites eligible 'Individual Consultant' to advice, support and assistance to Project Management Unit (PMU) and Project Implementation Units (PIU) in carrying out their duties and responsibilities to ensure that BWSIMP activities are planned and properly implemented to achieve BWSIMP project objectives with respect to environmental risk management and monitoring, including inclusive stakeholder engagement and grievance mechanism (GM), environmental accountability, environmental inclusion, conflict reduction, measures to address loss and vulnerability and strengthen environmental inclusion.

3. The Terms of Reference (ToR) consisting of eligibility criteria, functions and responsibilities etc. for Environmental Safeguard Expert can be viewed on websites <https://wrdbihar.gov.in/> and <https://fmiscwrdbihar.gov.in/>

4. FMISC, Patna invites interested candidates to submit Curriculum Vitae (CV) from individuals to indicate their interest for the above specialist position. Interested Individuals must submit their CV in **Format-1** that contains information indicating qualification to perform the services as Environmental Safeguard Expert. The CV format can be downloaded from the websites <https://wrdbihar.gov.in/> or <https://fmiscwrdbihar.gov.in/>

5. The individual will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, Fifth Edition, September 2023.

6. Interested individual may obtain further information at the address given below from 10:00-17:00 hours (IST) on all working days. This notice for engagement of Individual Consultant has also been posted on websites <https://wrdbihar.gov.in/> and <https://fmiscwrdbihar.gov.in/>

7. The CV along with all relevant documents must be submitted in a closed envelope superscribed by "Expression of Interest for Environmental Safeguard Expert under BWSIMP" and be delivered to the address below by not later than 15:00 hours (IST) on 19-08-2024. In case this last date being declared as holiday by the State Government, due last date for submission of above CV will be the next working day up till the same appointment time. The Expression of Interests received till the appointed time and date shall be opened same day at 15:30 hours Server time.

Joint Director,
Flood Management Improvement Support Centre (FMISC),
2nd Floor, Jal Sansadhan Bhawan, Anisabad, Patna-800002,
Water Resources Department, Govt. of Bihar,
Tele fax: +(91)612-225699, Telephone: +(91)612-2254802
E-mail: fmiscbihar@gmail.com

PR-05131 (W R D) 2024-25
Joint Director
FMISC, WRD, Patna

नरो की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

NIFTY SHINES AT 25,000: YOUR BURNING QUESTIONS, ANSWERED

The Nifty 50 blasted through the 25,000 barrier on Thursday, climbing the last 1,000 points with breathtaking speed, in 24 sessions. That's left investors both exhilarated and cautious. It's a testament to India's economic might and investor confidence, but there are also concerns about high valuations and global uncertainties. Ram Sahgal and Dipti Sharma piece together answers to some key questions on what's fuelled the rally, and whether we need to fret over an asset bubble. (Data and charts by Niti Kiran and Mayur Bhalerao.)

Q1. HOW EXACTLY IS NIFTY DOING?

After a period of ups and downs, the market seems to be finding its footing, with volatility taking a backseat. The India Vix was down 2.3% on Thursday, and fell almost 7% in July. Moreover, the benchmark index has stolen the show, outshining key peer indices this year.

Market volatility appears to have largely eased



Nifty outperforms global peers

Returns of benchmark stock indices over the past 6 months (%)



Q2. WHAT HAS DRIVEN THIS RALLY?

What's kept the momentum going is strong flows from domestic investors even when foreign flows were erratic. But now, even foreign flows have turned positive for the last two months. Thursday's rally came on global cues as US Fed's rate cut hint and tech sector revival ignited investor sentiment. "This gave the India market the impetus to finally breach and stay above 25,000," said Andrew Holland, CEO of Avendus Capital Public Markets Alternate Strategies LLP. He added that liquidity is also playing its part in the Indian market.

Nifty has defied gravity, soaring to new heights with impressive returns

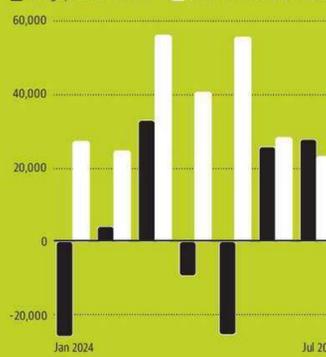
Nifty 50's compounded annual returns (% between each pair of milestones)



*Absolute return (the milestone came in 323 calendar days).

Both domestic and foreign investors have fuelled the recent rally

Monthly net equity investments (in ₹ crore)

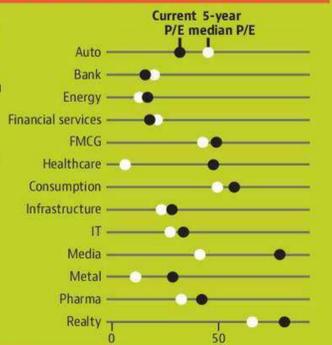


Q4. HOLD ON, BUT COULD THIS BE AN ASSET BUBBLE BUILDING UP?

Nifty's surge raises fears of a bubble, but experts remain calm. "From a valuation perspective, even though we aren't cheap, there is no asset bubble and no need to panic," said A. Balasubramanian, chief executive officer of Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Co. Strong economic fundamentals are driving this rally, as are low interest rates and steady inflation that have enabled earnings growth.

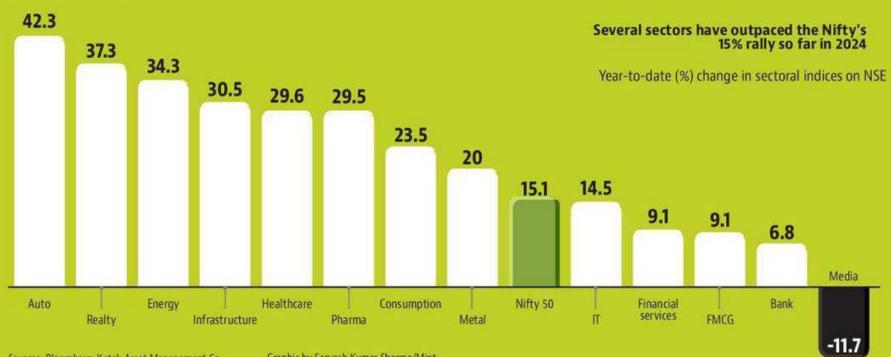
Q5. WHAT ARE THE NEXT MARKET TRIGGERS? SHOULD I BOOK PROFITS?

Market momentum is driven by specific labels and themes. Hereon, Aashish P. Somaiya, chief executive officer of WhiteOak Capital Asset Management, expects rotation among sectoral and market capitalization-based preferences on the basis of relative value and a focus on picking stocks based on fundamentals rather than any sectoral or thematic bias. "Outside of this, key triggers to watch will be US economic performance and policy response and geopolitics," he added. Now that the market has rallied about 27% in the past one year, Nitesh Shah, managing director, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Co, said, "It's time to take some money off the table if you're overweight on equities. So, from overweight, you get to neutral-weight."



Q3. WHICH SECTORS ARE HOT AND WHICH ARE NOT?

Auto, realty, and energy are the top-performing sectors in 2024. Shankar Sharma, founder, GQuant Investech, said, "I've been focused on identifying opportunities with reasonable multiples and more immediate earnings rather than earnings that will happen over several years, as is the case with many defence and solar firms." A churn is important to sectors such as small-cap retail, technology and communications, he said, cautioning against keeping one's entire investment in stocks that have already given significant gains.



