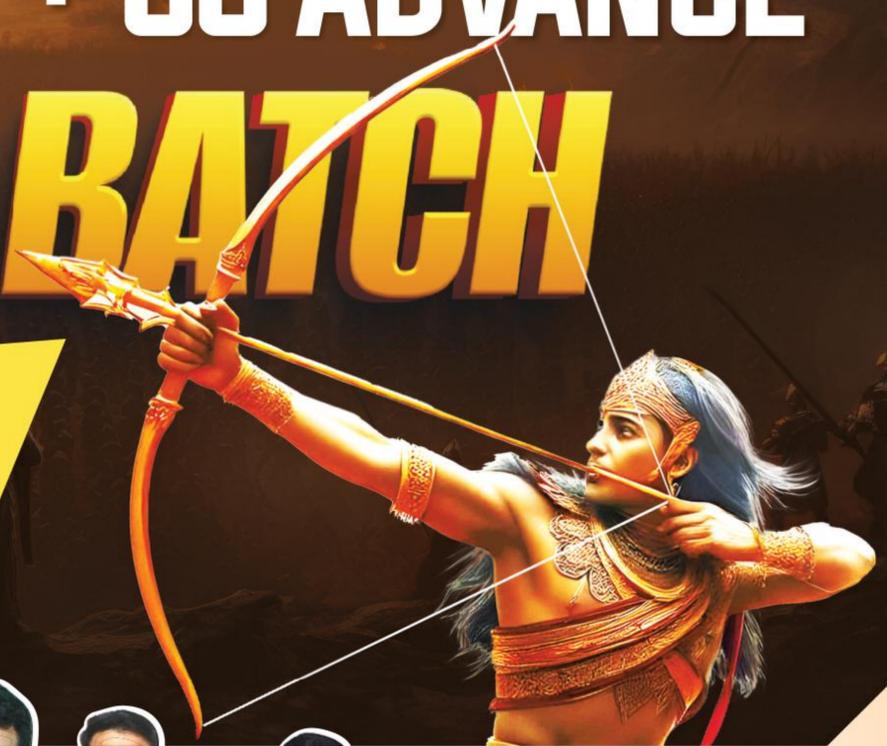


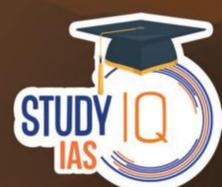
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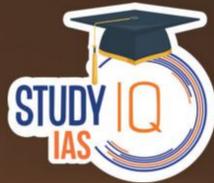
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**PARLIAMENT SESSION**  
**Lok Sabha passes Finance Bill, 2024**  
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**SCIENCE AWARDS**  
**Chandrayaan-3 team, others bag honours**  
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**SRI LANKA POLLS**  
**Rajapaksa scion is SLPP's candidate**  
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**HASINA'S FALL FROM GRACE**  
**The leader who lost touch with Bangladesh**  
*She paid the price for losing mass connect*  
EDITORIAL » PAGE 6



**MEDAL HOPE**  
**India to clash with Spain for bronze**  
SPORT » PAGE 16

## IN BRIEF



### HC questions ED on plea to cancel Kejriwal's bail

**NEW DELHI**  
The Delhi High Court on Wednesday questioned the ED about the relevance of its challenge to the bail granted to CM Arvind Kejriwal, when the Supreme Court had granted him interim bail in the money laundering case linked to the excise policy. » Page 3

### Uddhav indicates readiness to being CM face of MVA

**NEW DELHI**  
Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray, who called on the Congress leadership here on Wednesday, hinted that he was ready to be the CM face of the MVA for the Maharashtra Assembly election due later this year. » Page 4

# An extra 100 gm crushes Vinesh's Olympic dreams

Her weight inched past the limit ahead of the women's 50-kg finals against the U.S.'s Sarah Ann Hildebrandt; WFI, IOA approached governing body for wrestling but could not get an exemption

Y.B. Sarangi  
PARIS

**O**n the cusp of glory, wrestler Vinesh Phogat's campaign in her third Olympics ended as the wrestler, who stunned Japan's World and Olympic champion Yui Susaki on her way to the women's 50-kg final, was disqualified after weighing 100 grams more than the permissible limit in the morning weigh-in ahead of the final, on Wednesday.

A two-time World Wrestling Championships bronze medalist in 53kg and a prominent face of the wrestlers' protest against alleged sexual harassment by former Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, Vinesh, who maintains a body weight of around 57kg, had dropped down to 50kg for the Olym-



**Massive heartbreak:** IOA president P.T. Usha with Vinesh Phogat after her disqualification ahead of the gold medal bout. PTI

pics. She managed to cut down her weight to the limit on day one of the competition but struggled to do so prior to her final against the U.S.'s Sarah Ann Hildebrandt. "Last night her weight was up by 1 kg. We and her personal support staff worked to cut it down. In the morning, she went to the sauna and gym. Un-

fortunately, her weight was slightly above the limit," chief coach of the Indian women's team Virender Dahiya said. She even had a haircut to reduce weight. Chef-de-mission Gagan Narang, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) chief P.T. Usha and the head of India's medical commission, Dinshaw Pardiwala, were

### Vinesh moves CAS against disqualification

**PARIS**  
Wrestler Vinesh Phogat on Wednesday appealed against her disqualification from the 50kg category Olympic finals in the Court of Arbitration for Sports, demanding that she be awarded a joint silver medal. An IOA source confirmed the development. The matter will be taken up on Thursday. PTI

present to help Vinesh. The WFI and the IOA approached the United World Wrestling, the world governing body for the sport, but could not get any exemption.

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**MORE REPORTS**  
» PAGE 15

# Yunus to take oath today; BNP calls for urgent polls

Rabiul Alam  
DHAKA

An interim government headed by Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus will take oath in Bangladesh at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman said at a press conference on Wednesday.

The 84-year-old will arrive in Dhaka on an Emirates flight from Dubai on Thursday afternoon, according to a press release.

Mr. Yunus asked the youth to be calm and get ready to build the country. "I congratulate the brave students who took the lead in making our 'Second Victory Day' possible and to the people for giving your total support to them. Let us make the best use of our new victory."

The Labour Appellate Tribunal on Wednesday overturned a six-month jail sentence awarded to him in a case filed over alleged violation of the labour law.

The Bangladesh Nation-



**Sea of support:** BNP activists gathering near a poster of party chairperson Khaleda Zia, during a rally in Dhaka on Wednesday. AFP

alist Party (BNP), the main Opposition party when former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was in power, held a rally here, where thousands gathered from across the country.

Addressing the rally virtually from London, Tarique Rahman, BNP acting chairman and son of former Prime Minister and BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia, called for immediate election. "The national election must be held immediately, and power must be handed over to the elected representatives," he said.

BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir said election should be held within three months.

In her first public speech since 2018, Ms. Zia, who joined the rally virtually, thanked the people for their "fight and prayers" and called for "love and peace" to rebuild the country, instead of "destruction and revenge".

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## Toast of the nation



**Grand welcome:** Indian shooter Manu Bhaker, who created history by winning two bronze medals at the Paris Olympics 2024, receives an enthusiastic reception on her arrival at the Indira Gandhi International Airport on Wednesday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR (REPORT ON PAGE 16)

# Bill removes powers of Waqf Board; non-Muslims and women on board

Vijaita Singh  
Ishita Mishra  
NEW DELHI

With the Bill to amend the Waqf Act, 1995, set to be tabled in Parliament this week, the Centre proposes to strip the Waqf Board of its powers to declare a property as its own.

The Bill proposes the inclusion of two Muslim women and two non-Muslim members on the board, and inserts a new section to prevent the wrongful declaration of a property as "Waqf". It also introduces the District Collector as an arbiter to decide if a property is a Waqf or government land. In the 1995 Act, such decisions are made by the Waqf Tribunal.

The Waqf comprises property or land donated by followers of Islam, and is managed by the members of the community. The Waqf Boards currently con-



Kiren Rijju

control 8.7 lakh properties spanning 9.4 lakh acres across India, with an estimated value of ₹1.2 lakh crore. Collectively, this makes the Waqf Boards the third largest landowner in India. The Waqf Act was last amended in 2013.

**'Unacceptable changes'**  
The Bill has drawn sharp criticism from Muslim bodies and Opposition parties, which termed it an act to create societal divides. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board has maintained that any change in the Waqf Act that alters the

nature of Waqf properties, or makes it easier for the government or any individual to usurp them, will not be acceptable.

The Bill, a copy of which was circulated among Lok Sabha members on Wednesday, proposes to rename the Act "Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development Act, 1995". The Bill "omits Section 40 relating to the powers of Board to decide if a property is waqf property".

"Any Government property identified or declared as waqf property, before or after the commencement of this Act, shall not be deemed to be a waqf property. If any question arises as to whether any such property is a government property, the same shall be referred to the Collector having jurisdiction who shall make such inquiry as he deems fit, and deter-

mine whether such property is a Government property or not and submit his report to the State Government," the Bill says.

It says that no person shall create a Waqf unless he is the lawful owner of the property and competent to transfer or dedicate such property. Also, the creation of a *waqf-alal-aulad* (Waqf deed) must not result in the denial of the inheritance rights of heirs.

Another proposed amendment is that no Waqf can be created without the execution of a Waqf deed. In Islamic law, a Waqf dedication may be made either in writing, or orally.

Union Minister Kiren Rijju's statement of objects and reasons for the amendment Bill said though the Waqf Act, 1995, had been enacted to provide for the better administration of *Auqaf*, it has not proved effective in this regard.

# HC reverses discharge of two Tamil Nadu Ministers and their kin from disproportionate assets cases

Mohamed Imranullah S.  
CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Wednesday allowed two *suo motu* criminal revision petitions taken up by it last year, and reversed the discharge of Ministers K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran and Thangam Thennarasu from the disproportionate assets cases booked against them and their kin in 2011 and 2012, respectively.

Justice N. Anand Venkatesh set aside an order passed by the Virudhunagar Principal Sessions Court (designated as a spe-



K.K.S.S.R. Ramachandran

cial court for MP/MLA cases) on July 20, 2023, discharging Mr. Ramachandran, who holds the Revenue portfolio, his wife R. Adhilakshmi, and friend K.S.P. Shanmugamoorthy, and restored the case back to the file of the



Thangam Thennarasu

special court for trial. He ordered the special court to frame charges, and directed all the accused to appear before the trial court on September 9 and furnish a bond with or without sureties as deemed fit by that court. The trial

should be conducted on a day-to-day basis, and completed expeditiously.

Passing an identical but separate judgment on the petition taken up against Mr. Thennarasu, who holds the Finance portfolio, and his wife T. Manimegalai, the judge set aside the special court's December 12, 2022 order discharging them.

The judge said he was interfering with the discharge of the two Ministers because of the conduct of the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti Corruption (DVAC) sleuths, who had opposed the discharge plea

tooth and nail until the accused were not in power but turned a volte-face after the accused became Ministers in May 2021.

The judge said that he had never come across any other case, but for cases against politicians, in which the prosecution had decided to conduct further investigation on the basis of written arguments submitted by the accused in the discharge petition and finally gave a clean chit to them. "This points to a clear nexus between the DVAC and the politicians," the judgment stated.

# Charges framed against dismissed RPF constable in train firing case

The Hindu Bureau  
MUMBAI

A Mumbai sessions court on Wednesday charged dismissed Railway Protection Force (RPF) constable Chetan Singh Chaudhary with the murder of four persons and promoting enmity between different religious groups for the July 31, 2023 early morning killing spree on a moving train.

Mr. Chaudhary allegedly shot dead three passengers and a senior colleague, RPF Assistant Sub-Inspector Tikaram Meena, on the Jaipur-Mumbai Central Express near Palghar station.

The passengers were Abdul Kadarbhai Mohammad Hussain Bhanpurwala, 62, a resident of Nalasopara in Palghar; Asgar Abbas Sheikh, 48, a resident of Madhubani in Bihar; and Syed Saifullah, 43, a resident of Hyderabad.

The accused, held in Akola jail, was produced before the court on Wednesday. The court framed charges against him, initiating the trial process.

The prosecution said Mr. Chaudhary used his service weapon in the shooting and was arrested near Mira Road railway station after passengers pulled the

emergency chain and stopped the train.

Mr. Chaudhary initially pleaded guilty before Additional Sessions Judge N.L. More but retracted to 'not guilty' after consultation with his defence team.

The court charged him under Sections 302 (murder), 153-A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, etc.), and relevant provisions of the Railways Act and Maharashtra Prevention of Defacement of Property Act of the Indian Penal Code.

The court will hear the matter next on August 20.

## Decongest Asha Kiran shelter home, urgently recruit doctors: HC

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday asked the Social Welfare Department Secretary to take urgent steps to recruit employees, including doctors, for the Asha Kiran shelter home for people with intellectual disability where 14 inmates died last month.

The Secretary, who was earlier directed to visit the shelter home and file a report, said the establishment has to be decongested as 961 inmates were lodged there against a capacity of 570. The court was also informed that there were 12 medical vacancies at the shelter home as well as several non-medical vacancies.

A Bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Justice Tushar Rao Gedela asked the Secretary to recruit people on contractual basis to deal with the "emergency" and place the requisition before the competent authorities for approval. It added that if the sanction is not given, it will pass a judicial order.

"Decongestion is the top priority. Doctors visiting the dormitory (in Asha Kiran) and the shortage of the staff, medical as well as non-medical, has to be addressed, and we should empower the Secretary to employ staff on contractual basis," the court said.

"This is an emergency. Fourteen lives have been lost... Recruit the best... Don't let us down. Let it be a limited contract so that you can in-



The Disability Rights Group and National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People protested against the deaths at Asha Kiran at Jantar Mantar. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

itate the process for permanent recruitment. In one year you can complete the process," it added.

"Since 14 lives have been lost in a short span of 20 days, this court impresses upon the Secretary to take urgent and emergent steps to deal with the situation," the court noted.

The court listed the case for further hearing on August 12.

"We have lost 14 lives in 20 days. Human lives today don't have a cost. Day before, we dealt with the USPC matter where three children lost their lives. Yesterday, we dealt with a case where two people lost their lives. You must act with alacrity. We may lose someone in the process," the court said.

The court's comments came in response to a public interest litigation plea seeking the constitution of an independent committee headed by a retired High Court judge to probe the incident.

## CM, Bibhav were at crime scene soon after Maliwal was assaulted, say police

In the chargesheet against Kejrival aide Bibhav Kumar, police claim 'larger conspiracy' behind 'brutal attack'; Maliwal declined doctors' advice for a CT scan, police also say

Samridhi Tewari  
Satvika Mahajan  
NEW DELHI

The Delhi police have stated in their chargesheet against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's personal secretary Bibhav Kumar, who was arrested for allegedly assaulting Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Rajya Sabha member Swati Maliwal, that the CM and his aide were present at the scene "immediately after the commission of the crime".

The chargesheet states that the CM aide beat Ms. Maliwal "mercilessly" and slapped her "at least 7-8 times" even as "she continued screaming".

"He pounced on her, brutally dragged and deliberately pulled her shirt up... She landed on the floor while hitting her head on the centre table. He also attacked her by kicking her repeatedly in her chest, stomach and pelvis area," it adds.

However, Ms. Maliwal's medico-legal case (MLC) report, a copy of which is attached with the chargesheet, states that she received minor bruises on her right cheek and left leg and that her injuries were "simple" and "non-dangerous", and up to three days old.

The police also told the court that the complainant declined a CT scan for her stomach and pelvis despite doctors' recommendations.

In their 500-page chargesheet, a copy of which was accessed by *The Hindu*, the police have stated that they are prob-



Swati Maliwal speaking in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. ANI

ing the "larger conspiracy" behind the "brutal attack".

The accused was arrested on May 18 under various IPC sections after the Rajya Sabha member alleged that he had assaulted her at the CM House on May 13. On July 16, the police submitted the chargesheet in a Tis Hazari court. Mr. Kumar is currently in judicial custody.

The Supreme Court on Wednesday adjourned his bail plea hearing for August 27.

When asked whether the CM was present at the crime scene, AAP did not comment.

The chargesheet quotes Ms. Maliwal saying that "the manner in which AAP leaders and workers came (out) in support of the accused", shows that there is a "larger conspiracy behind the attack".

It adds, "Her statement becomes relevant for the present investigation in view of the complete U-turn by two responsible persons of the party regarding the same incident in the days following the commission of the

crime."

The police also told the court that the accused shot a video of the incident and circulated it on social media. Mr. Kumar admitted to formatting his phone but did not share any other information about it, the police said. They also sought a record of visitors at the CM camp office on May 13. However, they were told that no such records were maintained.

The agency also told the court that the footage of the CM House's drawing room, where the alleged incident took place, shows that the accused spent "considerable time" at Mr. Kejriwal's official residence after the incident.

However, the chargesheet also notes that Mr. Kumar was not present at the CM House when the complainant arrived at 9.20 a.m. and that he reached only after being contacted by her.

It also states that the call details of Ms. Maliwal's phone, including her WhatsApp and mobile calls to the accused, were not seized.

The police also told the court that they had sufficient "oral and documentary" evidence against Mr. Kumar. "It is also relevant to mention here that Bibhav Kumar appears to be a repeat offender since he has previously been involved in a similar case (registered in 2007)."

The case was lodged under various IPC sections, including those pertaining to the use of criminal force to deter a public servant from discharging their duty and criminal intimidation.

## School issues notice banning non-veg food in tiffin box

Ashna Butani  
NEW DELHI

Delhi Public School, Gautam Buddha Nagar, on Wednesday asked parents to refrain from sending non-vegetarian meals to school. The administration said the announcement was made to ensure that "all students feel respected".

While the move prompted an outcry from some parents' associations who said it would lead to discrimination, the school's principal denied the allegations, claiming the rule was made when some parents complained that their children had fallen ill after sharing food.

"Non-vegetarian food, when cooked in the morning for lunchtime consumption, can pose serious health risks if not stored and handled properly, and we prioritise our students' well-being," read the note.

It added that the school promotes a "culture of inclusivity". "By maintaining a vegetarian food environment, we ensure that all students feel respected and comfortable regardless of their dietary preferences while eating their meals," the note read.

Sukriti Chauhan, the school's principal, said similar notices had been issued earlier as well. "The circular was sent to parents keeping two considerations in mind: health and safety. Students might have shared their food, and after some of them got sick, parents raised a concern. Since we

Parents lashed out at the school, saying the move would lead to discrimination along caste, religious lines

cannot ask students not to share food, we made this rule," she said.

Ms. Chauhan added that no punitive action will be taken against students who bring non-vegetarian food to school, but their parents will be informed.

"Will cause segregation" "One can fall sick by eating from anywhere, so the issue is about stale food rather than non-vegetarian food. Further, how can the school say this decision respects all food choices when they are asking students to only carry vegetarian food?" said Anubha Shrivastava Sahai, president of the India Wide Parents' Association.

She added that many parents prefer feeding their children non-vegetarian food items like eggs, which are a convenient and healthy option.

However, the circular did not specify whether non-meat items like eggs were also prohibited.

Satya Prakash Pandey of the All India Parents' Association said the move would lead to discrimination among students along caste and religious lines. "If a family has a certain preference, the child should be able to exercise it in school too, be it in the tiffins or at the canteen," he said.