Q6. WHAT COULD PUT BRAKES TO THIS RALLY?

Indian equities rallied on the "Goldilocks" scenario and expectations of policy continuity, but valuations are high. "Going forward, one can expect bouts of consolidation given that the macro triggers—the elections and budget—have already passed and focus will shift to earnings delivery," said Ashish Gupta, chief investment officer, Axis Mutual Fund. After three years of 20%-plus earnings growth, a slowdown is visible in Q1 FY25 and growth is likely to be less than 15% this year, he pointed out. The Nifty 50 ended the day 0.2% up, at 25,010.9 points.

Country	Index	P/E ratio
US*	S&P 500	19.9
India	Nifty	19.8
Japan	Nikkei	19.2
Taiwan	Taiex	16.4
Indonesia	Jakarta Comp	12.5
France	CAC 40	12.4
Germany	Dax	11.7
Britain	FTSE 100	11.6
China	CSI 300	10.7
South Korea	Kospi	8.5
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	8
Brazil	Ibovespa	7.1

GST revenue hits ₹1.82L-cr in July, third highest ever

Rajeev Jayaswal
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue crossed ₹1.82 lakh crore in July, the third highest since the new tax regime was rolled out seven years ago, with a 10.3% year-on-year increase on the back of stricter compliance and a buoyant economy, according to the government data.

After refunding ₹16,282 crore out of the ₹182,075 crore gross revenue, the net collection in the month saw a 14.4% jump at ₹1,65,793 crore, showed the monthly collection data released on Thursday. The strong net collection was also because technology helped the government in preventing wrongful returns, officials said. Refunds in July 2023 were ₹20,209 crore on a gross revenue of ₹1,65,105 crore.

The new tax regime — a major indirect tax reform that unified the entire country into one market — was rolled out on July 1, 2017 with the gross collection in the first month at ₹95,633 crore only. The highest gross collection of ₹2.10 lakh crore was achieved in April 2024, and the second highest was in April 2023,



After refunding ₹16,282 crore out of the ₹182,075 crore gross revenue, the net collection saw a 14.4% jump at ₹1,65,793 crore.

which exceeded ₹1.87 lakh crore. To be sure, collections in April are high because of adjustments made that month to account for the closing of the financial year in March.

"It is interesting to observe that the growth in GST revenues from imports is more than that from domestic supplies," said MS Mani of Deloitte India. While gross revenue collections from domestic supplies in July 2024 saw about 9% year-on-year growth at ₹1,34,036 crore, revenue from imports surged by 14.2% at ₹48,039 crore. "These collections are based on supply transactions during June 24, which is typically a slow offtake

month before the onset of the festive season," Mani said.

The monthly GST numbers reflect the actual business transactions of the previous month. The festive season starts after the end of the monsoon and before the onset of the winter. Experts consider these months as dull for business activities. "A potential stagnant or decline in collections during August (compared to July month) is anticipated due to the monsoon season's impact on overall economic momentum," said Saurabh Agarwal, tax partner at consultancy firm EY.

Abhishek Jain, indirect tax head & partner at KPMG, said that in subsequent months, the collections should witness a further increase with festivities coming up in the next few months.

He said the 10% plus growth in collections depicts "signs of stability and maturity of GST implementation".

Data showed the some of the smaller states, particularly in the northeast, have shown robust annualised growth in gross GST revenue in July 2024. Though it had a low base, Nagaland (₹58 crore) and Manipur (₹68 crore) posted 34% and 61% y-o-y growth respectively.

K'taka watchdog withdraws state GST notice sent to Infosys

NEW DELHI: Infosys announced in a regulatory filing to the stock exchanges on Thursday, August 1, that the Karnataka state GST watchdog has withdrawn the pre-show-cause notice against the

company for alleged tax evasion. The tax authority has directed the software services company to submit further responses to the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) central authority.

"The company has received a communication from Karnataka state authorities, withdrawing the pre-show cause notice and has directed the company to submit further response to DGGI central

authority on this matter," said Infosys in its stock exchange filing on Thursday. Tax authorities on Wednesday flagged indirect tax evasion of ₹32,403 crore at Infosys Ltd over services provided by its

overseas branches, in one of the largest cases since the debut of the GST regime over seven years ago. India's second-largest IT major believes the tax does not apply to the services. **NIKITA PRASAD**

July manufacturing growth eases to 58.1

Auhona Mukherjee
auhona.mukherjee@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India's manufacturing activity, as measured by the HSBC India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), moderated in July as production volumes and employment softened slightly, according to a release by S&P Global on Thursday.

The seasonally adjusted HSBC India PMI, which is compiled from responses to questionnaires sent to purchasing managers in a panel of around 400 manufacturers, fell slightly to 58.1 in July from 58.3 in June, which had been a recovery from May's three-month low.

Increased demand drove sales growth to remain sharp in context of historical data, despite a slight downturn from June, according to the release. Buoyant demand induced producers

to purchase more inputs as a quarter of the panelists lifted buying levels.

"India's headline manufacturing PMI showed a marginal slowdown in the pace of expansion in July, but with most components remaining at robust levels, the small drop is no cause for concern," said Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist at HSBC.

The rate of growth in production volume saw a dip from June, however, it was nearly six points above the average seen since the survey began in March 2005.

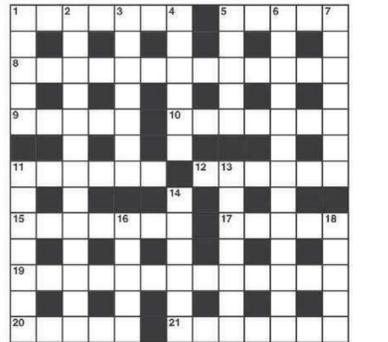
The PMI reading remained higher than its long-run average and was also above the 50-mark, which indicates expansion. The reading has remained above 50 for about three years.

The July number, however, was slightly lower than the Flash PMI reading of 58.5 released on July 24.

{ THE CROSSWORDS }

- CRYPTIC CLUES**
- ACROSS**
- 1 Recounts Laertes' disaster (7)
 - 2 Plunder Winchester for example (5)
 - 3 Game crime-busters do it (6,7)
 - 4 Famous Indian. Run out he comes back in (5)
 - 5 Charge for delivering pages to be edited (7)
 - 6 Fair puts a point on blunt end (6)
 - 7 He may fly from Marian (6)
 - 8 Still a variety of sausage (7)
 - 9 Support for the board (5)
 - 10 Don't go up to one and be ruthless? (4,2,7)
 - 11 One agreement about another for couples (5)
 - 12 A help or a hindrance in the works (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 How bread's gone up (5)
 - 2 Comedian's repertoire is one that's absurd (8,5)
 - 3 Papers - the first editions (7)
 - 4 Military band? (6)
 - 5 They may be used for storing stretchers (5)
 - 6 Open acknowledgement that there's no entrance fee (4,9)
 - 7 Sort of seabird from China? (7)
 - 8 Learn to tell rumour (7)
 - 9 Lack of action but in time it rises (7)
 - 10 Game entangled in nets (6)
 - 11 Collect for a service (5)
 - 12 Drink to a royal uprising (5)