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10	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत छातापुर प्रखंड के बलुआ पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	319.369	6.388	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
11	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत छातापुर प्रखंड के राखेवरी पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	312.236	6.245	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
12	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत छातापुर प्रखंड के झाखेवरी पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	316.048	6.321	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
13	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत छातापुर प्रखंड के चरण पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	313.443	6.269	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
14	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत पिपरा प्रखंड के महेशपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	272.772	5.456	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
15	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत पिपरा प्रखंड के निर्मली पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	271.768	5.436	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
16	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत त्रिचेगीमंज प्रखंड के पिनुआहा पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	311.489	6.230	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
17	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत मरीना प्रखंड के सरोजा बेला पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	318.472	6.370	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
18	सुपौल जिला अन्तर्गत छातापुर प्रखंड के माधोपुर पंचायत में पंचायत सरकार भवन का निर्माण।	316.771	6.336	10000.00	e-proc2 के वेब पेज के अनुसार	14 माह
2.	विज्ञापन निर्गत करने की तिथि	दिनांक - 05.08.2024				
3.	निविदा कागजात उपलब्ध करने की प्रारम्भिक तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 30.08.2024 को 10.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> पर)				
4.	प्री-बीड मीटिंग का समय, स्थान एवं तिथि	दिनांक 05.09.2024 समय 03:30 बजे, मुख्य अभियंता का कार्यालय, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन, विवेकचरणीय भवन, चातुर्गं तल, कामरा नं-423, बेली रोड, परदा-800015 (सिर्फ वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> पर)				
5.	निविदा उपलब्ध करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 07.09.2024 समय 3.00 बजे अपराह्न तक। स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन, विवेकचरणीय भवन, चातुर्गं तल, कामरा नं-423, बेली रोड, परदा-800015 (सिर्फ वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> पर)				
6.	तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 09.09.2024 समय 3.30 बजे अपराह्न से। (कठिना 5 में उल्लेखित अंतिम तिथि से दो कार्य दिवस के पर्याप्त की तिथि)। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> पर)				
7.	वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	सहम पराधिकारी द्वारा बाद में घोषित की जायेगी। (सिर्फ वेबसाइट <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> पर)				
8.	निविदा खोलने का स्थान	<a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> पर				
9.	निविदा की वेबसाइट	120 दिन (निविदा प्राप्त की अंतिम तिथि के बाद)				
10.	विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता	कार्यपालक अभियंता, स्थानीय क्षेत्र अभियंत्रण संगठन प्रमंडल, कार्य प्रमंडल, सुपौल				
कार्यपालक अभियंता						
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नशे से बचने का हे एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।						

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Office of  
Superintending Engineer,  
6<sup>th</sup> Circle, HPPWD, Kullu-175101  
Ph. 01902-222530, Fax:01902-222299,  
E-mail:hp-kul@nic.in

**E-Procurement Notice**  
The Superintending Engineer, 6<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD, Kullu on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the percentage rate bids, in electronic tendering system, for the following work sanctioned under (SDMF) the eligible and approved contractors registered with HPPWD and HP Jal Shakti Vibhag (Contractors of HP Jal Shakti Vibhag are eligible to participate for the works having amount up to tender above Rs.100 Lacs). Non registered contractors may submit the bids; however successful bidder has to register in appropriate class with appropriate authority in HPPWD.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Time Period	Bid security (Rs. in lacs)
1.	Protection of RRD on Kullu Manali Left bank road Near Chhuruu During flood on dated 21 September, 2018 Kullu land slide mitigation measures by Nailing Reach length 90.00 Mtr for HT app 30.00 mtr C/O work created BiWall, RCC R/wall C/O U-shape Drain and C/O CC pavement 15/000 to 15/300 (at Chhuruu) under State Disaster Mitigation fund (SDMF)	6,22,37,928.00	18 Months	12.45

- Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement at 10:00 AM on 08-08-2024-2024.**
- Cost of Bid Form: Rs.5,000/-** per package/job (non-refundable) only in form of Demand Draft in favour of Executive Engineer, Division HP PWD Manali at Katrain.
- Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:** The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in). The bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering may obtain the same from the website: [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in).
- Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the valid digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.
- The bidder is requested to study ITB, HPPWD form-6 and 7/8 and General Rule & Direction, Conditions of Contract clauses and upload all required documents in pdf form on the website <http://hptenders.gov.in> and submit all desired documents in original within specified period to the office of the Superintending Engineer 6<sup>th</sup> Circle HP.PWD Kullu.
- Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-tendering: up-to 05:00 PM on 17-08-2024.**
- The site for the work is available.
- Only online submission of bids is permitted**, therefore; bids must be submitted online on website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in). The technical qualification part of the bids will be opened online at 11:30 AM on 19-08-2024 in the office of Superintending Engineer, 6<sup>th</sup> Circle HPPWD, Kullu by the authorized officers. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day at the same time.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than Seventy Five (75) days after the deadline date for bid submission.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Employer shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

HP / 1323/24-25

Superintending Engineer,  
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PUBLIC NOTICE  
The general public at large is hereby informed on behalf of Mrs. Archana Goswami, Yashavi Goswami, and the under named that consequent to the unfortunate demise of my grandfather, Mr. Mohan Puri Goswami, through intestate succession, we, among others, are the joint owners of his estate. With specific reference to the properties situated at (i) H-77 Street No. 2, Bahmapur, Delhi - 110053 (admeasuring approx. 200 sq. yards); and (ii) H-65, Street No. 2, V (Harhar Mandir Gali), Bahmapur, Delhi - 110053 (admeasuring approx. 45 sq. yards), these properties of the deceased are of joint ownership, and under our sole possession.

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GENERAL

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (ANIIDCO), PORT BLAIR

VACANCY NOTICE  
01. Senior Manager (P&A): 01 Post  
02. Dairy Technologist: 01 Post  
Applications are invited for filling up of the above posts on contract basis in ANIIDCO. Detailed terms and conditions and application format can be downloaded from website <https://www.andaman.gov.in> and <http://aniidco.and.nic.in> under vacancy link. The last date of receipt of applications is 10/09/2024 (5:00 PM). For clarification contact Senior Manager (P&A): 03192-231318.  
General Manager (P&A), ANIIDCO

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE  
TRADEMARK CAUTION NOTICE  
Our Client, YURI TOOLS IMPEX LLP, having its registered address at Office No.1, Yusuf Manzil, 314-314F, Christ Lane, Byculla, Mumbai 400 008 (herein after referred as our Client) is the sole & exclusive user of the Trademark  on account of Registration under Trademark Act 1999, in respect of (not limited to) Hand Tools, Saws, Blades, Razors and other accessories. The members of trade and public are hereby cautioned and notified against any unscrupulous manufacturers and traders, with whom our Client has no nexus or association whatsoever that may misrepresent or pass off their goods under the aforementioned trademark and its variants thereof or any other mark deceptively similar to our Client's registered trademark and its variants thereof. Therefore, the public is hereby cautioned against purchasing goods from any such individuals/entities. FURTHER NOTE THAT the present Notice is given so that any person or entity using the Trademark  or any other deceptively similar trademark of our Client shall be liable to Civil/Criminal proceedings including but not limited to filing of suits for damages against such entities and carrying out raids at their offices, godowns and such other places as may be required without any further notice. The members of trade and public especially the retail shop owners are also advised not to be attracted and lured by any advertisement and solicitation made by any unauthorized entities. Our Client will take strict legal action against such entities and thwart their attempts to mislead the public at large. Dated this 8th day August, 2024. For YURI TOOLS IMPEX LLP;

Jha Legal Associates  
Advocates & Legal Consultants  
B-202, Vikhroli Shivaji SGS Bldg., Hariyal Village, Opp. Railway Station, Mumbai 400 083.

## Bharadwaj lying about 'false' affidavit on medical shortage: L-G

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

A day after Health Minister Saurabh Bharadwaj accused the Health Secretary of submitting a false affidavit to the Delhi High Court stating that there was no shortage of medicines in Delhi government hospitals and Mohalla Clinics, Raj Niwas on Wednesday accused the Minister of "weaving a web of lies to hide his government's failures".

It alleged that Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, despite being the chairperson of the National Capital Civil Services Authority (NCCSA), which exercises authority over civil service officers working in all Delhi government departments, failed to take the matter forward after being sent a proposal by Mr. Bharadwaj. "Had the intention been to appoint and hire doctors, Mr. Kejriwal would have immediately convened a meeting of the NCCSA and done the needful. However, the proposal was forwarded to the L-G seeking his kind intervention on January 4," Raj Niwas said in a statement.

It added that the Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board after its intervention started the process of hiring nearly 3,000 medical staff at Delhi government hospitals.

AAP hit back at L-G V.K. Saxena, with party sources alleging that he lacks the experience of civil service as he has only carried out "petty political works" for the Central government.

Timings  
DELHI

THURSDAY, AUG. 08	RISE	05:47	SET	19:07
	RISE	09:00	SET	21:21
FRIDAY, AUG. 09	RISE	05:48	SET	19:06
	RISE	09:52	SET	21:47
SATURDAY, AUG. 10	RISE	05:48	SET	19:05
	RISE	10:44	SET	22:13

Delhi Weather	max	min
Delhi City	32	26
Safdarjang	32	26
Palam	31	26

Delhi Palam Today  
31°C Day will be slight warm with cloudy sky. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thunderstorm with strong winds will occur.

Delhi Palam Tomorrow  
32°C The weather will be little warm with cloudy sky. Night will be comfortable. Spell of moderate rain and thunderstorm will occur.

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# HC questions ED on its plea to cancel Kejriwal's bail

Will you arrest him again, Justice Neena Bansal Krishna asks the ED counsel; posts case for Sept. 5; SC has already granted him interim bail in erstwhile excise policy-related money laundering case

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI



Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal is still in judicial custody in a corruption case filed by CBI.

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday questioned the Enforcement Directorate (ED) about the relevance of its challenge to the bail granted to Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, when the Supreme Court had already granted him interim bail in the erstwhile excise policy-related money laundering case.

The High Court asked the ED if their petition was allowed, would the agency again arrest the Chief Minister? "Answer my question. What will happen if I allow your petition? Will you arrest him again?" Jus-

tice Neena Bansal Krishna asked the ED's counsel.

He said no one has declared Mr. Kejriwal's arrest to be illegal.

On July 12, the Supreme Court had granted interim bail to Mr. Kejriwal in the money laundering case.

He, however, remains in jail as he is in judicial custody in the Central Bureau of Investigation's corruption case stemming out of the excise scam.

### 'Adjourn hearing'

At the outset, the ED counsel requested the court to adjourn the hearing to Thursday, as the Additional Solicitor General, who was supposed to argue the case, was occupied in another court.

The judge, however, said, "Last time also an adjournment was sought. You can't be requesting the court all the time as if this court has no work. You have to adjust your diary accordingly. Don't think

that courts at the drop of a hat will give you a date."

The ED counsel clarified that last time a date was sought by the counsel for AAP and not by the probe agency, and urged the court to give a short date for arguing the matter.

The court has now posted the case for hearing on September 5.

The Delhi Chief Minister, who was arrested by the ED on March 21, was granted bail by the trial court in the money laundering case on June 20. However, the order was stayed by the High Court. On July 12, the Supreme Court had granted interim bail to Mr. Kejriwal in the money laundering case.



An inter-State police meeting on Wednesday to discuss security arrangements ahead of Independence Day. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Police officers told to verify credentials of Bangladesh nationals

Press Trust of India  
NEW DELHI

In view of the upcoming Independence Day celebrations and the developments in Bangladesh leading to the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora on Wednesday asked the officers of his force and those from neighbouring States to verify the credentials of Bangladesh nationals staying in the Capital and involved in crime, official sources said.

The police chief asked officers to find out from motor workshops and garages in their areas if any vehicle has been modified in the last 10 days.

They were also directed to find out from courier companies about deliveries made to non-specific addresses in the last two months, the sources said.

### I-Day celebrations

Mr. Arora held an inter-State coordination meeting at Delhi Police headquarters with police officers from Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pra-

des, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, and Jammu and Kashmir to discuss security arrangements ahead of August 15.

### Close monitoring

Stressing the importance of inter-State cooperation, the Commissioner said a drive should be launched to trace recently released criminals.

All released criminals with a radical background need to be closely monitored, and the smuggling of firearms needs to be prevented, Mr. Arora said, adding that records of all arms dealers must be checked to avoid pilferage.

During the meeting, officers from the other States shared terror-related intelligence inputs and discussed various anti-terror measures, including checking at borders and verification of suspicious elements, sources added.

Measures to check the movement of paragliders, drones, and other flying objects around August 15 were also discussed.

(With inputs from The Hindu Bureau)

# DU extends phase two of UG admissions to Friday

Pranay Gupta  
NEW DELHI

Delhi University on Wednesday extended its deadline for the second phase of admissions under the Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS) by two days following complaints of confusion from students.

The second phase, which was to end on Wednesday, has been extended to 11.59 p.m. on Friday after several applicants said they encountered difficul-

ties while filling out their preferences for colleges and courses, a university official said.

"The form contains a lot of fields, then there is a preference list, which all seemed quite confusing," said a 17-year-old student from Ghaziabad.

In a webinar held on the admission process last week, Dean of Admissions Haneet Gandhi had urged students to fill enough options, but not apply at random.

# CBI takes over probe into death of Muslim man beaten, forced to sing national anthem

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation has taken over the probe into the death of a 23-year-old Muslim man, who was beaten up and forced to sing the national anthem allegedly by some policemen during the 2020 north-east Delhi riots. The move follows a directive by the Delhi High Court.

The incident took place on February 24, 2020. A video clip showing the vic-

tim, Faizan, and four others being beaten by the police with batons and forced to sing the national anthem and 'Vande Mataram' had gone viral then. The case was initially registered at the Bhajanpura police station on February 28, 2020, and transferred to the Delhi Police Crime Branch on March 4, 2020.

The HC had questioned the Delhi Police for failing to conclusively identify the policemen involved in the case, even after more than four years of investigation.

"It is extremely important to note that this case presents allegations of violation of human rights, in as much as the unlawful actions of the policemen, who are yet to be identified, were motivated and driven by religious bigotry and, therefore, would amount to a 'hate crime'," it had observed.

"The investigation has evidently been tardy, sketchy, and conveniently sparing of the persons suspected to be involved in brutally assaulting the peti-

tioner's son... what is worse is that the suspects were entrusted to act as custodians of the law, and were in a position of power and authority, but seemed to have been driven by bigoted mindsets," said the High Court.

The court took note of two sets of video footage, one showing Faizan being encircled and beaten by policemen; and the second clip of several young men, including Faizan, lying injured on a road, being surrounded and assaulted.

# Beyond Books: Cultivating Mental Resilience and Emotional Wellbeing for UPSC Success

ADVERTISEMENT

The UPSC Civil Services Examination is one of the most coveted and challenging exams in India. Success in this exam brings immense professional and personal satisfaction. It requires not just knowledge and skills, but also personality traits suitable for a career in Civil Services.

The UPSC CSE is highly demanding due to its vast syllabus and the continuous need for students to stay updated with the latest current affairs. This academic rigor, coupled with various stressors, can take a toll on aspirants' mental well-being, which, if overlooked, can detrimentally affect their academic performance and physical health.

### Stressors Associated with the UPSC Exam and Their Manifestation

The journey to becoming a civil servant is fraught with multiple stressors, including:

- Academic Rigour:** The extensive syllabus and the requirement to study for long hours daily contribute to significant stress and burnout.
- Fear of Underperformance:** Anxiety about not meeting expectations can affect confidence and focus. Many aspirants encounter feelings of loneliness, stress, and fear of poor performance.
- Expectations from Family:** High family expectations create additional emotional stress. Approximately, one-third of students often or sometimes experience family pressure.
- Social Isolation and Loneliness:** Long hours of study can lead to social isolation, with many students feeling lonely and unsupported.
- Economic Strain:** High financial costs associated with UPSC CSE preparation and living expenses, especially for those from humble backgrounds. Many students manage by taking part-time jobs or borrowing money.
- Peer Pressure:** The competitive environment fosters peer pressure, with many students facing this as a significant stressor.
- Perpetual Updates on Current Affairs:** The need to stay constantly updated with current events adds to the stress, creating a vicious cycle of anxiety and pressure.

### The Importance of Mental Health in UPSC Preparation

Mental health is as crucial as academic preparation in the UPSC journey. Here's why:

- Improved Academic Performance:** A healthy mind is essential for effective learning and retention. Mental well-being enhances concentration, memory, and cognitive function, enabling students to absorb and process vast amounts of information more efficiently.
- Stress Management:** The UPSC syllabus is extensive, and the preparation process is long and demanding. Good mental health helps in managing stress levels, preventing burnout, and maintaining consistent study patterns over time.
- Resilience and Adaptability:** The journey to UPSC success is fraught with challenges and setbacks. Mental resilience is crucial for bouncing back from failures, staying motivated, and adapting to changing study plans and exam patterns.
- Emotional Stability:** The UPSC preparation period is often accompanied by high expectations from family and peers. Emotional stability helps in managing these pressures, maintaining a positive outlook, and staying focused on long-term goals.
- Balanced Life and Studies:** Striking a balance between academic demands and personal life is crucial. Mental well-being ensures that students can enjoy relaxation, hobbies, and social

interactions, which are essential for maintaining overall health and preventing burnout.

Scan to schedule your Free Counselling Session



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### VisionIAS Student Wellness Cell - A Support System for Mental Health

Unfortunately, mental well-being is often overlooked by UPSC aspirants, which can detrimentally affect academic performance and physical health. VisionIAS firmly believes that a well-supported mind is essential for achieving excellence in UPSC preparation. Our Student Wellness Cell is specifically designed to address a range of issues affecting both mental well-being and academic success at no cost to students. The comprehensive support system includes:

- Open Expression of Student Issues:** Students are encouraged to discuss their concerns openly.

- Personalized Support and Counseling:** Each session is tailored to the individual needs of the student.
- Safe, Non-Judgmental Environment:** We ensure students feel comfortable and free from judgment.
- Confidential and Protected Information:** All shared information remains private and secure.
- Structured Approach to Problem Resolution or Minimization:** Sessions follow a planned method to either resolve or reduce the problem.
- Multiple Sessions Based on Issue Severity:** The number of sessions is determined by the severity of the student's issues.
- No Charge for Services:** All mental health support services are provided free of charge to ensure that financial constraints do not hinder students from seeking help.

### Common Issues and Our Resolution Approach

- Since April 2024, our highly professional psychologists and experienced professionals have provided confidential and mindful support to students requiring mental health support. Our counseling services address a variety of issues, including:
  - Anxiety and Hopelessness:** Using Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) to promote positive thinking and reframe negative thoughts.
  - Lack of Motivation and Focus:** Introducing time management strategies and SMART goal-setting to enhance productivity.

- Emotional Struggles:** Providing a safe space for expression and techniques such as journaling and progressive muscle relaxation to manage stress and anxiety.
- Social Isolation and Loneliness:** Encouraging healthy social interactions and setting personal boundaries to balance life and studies.
- Family and Personal Issues:** Offering advice on coping with family dynamics, personal loss, and significant life stressors.

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For more information or to schedule a session at no cost, please visit us at our Apsara Arcade office near Karol Bagh Metro Station, New Delhi, or contact us at student.wellness@visionias.in.

Remember, seeking help is a sign of strength, not weakness.

-By VisionIAS Research Team



# T.N. Cong. leader held for murder of State BSP chief

The Hindu Bureau CHENNAI

N. Aswathaman, an office-bearer of the Tamil Nadu Congress, has been arrested by the Sembium police in connection with the murder of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) leader K. Armstrong.

State general secretary of the Tamil Nadu Youth Congress, was the son of north Chennai don Nagendran, who was lodged in the Puzhal prison. The investigation revealed that Aswathaman and Armstrong had previous enmity. At one point, Aswathaman had threatened him with a gun over a land dispute.

**EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
**E-Tender Notice**  
e-tender Notice No. 19 of 2024-25 (Open) - Engg/DDU  
On line (through e-tendering) for the following work is invited by DRM/Engg/DDU for and on behalf of the President of India from experienced and financially as well as technically sound contractors including those enlisted with the Railway, CPWD, BSNL, MES, PWD and other public sector undertakings.  
**1. Tender No. 07-DDU-SR DEN-I-24-25**  
**Name of the work with its location :** Flash Butt Welding of 60 kg/90TUS/260R rails at site using road cum rail mobile flash butt welding plant at different location under section of Sr.DEN/IDDU.  
**Advertised Value:** ₹ 23795535.46, **Earnest Money:** ₹ 269000.00  
**Closing Date & time for submission of e-tender :** 28.08.2024, Up-to 12:00 hrs., **Website particulars of e-tendering :** www.ireps.gov.in  
**Divisional Railway Manager, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Division**  
**PR/0849/DDU/ENGG/IT/24-25/36**

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (ROADS), PUBLIC WORKS ROADS DEPARTMENT, ASSAM, GUWAHATI - 03**  
No. CE/DEV/RIDF-XXIX/405/2023-24/26  
**PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER(Re-Bid)**  
The Chief Engineer (Roads), PWRD, Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3 invites re-bid on behalf of governor of Assam for 1(one) no. of package for Construction/Improvement of roads under RIDF-XXIX of NABARD for the year 2023-24 in Kokrajhar District of Assam amounting to **Rs. 181.79 Lakhs** (approx.) including GST etc. from approved & eligible Contractors registered with PWRD, Assam.  
Details may be seen from **12.08.2024** at website [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in), Amendment/Addendum to the SBD, if any, and further notifications shall appear in this website and also at office of the undersigned during office hours. The contractor/bidder must be registered with the Electronic tendering System(ETS) of PWRD, Assam website [www.assamtenders.gov.in](http://www.assamtenders.gov.in).  
Note: NIT Value is inclusive of GST (12%), Labour Cess(1%), etc.  
**Chief Engineer(Roads), PWRD, Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati - 3**  
**Janasanyog /C/1923/ 24/8-Aug-24**

**Govt. of Bihar**  
**Rural Works Department**  
**NIT Corrigendum**  
**Corrigendum No. - RWD/MMGSY(AWSESH)/HQ/ET/2024-25/02**  
With reference to the published Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) No- RWD/MMGSY (AWSESH)/HQ/ET/2024-25/01 (PR No.- 001800 (RWD) 2024-25), Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) No- RWD/MMGSY (AWSESH)/HQ/ET/2024-25/02 (PR No.- 001802 (RWD) 2024-25) & Corrigendum No.-RWD/ MMGSY (AWSESH)/HQ/ ET/2024-25/01 (PR No.- 003772 (RWD) 2024-25), the earlier description as mentioned in the published Corrigendum is being now modified as per Column-3 below due to some unavoidable circumstances.

Sl. No	Earlier Description	Modified Description
1	2	3
1	Downloading of Bidding Documents From 28.06.2024 (0900 Hours) to 06.08.2024 (1500 Hours)	Downloading of Bidding Documents From 28.06.2024 (0900 Hours) to 16.08.2024 (1500 Hours)
2	Online Bid Submission Last Date On 06.08.2024 up to 1500 Hours	Online Bid Submission Last Date On 16.08.2024 up to 1500 Hours
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4	Online Bid Opening Date On 06.08.2024 up to 1530 Hours	Online Bid Opening Date On 16.08.2024 up to 1530 Hours

All other information as mentioned in the advertisement will remain unaltered. This corrigendum will be an addendum of the original NIT and applicable for the aforesaid packages only.  
This information is available on [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) also  
**(Sri Prakash)**  
**Engineer-in-Chief**  
**PR. No. 005490 (RWD) 2024-25**  
**नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।**

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**  
**भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, मोतिहारी**  
केवल ई0 निविदा पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाइट [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर  
**ई0 पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (S.B.D)**  
पुनः ई0 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0 -11 / 2024-25

क्र0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	परिमाण विपत्र की राशि (रुपये में)	अग्रघन की राशि (रुपये में)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रुपये में)	बिड प्रोसेसिंग शुल्क सेवा कर सहित	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
01	पूर्वी घम्वारण जिलान्तर्गत धौडादानो प्रखण्ड के ग्राम एकडरी मौजा एकडरी, ग्राम खेरवा मौजा खेरवा, ग्राम जुआकर मौजा जयनगर एवं ग्राम रामपुर मौजा रामपुर में कुल 04 अदद पंचायत सरकार भवनों का निर्माण कार्य (विद्युतीकरण सहित)।	12,11,16,560.00	22,11,200.00	10,000.00	As per website	12 माह
02	पूर्वी घम्वारण जिलान्तर्गत धौडादानो प्रखण्ड के ग्राम जीतपुर मौजा जीतपुर, ग्राम पुरनिया मौजा पुरनिया एवं ग्राम तीनकोनी मौजा तीनकोनी में कुल 03 अदद पंचायत सरकार भवनों का निर्माण कार्य (विद्युतीकरण सहित)।	9,08,37,420.00	18,16,800.00	10,000.00	As per website	12 माह

कार्य का विवरणी :-

- विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल, मोतिहारी
- निविदा आमंत्रण की तिथि :- दिनांक - 06 / 08 / 2024
- निविदा कामजात खारनलोड करने की प्रारंभिक एवं अंतिम तिथि :- दिनांक - 22 / 08 / 2024 से दिनांक-11 / 09 / 2024 तक।
- निविदा कामजात अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक - 12 / 09 / 2024 को 03:00 बजे अप0 तक।
- तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक - 13 / 09 / 2024 को 03:00 बजे अप0
- वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- तकनीकी बिड मूल्यांकन के पश्चात्।
- निविदा (परिमाण विपत्र) विक्री, प्राप्ति एवं खोलने का स्थान :- वेबसाइट ([www.eproc2bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2bihar.gov.in))
- प्रिबीड मितिग की तिथि समय एवं स्थान :- दिनांक - 30 / 08 / 2024 को 03:00 बजे अप0 अधीक्षण अभियंता, भवन अंचल, मोतिहारी का कार्यालय
- निविदा वेवता की तिथि :- 120 दिन।

**विस्तृत जानकारी [state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।**  
**कार्यपालक अभियंता**  
**भवन प्रमंडल, मोतिहारी**  
**PR- 005539 (BCD) 2024-25**  
**नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।**

**विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय, मध्यप्रदेश भोपाल**  
क्रमांक-विशा/स्टर/2024-25(299), दिनांक-06/08/2024  
**निविदा सूचना का शुद्धि पत्र (CORRIGENDUM)**  
विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय की निविदा सूचना क्रमांक SB/Store/2024-25 (207), Bhopal, Dated 19-06-2024 द्वारा Monocular & Other 3 Items के क्रय हेतु ई-निविदा सूचना जारी की गई है। उपरोक्त आमंत्रित निविदा के माध्यम से क्रय किये जाने वाले उपकरणों में से उपकरण Long Range UAV के समय-सारणी में "आंशिक संशोधन" के संबंध में "शुद्धि पत्र" (Corrigendum) जारी किया गया है जो [website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/aap](https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/aap) पर तथा विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.mppolice.gov.in](http://www.mppolice.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।  
उप पुलिस महानिरीक्षक, गुप्तवार्ता, म.प्र. भोपाल  
दूरभाष क्र. 0755-2443654  
Email: sec25-sb@mppolice.gov.in  
G-14660/24

**Govt. of Bihar**  
**Rural Works Department**  
**NIT Corrigendum**  
**Corrigendum No. - RWD/MMGSY (NDB)/HQ/ET/02/2024-25**  
With reference to the published Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) No-RWD/MMGSY (NDB)/HQ/ET/01/2024-25 (PR No.- 001752 (RWD) 2024-25) & Corrigendum No.-RWD/MMGSY (NDB)/HQ/ET/01/2024-25 (PR No.- 003778 (RWD) 2024-25), the earlier description as mentioned in the published Corrigendum is being now modified as per Column-3 below due to some unavoidable circumstances.

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This information is available on [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) also  
**(Sri Prakash)**  
**Engineer-in-Chief**  
**PR. No. 005489 (RWD) 2024-25**  
**नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।**

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय**  
**ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, कोडरमा**  
**ई-निविदा सूचना**  
**ई-निविदा संख्या:- 08/RIII/2023-24/RWD/EE/KODERMA** दिनांक :-**07.08.2024**  
कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, कोडरमा द्वारा निम्न विवरण के अनुसार e-procurement पद्धति से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र0 सं0	आईडेन्टीफिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रुपये में) अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेन्डर कोल
1.	RWD/KODERMA/12/STPKG/02/2023-24	(i) हीरोडीह फाटक से लाराबाद भागा कन्वर्पडीह तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.900 कि0मी0) (ii) T01 से बेहराडीह तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.350 कि0मी0) (iii) कडाडीह आर0डीह0डीह रोड से महुआटांड भागा गोदखर तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.000 कि0मी0) (iv) एन0एच0-31 जामुवाडी से ट्राय हाई स्कूल भागा कोटवारडीह तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.700 कि0मी0) (v) भोण्डो पी0डब्ल्यू0डीह रोड से घुट्टीटांड तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.200 कि0मी0) (vi) कांटी से मुंठिया तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.000 कि0मी0) (vii) घन्ववासा कुलदीप स्वर्णकार से घर से गौरी नदी तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-1.700 कि0मी0) (viii) धाम पी0डब्ल्यू0डीह रोड से धाम मंदिर भागा पुर्नाडीह तक पथ का सुदुडीकरण कार्य। (लं0-4.000 कि0मी0)	13,31,28,900/-	तेरह करोड एकतीस लाख अठारस हजार नौ सौ रू0 मात्र	15 (पन्द्रह) माह	चतुर्थ

- वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :-10.08.2024
- ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :-24.08.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।
- निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :-27.08.2024 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे।
- निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता:- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, कोडरमा झारखण्ड, पिन- 825410
- ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं0- 8709561933/06534-297102
- परिमाण विपत्र की राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है तदनुसार अग्रघन की राशि देय होगी।
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार होगी।
- निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि का ई-शुल्क मुगतान जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रघन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।  
विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट [jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in) में देखा जा सकता है।  
ह0/- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमंडल, कोडरमा।  
**PR.NO.332132 Rural Work Department(24-25):D**

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**WHERE & WHEN**

HYDERABAD	VIJAYAWADA	BENGALURU	COIMBATORE	CHENNAI	KOCHI	DELHI
Taj Vivanta, Hyderabad, Begumpet Aug 15, 2024	Taj Vivanta, Vijayawada Aug 17, 2024	Christ University Central Campus & Kengeri Campus Aug 19 & 20, 2024	Taj Vivanta & Kumaraguru College of Technology Aug 22 & 23, 2024	Loyola College Aug 25 & 26, 2024	Taj Vivanta, Ernakulam Aug 28, 2024	Dr. Ambedkar International Convention Centre Aug 30, 2024

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Associate Partners: HARVEST ABOARD STUDIES, HDFC CREDILA, unimon  
Forex & Travel Partner: SBI, Union Bank of India  
Regional Banking Partners: CHRIST, KUMARAGURU Institutions  
Venue Partners: Bank of Maharashtra



## Under overlords

Court ruling on aldermen shows Delhi's vulnerability to Centre's dominance

The Supreme Court of India's verdict holding that the Lieutenant Governor (L-G) of Delhi exercises independent authority while appointing aldermen to the Delhi Municipal Corporation, underscores the utter vulnerability of the elected Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi to central overlordship. The judgment by a three-judge Bench rightly relies on the letter of the law governing Centre-Delhi government relations, as well as earlier judgments that sought to strike a balance between the elected regime and the appointed administrator. The final outcome of the latest round of litigation is not surprising, given that Delhi is a Union Territory, but it raises questions about the relevance of having an elected Assembly for Delhi. The Court held that the Lt. Governor's power to appoint persons with special knowledge in municipal administration is his statutory duty, and is not one that he should exercise on the basis of advice from Delhi's Council of Ministers. The power is an exception to the constitutional provision that says the L-G is bound by the aid and advice of Delhi's Council of Ministers on all matters in the State and Concurrent Lists, except for the subjects of public order, police and land. The Court has rejected the Delhi government's argument that municipal administration, being a State subject, the L-G could not have acted on his own.

Tracing the nature of the appointing power to the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957, as amended in 1993, a law enacted by Parliament, the Court noted that the Act identifies different authorities, each with distinct roles. While the Administrator was empowered to nominate 10 persons with special knowledge, the Speaker could nominate some legislators to serve on the Corporation by rotation. And that this showed that it was an independent statutory power. A Constitution Bench had sought in 2018 to lay down a framework to avoid escalation of issues arising from differences of opinion between the L-G and the Chief Minister. Such differences, as well as political acrimony between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party at the Centre and the Aam Aadmi Party in Delhi, have been the principal driving force behind multiple conflicts and legal tussles over governing Delhi. However, in the ultimate analysis, it is the Centre that enjoys the final say. As the latest verdict on aldermen shows, the Constitution allows Parliament power to enact laws in respect of any matter on which the Delhi Assembly has jurisdiction, unlike other States which have an exclusive legislative domain. Parliament can also amend or supersede any law made by the Delhi Assembly. As legislative and executive powers are coextensive, this effectively means that the Delhi government can be undermined in any way the Centre wants.

## A case of excesses

Puja Khedkar's entry in civil service calls into question the recruitment process

Even one egregious violation of the rule can cast shade on the entire process. In what has emerged as the outlandish tale of Puja Khedkar, the multiple methods by which she stepped outside the law would be fantastic, if they had not been proven true. However, having pulled wool over the eyes of the entire Union Public Service Commission recruitment infrastructure, by conniving and scheming, it is a scene too chilling for comfort. She claimed mental illness, and visual impairment, faked a community certificate, used a disability certificate to get chosen, having scored a rank that would have otherwise put her out of the reckoning. Meanwhile, the hospital in Pune which issued her a disability certificate said it had certified a 7% locomotor disability and that would have been practically useless in gaining concessions, as a higher degree of disability was required to benefit. Considering how persons with a true disability must jump through hoops to merely get the disability certification, her ease of getting the certificate while faking disability, raises the question: are some more equal than others? She milked the privilege stemming from her father's position in the civil services to commandeer a series of benefits that she might have otherwise had no access to. Contributing to her infamy is her fabricated OBC certificate; using multiple identities to write the tests, claiming falsely that her parents were divorced to overcome the creamy layer exclusion criteria. The scarier fact is that none of this would have come to light had Khedkar not indulged flamboyantly in perks not assigned to her station as a probationer — she installed a beacon on her private luxury sedan and illegally stuck a Maharashtra government sticker on it. She will soon receive an order cancelling her candidature.

It has admittedly not been a good year for qualification examinations in the country, with controversies dogging medical admissions with NEET UG, NEET PG and the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) for admission into central universities. There is no merit in arguing that she might be just one aberration, because her excesses and those of her parents' have happened as the UPSC remained completely oblivious and unable to detect fraud. This is not excusable. The government now needs to ensure that the entire competitive examination system receives a thorough overhaul. Administrators and systems must not be gullible or unequipped to meet new challenges thrown up by contestants and emerging technology. Meanwhile, with this incident as the peg, the government must cast its eye on the disability certification process, making sure that genuine applicants are fairly dealt with.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's unceremonious exit from power and the country has been too sudden and swift. Many are still trying to comprehend how the "Iron Lady", seemingly in complete control until the student movement intensified, could be compelled to step down and even leave Bangladesh. Not that her leaving the country has cooled tempers. Far from it. Bangladesh has descended into chaos and mindless bloodletting, driven by a wild urge for vendetta. Ms. Hasina's partymen, religious minorities, policemen and border guards have been targeted, leaving dozens dead and hundreds injured, not to speak of the huge loss of property. The most worrying part is the systematic attacks on police stations and the looting of weapons by elements believed to be religious radicals.

There is a strange repeat of history for Sheikh Hasina. In August 1975, with almost her entire family, including her great father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, dead in a bloody coup, Sheikh Hasina and sister Rehana had to seek shelter in India. That was made possible on the personal intervention of then Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who shared a great personal bond with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The only difference is that in 1975, Ms. Hasina was a housewife and a daughter of a great leader who had led his people to freedom. But now, Ms. Hasina has been one of the world's longest serving women leaders, having served four full five-year terms as Prime Minister.

### Development but also a disconnect

One could easily blame her predicament on stars and dwell on astrological calculations, but Ms. Hasina's fall has happened because of a growing disconnect with the masses — the undoing of many leaders who swing towards authoritarian governance. Ms. Hasina has presided over a decade of exceptional economic turnaround for Bangladesh when the country's per capita income surged past India's and there was a huge boost in infrastructure — ports, roads, railway expansion and power generation. The country's human development indicators also showed marked improvement, specially in areas such as women's education and health. Bangladesh was close to becoming the world's top garment exporter and remittance incomes surged as the diaspora, hopeful of the country's future, sent more money back home.

The iconic 6.15 kilometre bridge on the mighty Padma river, which Ms. Hasina pushed through



**Subir Bhaumik**

a veteran BBC journalist and author. He has served as Senior Editor in the Dhaka-based bdnews24.com)

Sheikh Hasina presided over the country's exceptional economic turnaround but paid a heavy price for losing the mass connect that once propelled her to high office

with Bangladesh's own funds, was completed in her time, raising hope of greater connectivity with 21 districts and a boost to the country's GDP. At one point, Ms. Hasina came to believe that if she delivered on development, she could get away with the country's growing democracy deficit.

Her detractors blame her for three less than fair elections marred by large-scale rigging that did not reflect the ground realities in Bangladesh. She was also accused of turning Bangladesh into an one-party police state like Hosni Mubarak's Egypt, where extra-judicial killings, enforced disappearances and the muzzling of the Opposition by large-scale arrests, often on trumped-up charges, became a recurring feature. In a way, this democracy deficit affected the Awami League more than the Opposition. With victory in elections a foregone conclusion, the Awami League had lost the urge to spot and promote popular leaders with a strong mass connect, who were capable of holding the ground in any crisis such as the one presented by the recent anti-quota student protests.

### Awami League's transformation, politics

In fact, during the last decade, the Awami League's leadership character underwent a massive transformation. Once the party of the poor and the middle class, the Awami League was led by ideologically-driven middle-class leaders respected at the grassroots — teachers, professionals and lawyers. But in the last decade, businesspersons had begun to muscle their way into the party leadership, bribing their way to secure nominations for Parliament seats. They had very little connect with the grassroots let alone the party's own organisation. The only way they could win elections after securing nominations through doubtful means was to grease the palms of the police and civil bureaucracy and hire musclemen to help rig the elections.

Many of these businessmen-turned-politicians also sullied the party's image with their nexus to organised crime and corruption.

All this while, Sheikh Hasina also came to repose lesser trust in the party old guard and turned more and more towards some of these business tycoons. One of the worst bank defaulters of the country, also accused of large-scale money-laundering, was inducted into the Prime Minister's council of advisers. He became such an independent power centre that many began to call him the 'deputy PM'.

# A closer look at beefing up Jammu's counter-terror grid

For the last couple of years, the Jammu region has been in the news for all the wrong reasons, and more so over the last few months. Security forces have suffered irreparable losses in their pursuit of terrorists who are active — this includes freshly infiltrated cadres — and, as usual, backed by Pakistan. One of the major factors that emerged as the attribute was the weakened counter-terrorism grid resulting from troops from the Jammu region being re-deployed on the Line of Actual Control (LAC), following the Galwan incident of June 2020. In order to tide over this particular challenge, additional troops, to include Special Forces teams, have been inducted in the region to fill the void. This daily had a report on this, titled "Around 3,000 Army troops, 500 special forces inducted into Jammu area", July 19, 2024).

Recently, news of Assam Rifles troops being inducted in the Jammu region to strengthen the counter-terror operations in the region has been reported by various news agencies, electronic and print. This daily had a report on this too — "CRPF to replace two battalions of Assam Rifles in Manipur; Kuki-Zo groups oppose the move", August 1, 2024). These reports, obviously and correctly so, highlight the seriousness on the part of the government *vis-à-vis* the increasingly deteriorating security scenario in the entire Jammu region, from Kathua to Poonch and also the Chenab valley comprising Doda and the adjoining sub-regions. However, there are several connotations to inducting troops from outside the region towards beefing up the counter-terrorism grid.

### Establishing a grid

A counter-terror deployment grid entails units and sub-units deployed in a manner to dominate the likely vulnerable areas that have the potential to offer terrorists freedom of movement. The establishment of a grid is based on threat perceptions carried out by the Army based on factors such as terrain, vulnerable areas, and



**Colonel Shashank Ranjan**

a retired Infantry officer with substantial experience of having operated in counter-terror operations in the Jammu region to include command of a Rashtriya Rifles battalion. He teaches at O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat, Haryana

There are several connotations to inducting troops from outside the region, but the message is clear — there is a seriousness to handling the security scenario

even inclination of the local population, i.e., whether the population is supportive or otherwise. The sub-units, having been deployed as part of the grid, embark on the mission of hunting for terrorists by undertaking tactical operations based on psychological aspects such as people friendliness.

The knowledge of the terrain and winning the hearts and the minds of the people form the basis of operations mentioned above. Given the nature of the tasks at hand, the entire process is well thought through, deliberate and time consuming. Sub-unit commanders gain the confidence of the people by their operational conduct so as to get the local population on their side with the eventual aim of gaining information on terrorists who may be active in the area.

### The challenges

As per the classical teaching of counter-insurgency/counter-terrorism, the local population is seen divided into three sub-sets. One minority sub-set each that supports the state and the terrorists, respectively, and a majority that is, by and large, neutral. The success of security forces depends on sustaining the support of the minority that they already have and winning over the neutral majority, thereby winning over two-thirds of the local population. The Indian Army has been combating insurgencies/terrorism based on operations by Infantry or Rashtriya Rifles units, deployed in a grid. The deployed grid in the hinterland supports the counter-infiltration deployment on the Line of Control, forming multi-tiered arrangements.