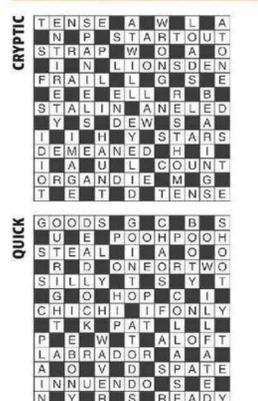
PUZZLE 16928 © Gemini Crosswords 2018 All rights reserved



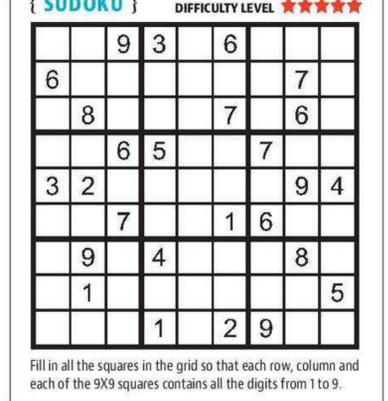
QUICK CLUES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Yardsick (7)
 - 2 Sound of small bird (5)
 - 3 Eventually (6,2,5)
 - 4 Affectedly refined (7)
 - 5 Fond of smart clothes (6)
 - 6 An international agreement (6)
 - 7 Green with growing plants (7)
 - 8 All the runners in a race (5)
 - 9 Pick a quarrel (5,4,4)
 - 10 Characteristic spirit (5)
 - 11 Sheathlike pistol-case (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Goddesses of arts and sciences (5)
 - 2 Impeccable (5,8)
 - 3 Futile (7)
 - 4 Sufficient (6)
 - 5 Punctuation mark (5)
 - 6 Sharing common adversity (2,3,4,4)
 - 7 A culinary herb (7)
 - 8 Zealous supporter (7)
 - 9 Negation (7)
 - 10 Vile smell (6)
 - 11 A leader of the Titans (5)
 - 12 Discourage (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS (16927)



{ SUDOKU } DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9x9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

'In next 20-25 yrs, India's inflation should be 5%'

NEW DELHI: Prof. Krishnamurthy V. Subramanian — the executive director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the former chief economic adviser (2018-21) — is convinced India is poised to become a \$55 trillion economy by 2047. In conversation with Rajeev Jayaswal, he talks about his latest book — India@100: Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse — which reflects on India's potential, resolve and path to grow at 8% annually. *Edited excerpts*

Prof. Krishnamurthy V. Subramanian — the executive director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the former chief economic adviser (2018-21) — is convinced India is poised to become a \$55 trillion economy by 2047. In conversation with Rajeev Jayaswal, he talks about his latest book — India@100: Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse — which reflects on India's potential, resolve and path to grow at 8% annually. *Edited excerpts*



last 10 years, then this goal does appear achievable, even though ambitious.

What is the basis for this?

If we assume real growth to be 7%, inflation to be 5%, seven plus five is 12% — so (there is) 12% nominal growth in rupee terms. And take the rate of depreciation (of rupee) to be 3%, because depreciation reduces the value in dollar terms, so growth rate in dollar terms will be 12 minus 3, that is 9%. Using what is a very useful rule called the Rule of 72 to find out the number of years it will take for GDP to double. 72 divided by 9% growth in dollar terms, as I said,

is eight years.

So, GDP will double every eight years over the 24 year period (from 2023 to 2047). Therefore, there'll be three doublings. In 2023 India's GDP was \$3.28 trillion. Let's round it off to \$3.25 trillion. So, what does this translate into 3.25 to 6.5, 6.5 to 13, and 13 to 26. This is the Ernst & Young prediction which actually relies on 7% growth, by factoring 3% rate of depreciation of the rupee vis-à-vis the dollar.

So, how do you get to \$55 trillion?

Since the inflation targeting regime has been implemented in 2016 (inflation at 4% plus minus two), the actual average inflation from 2016 to 2024 has been 5%. Reasonable expectation is that in the next 20-25 years, India's inflation is only 5%, instead of 7%. If inflation is only 5%, then that will mean lower depreciation by at least 2%. So, instead of a 3% depreciation, what we are now looking at is about 1% depreciation of the currency. And this makes a difference. Now, if I use the same rule — and this is the

power of compounding — 8% real growth, 5% inflation, eight plus five is 13. So, 13% in growth in nominal rupee terms. Subtract 1% depreciation. That's 12% in dollar terms. Again, use the rule of 72. 12 times 6 is 72, so now GDP doubles in dollar terms every six years, and over a 24 year period, there are four doublings — \$3.25 trillion to 6.5, 6.5 to 13, 13 to 26, and one more, 26 to \$52 trillion. That is basically close to the \$55 trillion number. This is actually the power of compounding, and the crucial difference between my prediction and the Ernst and Young one.

What is your motivation behind writing this book?

As the chief economic adviser (CEA) I was able to write three economic surveys. The first one was on the economic strategy for the \$5 trillion economy. The second was on ethical wealth creation, and the third was on the post-Covid economy. While we were working on the idea of India at 75, the idea of India@100 also germinated. What would India be at 100?

{ WEATHER }

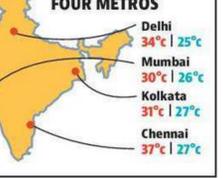
TEMPERATURE • HIGH • LOW



ALMANAC

Today is 2nd August 2024
 • 25 Mahanavami, 1445
 • 3 Shavana, Krishna Paksha, 13
 • Sunset: 20:01
 • Sunrise: Friday at 07:11 p.m.
 • Moonset: Saturday at 05:43 a.m.
 • Moonrise: Friday at 06:00 p.m.
 • Moonset: Friday at 4:16 a.m.

TEMPERATURE IN FOUR METROS



ANOTHER SHOOTING STAR

After slipping to 4th in two major finals, the 28-year-old holds nerve to seal India's third medal in Paris

Swapnil Kusale had made a promise to himself soon after a spectacular implosion saw him go from snuffing an individual medal to sliding to fourth at last year's Asian Games. "That had to be my last." Less than a year on, at a stage when promises tend to evaporate under the heat of extreme mental duress, Kusale kept it. And off he went, rising this time instead of receding, from sixth to fifth to third in a testing final. The 28-year-old ensured he ended there, delivering an impressive men's 50m rifle 3 positions bronze medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics with a score of 461.3 that rested only below Ukraine's silver medalist Serhiy Kulish (461.3) and China's world record holder and champion Liu Yukun (463.6).



RUTVICK MEHTA
HT IN PARIS



The medal is a first for India in the event, and the third overall at these Games — all coming from the shooting ranges of Chateauroux.

The soft-spoken Maharashtra shooter had been, until Thursday, defined by heartbreaks of one harrowing final shot staring at silverware and two fourth-place finishes at the Asian Games in 2023 and the World Championships of 2022.

At the Olympics of 2024, the nearly man turned history man for India.

In an event extremely technical and gruelling, no Indian had ever made the Olympics final. Kusale, battling a severe tonsils issue through the last couple of years that kept flaring up in tournaments, changed that with his medal. In a sport where India fired blanks in the previous two Games, a two-medal 2012 London Olympics had remained its high point. Kusale, with those two shiny rings on his shooting arm, including one of that five concentric circles, changed that with the third medal.