In the context of additional troops being inducted, it is noted that the newly-inducted troops shall have a challenging task at hand to orient themselves and settle down in the respective area of responsibility. In doing so, one has the inescapable requirements of knowing the area, knowing the local population and, most importantly, winning them over. It is much more

Bangladesh's economic growth was adversely impacted by this burgeoning corruption and badly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Unemployment soared dangerously, with 30 million now jobless in a population of 170 million. Foreign exchange reserves have fallen by 44% in three years, raising apprehensions of Bangladesh's capacity to pay back loans taken from multilateral organisations. The value of the Bangladesh Taka has dropped 28% this year. Spiralling inflation and price rise, often attributed to the growth of ruling party-backed extortion syndicates who fleece businesses, turned the country into a boiling cauldron waiting for a trigger to light up.

### A mishandling

That happened with the anti-quota protests and its mishandling by Ms. Hasina and her inner coterie. On June 5, the High Court upheld the quotas in government jobs, triggering furious student protests who wanted them abolished to pave the way for a merit-based system. Ms. Hasina's government had agreed to scrap the quotas in government jobs (56% in all, 30% for descendants of 1971 freedom fighters) during the 2018 student agitation but a case was filed challenging the government's decision. All that Ms. Hasina had to do was to bring the student leaders to the table and assure them of challenging the High Court's decision in the Supreme Court, which her government ultimately did.

Instead, she initially ignored the protests. Then, a comment of hers upset the students when she said: "If not for descendants of freedom fighters, should we create quotas for those of Razakars". Razakar is a derogatory word in Bangladesh, denoting those who backed the Pakistan Army's suppression campaign during the 1971 Liberation War. As the movement intensified, Ms. Hasina resorted to a brutal crackdown by the police and her own student wing, the Chhatra League. That proved counterproductive and the situation spun out of control. In the end, Ms. Hasina paid a heavy price for her arrogance of power, for losing the mass connect that had once propelled her to high office. It is no mean feat for a traditional housewife to take on her father's mantle after the assassination of almost her entire family and bring to power a party that had been badly demoralised by a bloody 1975 coup. But, in the end, the loss of that mass connect proved to be her undoing.

than merely the mathematics of having an accretion. These challenges, to a certain extent, could be mitigated if the newly-inducted troops are superimposed on the already deployed units and sub-units rather than being deployed in an independent manner. As far as possible, the new body of troops in an area should be deployed as sub-units under the respective leaders, and not in a piecemeal manner aimed at numerical increase.

### Operation Dudhi

Lastly, *vis-à-vis* the Assam Rifles unit that is likely to be deployed, and as reported in recent media reports, it is not the first time that Assam Rifles units are being inducted in Jammu and Kashmir. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Assam Rifles units were deployed in the Valley and had performed gallantly as integral units. The successful Operation Dudhi, in May 1991, in the general area of Chowkibal by 7 Assam Rifles is still remembered as one of the most successful operations.

The hallmark of Operation Dudhi was that this was mainly conducted under the commanding officer of the battalion with his sub-units playing the major role. The major lessons that emerge are that commanding officers need to be trusted and allowed to control and conduct operations. However, of late, due to the relatively decreasing intensity of operations, any developing operation these days tends to go into the control of command beyond the battalion level, thus adversely affecting seamless control.

In a nutshell, an additional unit inducted needs to be deployed and tasked as an integral body of troops and must be allowed sufficient time to gain control in the new area, supported by the existing command structure of brigades/sectors — against a mathematical distribution and deployment that is bound to be counter productive. It has to be realised that the security forces are in this for a long haul, and expecting snap outcomes will be detrimental in all respects.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Bangladesh, the lessons

Without wanting to blame the present regime, many lessons have to be learned from the unfortunate turn of events in Bangladesh. Democracy does not end with elections; it starts at this point. There should be an element of inclusiveness in one's functioning. Depriving a section of society is not democracy. In Bangladesh, a section of the students was kept out when they were unemployed, which created intolerance. All sections of society, including the Opposition

parties, should be taken into confidence. Draconian pieces of legislation should be repealed. They are anachronistic and have no place in a functioning democracy. There should be a larger space for dissent. The events in Bangladesh are relevant for our thinking. These are all sombre lessons that would lead towards a better democracy. They should not be only the concern of the External Affairs Ministry and the Home Ministry. **N.G.R. Prasad**, Chennai

### Torturous path

It is very hard to visualise the kind of agony Indian woman wrestler Vinesh Phogat must be undergoing now. But I was shocked to learn about the self-inflicted torture athletes undertake in their quest to victory, orchestrated by the accompanying team.

**R. Ramani**, Chennai

### Bank's mobile app

I write this letter as the Assistant General Manager, Corporate Communications Department, Indian Bank,

at its corporate office in Chennai. In response to a letter by a reader on the bank's apps, 'IndSMART' and 'IndOASIS' ('Letters to the Editor', *The Hindu*, August 5), Indian Bank would like to assure its customers that it takes their concerns seriously — as expressed in the letter. The new mobile app, 'IndSMART', is an advanced version of the 'IndOASIS' app. Customers are being notified through SMS, WhatsApp, and the bank's social media channels, requesting them to switch

to and explore the features in the app. A pop up message has been placed in the existing 'IndOASIS' app to prompt an upgrade to the 'IndSMART' app by downloading it from the Playstore/App store. The bank's call centre team has been reaching out to customers, and there has been a positive response. The 'IndOASIS' app remains active. The facility for registration with 'IndSMART' is available through CIF and is enabled at the bank's branches, ensuring the safety and convenience of

customers. The option of self-registration will also be enabled shortly. The bank looks forward to feedback. The bank would also like to assure its customers that it will continue to keep them informed about new functionalities or improvements made to the app that will enhance their banking experience.

**Pavan Kumar Saxena**, Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

# Court shifts the tide on stray dog policy

Under all circumstances, there cannot be any indiscriminate killings of canines and the authorities have to take action in terms of the mandate and spirit of the prevalent legislations in place."

With this single line, the Supreme Court of India brought to an end a 15-year-old case titled *Animal Welfare Board of India & Anr Versus People for Elimination of Stray Troubles & Ors*, also known as the All India Stray Dogs case or *AWBI vs PEST*. The last hearing was held on May 9 this year when the judgment was reserved. Since then, all dog lovers (and regrettably, all dog haters) have been waiting with bated breath for the final judgment. That judgment came out on July 12 and has been cheered in some circles and criticised in others.

The case centred on whether municipal and local authorities can wantonly kill stray dogs to reduce the stray dog population, eradicate rabies, and prevent man-animal conflict, or whether local bodies must follow the World Health Organization (WHO)-backed scientific approach of sterilisation, which achieves these objectives.

Legally speaking, the matter was framed as a battle of supremacy between State and Municipal laws, which authorise the killing of stray dogs (euphemistically referred to as culling) as opposed to the Central law (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCA) Act, 1960, and the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2001), which mandates that killing is strictly prohibited and, the only recourse is the scientific solution of sterilisation.

**Final mandate**  
These State and Municipal laws permitting the killing of stray dogs were challenged in various High Courts. The High Courts of Bombay, Karnataka, and Himachal Pradesh ruled that local authorities have discretionary powers to kill stray dogs and are



**Percival Billimoria**

Senior Advocate and founder of All Creatures Great and Small Animal Sanctuary



**Siddhartha K Garg**

Advocate and founder of Angel Trust Animal Rights NGO

We must eschew unscientific and barbaric methods such as the killing of stray dogs in favour of the scientific approach, which is a win-win for everyone

not bound by the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. On the other hand, the Kerala High Court ruled that local bodies possess no such discretionary powers, and, that they are guided by Central law, which penalises cruelty to animals, specifically canines. All these judgments were appealed and came to a head in the Supreme Court, which then issued notices to all the States and Union Territories in 2015, taking the case to a pan-India level.

The denouement of this case was reached when the final order was uploaded on the Supreme Court's website. The Supreme Court laid down that since the inception of the case, a lot of water has flown under the bridge and, specifically, there has been a change in the legislative landscape with the notification of the new ABC Rules, 2023 under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960. These two pieces of legislation mandate that wanton killing by municipalities is prohibited and that sterilisation must be followed. The Supreme Court then stated that any parties with issues regarding these new laws can challenge them in the relevant High Courts. In the meantime, the governing law of the land remains the Central law (PCA Act 1960 and ABC Rules, 2023), which prohibits the killing of stray dogs by local authorities or municipalities.

**'Duty of every citizen'**  
The court then capped off this judgment with these stirring lines: "Compassion to all living beings, is the enshrined Constitutional value and mandate, and cast obligation on the authorities to maintain." This refers to Article 51A(g) of the Constitution of India, which deals with the fundamental duties of the citizens and states: "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures."

With such a positive and

compassionate conclusion to a very scientifically backed judgment, the Supreme Court ended this matter. The dog haters, or to put it politely the cynophobes, can certainly go to the High Courts and file writ petitions praying for the striking down of the new Central Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023. But the question is what good would that do? Is killing all the stray dogs the panacea that we are promised to deliver us from all evils? Science certainly does not back the claim that killing helps reduce the population.

WHO's Expert Consultation on Rabies, which met in Geneva in October 2004, in its technical report endorses the sterilisation programme by stating that it is the only effective and humane method of controlling stray dog populations.

A 2014 report commissioned by the Bombay Municipal Corporation stated that sterilisation is the only scientific humane solution. The same corporation in a 1994 circular admitted that killing strays does not affect the population.

In this circular, the Bombay Municipality admitted to killing about 4.5 lakh stray dogs between 1984 and 1994 and spent more than ₹2 crore. But what takes the cake is that, despite no evidence to prove the efficacy of killing and evidence to the contrary, the same Bombay Municipal Corporation approached the Supreme Court seeking permission to kill stray dogs in this case.

One can only hope that the spirit of scientific temper and humanism, as enshrined in the fundamental duty in our Constitution under Article 51A(h), imbues itself in the minds of our citizens.

We must eschew unscientific and barbaric methods such as the killing of stray dogs in favour of the scientific approach, which is a win-win for everyone. We domesticated stray dogs around 10,000 years ago and let us not let them or ourselves down.

# A call for transparency and reform

Chief Minister criticises the A.P. excise policy, calling it the biggest scam

## STATE OF PLAY

**Sambasiva Rao. M**  
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The recent white paper on the excise policy of Andhra Pradesh, presented by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu highlights a plethora of issues that have allegedly arisen under the previous Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy administration between 2019-24.

The document revealed numerous flaws and inconsistencies leading to significant economic and social repercussions. While terming it the 'biggest scam', Mr. Naidu announced that the government would order a thorough probe by the Andhra Pradesh Crime Investigation Department and refer it to the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

The white paper starts by detailing the promises made by Mr. Jagan during his 2019 general election campaign regarding the reduction of liquor outlets and a phased approach to limiting sales to five-star hotels. However, the reality starkly contrasts these promises.

The assumption that increasing liquor prices would reduce consumption and improve the quality of life is another flawed aspect of the policy. Despite frequent price hikes, this assumption was not properly analysed, leading to increased crime rates, black marketing, and bootlegging, Mr. Naidu informed.

The white paper outlines several orders that introduced various tax rates and changes, creating market instability and confusion. For instance, the levy of the Additional Retail Excise Tax in 2019 and subsequent modifications led to an increase in smuggling and illicit liquor distillation. The sig-



nificant difference in liquor prices between Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring States exacerbated these issues.

The Special Enforcement Bureau, created to control illegal liquor activities, failed to achieve its objectives. Despite the restructuring efforts, the lack of coordination among authorities led to confusion and poor performance.

The policy's economic impact has been severe, with significant revenue gaps compared to neighbouring States. In Telangana, the gap amounted to ₹42,762.15 crore for 2019-24 and ₹4,186.70 crore for 2014-19. This gap indicates a severe loss of potential revenue. In addition, the revenue foregone was estimated as ₹18,860 crore for 2019-24. The revenue loss is attributed to the policy's failure to curb illegal liquor production and smuggling, as well as the mismanagement of the liquor market.

The decline in Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) sales volumes further illustrates the policy's failure. The IMFL sale volume gap with Telangana for 2019-24 was minus 324.96 lakh cases, contrast to the positive gap of 131.41 lakh cases for 2014-19.

The white paper also exposes a disturbing trend of preferential treatment and alleged corruption. The manual and discretionary procurement procedures have led to the monopolisation of the liquor supply chain by local entities. Ma-

for multinational companies and national brands have faced discrimination, with their market shares plummeting from 53.21% in 2018-19 to just 5.25% in 2023-24. In contrast, local suppliers saw a significant increase in their market share, raising questions about the integrity and fairness of the procurement process.

The removal of low-priced liquor brands, which served the low-income sections of the population, is another issue.

Mr. Jagan responded to the allegations by explaining that his policy aimed to protect consumer health by increasing prices and reducing sales volume. He also maintained that the YSRCP government, in the past five years, did not introduce a single distillery, adding that Mr. Naidu, during his 14 years previous tenure, permitted 14 out of around 20 distilleries. He also said that his government did not allow any belt shops (unauthorised shops), which existed till 2019, and ensured that liquor was sold only by the government outlets. Regarding the change in the low-priced brands, he said that all brands were provided by the same distilleries, and they changed the brand names to attract the consumers.

The white paper on excise policy highlights the need for urgent reform and proper inquiry into the alleged scam. To restore public trust and ensure the policy's success, the State government must commit to transparency and consistency in policy formulation and implementation. They should also conduct thorough economic and social impact analyses before introducing new policies and eliminate manual and discretionary procurement procedures in favour of transparent, automated systems.

# Tribal vote trends reshape LS election results

Priyanka Jarkiholi's historic win in Chikkodi shows a broader trend in the 2024 Lok Sabha election, where tribal votes shifted significantly

## DATA POINT

**Sanjay Kumar, Vibha Attri and Jyoti Mishra**

Priyanka Jarkiholi, a tribal woman, made history in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Not only did she win as a Congress candidate from the unreserved Chikkodi Lok Sabha seat in the Belgavi district in Karnataka, but she also became one of the youngest parliamentarians in India. She secured 51.2% of the votes, defeating the incumbent MP and BJP candidate, Annasaheb Jolle by a margin of a little more than seven per cent votes (Actual vote count).

Chikkodi is a non-reserved seat with a tribal population of only five per cent, about 15% Dalit population, and nearly 10% Muslim voters. The constituency has a large proportion of OBC and upper caste voters. In a constituency with such demographics, securing 51% votes for a candidate from a tribal community especially – a woman – against a candidate from the dominant Lingayat community is a remarkable achievement. The votes polled by Ms. Jarkiholi indicate that she garnered significant support from a broad cross-section of communities, not just the Adivasi community.

Several prominent tribal leaders were elected to the 18th Lok Sabha, including Javantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor from Dahod in Gujarat, Parbhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava, from Bardoli Lok Sabha constituency in Gujarat, Faggan Singh Kulaste from Mandla Lok Sabha constituency in Madhya Pradesh, Jual Oram from Sundargarh Lok Sabha seat in Odisha and Murari Lal Meena from Dausa Lok Sabha seat in Rajasthan. These MPs, representing various States and parties, were elected from ST reserved constituencies. Against this backdrop, it is important to analyse the tribal factor in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. Did the tribal vote overwhelmingly in favour of one party,

or was it more fragmented across different parties?

Out of 47 Lok Sabha seats reserved for tribals, the BJP won 25 seats, six seats less compared to 2019. Its vote share remained more or less the same, i.e. 42.6% in the 2019 and 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Meanwhile, the Congress gained both in terms of votes and seats compared to the 2019 Lok Sabha election. The Congress polled 30.1% votes in 2024, nearly 1.5 points higher compared to its vote share in 2019. Compared to its tally of four ST reserved seats in 2019, the Congress won 12 ST reserved seats in 2024. These gains came at the expense of the BJP, which lost six seats, and other regional parties which altogether lost five of the ST reserved seats (Table 1).

The Congress indeed made gains among ST reserved seats both in terms of seats and votes, but these gains were not uniform across all States. In some States, the Congress received more votes amongst tribal voters compared to its rivals, but in others, it was less popular among tribal voters.

Findings from the post-poll Survey conducted by CSDS-Lokniti indicate, that tribal votes were largely in favour of the Congress in States like J&K, Goa, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh. In several States, tribal votes were evenly split between the Congress and the BJP. For example, in Gujarat, both parties received 49% of the tribal votes, and the same was the case in Uttarakhand and Jharkhand. However, in States like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and West Bengal, the tribal vote was tilted in favour of the BJP, and, in Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, there was significant support for the BJP amongst the tribal voters (Table 3).

Sanjay Kumar is Professor and co-director, CSDS-Lokniti  
Vibha Attri and Jyoti Mishra are researchers at CSDS-Lokniti

## Breaking down the ST vote

Tables 1 and 2 are based on election results from the Election Commission. Table 3 is based on the national election study 2024 conducted by the CSDS-Lokniti



**Table 1:** The table shows the performance of different parties in ST reserved constituencies

Election Year	Congress		UPA		BJP		NDA		Others	
	Won	Vote(%)	Won	Vote(%)	Won	Vote(%)	Won	Vote(%)	Won	Vote(%)
2014	5	27.5	7	31	27	36.4	27	38.5	13	30.5
2019	4	28.7	5	32.5	31	42.7	32	44.7	10	22.8
2024	12	30.1	16	35.1	25	42.6	26	44.8	5	20.1

■ Of the 47 Lok Sabha seats reserved for the STs, the BJP won 25 seats which is 6 seats less compared to its tally of ST reserved seats in 2019

**Table 2:** The table shows the performance of alliances in ST reserved constituencies across regions

Region	Year	INDIA		NDA		Other	
		Won	Vote %	Won	Vote %	Won	Vote %
East	2014	2	44.7%	1	20.71%	4	34.6%
	2019	1	30.36%	4	39.9%	2	29.74%
	2024	2	31.19%	5	40.95%	0	27.86%
Hindi heartland	2014	2	37.8%	16	49.42%	0	12.79%
	2019	3	41.11%	15	50.56%	0	8.33%
	2024	7	45.55%	11	47.36%	0	7.09%
North east	2014	5	42.16%	1	19.06%	1	38.78%
	2019	1	27.45%	4	34.89%	2	37.65%
	2024	2	27.52%	3	38.78%	2	33.71%
West	2014	0	36.13%	9	54.17%	0	9.7%
	2019	0	32.82%	8	53.03%	1	14.14%
	2024	3	40.94%	6	50.27%	0	8.79%
South	2014	2	30.98%	1	33.73%	3	35.29%
	2019	1	32.27%	3	35.94%	2	31.79%
	2024	4	43.38%	1	37.27%	1	19.36%

■ Several prominent tribal leaders have been elected to the 18th Lok Sabha including Javantsinh Bhabhor from Dahod in Gujarat, Parbhubhai Vasava from Bardoli Lok Sabha constituency in Gujarat, Faggan Singh Kulaste from Mandla Lok Sabha constituency in Madhya Pradesh, and Jual Oram from Sundargarh Lok Sabha seat in Odisha

**Table 3:** The table shows how tribal voters voted in 2024 Lok Sabha election

State	Proportion of tribal population	INDIA	NDA	Others
Andhra Pradesh	7%	3%	56%	41%
Assam	12.5%	24%	51%	24%
Goa	10.1%	51%	45%	4%
Gujarat	14.8%	49%	49%	2%
Jammu and Kashmir	12%	76%	17%	7%
Karnataka	7%	46%	54%	0%
Madhya Pradesh	21.1%	24%	71%	5%
Maharashtra	9.4%	61%	29%	10%
Odisha	22.9%	23%	40%	37%
Rajasthan	13.5%	39%	48%	13%
West Bengal	6%	2%	63%	29%
Jharkhand	27%	36%	38%	26%
Chhattisgarh	31%	59%	40%	1%
Uttarakhand	3%	50%	50%	0%

■ Post poll survey findings indicate that tribal votes were largely in favour of the Congress in States like J&K, Goa, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

The *Hindu*

FIFTY YEARS AGO AUGUST 8, 1974

## Paper distribution: Govt's approach

New Delhi, August 7: The government will regulate the use of white printing paper by newspapers and evolve a policy of rational distribution of paper to printers and publishers shortly.

This assurance was given to the Rajya Sabha to-day by the Industrial Development Minister, Mr. C. Subramaniam, during the discussion on a calling attention motion on the acute shortage of paper and its soaring prices.

The Government could not impose a ban on the use of white printing paper by newspapers because of certain legal problems. But some sort of control on the use of white printing paper by newspapers was being examined, the Minister said.