"Heartbeat sabki badhti hai (every shooter's heartbeat pounds). I just kept focussing on my breathing. Kept calm and shot," the Kolhapur-born shooter carrying the rich legacy of the sport in the city forward and upward, said. "For me, it was about learning from the mistakes of my past."

The past had those fourth-place finishes writ large, but underneath it was a slightly more prolonged issue. The feeble final shots — 7.6 at the Asian Games and 8.2 at the Worlds — were part of Kusale's larger tendency to stumble in the standing series

after being steady in kneeling and prone.

With personal coach Deepali Deshpande, whom Kusale referred to as his "second mother" after winning the medal and has trained with for years in Pune, they went about working on it. And on the big day, the slight frailty became a major strength.

Kusale began the final with an iffy 9.6, and by the end of the 15-shot kneeling series, was sixth among the eight finalists. His prone was a series of sublime consistency, shooting all 10s through the 15 shots, including a high 10.8. Such was the field and the quality of shooting though that he remained fifth with a score of 310.1.

The standing series followed a short breather, post which Kusale stood up. "To be honest, I didn't see the scoreboard, and who was ranked where," Kusale said of his thoughts through the break. "I could hear the scores, but I ignored it."

The start to the two five-shot standing series wasn't the brightest (9.5) before a 10.7 brought him back on track. After the first standing series, Kusale was placed fourth, just 0.1 behind the bronze. At the end of the second series in which he shot 9.1 and yo-yoed from second to fourth to third, the Indian stayed in the medal bracket leading into the single shot eliminations.

There, with a 10.5, he broke away from Norway's fifth-placed Jon-Hermann Hegg, who shot 9.8. Kusale then shot back-to-back 9s.

By then, however, he had opened up a wide enough lead to keep Czech Jiri Privratsky at bay. A 10.0 off his 44th shot and Kusale was done, 0.5 points behind silver medalist Kulish and with a bronze locked in.

Kusale had filtered out the sight and sound of scores, but not a steady stream of cheer coming from behind in the stands from the group of Indian supporters. "I was liking that sound," he said. "And I just wanted to make them happy."

This was the happiest he would've felt. In a career that held promise as a junior and won him the senior nationals in 2015 beating Olympic medalist Gagan Narang, Kusale's steps of progress had been a touch slow. "Maybe my mindset wasn't too strong back then," said Kusale, who wasn't part of the Tokyo Olympics squad three years ago.

His mindset on the morning of the biggest final of his career brought butterflies to his stomach. He didn't eat much and had black tea, a forced substitute to this masala chai lover (lactose intolerant, milk products were the root cause of Kusale's prolonged tonsils problems). "I did say a prayer," he said.

And kept a promise.



I just kept focussing on my breathing. Kept calm and shot. For me, it was about learning from the mistakes of my past

SWAPNIL KUSALE,
after winning bronze

Rank	Kneeling	Prone	Standing	Elimination	Final rank					
1	155.3 Score	312.1	412.6	423	432.9	442.8	453.7	463.6	1	Liu Yukun (CHN)
2	154	311.5	412.5	422.9	432.6	442	451.9	461.3	2	Serhiy Kulish (UKR)
3	153.9	311.1	411.6	422.1	431.5	441.4	451.4		3	Swapnil Kusale (IND)
4	153.7	311	410.5	420.3	430.4	440.7			4	Jiri Privratsky (CZE)
5	153.5	310.1	409.5	419.9	430.2				5	Jon-hermann Hegg (NOR)
6	153.3	308.8	409	418.9					6	Lucas Kryzs (FRA)
7	152.9	308.8	408.8						7	Tomasz Bartnik (POL)
8	152.3	307.9	407.4						8	Lazar Kovacevic (SRB)

From Kolhapur to Paris: Kusale's dream run to podium

Avishek Roy and Dheeraj Bengtur

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NEW DELHI/PUNE: Each time Swapnil Kusale put his finger on the trigger, a golden ring displaying the Olympic rings, was flashed prominently. Before the selection trials at home, his friend Akshay Ashtrapure designed two Olympic rings — one for Swapnil and one for himself.

The two go back a long way to when Swapnil studied at Krida Prabodhini centre in Pune — a school sports programme of the Maharashtra government — that played helped develop his shooting skills. And the Olympic dream was shared one.

Hailing from a small village of Kambalwadi in the Kolhapur district was new to the city life and used to stay with Akshay

who was himself a pistol shooter. That grew into a lifelong friendship for Swapnil who still remains an introverted village boy at heart.

The shooting journey began in school. Swapnil studied in Kolhapur until the 7th standard and to pursue his sports dream, his father Suresh Kusale — a school principal — enrolled him in Bhonsala Military School in Nashik.

"Since childhood, he was fond of rifle shooting, and he developed a passion for the sport when he saw Abhinav Bindra win a gold medal at the Olympics. For better coaching, we enrolled him in the state government's primary sports programme — Krida Prabodhini," said Suresh.

The 2008 Commonwealth Youth Games in Pune was a turning point for young Swapnil.

He took up shooting among several other sports in the school. By 2013 he found his way into the junior national camp. He started with air rifle but was soon drawn towards the firearm event — rifle three positions which uses .22 calibre bullets to shoot the target at a distance of 50 meters. "We used to find him in the 50m range. He liked the sound of bullet firing," recalls his coach

Deepali Deshpande.

Soon he started focusing on prone and then all 50m three positions since 2014.

The sports programme in school had laid a good physical foundation for him to pick up the gruelling discipline where a shooter has to spend long hours and shoot from three different positions — kneeling, prone and standing.

He immediately made a mark at the junior level becoming Asian junior champion the next year. At the Senior National Championships in 2015, he was rubbing shoulders with stalwarts like Gagan Narang and Chain Singh.

Kusale has been making steady progress putting in years of hard work and a tough training regimen in the gruelling discipline. Before the Tokyo Olympics, he was in fine form and in

contention for a berth.

Though he missed the chance, it helped him build his game and emerge stronger in these three years. Outside of shooting, he got into the Railways and has been working at Pune railway division as a Travelling Ticket Examiner (TTE). But shooting takes most of his time.

Celebrations back home

On Thursday, Kolhapur erupted in celebrations as he won the bronze medal. Kambalwadi joined Swapnil's family and friends to watch his final. As he secured the bronze medal, emotions ran high, and the village celebrated by distributing sweets.

"We are extremely happy today and on top of the world as our son has won a bronze medal at the Paris Olympics. It is his determination and 12 years of

hard work that have paid off today," said his mother, Anita Kusale, who is also the village Sarpanch.

Having missed medals at the 2022 World Championships and Asian Games, Kusale had put a lot of work in the standing position — which had seen him hit two poor shots that pushed him to 4th place in the big events. He also worked on his mental conditioning with sports psychologist Vaibhav Agashe.

"After the Asian Games he was heartbroken," says Deshpande. "He was so close to winning a medal but one bad shot (41st shot) dashed everything." At the 2022 Worlds also he hit a similar bad shot in the same position. In the final on Thursday, he was patient and overcame that tense period with confidence — a 10.5 in his 41st shot put him in the medal position.

India raise their level but champions Belgium come back to bag full points

Sandeep Nakai

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PARIS: By raising the intensity of their game when confronted by defending champions Belgium, India displayed some mettle today in a 1-2 loss that boosted the team morale as the Olympic hockey competition moves to the business end.