Mr. Subramaniam hoped that hoarding and blackmarketing in white printing paper would end after a rational distribution system was introduced. He said the price of white printing paper fixed at Rs 2,750 a tonne would be maintained. As for prices of other varieties of paper, a study of the cost of production in the paper industry was being made, he added.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, has written to all Central Ministries to economise the use of paper because of the current shortage, Mr. Subramaniam said. All Ministries were now trying to ensure that the minimum amount of white printing paper was used.

Mr. Subramaniam said about 30, 000 tonnes of paper for the educational sector has been allotted to the States in the past two months. He said the Government had now asked the paper industry to manufacture two lakh tonnes of white printing paper for distribution to the educational sector and the Government.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO AUGUST 8, 1924

## Earthquakes in Kenya.

Nairobi, August 7: Earth tremors felt in Kenya became severe shocks in the northern districts of Samburu and Turkana, where natives report a large meteor has fallen. Tribesmen are bringing cattle to the south for water because the convulsion split the Turkana and Suguta rivers at their juncture into three extensive gullies. Water in each is now hot and undrinkable. The convulsion also filled the neighbouring ravine with hot boulders.

# Text & Context

THE HINDU

## NEWS IN NUMBERS

**Number of persons that died while cleaning sewers**

**453** These many people died while cleaning sewers and septic tanks since 2014 even as 732 of India's 766 districts declared themselves free from manual scavenging, the Union Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry said. PTI

**Average time taken for insolvency resolution process at NCLT**

**716** days. This was higher than the 654 days recorded in 2022-23, according to official data about the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT). The stipulated resolution time for a case is 330 days, including litigations. PTI

**Number of money laundering cases registered by ED**

**5,297** Under money laundering cases, convictions were obtained in 40 cases and acquittal in three since 2014. A total of 375 accused are currently under arrest for the period between 2016 and 2024. PTI

**Number of Rajya Sabha seats that will go to elections**

**12** Elections to the vacant Rajya Sabha seats in nine States will be held on September 3, the Election Commission said on Wednesday. Ten Rajya Sabha seats fell vacant as some sitting members were elected to the Lok Sabha. PTI

**Applications rejected under PM cares for orphaned children**

**4,264** The government cited non-eligibility as the reason for rejection under the scheme for children orphaned during the COVID-19 pandemic. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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**Uncertain future:** Protesters climb up on a public monument as they celebrate the news of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's resignation, in Dhaka, Bangladesh, on August 5. AP

## What led to the fall of Sheikh Hasina?

Sheikh Hasina remobilised the Awami League and brought the party to power. She went on to oversee economic progress in Bangladesh, lifting millions out of poverty. But what went wrong for the most powerful Prime Minister Bangladesh has had in a generation?

### WORLD INSIGHT

Stanly Johny

Sheikh Hasina survived the carnage of August 15, 1975 by sheer chance. Ms. Hasina, who was then 28, happened to be abroad when almost all members of her family, including her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding father of Bangladesh, were killed at their residence in Dhaka by a group of Army personnel. She then spent six years in exile in India. In the late 1980s, she remobilised the Awami League (AL), Mujib's party, which played a crucial role in bringing down the military dictatorship of Muhammad Ershad in 1990. Six years later, the AL, under her leadership, defeated the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) of Khaleda Zia, and Ms. Hasina became Prime Minister for the first time. She returned to power after an interregnum in 2009.

In the subsequent 15 years, Ms. Hasina oversaw economic progress in Bangladesh. The country of 170 million people saw millions being lifted out of poverty. Her government won international praise for hosting millions of Rohingya Muslim refugees who fled violence in neighbouring Myanmar. She set up a war crimes tribunal to hold those who aided the genocide of the 1970s accountable. She also won back-to-back elections, the latest victory being in January. Still everything she built came crashing like a sandcastle on August 5. The 'iron lady' of Bangladesh had to resign and leave the country. What went wrong for the most powerful Prime Minister Bangladesh had had in a generation?

### Lack of political legitimacy

The trigger for the set of events that led to Ms. Hasina's downfall was an unpopular quota system for government jobs that was originally introduced by Mujib after the liberation of Bangladesh. More than 50% of government jobs in Bangladesh

were reserved for different sections, of which 30% were for the descendants of freedom fighters – meaning, Awami League workers. Ms. Hasina had done away with this system in 2018 after protests. In June 2024, the old system was reinstated by the Bangladesh high court. This triggered student protests, first on university campuses.

But Ms. Hasina had another problem – lack of political legitimacy for her government. In Bangladesh, the opposition and the government have historically had a hostile relationship. Ahead of the 2018 elections, Ms. Zia, the former Prime Minister and BNP chairperson, was jailed after a corruption conviction. Leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami, the radical Islamist party, were convicted and hanged by the war crimes tribunal for their role in the genocide. Opposition leaders were routinely harassed, and legal challenges were mounted against the Prime Minister's rivals. This led to the BNP, the main opposition party, boycotting back-to-back elections. Moreover, independent analysts flagged irregularities in the election process. Thus, the space for opposition politics shrank over the years.

But for large sections of Bangladesh's population, Ms. Hasina was a force of stability, who turned around the country's economy. Bangladesh witnessed sustained economic growth, showing a jump in GDP per capita and substantial improvement in social indicators. Poverty declined from 11.8% in 2010 to 5% in 2022, based on the international poverty line of \$2.15 a day, according to the World Bank.

However, the economic story faced challenges in recent years, first after the strike of COVID-19 and then the Russia-Ukraine war. GDP growth plunged to 3.4% in 2020, from 7.9% the previous year, according to the IMF. The economy, thus, is still in recovery mode. The Ukraine war led to a spike in oil and food prices. Inflation went up to 10%, and the country now has one of the highest youth unemployment rates in South Asia – at about 20%. As the economy slowed,

employment opportunities in the private sector shrank. Government jobs were seen a report of economic stability by the youth. And when the high court ordered the reinstatement of the quota system, it angered the already frustrated students. It is this anger which lit the fuse for Ms. Hasina's imminent downfall. And the opposition, which had been living under Ms. Hasina's tight grip for over 15 years, joined in.

### The iron lady's mistakes

Ms. Hasina erred in understanding the depth of the students' anger. She also miscalculated the strength of her political opponents. She called the protesters 'razakars', a derogatory term which was used to refer to those who helped Pakistani troops during the 1971 liberation war. This inflamed passions. And Ms. Hasina made the mistake which authoritarian rulers always make – bank on excessive force to quell an uprising. She unleashed both police personnel and AL activists on the protesters, who were also violent. In July, some 200 people were killed, mostly protesters, in clashes.

After the first round of protests, the Bangladesh Supreme Court scaled back the quota system, setting the reservation cap for the descendants of freedom fighters at 5%. While the students had won a major victory, they were not ready to call off the protests. On August 4, they called for another round of protests with a new demand – Sheikh Hasina should go. They also demanded accountability for the deaths of over 200 of their comrades. The AL then called for a counter-mobilisation of its members.

Dhaka, a megacity of 10 million people, was set for a major showdown. More than 100 people were killed in the ensuing violence in a single day. The government curbed access to communication networks and ordered a curfew. Students urged for more protests on August 5.

By that time it was evident that Ms. Hasina's position had been substantially weakened. The military said it would guard its constitutional obligations but won't use force against protesters.

According to a *Reuters* report, Army chief Waker-uz-Zaman, after holding a meeting with senior Generals, informed the Prime Minister the night before she quit that his soldiers would not be able to enforce the curfew she had called for. Ms. Hasina's fate was sealed.

In the afternoon on August 5, when protesters started moving towards her official residence, the Awami League leader who was in power for 15 years resigned and left the country for India.

### Chaos or order?

Ms. Hasina is the second leader in South Asia who has now been forced out of power by mass protests.

In July 2022, Sri Lanka's elected President Gotabaya Rajapaksa was forced to resign and leave the country amid massive protests triggered by an economic meltdown. The island country, however, saw an orderly political transition. The country's political class backed Ranil Wickremesinghe, a former Prime Minister, as the new President. Sri Lanka is now preparing for a Presidential election later this year, even though the country is yet to recover from the economic crisis.

But the situation in Bangladesh looks gloomier. The Army chief has announced an interim government, which is to be headed by Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus, a key demand from the students. The President has dissolved parliament. The BNP has demanded elections in three months. However, it is not clear what role the Army, which had in the past directly ruled the country, would play during the transition. The interim administration would also find it difficult to bring in order after the chaos of the past month. There are already reports of widespread violence against Hindus, Ahmedia Muslims and AL functionaries.

Bangladesh's polity stands broken. Ms. Hasina may be out of Bangladesh, but the AL still has a presence in the country. Moreover, the economic woes are looming large over the next government. Bangladesh definitely has some tough days ahead.

### THE GIST

Sheikh Hasina, in the late 1980s and early 1990s, remobilised the Awami League (AL) which played a crucial role in bringing down the military dictatorship of Muhammad Ershad in 1990.

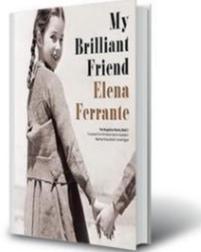
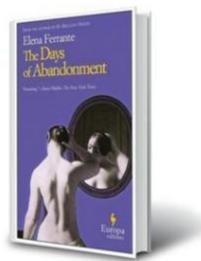
The main problem was the lack of political legitimacy for Ms. Hasina's government. In Bangladesh the opposition and the government have historically had a hostile relationship. Ahead of the 2018 elections, Ms. Zia, the former Prime Minister and BNP chairperson, was jailed after a corruption conviction.

Ms. Hasina erred in understanding the depth of the students' anger. She also miscalculated the strength of her political opponents. She called the protesters 'razakars', a derogatory term which was used to refer to those who helped Pakistani troops during the 1971 liberation war. This inflamed passions.

BIBLIOGRAPHY



Through the streets: The Quartieri Spagnoli in Naples, Italy. GETTY IMAGES



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

“Last week, you said, ‘Spelling rules are not spell-binding.’ Is the word ‘spell’ in ‘spellbinding’ related to ‘spell’ in ‘spelling’?”

“They are related and are from Old English ‘spell’ which means ‘talk’, ‘tidings’, ‘news’, ‘tale’. In the word ‘gospel’, you have the word ‘spell’. ‘Gospel’ is a combination of ‘good’ and ‘spell.’ Gospel literally means ‘good tidings’ or ‘good news’. The good news originally was that Jesus had been born. Now ‘gospel’ is used to refer to any of the first four books of the New Testament of the Bible. The Gospels deal with the life and teachings of Christ.

The Gospels are ascribed to St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John. When you want to refer to any one of the Gospels, you could either say ‘The gospel according to St. John’ or ‘St. John’s Gospel’. ‘Gospel’ is also used to mean (a) set of principles (b) something that is completely true.

*He is spreading the gospel of non-violence.*

*What she has said is absolutely true. It is the gospel truth.*

“Gospel truth” is something absolutely true.”

“So ‘gospel’ is from ‘good news’.”

“Yes.”

“But the meaning of ‘spell’ in ‘spellbinding’ is different, isn’t it?”

“I will come to that. When you spell a word, you write or name the letters of the word in correct order. ‘Spell’ also means ‘words which when spoken are thought to have a magical power.’ When a witch utters a spell in somebody’s presence, the person becomes bewitched. The person is strongly influenced by the witch. When you say that a speaker cast a spell over the audience, you mean that the speech influenced the audience most powerfully.

“You can cast a spell on someone. You can come under the spell of someone. Some more examples.

*You can’t reason with him now. He is under her spell now.*

When someone is under a spell, he/she is completely under its influence. When you are spellbound, you are enchanted, enthralled.

*It is a spellbinding book. She is a spellbinder.*

“‘Spell’ has a couple of other meanings, doesn’t it?”

“Yes. We’ll discuss them next week. Let us take up spelling.”

“When do you write ‘cede’, when do you write ‘sede’, when do you write ‘ceed’? I am often confused about the correct spelling.”

“There is only one word in English which ends in ‘sede.’ That is supersede. There are only three words that end in ‘ceed.’ They are exceed, succeed and proceed. The rest of the ‘seed’ words end in ‘cede’. Accede, concede, recede, secede, intercede. These you can easily remember. Words that end in ‘cede’, ‘ceed’ and ‘sede’ are referred to informally as ‘seed’ words as ‘cede’, ‘ceed’ and ‘sede’ are pronounced like the word ‘seed.’ Shall I proceed?”

“I’d prefer to recede from here.”

“O.K. See you next week.”

*Published in The Hindu on December 15, 1992.*

# The bewildering and bedazzling world of the ever-mysterious Elena Ferrante

Book lists, including a recent NYT compilation of the best 100 books of the 21st century, continue to serenade the anonymous Italian writer who has chronicled Naples from the 1950s onward. Her books also look at the world beyond a poor neighbourhood, taking in the changes sweeping Europe

Mini Anthikad Chhibber

We love lists for the semblance of order it gives to our messy lives. When *The New York Times* came up with the 100 Best Books of the 21st century, we pored over it, happily rediscovering gems, mourning a missing favourite and questioning what we thought was a dodgy inclusion. The top three spots are claimed by women – Hilary Mantel’s extraordinary reimagining of Thomas Cromwell’s life, *Wolf Hall*, was in the third spot, Isabel Wilkerson’s magnificently detailed account of the great migration of Black Americans, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, came in second and Elena Ferrante’s *My Brilliant Friend*, the first of her Neapolitan quartet, took the top spot.

Story of two girls

Ferrante has two other entries in the list with *The Days of Abandonment* at 92 and the heart-breaking conclusion to the Neapolitan quartet, *The Story of the Lost Child*, at 80. *My Brilliant Friend*, translated by Ann Goldstein, was published in English in 2012, a year after it was originally published in Italian. It was followed by *The Story of a New Name* and *Those Who Leave and Those Who Stay*. The novel tells the story of two girls, Lenù and Lila, growing up in a tough neighbourhood in Naples in the 1950s. The first book follows the girls from the age of six and ends with a poignant cliff hanger at Lila’s wedding at the age of 16.

*My Brilliant Friend* begins in 2010 with a 66-year-old Lenù, getting a telephone call saying Lila has literally vanished without a trace. Nothing of her remains, from her clothes, shoes, books and keepsakes to cutting herself out of every photograph.

Lenù realises this is what Lila wanted to do, had spoken of doing – erasing herself and the life she left behind. Angry, Lenù decides to write everything she remembers about Lila, which she does in four brilliant books, tracing the two girls’ lives, intertwined with the history and politics of the region.

The books are intensely confined to the impoverished neighbourhood in Naples and simultaneously also the larger world, encompassing Italy and the rest. There is the trauma of World War II, the rise of communism and radical feminism, crime, Camorra, drugs and computers as well as the softer cultural markers from photo romances and Lambrettas to Jackie Kennedy’s iconic style.

Different paths

Circumstances separate the girls, with Lenù going on to study and becoming an author, and Lila, who is frighteningly intelligent, giving up school as her parents do not think it necessary to educate her, helping her mother at home and her father in the shoe shop.

Even in the shoe shop, Lila, who after reading *Little Women*, decided to become a novelist to become rich and wrote a novel, *The Blue Fairy*, designs beautiful shoes. Though her father does not wish to make shoes – everyone prefers

factory-made shoes, he says, Lila and her brother make a pair of shoes, which is the cause of a great deal of heartache.

Though the cast of characters seem overwhelmingly large at the outset, over the course of the four novels, they become people we know very well. There is a universality of that neighbourhood where we can all recognise the uncles, aunts, bad boys and girls, the clever ones destined to succeed and the others just as surely bound to fail.

Church at the centre

The neighbourhood in Naples can easily be in Thrissur, with the church as the centre of all important transactions both material and spiritual. The care with which girls have to protect their honour and reputation, the speed with which offence is taken and violence in speech and action meted out to imagined and real slights, are all so depressingly familiar. However, in the midst of the poverty, deprivation, misogyny and casual violence, there is hope most of all in the relationship of Lenù and Lila. Though as Lenù helps Lila dress for her wedding in a heartbreakingly beautiful scene, Lila calls Lenù “her brilliant friend”, Lila is also Lenù’s brilliant friend, “dissolving margins” and all.

Lenù portrays herself as a diligent worker, while Lila is the one with the quicksilver mind. Calling her Lila while the rest of the neighbourhood calls her Lina (her name is Raffaella) shows that Lenù sees Lila differently from the neighbourhood, who look upon her as a

troublemaker and one who needs to be subdued.

Distinct voice

Lenù has a distinct voice as a chronicler telling her story, and the story of all in the neighbourhood along with Lila’s. In a way their story is the story of the neighbourhood, singular and universal. There is a fearful symmetry in the Neapolitan Quartet. Lila drops Lenù’s doll into the cellar grate, which the six-year-old Lenù is convinced is haunted by the fearsome Don Achille, and prompts Lenù to drop Lila’s doll as well. This sets the tone of the relationship between the two girls – bound by love, competition and validation. In the epilogue of *The Story of the Lost Child*, Lenù gets a package containing the two dolls completing the circle.

*My Brilliant Friend* has been made into a successful series – the fourth and final season based on *The Story of the Lost Child* is coming out on September 9. For a work of autofiction, the fact that Elena Ferrante is a pseudonym is one of never-ending fascination for pundits and plebs alike. In an age of book tours, signings and authors taking to social media to engage with their readers, Ferrante’s decision to remain anonymous is bewildering and bedazzling.

Unlike Monk’s assumption of a pseudonym in Percival Everett’s *Erasure*, which incidentally has come in at 20 in the list, Ferrante has said in an interview, “books, once they are written, have no need of their authors.”

THE DAILY QUIZ

Novak Djokovic beat Carlos Alcaraz in a thrilling Olympic final, to win gold. With this, he joined a elite group of Career Golden Slam winners. Here is a quiz on all of them

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

Let’s start with a simple one. What is a Career Golden Slam?

QUESTION 2

How many players till now have achieved a Career Golden Slam in Men’s and Women’s singles? Who are they?

QUESTION 3

One of the answers to Q2, a German player, in 1988 became the only tennis player to achieve the Golden Slam, by winning all four major singles titles and the Olympic gold medal in the same calendar year. Who is it?

QUESTION 4

This American former world No. 1

tennis player was known as “The Punisher”. He has written an autobiography detailing his childhood and tennis-playing days. Identify him.

QUESTION 5

This American former professional tennis player is the only player to accomplish a Career Golden Slam in both singles and doubles. Identify the player.

QUESTION 6

For over a decade, this player has led men’s tennis along with Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic as the Big Three. At 24, he became the youngest man in the Open Era to achieve the Career Grand Slam, and the first man to win majors on three different surfaces (hard, grass, and clay) in the same year. Who is he?



Visual question: In this image, “Vamos Nole” is written on this player’s shoes. Nole is referred to which player?

Questions and Answers to the previous day’s daily quiz: 1. World Breastfeeding Week is observed in the first week of August in commemoration of this event. **Ans: The 1990 Innocenti Declaration**  
2. State if true or false: Almost 75% of all mothers produce more milk in their right breast. **Ans: True**  
3. The percentage of body energy a mother needs while lactating. **Ans: 25- 30%. The brain, in comparison, only needs 20%**  
4. True or false. It is possible to induce lactation without a pregnancy. **Ans: Yes, by using the same hormones that your body makes during pregnancy**

5. The recommended gold standard for breastfeeding a baby. **Ans: Exclusive breastfeeding for six months**  
Visual: Name the mother-daughter duo. **Ans: Sharon Spink and her daughter Charlotte Spink, who she breastfed until the girl was 9. This is, as per available records, is the longest a child has been breastfed**  
**Early Birds:** C. Saravanan | K. N.Viswanathan | Tamal Biswas | Anju Sharma | Shreya Arora

Word of the day

**Ratiocination:** the proposition arrived at by logical reasoning; logical and methodical reasoning

**Synonym:** conclusion

**Usage:** *The detective is known for his gifts of ratiocination.*

**Pronunciation:** bit.ly/ratiocinationpro

**International Phonetic Alphabet:** /ˌræɪtɪˈoʊʃən/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to [letters@thehindu.co.in](mailto:letters@thehindu.co.in) with the subject ‘Text & Context’

## From Page One

## Vinesh's Olympic dreams crushed

According to UWW's Article 11 on weigh-in, "For all competitions, the weigh-in is organized each morning of the concerned weight-category... If an athlete does not attend or fail the weigh-in (the first or the second weigh-in), he will be eliminated of the competition and ranked last, without rank."