Tokyo bronze medalists India's packed defence posed a big challenge to the Belgians, who came into this contest after a historic 6-2 triumph over Australia

but found the Asian champions determined to fall back and defend the 18th minute lead gained through a flash strike from Abhishek. One of India's youngest players, Abhishek picked a fine through ball at the top of the circle and sounded the boards with a firm drive that stunned custodian Vincent Vanasch.

The difference in class between the two rivals narrowed considerably as the Indians bristly fell back to defend their territory against Belgium's notorious counter-attacks. Seasoned custodian PR Sreejesh repeatedly denied dangerous penalty corner flicker Alexander Hendrickx and the deep-defenders denied Belgium time and space inside the circle. Two early penalty corners for Belgium indicated the drift for the match, but India held ground and saw striker

Sukhjeet Singh break through to the top of the circle before being dispossessed.

It was against the run of play that India took the initial lead to the delight of the goody Indian crowd in the galleries, who for a change seemed overawed by those who had driven a couple of hours from the nearby Belgium border to support their squad, which today posted the fourth successive victory to stay atop the Pool B standings.

Tokyo Olympic silver medalists Australia recovered from yesterday's hammering at the hands of Belgium to outplay New Zealand 5-0 and move into the second spot with nine points, two ahead of India.

Tottering in their previous three outings despite managing to log seven points through two victories and a draw, India's position in the pool hinges on the last league fixture against Australia.

They are also keeping an eye on 2016 gold medalists Argentina, whose 2-1 win over Ireland gave them seven points from five outings. India's position in the pool will be determined not just by their game versus Australia, but also how Argentina performs against title holder Belgium in the last league fixture.

There is more turmoil in the other group, where reigning World Cup winners Germany



India's Amit Rohidas (C) blocks Belgium's Thibaut Stockbroeck during the men's hockey match on Thursday.

have gradually accelerated to move into top gear with four successive victories, marching ahead of recent World Pro League winners The Netherlands. The line-up for the quarterfinals remains in the limbo, but Indian coach Craig Fulton asserted that his team was prepared to take on all comers.

His mood lifted by India's improved show against Belgium, Fulton said, "Isn't it good to play the two best teams in the group stages? We'll be ready for any opponent in the quarterfinals." Stung by the Indian goal, Bel-

gium showcased their strength and got the equaliser in the 33rd minute through a deft deflection by Thibaut Stockbroeck, who was waiting in the goalmouth to receive a cross by Florent van Aubele from the left flank.

Three successive penalty corners in the 43rd minute saw Belgium surge ahead. It was on the sixth Belgian penalty corner that the Indian citadel fell after custodian Sreejesh had dived to his right to block the low penalty corner shot from Hendrickx. In the ensuing melee near the post, John

Dohmen got the better of defender Harmanpreet Singh and Sreejesh, who was sprawled on the turf after his diving attempt to stop the initial flick.

India managed to force three penalty corners today — against Belgium's seven — but failed to breach the defensive wall under the charge of goalkeeper Vanasch. On his last shot, a soaring drag-flick, Harmanpreet claimed that the shot had gone off a defender's arm, and not the stick.

Had this been upheld in the video referral, it would have earned India a penalty stroke in the dying minutes of the contest. The video umpire, however, ruled in favour of Belgium and India failed to garner a point from this outing.

The salient feature of India's game was their ability to maintain their defensive structure against a superior opponent, and the mid-fielders displaying alertness in falling back to aid the defence. Adding numbers in their own territory neutralised Belgium's speed to some extent.

India also had to play for the last six minutes with 10 men after Raj Kumar Pal was given the marching orders through a yellow card owing to a hard midfield tackle that the umpire considered an infringement. They had taken off the goalkeeper when going all out for the raid that earned them a penalty corner in the 58th minute, but it produced no dividends.

villagevoice

ZHENG STUNS SWIATEK, IN FINAL

Zheng Qinwen ended world No 1 Iga Swiatek's 25-game unbeaten streak at Roland Garros to become the first Chinese player to reach an Olympic tennis singles final. Seventh-ranked Zheng won 6-2, 7-5 and will face either Croatia's Donna Vekic or Anna Karolína Schmiedlová of Slovakia in the final. "I feel more than just happy — happy isn't enough to describe how I feel," said Zheng, who had played back-to-back three-hour matches to make the semi-final. "If you ask me to play another three hours for my country, I would. It was an amazing match. To beat Iga is not easy as it's an important event for her."

WIGHTMAN RULED OUT OF OLYMPICS

Former world 1,500m champion Jake Wightman has been ruled out of the Olympics due to a hamstring injury. British team officials said on Thursday. Wightman, who stormed to a memorable 1,500m gold medal at the 2022 Worlds, had been due to compete in the 800m in Paris. The 30-year-old Scot will be replaced by Elliot Giles, Team GB said in a statement. Wightman has struggled to return to the peak form that saw him take gold at the World Championships in Eugene, Oregon two years ago.



Qinwen Zheng.

per schedule from August 7 and is also going for practice. However, Diksha's mother has been hospitalised with an injury in the spinal area.

NADAL ISN'T SURE OF A PARIS RETURN

When it was over, when Rafael Nadal's Paris Games — and his Olympic career — ended with a doubles loss in a stadium central to his legacy because it hosts the French Open, which he's won a record 14 times, he soaked in the applause accompanying his exit from the red clay. Was this 6-2, 6-4 defeat alongside Carlos Alcaraz to the fourth-seeded American duo of Austin Krajicek and Rajeev Ram actually Nadal's last match at Roland Garros? Let's let Nadal answer: "Maybe," he said later in the evening. "I don't know." Was it his last match anywhere? No way for anyone to be sure if he himself isn't. After collecting his equipment from the sideline, the 38-year-old Spaniard looked around the place that has meant so much to him during his time in tennis and waved to the spectators, who were bidding adieu with the latest in a series of standing ovations for him during these Olympics. Nadal paused before stepping through the doorway that leads toward the locker room, and Alcaraz placed his right hand on his partner's left shoulder.

DIKSHA UNSCATHED IN CAR ACCIDENT

Indian golfer Diksha Dagar, who is due to take part in the Olympics, was involved in an accident but is doing fine and will compete in her event as planned. The Dagar family — Diksha, her father and caddie Col Naren Dagar, her mother and brother — were in the car, which was hit by another vehicle on Tuesday night while they were returning from a function at India House. According to Col Dagar, Diksha is fine and will play the event as

Sindhu and Satwik-Chirag have their dreams dashed

Lakshya Sen is the only Indian shuttler remaining in Paris after his victory over compatriot Prannoy

After PV Sindhu embraced He Bing Jiao at the net, she walked a few heavy steps towards Prakash Padukone and Agus Dwi Santoso with her head down. On the same courts of the Porte de la Chapelle Arena earlier on Thursday, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy smiled while congratulating the opponents across alongside Chirag Shetty.

Within a few hours of each other, India's biggest medal hope from badminton, and the only two-time Olympic medallist going for her third, had been knocked out of the 2024 Paris Olympics. For the second time in an Olympics, Satwik and Chirag have nothing to show after losing to Malaysians Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik 21-13, 14-21, 16-21 in the men's doubles quarter-finals.