UWW president Nenad Lalovic underlined the rules.

"We have to respect the rules. I am so sad about what happened to her. She was overweight, even by a small margin. But rules are rules," Mr. Lalovic told reporters.

Another athlete, Italian Emanuela Liuzzi had to forfeit her bout after being overweight in the same weight category on Tuesday.

As a result of Vinesh's elimination, Cuban Yusneylis Guzman Lopez, who had lost to the Indian in the semifinals, became eligible to compete in the final. It is learnt that Vinesh, who had some weakness due to the drastic weight cut and was treated at the polyclinic inside the Games Village, is fine.

Even as the country, fighting to match its previous edition's tally of seven medals, was deprived of a medal, Vinesh would be proud of her effort. She punched above her weight to take down Yui in spectacular fashion before getting past Ukraine's Oksana Livach and Yusnelis to become the first Indian woman wrestler to reach the Olympics final before her disqualification.

Against Yui, Vinesh demonstrated a masterclass of defence. The 29-year-old, who had a knee surgery a year back, retained her energy to outsmart Yui, who had remained unbeaten in over 82 matches in her international career, in the dying seconds to send shock waves through the Japanese camp.

## Muhammad Yunus to take oath today

"Youth are our future. We need to build a democratic Bangladesh newly to fulfil their dream, and for which they shed their blood," said Ms. Zia. "No destruction, no anger and no revenge, we need love and peace to rebuild our country."

The situation in the country is yet to normalise. Vandalism and looting persisted in some areas, with security forces struggling to stabilise the unrest. Key Ministry and department secretaries have stopped attending office, causing a near standstill in the functioning of the Bangladesh Secretariat. Many officials and employees affiliated to the Awami League have been absent. Numerous influential officials have gone into hiding, switching off their phones and cutting off communication with their offices, leaving their subordinates without guidance. This has led to a breakdown in the chain of command.

The capital city of Dhaka continued to see rallies by leftist political groups.

The Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) on Wednesday expressed deep concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the country. MCCI president Kamran T Rahman said, "If such a situation continues, trade, business, and investment will have a huge negative effect. This will also create hindrances to job creation."

Business leaders across the country also raised concerns about ongoing destructive activities targeting industrial and commercial establishments.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin asked the police to become stricter in tackling the anarchic situation and looting in the country.

"Each police member should maintain the 'chain of command' and perform their duties with high morale and bravery. And the IGP must take necessary steps in this regard," he said when the newly appointed Inspector General of Police (IGP), Md Mainul Islam, paid a courtesy call on him at Bangabhaban.

## 'Anti-militancy operations under way in Udhampur'

The Hindu Bureau  
JAMMU

An anti-militancy operation to flush out a group of militants hiding in Jammu's Udhampur continued for the second consecutive day on Wednesday.

"The anti-militancy operation started on Tuesday morning. Around 4.30 p.m., a contact was established with the terrorists. The contact was established twice in two hours. As per our information, a group of three or four terrorists is trapped inside our cordon. We hope that the group will be neutralised as soon as possible," Rayees Mohammad Bhat, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Udhampur-Reasi Range, said.

## SC posts PMLA judgment review to Aug. 28, asks if it's 'appeal in disguise'

Krishnadas Rajagopal  
NEW DELHI

A Supreme Court Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant scheduled for August 28 a series of petitions seeking a review of a July 2022 judgment of the apex court, which gave unbridled powers to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) to arrest and summon individuals and raid private property under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The Bench, including Justices C.T. Ravikumar and Ujjal Bhuyan, however, made it a point on Wednesday to note that a review in open court should not take the tone of an appeal against a Supreme Court judgment.

Justice Ravikumar asked

## Lok Sabha passes Finance Bill, amends provision on LTCG tax

Sitharaman rejects criticism from Opposition that the middle class is heavily taxed; she says Budget is aimed at promoting investment; protests erupt in House after govt. does not take up amendment against 18% GST on insurance premiums

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The Finance Bill, 2024 was passed in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday with an amendment relaxing a proposal for the long-term capital gains tax on real estate. It allows tax payers an option to switch to a new lower tax rate or stick to the old regime that had a higher rate with indexation benefit.

The amendment comes after a proposal to remove indexation benefit in calculation of long-term capital gains on sale of immovable properties in the Budget, 2024-25 had evoked criticism from various corners, including Opposition parties and tax professionals. The Budget had proposed a lower 12.5% rate of LTCG tax, down from 20%, while doing away with the indexation benefit.

With this amendment, individuals or Hindu Undivided Families (HUFs) who



New regime: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government had eased tax compliance. PTI

bought houses before July 23, 2024, can opt to pay LTCG tax under the new scheme at the rate of 12.5% without indexation or claim the indexation benefit and pay 20% tax.

The Finance Bill was passed by a voice vote in the Lok Sabha with a total of 45 official amendments.

Replying to the debate before the passage of the Bill, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman rejected

criticism from Opposition parties that the middle class was heavily taxed. She said that the Budget proposals were aimed at promoting investment and benefiting the middle class.

She said the Narendra Modi government had brought in a simplified taxation regime and eased compliance without drastically increasing taxes.

Among the various mea-

sures taken to help the middle class, Ms. Sitharaman mentioned the reduction in customs duty on various goods that would promote trade and investment and generate employment.

She also referred to the hike in tax exemption limit on long-term capital gains in listed equities and bonds to ₹1.25 lakh from ₹1 lakh, a move that she said would benefit those investing in the stock market.

The Finance Minister said that simplification of the tax regime was the primary objective of the Modi government, highlighting that 72% of those who had paid income tax had opted for the new regime while filing returns this year.

"We have made transformational changes in tax governance. In 2023, the tax slabs were significantly reduced. Again, this has been done this year," Ms. Sitharaman said, adding that the standard deduc-

tion for the salaried class had been increased.

On the Opposition's demand for removal of Goods and Services Tax on health and life insurance premiums, the Union Minister said that 75% of the GST collected went to the States.

"Prior to levying 18% GST on health insurance [premium], all States used to levy tax on insurance premiums. So when GST was rolled out, the tax automatically got subsumed into GST," she said.

Opposition MPs staged a walkout after a furore over the government not taking up an amendment in the Finance Bill to withdraw the 18% GST levy on medical and life insurance premiums.

The amendment had been moved by N.K. Premachandran of the Revolutionary Socialist Party.

The Finance Minister said any amendment in GST had to be approved by the GST Council.

## 'FIR against Minister can be quashed if she apologises at a press conference'

Mohamed Imranullah S.  
CHENNAI

Tamil Nadu Advocate General P.S. Raman on Wednesday told the Madras High Court that a First Information Report (FIR) registered against Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje, for having claimed that the bombers in the Rameshwaram Cafe blast at Bengaluru were trained in Tamil Nadu, can be quashed if she calls for a press conference and tenders an apology.

Appearing before Justice G. Jayachandran, who had during the last hearing asked the A-G to find out whether the State would want to prosecute the Minister even if she apologises for the remarks, Mr. Raman said: "I have got clearance from the highest level that if the petitioner convenes a press conference and tenders apology, Your Lordship may close the matter."

The A-G also submitted a draft apology prepared by him which read, "I sincerely apologise for the comments I made about



Union Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje, (right) bomb squad and NSG personnel at the Rameshwaram Cafe soon after the blast in March. FILE PHOTOS

the people of Tamil Nadu during my speech at the press meet on March 19, 2024 on the bombing incident at Bengaluru. I understand that they were inappropriate and is contrary to my respect for the diversity and richness of all cultures, particularly the people of Tamil Nadu. "I have taken time to reflect on the impact of my words and I tender an apology to the people of Tamil Nadu for any hurt that they may have felt. I will ensure that such statements are not repeated."

After asking the petitioner's counsel to receive a copy of the draft, the judge granted time till August 16 for the Minister's



counsel to find out whether she would be agreeable to tender such an apology.

Though the Minister's counsel submitted that she had already expressed regret for the remarks on her X (formerly Twitter) handle, the judge said, it wouldn't suffice because not many people, including himself, were on X. Since the damage had been caused through media interaction, the apology should also be made through the same channel, he insisted.

The judge also refused to accept the counsel's submission that the Minister could be permitted to file an affidavit in the court, tendering her apology, in-

stead of calling a press meet to do so. He said it was a serious issue which had political implications besides dealing with the sentiments of the people. Therefore, it would only be appropriate to apologise through a press conference, he said. When the contention of the Minister's counsel that one of the accused arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), in connection with the blast, was indeed from Tamil Nadu, the A-G retorted: "The NIA had made that arrest on the basis of the information provided by the Tamil Nadu police. It was the Tamil Nadu police which furnished that information to NIA."

## Muslim bodies hit out at Waqf Bill, plan to move top court

Ziya Us Salam  
NEW DELHI

The contentious Bill to amend 44 Sections of the Waqf Act-1995 has drawn the ire of the Muslim community. The overriding feeling is one of interference in community's matters, and an attempt to dispossess the largest minority of the wealth meant for the socio-economic uplift of the community. The Muslim bodies have called the proposed amendments "objectionable", a step meant to "weaken the waqf commissioners"

The All India Sunni Sajjadanashen, however, has come out in support of the government move, calling the changes "long overdue".

All India Majlis-e-Mushawat chairman and former chief of Delhi Minorities Commission, Zafarul Islam said, "New amendments will usher in a Collector Raj to decide at will what is a

The Muslim bodies call the proposed amendments a step meant to 'weaken the waqf commissioners'

waqf and what is not. The new amendments also establish the tradition of failing to consult the Muslim community in matters affecting the community."

Jamiaat Ulama-i-Hind president Arshad Madani refused to accept the proposed changes, stating, "We cannot accept any amendment in the waqf (endowment) law which would change the status of the waqf and the purpose of the waqf. It seems that by these amendments, the government wants to change the nature of waqf to make it easy to seize."

Jamaat-e-Islami Hind president Sadatullah Husaini took objection to the inclusion of non-Muslim members. However, he welcomed the inclusion of women members in the Waqf Board.

## Centre is tampering with the NCERT curriculum, trying to communalise it, says Kharge

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Opposition and Treasury benches sparred over National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks after the Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, accused the government of "tampering with" the curriculum and trying to impose a communal ideology.

While the Congress president flagged recent reports that the Preamble to the Constitution has been dropped from certain textbooks, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan denied it.

Speaking during Zero



Mallikarjun Kharge

Hour in the Rajya Sabha, Mr. Kharge accused the government of wilfully dropping the Preamble.

He also stressed the need to retain it and quoted Constituent Assembly debates to bolster his point.

"Political democracy cannot last unless there lies at the base of it social democracy. What does so-

cial democracy mean? It means a way of life which recognises liberty, equality, and fraternity as the principles of life," he quoted from the debates.

The House erupted when Mr. Kharge said that the government shifted the statues of Gandhiji and Dr. Ambedkar in the Parliament complex after unsatisfactory results in the 2024 Lok Sabha election. "The RSS and BJP are trying to impose their communal ideology on people by tampering with curriculum. And the step taken by NCERT is not right," he said amid protests from the ruling side.

The Treasury benches strongly protested against Mr. Kharge's charge.

# Leaders back Vinesh; disqualification raises heat in Parliament, Opposition walks out

Minister says the government has provided her the best coaching facilities; in the Lok Sabha, Opposition questions government's 'poor response' to the technical disqualification of the wrestler in the Olympics; Upper House sees protest as the Chair did not allow parties to raise the issue

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

The shocking disqualification of wrestler Vinesh Phogat from the Paris Olympics on Wednesday led to a political slugfest between the government and the Opposition parties amid a massive outpouring of support for the athlete.

"Vinesh embodies the truly indefatigable spirit of Indian women, and her epic fortitude and resilience are already inspiring future world champions from India," President Droupadi Murmu said in a post on X. Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to the social media platform X to describe her as "a champion among champions", and spoke with the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) chief P.T. Usha, seeking first-hand information and asking her to explore all options to help Vinesh.

Speaking in the Lok Sabha, Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the IOA had lodged a strong protest with the United World Wrestling over the disqualification of Vinesh.

Calling the disqualifica-



Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya speaks in the Lok Sabha during the Monsoon session of Parliament, in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

tion "unfortunate", Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi expressed hope that the IOA would be able to give her justice.

"Vinesh is not one to give up, we are confident that she will come back stronger to the wrestling arena. You have always made the country proud, Vinesh. Even today, the whole country stands with you as your strength," the former Congress chief said in a post on X.

His party colleague Randeep Surjewala alleged that Vinesh, who was the face of the wrestlers' agitation against former BJP MP

and former Wrestling Federation of India chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, had become "a victim of sports politics".

"Why is the government trying to console instead of fighting for justice for our daughter? If Modiji can stop the Ukraine war, can't he get justice for her? Is it because someone does not want her to win an Olympic medal?" Mr. Surjewala said.

Trinamool Congress MP Abhishek Banerjee urged the government to consider Vinesh for a Bharat Ratna or nominate her to the Rajya Sabha.

As the news of the dis-

qualification broke, parties belonging to the Opposition INDIA bloc demanded a statement from the government in both Houses of Parliament.

Though Mr. Mandaviya made a statement in the Lok Sabha, the Opposition walked out to register their protest over India's "poor response to the technical disqualification".

Mr. Mandaviya said that on Wednesday morning, Vinesh's weight was found to be 50 kg and 100 grams. "According to the rules and regulations of UWW (United World Wrestling), for all competitions, weigh-ins are organised every morning for the respective category... Therefore, she was declared ineligible for the competition," he said.

The Minister said the government had provided her the best coaching facilities, Hungarian coach Woller Akos and physio Ashwini Patil, and ₹70,45,775 in financial assistance for the Paris Olympics cycle.

In the Rajya Sabha, the Opposition members walked out after the Chair did not allow them to raise the issue.

## Disbelief, demand for a change in rules

Ashok Kumar  
GURUGRAM

"Twenty years of hard work and this 100 gm at the end. Don't know whether this is the cruelty of the unfortunate times or something else," read a cryptic post by wrestler Sangeeta Phogat in response to the disqualification of her cousin Vinesh Phogat from Paris Olympics, even as clamour grew to amend the rules and give her the silver medal.

Sangeeta Phogat, who had taken part in the protests against then-Indian Wrestling Federation president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh in Delhi in 2023, said it was a personal loss for all women.

Olympic medalist Bajrang Punia, who was part of the wrestlers' protests, said she was a "gold medalist of morality and strength".

Ms. Phogat's uncle and coach Mahavir Phogat had



Vinesh Phogat

on Tuesday said her victory in semifinal "was a slap on the face of Brij Bhushan". After her disqualification, Mr. Phogat said the entire country was disappointed.

Commonwealth Gold medalist Geeta Phogat reposted the message of Olympic gold medalist and American freestyle wrestler Jordan Burroughs who demanded immediate changes in the United World Wrestling rules and silver medal for Vinesh.

The Opposition in Haryana alleged a conspiracy, and sought a probe.

## IN BRIEF



### Indian airlines fly in 400 people from Bangladesh

Air India and IndiGo operated special flights to Dhaka, bringing more than 400 people amid a volatile situation in the Bangladesh capital. A special Air India flight brought 205 people, including six infants, from Dhaka to New Delhi on Wednesday morning, an official said. IndiGo's special flight flew from the Bangladesh capital to Kolkata on Tuesday to bring back Indian nationals from Bangladesh, the airline said in a statement. Vistara will also be operating their services to the Bangladesh capital as per schedule. IndiGo also said normal flight operations between India and Dhaka are scheduled to resume on Wednesday. PTI

### BSF stops entry of around 120 people from Bangladesh

The Border Security Force (BSF) stopped around 120 Bangladeshi nationals, including women and children, from entering India at two locations along the border in north Bengal on Wednesday. The official said the group of people was persuaded to return to Bangladesh with the help of Border Guards Bangladesh (BGB) and other government officials. The incident was reported from Manikganj border in Jalpaiguri district. The official said the people congregated on the border on hearing rumours that India would allow them into its territory. After Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stepped down on August 5 and fled to India, violent protests erupted in the neighbouring country.

### Hindus being targeted in Bangladesh, says Adityanath

Hindus are being selectively targeted in Bangladesh, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath alleged on Wednesday and called for unity to fight the threat against Sanatan Dharma. He also said construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya was not a destination but a milestone. Referring to the violence in Bangladesh following Sheikh Hasina's resignation after a months-long anti-government protest, Mr. Adityanath, on the second day of his Ayodhya visit, said, "Today, all the neighbours of India are burning. Temples are being demolished. Hindus are being selectively targeted and even then we are not trying to find those layers of history as to why such an unfortunate situation has arisen there." PTI

## Gujarat ATS arrests men with drugs worth ₹800 cr.

The Hindu Bureau  
AHMEDABAD

Gujarat's Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) arrested two men, Mohammad Yunus Shaikh and his brother Mohammad Adil Shaikh, with nearly 800 kg of mephedrone worth ₹800 crore from Bhiwandi in Maharashtra's Thane district.

A team of ATS officials searched a mephedrone manufacturing unit and seized liquid drug worth ₹800 crore. The ATS team carried out a similar operation at a pharmaceutical factory in Bharuch district of Gujarat, where it recovered liquid tramadol worth ₹31 crore.

During a two-day operation on Monday and Tuesday, officials arrested four persons who were allegedly involved in manufacture and sale of narcotic substances banned under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

On July 18, the ATS busted a mephedrone manufacturing unit in Palsana area of Surat and seized drugs and raw material worth ₹51.4 crore and arrested three persons. During their interrogation, the ATS gained details about the Shaikh brothers from Maharashtra, who are part of the larger drug cartel.

## India pulls out non-essential staff, families of diplomats from Dhaka

Sahasini Haidar  
NEW DELHI

With violence in Bangladesh continuing to be a concern, India pulled out "non-essential" staff and families of diplomats at the Indian High Commission in Dhaka on Wednesday.

Sources said that their return was on a "voluntary basis", by commercial flights to Delhi. However, the Indian High Commission in Dhaka and Consulates at Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna and Sylhet were all fully operational, they stressed, adding that there were no plans at present to evacuate the posts.

"All diplomats remain at the High Commission. The High Commission remains functional," a source said, urging Indian nationals in Bangladesh to use the High Commission's specially set-up helplines (+880195 8383679, +880195 8383680 and +880193 7400591).

While Dhaka's Shahjalal airport was closed on Monday, flights are operational now. Air India and IndiGo have been organising special flights to bring back Indians since August 6 and resumed normal operations on Wednesday, though rail services between the two countries remained disrupted.

In Parliament on Tuesday, External Affairs Minis-



Strict watch: Military personnel stand guard on a street as party members walk to take part in a rally, in Dhaka on Wednesday. AP

ter S. Jaishankar said there were an estimated 19,000 Indian nationals in Bangladesh, of which nearly 9,000 were students, most of whom returned in July, when the protests had turned violent.

### 'Wait and watch'

India continued to "wait and watch" on the situation in Bangladesh for another day after Bangladesh's Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was forced to resign and flee the country for India, along with her sister, after angry protesters marched towards her official home on Monday. There was no update on Wednesday on Ms. Hasina's plans to leave for another country, as she had earlier hoped, with a request to the United Kingdom for asylum unlikely to be accepted.

Ms. Hasina had made no comment since arriving at the Hindon airbase on the outskirts of Delhi, but her U.S.-based son Sajeeb Wazed 'Joy' has told a number of media outlets that she may be in India for an extended period.

"Sheikh Hasina is well and now in Delhi. My sister is with her. My sister lives in Delhi... She is well, but very upset," he told German television Deutsche Welle on Wednesday, referring to Ms. Hasina's daughter Saima Wazed who is the Regional Director for the World Health Organisation and has been based in Delhi for some months.

"She is saddened that her father (Sheikh Mujibur Rahman) gave his life for the country, and the entire family lost their lives. The country for which she was

imprisoned, worked so hard, and made so much progress, that the people of this country would insult her in this way, expel her, and go on to attack her, was something none of us could have imagined," Mr. Wazed said, also dismissing reports that Ms. Hasina wanted "asylum", but said she might stay with her family members based in the U.S., the U.K. and India.

Meanwhile in a sign of the political changes in the country, the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi decided to "postpone" an annual event to observe "National Mourning Day" on August 15 that would have marked the 49th anniversary of the assassination of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founder of Bangladesh.

The High Commission informed invitees on Tuesday that the plan to hold the memorial service and a discussion on "Bangabandhu: An epitome of peace and humanity" had been "postponed due to unavoidable circumstances".