For the first time in an Olympics, Sindhu, the 2016 Rio Games silver medallist and 2020 Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist, will return without a medal after losing to He Bing Jiao 21-19, 21-14 in the pre-quarters. The only Indian alive, and truly kicking, in the badminton draw is a debutant. Lakshya Sen knocked out a physically exhausted HS Prannoy in an all-Indian singles pre-quarters 21-12, 21-6 to march on.

Sindhu would know how that feels — young and deep into an Olympics draw. She was there in Rio, and so was her fellow finalist Carolina Marin. She was also there in Tokyo, beating He for the bronze.

To paint a picture of Sindhu's physical and mental struggles coming into Paris eight years on, Marin, playing on the adjacent court the same time as Sindhu, rallied from a game down to advance into the quarters. And across the net, He ensured Tokyo seemed a long time ago.

"It's sad," Sindhu said, pausing. "The result which I couldn't give. But that's how the journey

goes."

Still smiling in it, Sindhu said Paris wasn't meant to be for her, even though she tried everything she could to peak for it. On the day of her first real test here, however, He would scale well and over the Indian.

The last time they played, the Chinese swept the Indian away in straight games at the Hangzhou Asian Games last year.

A starting statement of intent from Sindhu would've gone a long way here. It was He instead who was off to a 5-1 lead, keeping Sindhu to the back court. Sindhu won a couple of good points closer to the net and narrowed the gap, but a swift He smash kept her ahead at 11-8 in the first break.

Sindhu kept pegging back, and the Chinese kept feeling it. A service error by her made it 14-14 before a moment of hesitancy on the back line that had Sindhu pounce with a smash winner took it to 19-19. That's when the world No.9 showed her class and cranked it up. The next point, a smash, had Sindhu challenging from the floor and then the Chinese was up a game after an incredible rally and pick up shot.

The Chinese jumped turning around, and there was no looking back for her. So flattened was Sindhu after the first game that she hit a high, slow, straightforward smash long for 6-2 on the scoreboard. Soon, it stopped ticking. And so did Sindhu's Olympic medal count with it.

For Satwik and Chirag, a weak netted return was how it all ended. At a stage where few saw coming, notwithstanding the unpredictability of men's doubles badminton.

At the Tokyo Games three years ago where they exited in the group stage, they were still a building pair. At the Paris Games, they were the former world No.1 third seeds who had graduated to lofty heights and carved an unparalleled path for Indian badminton.

They had a lot going for them coming into Paris too — big titles over the last couple of years; the feel of winning at this arena at



PV Sindhu in action against China's He Bing Jiao on Thursday.

PTI

this year's BWF French Open; a rich two-title winning form this year even though it tailed off a bit towards the last couple of months with Satwik's shoulder injury. And, after sailing through their group here, a rather favourable quarter-final draw in terms of recent match-up.

The world No. 3 Malaysian pair has a sizeable edge in the overall head-to-head record (8-3), but the Indians had their measure in the last three outings.

Each of those three victories, including at the Asian Games in which Satwik and Chirag went all the way, were wrapped up in straight games.

The quarter-final began much the same way with Satwik and Chirag winning the first game 21-13, before it all unravelled for them.

Up in the second game, they quickly went down 14-21 as the Malaysians did something they hadn't in more than a year — take a game off the Indians. The decider was neck and neck

around the change of ends, and the Indians also nudged ahead 14-11 as Chirag gestured animatedly towards coach Mathias Boe. But they were soon levelled, silenced and shown the door.

"They kept on playing really good in the 1-2-3-4 strokes, which we couldn't handle well today," Chirag said.

Especially in the crunch points at the business end, when the kind of shots they were making earlier were now errors. "When we are leading, when we are playing really confidently," Chirag said. "It was a pressure mistake."

'I'm sorry I couldn't bring a medal home'

Rutvik Mehta

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PARIS: The moment the Chinese arm was raised, Nikhat Zareen nodded her head. She then gave a quick clap, almost to say, "well played". As she waited by the athletes' exit zone, she stood inscrutable, looking straight up and ahead and staring away at nothing.

Was Nikhat shattered? You couldn't really tell after a unanimous 5-0 defeat to Wu Yu.

She did break down completely less than half hour later, covering her bawling face with both her palms. "I'm really sorry I couldn't bring a medal home for India," she uttered. That final statement though came after she had spent a good part of 12 minutes explaining why the two-time world champion wouldn't rank this defeat among the disappointments of her career after having given it her all. Perhaps Nikhat, one of India's big hopes for going deep at the Paris Olympics, really didn't know how to feel about returning with a solitary win to show. She said she was dejected about losing, but not so much to the top seed in this division.

She called landing a tough draw unfortunate, but added she wasn't expecting an easy one either. She thought she could've shown more energy in the final round, yet didn't want to "unnecessarily" waste it with the Chinese defending smartly.

In this whirl of emotional uncertainty lay one definite fact: Nikhat was largely outclassed in the women's 50kg Round of 16 bout between the top seed and the unseeded Indian at the mercy of the luck of the draw, which brought her into the ring with Wu in the second round.

The Asian Games bronze medallist, having moved down to the Olympic light flyweight division, had never faced the Chinese before. And the Hangzhou gold medallist did not give any time for Nikhat to get a feel either. Wu came out swinging and punching, landing a few blows in a 4-1 first round verdict. Nikhat's punches had a bit more purpose and direction in the second round but, relying more on hooks than jabs, it wasn't quite as clinical to swing things in her favour.

A split second round meant Nikhat needed a drastic turnaround to make a case. Instead,



Nikhat Zareen (left) lost to China's Wu Yu in the women's 50kg preliminary match in Paris on Thursday.

AP

Ab hoga desh ka sapna poora, Sammaan Se!

SAMMAAN CAPITAL

Jiyo Sammaan Se

Formerly known as Indiabulls Housing Finance Limited

The Chinese dodged and ducked most of the Indian's desperate attacks to cling on. Soon, Nikhat slipped out of the Olympics.

"When I was attacking, she moved quickly and stepped away. She was faster than me," Nikhat said. "I couldn't take the lead in the first

round since I hadn't faced her, so I didn't have an idea how to play. In the third round, she changed her strategy which proved costly."

A costly miss this was indeed for the boxer who had waited patiently for this opportunity while building her career in the shadow of Mary Kom. It came after much wait, and behind many expectations of a medal from the two-time world champion boxer who'd made winning them a bit of a bit habit lately.

The draw was stiff, needing Nikhat to be switched on from the first second at the North Paris Arena. After a scrappy opening win, Nikhat couldn't sleep at all a night before her second.

"For two days, I haven't eaten or drank anything. My first bout also was tough because I had lost weight coming into it," she said.

"Unfortunately I landed a tough draw. My journey has never been easy, and it will remain tough going forward."

She's used to being tough. To the telling demands that came with her pursuit of an Olympic medal. To the tall aspirations of those back home from her. Nikhat herself expects a medal from every competition she turns up for. For which she fell well short at the Paris Games. "I wouldn't put this among my disappointments," she said. "Because I worked extremely hard. I wouldn't blame it on my performance. I've put in all the effort that I could. I will take this as a lesson and will return stronger."

She promised to start afresh. A clean slate erasing the memories of her first Olympics. Before that, a break beckons. "I'll go on a solo vacation somewhere," she said. "It's much, much needed."