The Bangladesh High Commission did not respond to requests on the reasons for the postponement and whether the event would be rescheduled.

(With inputs from Jagriti Chandra)

## BJP leader accuses Cong. of trying to spread chaos

The Hindu Bureau  
NEW DELHI

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Sambit Patra on Wednesday accused the Congress of attempting to spread chaos by insinuating that a Bangladesh-like situation could develop in India as well.

On Tuesday, Congress leader Salman Khurshid, while speaking at the launch of academician Mujibur Rehman's book "Shikwa-e-Hind: The Political Future of Indian Muslims", had reportedly cautioned that although everything might look normal on the surface in the country, what was happening in Bangladesh could happen here.

In response, talking to presspersons, the BJP leader accused Mr. Khurshid of warning that there could be protests and arson in India. He said the other Congress leaders, including Shashi Tharoor, MP, who were also present at the event, backed Mr. Khurshid's remarks.

Stating that Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, had also earlier said there would be an upheaval in the country, the BJP leader said Mr. Gandhi held secret meetings abroad and gave statements against India.

## Lorries idle, trade struggles amid uncertainty

Shrabana Chatterjee  
Moyurie Som  
PETRAPOLE



BSF personnel inspect a truck carrying supplies to Bangladesh at the India-Bangladesh border in Fulbari on Wednesday. AFP

The Indo-Bangladesh border at Petrapole Land Port, around 80 km from Kolkata in West Bengal's North 24 Parganas district, remained tense on Wednesday with anxious Bangladeshi passengers and Indian truck drivers planning their next steps as they waited on the Indian side of the border.

Passenger and cargo

movements were left disrupted at Petrapole after former Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled the coun-

try on Monday.

Trade remained halted at the Bangladesh-India border in Petrapole (India)-Benapole (Bangla-

desh) area in North 24 Parganas, Bongaon as tension builds up in the neighbouring nation. This land port is one of the heaviest trade routes between the two countries.

The truck drivers and helpers standing at the border remain dejected as all trade has been stopped. More than 30 trucks kept negotiating with Border Security Force officials to let them in through the check post as they remained worried for the goods.

The situation remained dire for most truckers who stood at the border with rejection and minimal hope. Imanul Mondal, another trucker in the area, said that his truck had iron shavings and feared that the simmering tensions on the other side of the border may lead to miscreants setting fire to his truck.

Passenger ferries, auto rickshaws, and even tea shops around the border area are now struggling to keep the business afloat.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU  
**Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency / Commissionerate of Revenue Administration & Disaster Management**  
Chepauk, Chennai 600 005.

**INVITATION OF BIDS UNDER NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR GOODS**

- For details visit <https://tntenders.gov.in>
- Tender ID: 2024\_TNDRR\_470813\_1
- On behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu, the Director, Disaster Management, Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency / Commissionerate of Revenue Administration & Disaster Management invites Bids for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Date of availability of Bid Document	Due date for submission online	Date & time of opening of Technical bid
1.	Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of 2 (TWO) C-Band Dual Polarized Solid State Power Amplifier (SSPA) based Doppler Weather Radar (DWR) including all peripherals	09-08-2024 to 09-09-2024 upto 3.00 PM	09-09-2024 upto 3.00 PM	09-09-2024 at 4.00 PM

DIRECTOR  
Disaster Management,  
DIPR/2862/Tender/2024 Tamil Nadu Disaster Risk Reduction Agency.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, CENTRAL RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR**  
No. 3671 / Date: 05.08.2024

**"e" Procurement Notice for Bridge Work**

1. Name of the Work	Bridge Work under Biju Setu Yojana.
2. Total No. of Works	01 No. of Bridge Works under Biju Setu Yojana for the year 2023-24.
3. Estimated Cost of the Work	Rs. 583.26 lakh
4. Class of Contractor	a) Estimated cost more than Rs.1.00 Crore up to Rs. 20.00 Crores A Class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities b) Estimated cost more than Rs.6.00 Crore up to Rs. 50.00 Crores Special Class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant class of other licensing authorities
5. Period of Completion	As mentioned in Column-7 of Annexure
6. Offered rates by bidder	The offered rate by the contractor shall be excluding GST.
7. Other details	

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding		Date & Time of Opening of Tender	
		From	To	Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6
Chief Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar	Tender - Online - C.C.-21 of 2024	12.08.2024 at 11.00 AM	27.08.2024 Up to 5.00 PM	28.08.2024 at 11.00 AM	To be intimated lateron

Further details can be seen from the web site : [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)  
Chief Engineer, Central Rural Works Circle, Bhubaneswar.  
OIPR-25194/11/0005/2425

**IN BRIEF**



**Double Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker meets Sonia**

Star pistol shooter Manu Bhaker met Congress Parliamentary Party chief Sonia Gandhi as she returned to the country on Wednesday after her historic feat of winning two medals in a single edition of the Olympic Games. Ms. Bhaker met Ms. Gandhi at the latter's 10 Janpath residence here. Sources said Ms. Gandhi congratulated Ms. Bhaker on her historic feat and wished her for her future endeavours. Earlier in the day, as Ms. Bhaker landed in the country, she was welcomed by hundreds of supporters and her family, who braved a steady drizzle to give her a memorable reception. **PTI**

**Centre may tweak Chardham road project: Union Minister**

The threat of landslides in Uttarakhand, particularly the Bhagirathi eco-sensitive zone, is making the government consider tweaks to some roads being built as part of the Chardham project, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari said in the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. He was responding to a question from Ranjit Ranjan, Congress member from Chhattisgarh, who said that of the nearly 900-km network of roads in the Chardham project, only 150 km of the final stretch was remaining to be completed. "The Bhagirathi eco-sensitive zone is extremely precious and must be protected," said Mr. Gadkari. Last November, a cave-in of a section of Silkyara tunnel, which is a part of the project, trapped miners who were subsequently rescued after a fortnight-long operation.

**Chandrayaan-3 team, ex-IISc Director win top science awards**

33 Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar awards will be given on National Space Day; 13 scientists to get Vigyan Shree award, 18 selected for Viyan Yuva award

**Jacob Koshy**  
NEW DELHI

The Union government has announced the first set of Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar, or national awards for scientists, ever since it controversially cut down the number of such awards in 2022. Thirty-three of these awards, slated to be given on August 23, National Space Day to mark Chandrayaan-3's moon landing, were announced on Wednesday.



**Massive effort:** Some members of the jubilant Chandrayaan-3 team with ISRO Chairman S. Somanath. **FILE PHOTO**

**Overhaul of awards**

Following the overhaul of the scientific awards scheme, the Ministry of Science and Technology in January this year had notified four categories of awards, comprising a maximum of 56, for scientists. These are up to three Vigyan Ratna to recognise life-time achievements and contributions made in a given field of science and technology, up to 25 Vigyan Shri to recognise distinguished contributions, up to 25 Vigyan Yuva: Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award to recognise and encourage young scientists

who made an exceptional contribution, and up to three Vigyan Team awards to recognise a team of three or more scientists/researchers/innovators who have made an exceptional contribution working in a team.

Noted biochemist and former Director of the Indian Institute of Science, G Padmanabhan, was announced as the winner of the Vigyan Ratna. Thirteen scientists spanning a diverse set of fields from physics, chemistry, mathe-

matics, atomic energy, biological sciences, earth sciences were awarded the Vigyan Shri and 18 scientists were nominated for the Viyan Yuva.

The Vigyan team award went to the ISRO's Chandrayaan-3 team. The awards are expected to be given at a ceremony on August 23 here. The awards this year were decided by a nomination process on a portal maintained by the Union Home Ministry that is a repository of a range of national awards.

**CBI takes over probe in Delhi civil services aspirants' deaths case**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has taken over the investigation into the deaths of three civil services aspirants at Rau's IAS Study Circle in New Delhi on July 27.

Three students drowned and several were trapped after a nearby drain burst, which led to flooding in the basement of a UPSC coaching institute last month.

The agency registered the first information report following a Delhi High Court directive on August 2, taking into account "the seriousness of incidents and that it may involve corruption by public servants".

The High Court has also asked the Central Vigilance Commission to appoint a senior official to oversee the CBI investigation in a time-bound manner. The Delhi Police were initially conducting the probe.

While issuing the order, the High Court had wondered why the police arrested an SUV driver, who was driving past the institute where the incident took place, instead of the official who did not notice that the stormwater drain in the area was dysfunctional. It also pulled up the police for not questioning any Municipal Corporation

**The Central agency registered the FIR following a Delhi High Court directive on August 2**

of Delhi (MCD) officials concerned, and not even seizing the relevant documents from the civic body.

The role of the Delhi Fire Services in giving clearance to Rau's IAS Study Circle has also been called into question.

"How did the children drown? You have done an investigation now...why were they not able to come out of the basement? It doesn't get flooded immediately. Water takes at least two-three minutes to fill a basement, it can't happen in a minute," the Bench had said.

The incident has led to protests by civil services aspirants in the area. On August 5, the Supreme Court also took suo motu cognisance of the drowning of three aspirants.

"We are not sure as to what effective measures have been taken so far by the NCT of Delhi or the Union of India. The recent unfortunate incidents taking away lives of some of the young ones who joined coaching centres for their career pursuits are an eye opener for one and all," the Supreme Court said.

**Delhi court issues notice on bail for basement owners**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Wednesday issued notice to the Central Bureau of Investigation seeking its reply on the bail applications of four co-owners of a basement of a coaching centre in Old Rajender Nagar where three civil services aspirants drowned last month. Principal District and Sessions Judge Anju Bajaj Chandna directed the CBI to file its response by August 9. The bail application was filed by Parvinder Singh, Tajinder Singh, Harvinder Singh and Sarbjit Singh. The court also noted that it cannot hear the bail applications since the copy of the FIR has not been brought before the court.

The public prosecutor submitted in the court that the process of transfer of case from the Delhi Police is not yet complete and the case has not been registered by the agency yet.

The CBI took over the matter after the Delhi High Court recently asked the Central agency to investigate the same.

Counsel for the accused submitted in the court that his clients never attempted to evade the investigation and rather voluntarily participated in the probe.

**UPSC to give order copy to Khedkar in two days**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) informed the Delhi High Court on Wednesday that it will communicate within two days its order cancelling former probationary Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Puja Khedkar's candidature to her.

The court disposed of Ms. Khedkar's plea challenging the UPSC's press release stating that her candidature has been dismissed. During the hearing, senior advocate Indira Jaising, appearing for Ms. Khedkar, said the cancellation order was never communicated to her and she came to know about it only through the press release.

**Fate of ST sub-quota in Mizoram stuck in limbo after top court ruling**

**Abhinav Lakshman**  
NEW DELHI

The fate of the Scheduled Tribes quota sub-classification in Mizoram plunged into uncertainty within days of the Supreme Court permitting States to sub-categorise Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Months before the judgment, the Mizoram government had placed the sub-classification of the State's ST quota in higher education on hold, and started working on amending the reservation rule that separated Mizo tribes from non-Mizo tribes.

Mizoram's Education Minister Vanlalhlana said the government's work on the sub-classification of STs would now have to be re-strategised after considering the Supreme

**Sources said an internal meeting of the Mizoram gov't. is scheduled this week to chart out a path on the court verdict**

Court's ruling and its implications, adding that this would most likely delay amendments to reservation rules that have been in the works from at least March this year. "It is a sensitive issue and we will have to balance the interests of all communities," he said.

In the meantime, there will be no categorisation within the ST quota, the government has said in an affidavit before the Gauhati High Court. State government sources told *The Hindu* that an internal meeting

is scheduled this week on the Supreme Court's ruling so that a path for the future could be charted out.

The sub-categorisation within STs in Mizoram was brought in through the Mizoram (Selection of Candidates for Higher Technical Courses) Rules, 2016 and has been mired in legal challenges ever since. The Rules provided for reserving 99% seats for STs in admissions to courses in medical sciences, all branches of engineering and technology, animal husbandry and veterinary sciences, agricultural sciences, forestry, and fishery.

But within this 99%, children of Zo-ethnic people had 95% and children of non-Zo-ethnic people had 4% reservation.

The State government

had said the seats allotted to it for Higher and Technical Studies by the Centre were insufficient to meet the technical manpower requirement of the State. Hence, it said these Rules were being brought to "have fair selection of promising candidates only for those limited seats offered to the State of Mizoram on merit by means of certain aptitude test".

This was challenged in the Gauhati High Court, which struck the sub-classification down, citing the 2004 judgment in the *E.V. Chinnaiah* case. The Supreme Court upheld the High Court's decision.

However, the Mizoram government, in 2021, brought amendments to the 2016 Rules, further categorising within ST quota for higher education.

**CJI-led Bench expunges HC judge's remarks against SC**

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud and four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court held a special sitting on Wednesday to expunge the remarks made by a High Court judge challenging the Supreme Court's position at the top of the judicial hierarchy.

A video capturing the comments by Justice Rajbir Sehrawat of Punjab and Haryana High Court, in court, was widely circulated on social media, compelling the CJI to urge judges to exercise restraint and responsibility while making observations in the course of court proceedings.

The CJI said livestreaming of court sessions was meant to provide citizens



access to judicial proceedings, and not for judges to make unwarranted observations, lowering the dignity of the judicial system.

Chief Justice Chandrachud said the top court had been pained by the observations made by Justice Sehrawat and had decided to take suo motu cognisance. The other judges on the Bench were Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B.R. Gavai, Surya Kant, and Hrishikesh Roy.

Although Attorney-Gen-

eral R. Venkataramani and Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta termed Justice Sehrawat's observations "serious transgressions" on judicial discipline, and even "aggravated contempt" of the SC, the Bench decided in favour of restraint.

The Chief Justice said that unlike aberrations such as this, an overwhelming majority of High Court judges worked with greater responsibility.

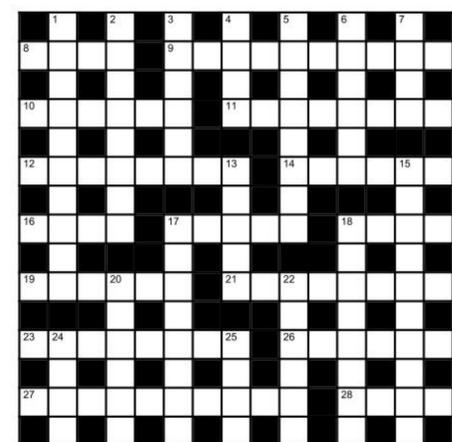
Justice Sehrawat had taken offence to the top court staying an earlier order of his in a case. On July 17, he blamed the apex court for "presuming itself to be more 'supreme' than it actually is and the High Court to be less 'high' than it constitutionally is".

The CJI termed Justice Sehrawat's remarks "gratuitous".

**THE CROSSWORD+ 14248**  
(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ <https://qrqo.page.link/jjpTn>

SCAN TO PLAY



- Across**
- 8 Hood's whiskey consumed by military officer (4)
  - 9 People who turn up at programmes and people who look after them (10)
  - 10 End silly war with little dog (4,2)
  - 11 Pace won't change in city (4,4)
  - 12 Bewitch portal (8)
  - 14 Now that chap starts to relay enamelled stick (6)
  - 16 After 51, military policeman's droopy (4)
  - 17 Snap short bread with king (5)
  - 18 Assist in satchel preparation (4)
  - 19 Commander in chief captures the French Resistance clergyman (6)
  - 21 No surety is required to be arranged for contests (8)
  - 23 Wrongly aid flier to get a place to take off, perhaps (8)
  - 26 Heart-breaking new city (6)
  - 27 Endlessly Cortes' travels amid undulating dunes alone (10)
  - 28 Looks at frozen water, I hear (4)
- Down**
- 1 Copious rot arose before latrine renovation (10)
  - 2 Applaud and reject part? Nonsense! (8)
  - 3 A member of parliament in room for relaxation is wet (6)
  - 4 Notice centre of the ear (4)
  - 5 Retort and pans (4,4)
  - 6 Aunt dancing in front of church may be this type of girl (6)
  - 7 Dish that's a little soupy and wet, in retrospect (4)
  - 13 Choose delectable part (5)
  - 15 Rarely aces run in competitions where everyone, except the final ones, does not aim to reach the finish line (5,5)
  - 17 Famous composer's role is changed for a single man (8)
  - 18 Chinese guys chasing female accomplices (8)
  - 20 Reject garbage (6)
  - 22 Learners leave unrestrainedly, disorganised and messy (6)
  - 24 Hostelries in two directions (4)
  - 25 Some things to connect... (4)

**SUDOKU**

1	8							
		9	5	8				
2			3				7	
	5			2	4	3		
7								2
	6	8	5				4	
	6				8			7
				7	9	8		
							6	3

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

**Solution to previous puzzle**

A	S	G	A	G	V	F
E	X	I	T	H	U	G
I	A	J	A	A	C	E
A	S	T	R	A	L	I
F	L	N	E	U		
O	S	S	I	F	I	E
T	S	T	U			
B	U	S	H	I	D	O
D		T	M		E	I
H	Y	E	N	A	S	
V	A	G	A	B	O	N
T	R	L	V	I	V	I
C	O	A	L			
M	Y	E	A	S	G	B

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

7	3	9	1	2	8	6	5	4
8	2	4	6	5	3	1	7	9
6	1	5	4	7	9	2	3	8
2	5	6	9	4	1	3	8	7
1	9	8	5	3	7	4	6	2
4	7	3	8	6	2	9	1	5
5	6	7	3	9	4	8	2	1
9	8	2	7	1	6	5	4	3
3	4	1	2	8	5	7	9	6

**MADGALDEEP** SCENT 3in1

PREMIUM QUALITY INCENSE

PERFUME LIKE FRAGRANCES

**FAITH**  
**Murugan is dayaaparan**

Lord Murugan is known as *dayaaparan*. The 'paran' in the word indicates His Supremacy. When it comes to *daya* (compassion), Murugan is indeed the Supreme One, said So. So. Meenakshisundaram in a discourse. His *daya* is the result of His love for us. He demonstrates this in the case of Valli. He tells Valli that He is eager to obey her commands! He literally begs her to tell Him what she wants. What is the significance of this begging? Murugan begs in order to 'give.' He urges us to let Him into our hearts, so that He can save us. His begging is to show that He will climb down to our level to save us.

Think of this analogy. A hungry beggar-woman stands outside a house and calls out, "Please, just a fistful of rice." Inside the same house, a mother begging her child to eat, says to the child, "Please, just a fistful of rice." Here the mother is not looking for food, but wants her child to be well fed. The words of the beggar and the mother may be the same, but obviously the intent is different. Likewise, Murugan 'asks', so that He may grant moksha. In his *Kandar Anubhuti*, Arunagirinatha wonders if Murugan's lotus-like feet will reside in his heart, which is hard like stone. His prayer obviously is that his heart must become soft like the mud in which lotus plants thrive. A heart full of love and bhakti will draw Murugan like a magnet.

**IN BRIEF**



**Bosch Q1 net rises 14% on automotive market demand**

Bosch Ltd. on Wednesday posted a 14% YoY growth in Q1 net profit to ₹466 crore, while revenue grew 3.8% to ₹4,317 crore. Guru Prasad Mudlapur, MD, Bosch Ltd., and President, Bosch Group in India, said the growth was driven by higher demand in the overall automotive market, mainly in the passenger car segment. He said the financial year commenced with moderate growth in the automotive market despite the challenges of a high base from the previous year.

**Saraswati Saree Depot ₹160-cr. IPO to open on August 12**

Saraswati Saree Depot, a Kolhapur-based textile firm, said bids will open for its ₹160-crore IPO on August 12. The offer will close on August 14. The IPO comprises fresh issue of up to 65 lakh equity shares and an offer for sale (OFS) of 35 lakh equity shares by the promoter group. The price band has been fixed between ₹152 and ₹160 per share. The proceeds would be used for working capital requirements, according to the firm's Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP).

**Centre will allow up to 35% bio-bitumen mixing: Gadkari**

Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday said the government would allow mixing of lignin up to 35% in petroleum-based bitumen, a large part of which is imported from other countries. "Bitumen consumption in 2023-24 was 88 lakh tonnes. In 2024-25, it is expected to be 100 lakh tonnes. 50% of the bitumen is imported. And annual import cost is ₹25,000-30,000 crore," Mr. Gadkari said, while replying to questions in Rajya Sabha.

**TVS Credit Services Q1 net rises 20% to ₹140 crore**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

TVS Credit Services Ltd., reported standalone net profit for the June quarter increased 20% year-on-year to ₹140 crore.