Perhaps there she can make sense of it all.

Algerian boxer, who failed gender test at Worlds, beats rival in 46secs

Agencies
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PARIS: Imane Khelif of Algeria won her opening Olympic boxing bout when opponent Angela Carini of Italy quit after just 46 seconds. Khelif is disqualified from the 2023 world championships after failing an unspecified gender eligibility test, and her presence at the Paris Olympics has become a divisive issue.

Carini and Khelif exchanged only a few punches before Carini walked away and abandoned the bout — an extremely unusual occurrence in Olympic boxing. Carini's headgear apparently became dislodged at least once before she quit. Carini didn't shake Khelif's hand after the decision was announced but cried in the ring on her knees. Afterward, a still-tearful Carini said she quit because of intense pain in her nose after the opening punches. Carini, who had a spot of blood on her trunks, said she wasn't making a political statement and was not refusing to fight Khelif. "I felt a severe pain in my nose, and with the maturity of a boxer, I said 'enough,' because I didn't want to, I didn't want to, I couldn't finish the match," Carini said.

Carini further said she is not qualified to decide whether Khelif should be allowed to compete, but she had no problem fighting her. Khelif is an accomplished ama-



Algeria's Imane Khelif (L) fights Italy's Angela Carini.

AP

teur who won a silver at the International Boxing Association's 2022 world championships. The same governing body disqualified her from last year's championships shortly before her final because of what it claimed were elevated levels of testosterone.

The 25-year-old entered the ring at the North Paris Arena to a chorus of cheers, but the crowd was confused by the bout's sudden end. Khelif, who fights again Saturday, didn't speak to reporters. "I am heartbroken because I am a fighter," Carini said. "My father taught me to be a warrior. I have always stepped into the ring with honor and I have always (served) my country with

loyalty. And this time I couldn't do it because I couldn't fight anymore, and so I ended the match."

Khelif and Lin Yu-ting of Taiwan have received massive scrutiny for their presence in Paris after years of amateur competition. Lin won world championships in 2018 and 2022, but the governing body stripped her of a bronze last year as it claimed she failed to meet unspecified eligibility requirements in a biochemical test. Lin begins her Paris run Friday, fighting Uzbek Sitora Turdibekova after a first-round bye.

The Algerian Olympic Committee issued a statement Wednesday condemning what it termed "lies" and "unethical targeting and

maligning of our esteemed athlete. Imane Khelif, with baseless propaganda from certain foreign media outlets." Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni, who was visiting athletes in the Olympic Village on Thursday, voiced criticism that Carini had to box Khelif, saying she had since 2021 opposed allowing athletes with "genetically male" characteristics to compete against women. "We have to pay attention, in an attempt to not discriminate, that we're actually discriminating" against women's rights, Meloni said. She said it was necessary to guarantee the rights of athletes so they are competing on an even playing field.

Khelif and Lin are two-time Olympians who fought in the Tokyo Games with no controversy. Lin has been an elite-level amateur boxer for a decade and Khelif for six years. They were allowed to compete in Paris by the IOC task force, which has run the past two Olympic boxing tournaments.

The IOC on Tuesday defended their right to compete. "Everyone competing in the women's category is complying with the eligibility rules," IOC spokesperson Mark Adams said. "They are women in their passports and it's stated that this is the case, they are female."

Lin is the top seed in the 57-kilogram category, although Olympic seeding is frequently unindicative of the top medal contenders in a division.

Dikec: A shooter who's going viral

Susan Ninan

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BENGALURU: Turkey's silver-haired shooter Yusuf Dikec has spawned a sea of memes by just showing up like he would at any competition. Regular t-shirt, prescription glasses, and his 4.5 mm calibre air gun. No optical aids or blinders. Like a hitman had been pulled out from the crowd and into the firing lane.

"I never needed any special equipment. My friends also ask me about it. Even other professional shooters ask me about it and I tell them that I am just a natural, a natural shooter," the 51-year-old reportedly told Turkish media.

It's not without reason. Dikec, who took up the sport in 2001, is a product of Turkey's military school of Gendarmerie. He's won five medals at the ISSF World Championships — one of them gold, back in 2014 in the 25m centre fire pistol event. He has participated in every Olympic Games since 2008 and it's only in his fifth appearance, in Paris that a historic medal has come his way.

Dikec won the silver with his teammate Seval İlayda Tarhan in the 10m air pistol mixed event (yes, the event in which Manu Bhaker-Sarabjot Singh won a bronze). It's Turkey's first-ever Olympic medal in shooting.

"In Los Angeles (2028 Olymp-



Turkey's Yusuf Dikec.

pics), hopefully it's a gold," Dikec reportedly said after. The shooter from Turkey having his hand tucked in his pocket during the competition appears to have gotten attached to his nonchalance. It's more to do with physics. Pistol shooters tend to anchor their non-shooting hand in their pocket for purposes of balance and steadiness.

Dikec is seen at the 2011 World Cup in Munich being just as effortless, and with just as minimal gear on him. In a sky blue polo t-shirt and no glasses he shot 687.3 for a gold medal finish.

Dikec has been trending on social media in Japan as 'free user Ojisan' (Japanese for uncle, middle-aged gentleman), comparing him shooting without fancy gear at an Olympics for a medal to F2P gamers who win.

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ATHLETICS
Men's 20km race walk
● Vikash Singh 30th
● Paramjeet Singh Bisht 37th
● Akshdeep Singh DNF

Women's 20km race walk
● Priyanka Goswami ended 41st

ARCHERY
Women's Round of 64
● Pravin Ramesh Jadhav lost 0-6 to Kao Wenchao (CHN)

BOXING
Women's 50kg Round of 16
● Nikhat Zareen lost 0-5 to Wu Yu (CHN)

HOCKEY
Men's Pool B
● India lost 1-2 to Belgium

SHOOTING
50m rifle 3 positions men's final
Swapnil Kusale won bronze

50m rifle 3 position (women's qualification)
● Anjum Moudgil ended 18th; Sift Kaur Samra ended 31st
Both failed to make final



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It's about time. India rises to chant #DeshKaGeetAtOlympics

King Leon rules, Queen Katie powers on

On a manic night at the raucous La Defense Arena, the swimming stars turned on some style

N Ananthanarayanan
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NEW DELHI: There is nothing quite like a home hero. Super hero is more like it. "Le Roi Leon" (French for The King Leon), the fan who held up the poster was a few rungs higher and back at the raucous La Defense Arena on Wednesday night. The man of the moment, and surely for years to come in French and swimming history, spotted it as he finished a set of hand-tapping with fans pushing against the rail.

He looked up and beamed a smile, waving, an expression all of France and a global audience have warmed up to. Leon Marchand, 22, France's poster boy in the build-up to the Paris Games is already an icon in this Olympics, securing three gold medals so far in five days of swimming competitions. Marchand, dubbed the 'French Michael Phelps' — for one, Bob Bowman, coach of the greatest Olympian, has coached him since the then French junior talent with an appetite for the medley like his 23-gold pupil mailed him — had already been anointed "Shin-Kaibutsu" (New Monster) by the Japanese after the Toulouse-born dominated the Fukuoka worlds last year. So, Kaibutsu? That is what they called Phelps when he was utterly dominant.

On Wednesday night, Marchand did something which even Phelps didn't achieve. And something that had not been pulled off since the 1976 Montreal Olympics. Win two events in a session, and that too as varied as the butterfly and breaststroke. With Olympic records in both, Marchand became the first swimmer to complete the 200m butterfly and 200m breaststroke double, barely two hours apart. In the first race, he surged past Hungary's defending champion and world record holder Kristof Milak in the last lap. The medal ceremony done, Mar-

chand quickly left to cool down and prepare for what few felt would be possible.

In the breaststroke final, he led from start to finish, and with fans yelling in support at the packed 30,000 capacity arena built at a rugby stadium, he was well clear as he gave Australia's Zac Stubblety-Cook, the defending champion and former world record holder, no chance of catching up. Marchand thrashed the water in triumph as the crowd went berserk.

Bowman, who coached Marchand at the Arizona State University before the Frenchman followed him when he shifted to

Austin, Texas, has compared him to former great, Ian Thorpe. Like the Aussie, nicknamed "Thorpedo", the 58-year-old coach has been quoted as saying that Marchand is "built like a torpedo" because his "hips and shoulders are the same width", causing little drag. "I'm so proud of him... I don't know that I've ever seen somebody win two individual events (in the same session). Tonight was amazing, he'll never forget it," Bowman told reporters.

"Quite honestly, this whole meet is about me fulfilling a promise I made to a kid three years ago, and that I could come

through and deliver because not only was it a challenge for him, it was a huge challenge for me.

"So, to put it together and see it come to fruition, it's incredibly satisfying."

Both of Marchand's parents are swimming Olympians. Mother Céline Bonnet competed in 1992 Barcelona and father Xavier at 1996 Atlanta and 2000 Sydney. So all-consuming has been the youngster's march at the Games — he already has three gold medals after expectedly claiming the 400m individual

medley — that action at the fencing hall was paused as fans erupted cheering their swimming hero.

Ledecky on top

The American swimming icon showed at 27 and in her fourth Olympics that she still is at the top of her game as she tied one of swimming's great records. Ledecky put up a dominant performance to win the gruelling 1,500m freestyle gold medal, taking her career Olympic medal haul to 12 — she equalled fellow Americans Dara

Torres, Natalie Coughlin and Jenny Thompson for the most won by a female swimmer.

Ledecky won her first gold at 2012 London as a 15-year-old and was delighted after snapping up her eighth. "It's not easy. It doesn't get any easier, so I do try to enjoy it each year," she said after the victory on Wednesday night.

Ledecky is not done in Paris with the 4x200 freestyle relay up next on Thursday night and should fetch her the record medal number 13.

The carping over the swimming pool not producing a world record — 2016 Rio saw eight and

2021 Tokyo six world marks — hit a pause as China's Pan Zhanle produced an astonishing 100m freestyle swim to win by over one second.

Pan won China's first swimming gold medal of these Games, clocking 46.40 seconds to better his own world mark.

"I was very surprised that I broke the record. It was a magical moment," said Pan.

Doping claims had engulfed Chinese swimming in the build-up to the Paris Olympics, and Pan alleged Chalmers had snubbed him after the race. The Chinese fans took to social media

to defend their swimmer.

Global swimming was thrown into uproar in April when New York Times reported that 23 Chinese swimmers had tested positive for the banned substance trimetazidine (TMZ) at a domestic competition ahead of the Tokyo Olympics.

Pan was not named in the report and Chinese officials' explanation that the positive tests were the result of food contamination was accepted by the World Anti Doping Agency, which has led to the US anti-doping agency to accuse the global body of a cover-up.

Making a mighty splash

It was a sensational Wednesday night of swimming at the Paris Olympics when France's 'King Leon', USA's 'First Lady of Freestyle', Sweden's grand dame and China's 'magical' Pan all wowed the world

LEON MARCHAND (22), FRANCE

200m butterfly: **1:51.21 secs** } OLYMPIC RECORD
200m breaststroke: **2:05.85** }

The man dubbed the French "Michael Phelps" pulled off an unprecedented double in a single session — men's 200m butterfly and 200m breaststroke — with Olympic records and with only 2 hours in between. Coached by Bob Bowman, formerly Phelps's coach, he has 3 golds so far.

PAN ZHANLE (19), CHINA

100m freestyle } WORLD RECORD
46.40 secs }

The teenager broke the first world record at the Paris Games with a stunning swim, winning by an incredible gap of over a second and a body length over Kyle Chalmers (Aus). Pan called his swim 'magical' after breaking his own world mark set at the February Worlds in Doha (46.80secs).

KATIE LEDECKY (27), USA

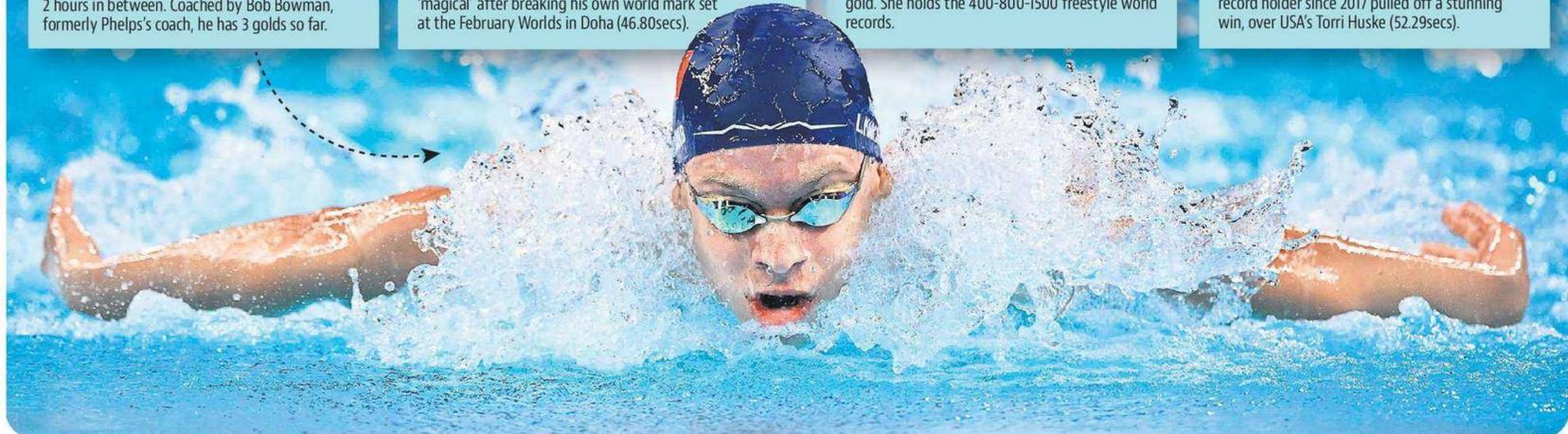
1,500m freestyle } OLYMPIC RECORD
15:30.02 secs }

The USA's 27-year-old stalwart swept to the women's 1500m freestyle to tie the record for most Olympic medals — 12, eight of them gold. She holds the 400-800-1500 freestyle world records.

SARAH SJOESTROEM (30), SWEDEN

100m freestyle
52.16 secs

Into her fifth Olympics, Sjoestrom was persuaded by her coach to swim to add the longer event to 50m freestyle, and the world record holder since 2017 pulled off a stunning win, over USA's Torri Huske (52.29secs).





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