Total income grew 19% to ₹1,606 crore while assets under management rose 20% to ₹26,351 crore, said the NBFC in a statement.

The firm continued to maintain strong growth momentum in disbursements, primarily driven by an increase in distribution reach supported by consumption growth and expansion. It is resolute in commitment to expand product offerings, distribution and digital transformation for enhancing customer experience.

**TVS Supply Chain bags JCB contract**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

TVS Supply Chain Solutions Ltd. (TVS SCS) secured a three-year contract from JCB in India for managing the latter's in-plant warehousing and logistics operations at Vadodara.

Under the contract, TVS SCS in-plant logistics services will comprise end-to-end warehouse management, from unloading and put-away of parts to picking and line-side feeding. The firm will deploy material-handling equipment and employ close to 110 staff for this contract, said the global supply-chain provider in a statement.

"JCB has been a pivotal partner in our growth journey, and we are thrilled to continue this collaboration," K. Sukumar, CEO,

**NSE files fresh plea to settle TAP case**

On May 24, SEBI had rejected the revised terms of settlement submitted by the National Stock Exchange and directed it to submit 'individual applications'; NSE had filed this with a fresh RST and is awaiting a response from the markets regulator

**Ashley Coutinho**  
MUMBAI

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has filed a fresh plea with SEBI to settle a regulatory probe into the misuse of its Trading Access Point (TAP) software with Revised Settlement Terms (RST).

NSE had filed settlement pleas with the Securities and Exchange Board of India in 2022 and 2023. SEBI had returned the applications at the time as an investigation was pending.

NSE had received a show-cause notice from the regulator on the matter on February 28, 2023.



**Wrongful gains:** Co-location scam involved select brokers gaining unfair advantage by securing faster access to NSE data. REUTERS

NSE responded with a settlement application with its grounds of consent without admission of guilt or liability and expressing willingness to pay a fair sum as per regulations. Based on the response,

SEBI conducted several internal committee meetings with the NSE and its staff. On March 5, NSE filed an RST with SEBI.

On May 24, SEBI rejected the consolidated offer as its High Powered Advi-

sory Committee on Settlement Orders and Compounding of Offences refused to accept it, and directed the NSE to submit "individual applications" with the RST. Following its Board's approval on June 14, NSE filed this with the RST and is awaiting a response from SEBI.

Details of the RST could not be ascertained. E-mails sent to NSE and SEBI did not get a response at the time of publication.

**New TAP software**

In FY14, NSE rolled out a new TAP software for co-location users. This was used to send orders from member servers to the NSE

and helped shave-off latency by 400 micro seconds to 100 micro seconds.

**Co-location scam**

The misuse of TAP in 2013 was unearthed four years later by the Income Tax department during a probe into the co-location scam. High frequency traders manipulated TAP by using a software and even avoided paying NSE's transaction fee.

The co-location scam involved select brokers gaining unfair advantage by securing faster access to NSE's data and trading facilities over others.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

**LTCG options may spur realty investments, sales: industry**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
MUMBAI

The government's decision to give the option to taxpayers to choose between 12.5% Long Term Capital Gains (LTCG) tax and 20% LTCG with indexation benefit for properties purchased before July 23, 2024 would be in the interest of property owners with the move boosting investment and sales, as per analysts.

"It a positive development for the real estate sector," said Samir Jasuja, Founder-CEO, PropEquity. "It addresses apprehensions among property owners that they will have



to shell out more taxes in the absence of indexation benefit," he added.

"Real estate has always been an important asset class for investment and if we have to make real estate a trillion-dollar industry than lesser taxes should be introduced," he added.

Shishir Bajjal, Chairman

and MD, Knight Frank India said, "This move offers flexibility to sellers, who can choose the option that best suits their financial situation and the extent of property's appreciation."

"While 12.5% may seem immediately attractive, the decision to opt for it or the 20% rate with indexation should be made after a careful consideration of individual circumstances. Ideally, if a property's value has significantly outpaced inflation, 12.5% rate might be more beneficial.

"However, indexation can be advantageous if property appreciation is closer to inflation rate."

**'BIMSTEC FTA talks needs revival with realistic possibilities'**

**The Hindu Bureau**

Negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) among the seven-member BIMSTEC grouping of Bay of Bengal littoral nations and Nepal and Bhutan need to be expeditiously revived and "realistic possibilities" like preferential trade agreements could be explored, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said at the inaugural BIMSTEC Business Summit in New Delhi on Wednesday.

The BIMSTEC FTA talks had not seen much progress for the last six years,

Mr. Goyal noted, while urging India's business community to provide feedback on the need for such an agreement.

Mr. Goyal said serious efforts were necessary to remove non-tariff barriers and adopt international norms on trade facilitation to help expedite the trade talks within BIMSTEC.

Also, member nations needed to ensure that the terms of trade were fair and any trade deficits were better managed among themselves for a Free Trade Agreement, the Minister added.

**Coromandel Q1 net slumps 38% to ₹309 cr. on decrease in revenue**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
HYDERABAD

Agriculture solutions provider Coromandel International reported consolidated net profit for Q1 FY25 declined almost 38% to ₹309 crore, from ₹494 crore a year earlier.

Lower net profit came amid total income falling more than 16% to ₹4,783 crore (₹5,738 crore).

Executive Director-Nutrient Business S. Sankarasubramanian, who on Wednesday was appointed MD and CEO by the Board, said "Coromandel made sequential recovery, regis-



S. Sankarasubramanian

tering healthy volume sales in nutrients and crop protection businesses despite the delay in onset of monsoons. However, margins for the fertilisers business were impacted due to lower subsidy rates and rise in input costs."

**Kobelco India eyes double-digit sales rise**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Kobelco Construction Equipment India Pvt. Ltd. is expecting double-digit growth in overall sales volume of excavators in FY25, said a top official.

"Last year, we sold about 1,900 units, of which 200 machines were exported to Nepal and Bangladesh. This fiscal, we are hoping to sell 2,000 units in the domestic market and 300 machines will be exported," MD & CEO Takemichi Hirakawa said.

The Indian subsidiary of Kobelco Construction Machinery, Japan started its operations in SriCity in



2006. Last year, the firm incurred capex of ₹75 crore to expand its facility. Currently, it can make 3,500 excavators a year.

Mr. Hirakawa unveiled 'Made in India' SK80 Excavator and said they scaled up the indigenisation level to 70% from 45%. The engine is made locally by Yanmar. Kobelco has already delivered five machines.

**Chemplast Sanmar turns Q1 profit of ₹24 crore**

**The Hindu Bureau**  
CHENNAI

Chemplast Sanmar Ltd. reported a consolidated net profit of ₹24 crore in the June quarter, after a loss of ₹64 crore in the year-earlier period, due to improved prices of PVC and lower feedstock costs.

Revenue grew 15% to ₹1,145 crore, while cost of materials rose by ₹47 crore to ₹763 crore, the speciality chemicals maker said.

"The improvement in PVC prices was largely due to a severe container shortage for cargo originating from China, however, these heightened freight rates have started dropping off post the end of the quarter," said MD Ramkumar Shankar.

**TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS, TIRUPATI OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER**  
TENDER NOTICE  
Adv. No. 14/D3/CE/TTD/2024-25& NIT No.84/SE-II/TTD/2024-25, Dated: 06.08.2024  
Name of Work: 1) Providing galleries at North West corner of mada streets in Open space in Tirumala, Amount Rs.525 Lakhs,  
Time for completion: 12 months  
Note: For full details log on to the website https://www.tirumala.org  
TTD-40024(33)/2/2024-PRD SEC (Adv. No.107) Dated: 06.08.2024 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ROADS & BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT**  
Chief Engineer (R&B), Buildings Errummanzil, Hyderabad - 500082  
Cancellation of e-NIT No. 02/CE(B)/AEE-M/8 Medical Colleges / 2024, Dt: 06-08-2024  
The tenders invited vide e-NIT No. 02/CE(B)/AEE-M/8 Medical Colleges / 2024, Dt. 06-08-2024 for the work "Establishment of 8 new Government Medical Colleges of 100 seats each at various locations in Telangana State (R&B) Dept., and Medical, Nursing, Physiotherapy and paramedical colleges at Kodangal" and published in newspapers on 06.08.2024 is hereby cancelled on administrative grounds.  
for Chief Engineer (R&B), Buildings Errummanzil, Hyderabad  
DIPR R.O.No.2592-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25 Dt. 07.08.2024

**KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice**  
Tender No: Re-e-Tender No. 21-25/2024-25/SE/PHC ALP/RC/RT-1, KIIFB Alappuzha package 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, EMD : Rs. 5,00,000/-  
Tender Fee : Rs. 19518, Last Date for Submitting Tender : 21-08-2024, 02:00 pm, Phone : 0477 - 2237954.  
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in  
Superintending Engineer PH circle, Alappuzha  
KWA-JB-GL-6-357-2024-25

**INFORMATION KERALA MISSION (Local Self Government, Government of Kerala) Public Office PO, Trivandrum - 695 033**  
Empanelment of IT Service Partner (ITSP)  
Application inviting for Empanelment of Companies for Partnering with IKM in Developing the K-SMART Application.  
Information Kerala Mission invites interest from reputed organizations for Empanelment of Companies for Partnering with IKM in Developing the K-SMART Application. Details are available in IKM's website (www.ikm.gov.in). Last date of submission of response to is 30.08.2024, 5 pm. Phone No. 0471 - 2773100, 935677746, 8129783800  
D3/476/2024/I&PRD

**COTTON BOARD Government of Kerala E-TENDER NOTICE**  
Cotton Board invites e-tender from suppliers for supply of Cotton Bales to various spinning mills all over Kerala.  
For details visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in, www.bptkerala.in, Last date : 29.08.2024  
08-08-2024 Sd/- Fund Manager, Cotton Board

**Kerala Startup Mission invited proposals for Engagement of Consultancy for below service**

Particulars	Last date
1 Consultancy service contract for Architectural Cum Engineering Consultancy for the Construction of Emerging Tech Hub at Technocity, Trivandrum	02nd September 2024, 06:00 PM

For more details please contact 0484 - 2977137 or visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in  
Sd/- CEO, Kerala Startup Mission

**PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited**  
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala 147001  
Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2010SGC033813  
Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact number 96461 18721)  
TENDER ENQUIRY No. QW-327/PO-W Dated 06.08.2024  
Chief Engineer / Stores & Workshops Organization, Sarabha Nagar, PSPCL, Ludhiana, invites E-tender of Repair of 3-phase, 50 cycles, outdoor type, oil immersed, naturally cooled, Stack core type construction, OWP Aluminium Wound Distribution Transformers (Type Conventional) of capacity 200 KVA (w/o tap changer) with voltage ratio 11/0.433 KV conforming to ISS: 2026 (with latest amendments, if any) and 1180 part-1 (2014) complete with a first filling of oil conforming to ISS:335/1993 (with latest amendments, if any) Quantity = 1000 Nos.  
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 06.08.2024 from 4.00 P.M. onwards.  
Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in  
C - 549/24 76155/12/3253/2023/36471

**JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur-302004  
No.: JDA/EE-07/2024-25/D-51 Date : 02.08.2024  
NOTICE INVITING BID  
NIB No.: EE-07/11/2024-25  
Online Bids are invited up-to 06:00 PM of 24.08.2024 for the work of Consultancy services for preparation of Detailed project report (DPR) for "Engineering and Architectural Consultancy for designing of Elevated Road & Underpass in Zone-7 JDA Jaipur" of Rs. 666.00 Lacs. The last date for Applying Bid and making online payment on JDA portal is up-to 06:00 PM of 24.08.2024. Details may be seen in the bidding document at our office or the website of State Public Procurement Portal website www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in.  
UBN No.: JDA2425WLOB00215  
To participate in the bid, bidder has to be:  
1. Registered on JDA website www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in for participating in the Bid, the Bidder has to apply for the bid and pay the bidding document fee, RISL processing fee online only. The bid security may be deposited through online or bank guarantee (BG).  
2. Registered on e-Procurement Portal of Government of Rajasthan (www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in) for online e-Bid submission.  
Raj.Samwad/C/24/3485 Executive Engineer-07

**पावरग्रिड POWERGRID**  
Invitation for Bids (IFB) for Procurement of 06 Nos. 397MVA Converter Transformers for Talcher and Kolar HVDC stations under Add-Cap 2024-29. Spec No: CC/NITW-TR/DOM/A00/24/06359  
Domestic Competitive Bidding (DCB)  
Single Stage Two Envelope (SSTE) Bidding Procedure (Funding : Domestic)  
Date: 08/08/2024  
POWERGRID invites online bids through e-portal https://etender.powergrid.in for the following Package:  
Details/Site/Salient Particulars of Works Downloading of Bidding Documents Cost of Bidding Documents Deadline for Bid Submission  
06 Nos. 397MVA Converter Transformers for Talcher and Kolar HVDC stations INR 25,000/- Till 22/08/2024 upto 11:00 Hrs. 22/08/2024 upto 11:00 Hrs.  
1. For further details including addendum/changes in bidding program, if any, please visit procurement portal https://etender.powergrid.in  
2. The first Envelope (Techno-Commercial part) of the bid shall be opened 30 minutes after the deadline of Bid Submission.  
3. The complete Bidding Documents are also available on our website https://www.powergrid.in (Tender Ref No: 24162) and on Government of India's Central Public Procurement Portal (https://eprocure.gov.in), for the purpose of reference only.  
4. The NIT/IFB has already been published on e-portal https://etender.powergrid.in on 05/06/2024 (RFx No. 5002003600).  
5. For any other information, please contact: 0124-282-2383/2393; 965008925/9598914189  
POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED (A Government of India Enterprise)  
Corp. Office: "Saudamini", Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurugram-122001 (Haryana)  
Regd. Office: B-9, Qutab Institutional Area, Katwaria Sarai, New Delhi- 110016  
www.powergrid.in, CIN: L40101DL1989GOI038121  
A MAHARATNA PSU

## LAGOS

### At least 21 killed in Nigeria amid crackdown on protests: Amnesty



REUTERS

Amnesty International has accused Nigerian forces of killing at least 21 protesters during a week of economic hardship rallies. Police have clamped down on protests after thousands of people joined rallies against government policies and the high cost of living last week. Protests have since dwindled significantly. AFP

## ANKARA

### Turkiye wants to join genocide case against Israel at UN court



REUTERS

Turkiye on Wednesday filed a request with a UN court to join South Africa's lawsuit accusing Israel of genocide in Gaza. Turkey's Ambassador to the Netherlands, accompanied by a group of Turkish legislators, submitted a declaration of intervention to the International Court of Justice in The Hague. AP

## TEHRAN

### Iran executes 29 convicts a day after protester's hanging



AFP

Iran on Wednesday hanged at least 29 convicts in a single day, including 26 in a group execution in one prison a day after executing a man in connection with 2022 protests. Rights groups have repeatedly accused Iran of using the death penalty on all charges to instill fear in society after the 2022 protests. AFP

## COPENHAGEN

### Danish PM Frederiksen's attacker gets jail term, set to be deported



AFP

A Danish court on Wednesday handed a Polish man a four-month prison term and ordered him deported for punching the country's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen (in photo). The 39-year-old, who officials have ruled cannot be named, was immediately arrested after the assault on June 7 in a Copenhagen square. AFP

### 29 AL activists found dead as violence continues

Press Trust of India  
DHAKA

Students carried out traffic management as volunteers for the second consecutive day on Wednesday in Bangladesh, as a top police official called on every member of the police force to resume their duties gradually and maintain law and order.

Bodies of at least 29 supporters of Hasina's Awami League party were recovered across the country through Tuesday, taking the overall death toll to 469 in three weeks since the protest first started.

Media reports also flagged more and more cases of violence against minorities surfacing through Tuesday.

## Military refused to enforce curfew in Bangladesh, sealing Hasina's fate

Army chief Waker-Uz-Zaman told the PM that his soldiers would be unable to implement the lockdown she had called for; On Monday, Hasina was holed up in her official residence and once the crisis spiralled out of control, she decided to leave

Reuters  
DHAKA/NEW DELHI

The night before Sheikh Hasina abruptly left Bangladesh amid deadly protests, her Army chief held a meeting with his Generals and decided that troops would not open fire on civilians to enforce a curfew, two serving Army officers with knowledge of the discussions told Reuters.

Gen. Waker-Uz-Zaman then reached out to Ms. Hasina's office, conveying to the Prime Minister that his soldiers would be unable to implement the lockdown she had called for, according to an Indian offi-



Majority's will: People shake hands with Army troops as they celebrate Sheikh Hasina's resignation in Dhaka on Monday. REUTERS

cial briefed on the matter. The message was clear, the official said: Ms. Hasina no longer had the Army's support.

The nationwide curfew

had been imposed after at least 91 people were killed and hundreds injured in nationwide clashes on Sunday. An Army spokesperson confirmed the Sunday

evening discussions, which he described as a regular meeting to take updates after any disturbance.

Gen. Zaman has not publicly explained his decision to withdraw support for Ms. Hasina. But the scale of the protests and a death toll of at least 241 made supporting Ms. Hasina untenable, three former senior Bangladesh Army officers said.

"There was a lot of uneasiness within the troops," said retired Brig. Gen. M. Sakawat Hossain. "That is what probably (put) pressure on the chief of army staff, because the troops are out and they are seeing what is happening."

Gen. Zaman, who is related to Ms. Hasina by marriage, had showed signs of wavering in his support for the Prime Minister on Saturday, in a town hall meeting. The General declared that lives had to be protected and called on his officers to show patience.

On Monday, the first full day of the nationwide curfew, Ms. Hasina was holed up inside the Ganabhaban, or "People's Palace".

With the situation spiralling out of her control, the 76-year-old leader decided to flee the country, according to the Indian official and two Bangladesh nationals familiar with the matter.

## Thai court bans Pita and dissolves his Move Forward Party

Agence France-Presse  
BANGKOK

Thailand's most popular politician was banned from politics for 10 years and his party dissolved on Wednesday over his attempt to reform archaic royal defamation laws.

The Constitutional Court in Bangkok voted "unanimously" to dissolve the Move Forward Party (MFP) and ban its executive board, which includes its former leader Pita Limjaroenrat, for 10 years.

Mr. Pita, 43, led the reformist MFP to a shock first place in a general election last year after striking a chord with young and urban voters with his pledge

to reform Thailand's strict royal defamation law.

"Let's be sad today for one day but tomorrow we will move on and let's release the frustration through the next ballot," Mr. Pita told a news conference on Wednesday.

EU slams decision His bid to become Prime Minister was blocked by conservative forces in the Senate. A coalition of Army-linked parties took office instead under Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin.

The European Union and rights groups blasted the court's decision, which the EU said harmed democratic openness in Thailand.

## Air tragedy in Nepal



Rescuers work at the site of a helicopter that crashed in Suryachaur area in Nepal on Wednesday. Four Chinese tourists were among five persons killed. This crash comes weeks after the Saurya Airlines plane crash at the Tribhuvan International Airport on July 24 killing 18. AP

## Riots spread across towns in the U.K., precipitated by disinformation and racism

## NEWS ANALYSIS

Sriram Lakshman

Riots have spread across several U.K. towns and cities following the killing of three children, Alice Aguiar, 9, Bebe King, 6, and Elsie Stancombe, 7, in a knife attack in Southport on July 29. Britain has not witnessed such riots since 2011, when a Black man was shot by police in London.

Disinformation and, presumably, misinformation, that an undocumented migrant and Muslim was behind the attacks spread quickly on social media.

The main suspect in the case is neither Muslim nor an asylum seeker, but 17-year-old Axel Rudakubana, born in the U.K. to Rwandan parents who arrived in

the country in 2002. Following the Southport murders, rioters attacked a mosque in the town while people were inside it. Riots spread to other places in England and Northern Ireland.

## Law and order

In its response, the country's new Labour government has sought to emphasise that it is strong on 'law and order' and the protection of minorities, having promised in its election campaign manifesto that it would "return law and order to our streets".

Six thousand police officers were mobilised for more than 30 gatherings planned for Wednesday. There are plans for courts to stay open late, 567 prison places have been made available and over 400 have been arrested.

"I guarantee you will re-

gret taking part in this disorder," Mr. Starmer said on Monday, adding that attacks on Muslim communities would not be tolerated.

Apart from maintaining law and order and fending off racism, the Labour Party may need to win some trust back from Muslim communities, whose support for the party has weakened. Part of this was owing to Mr. Starmer and the party's position on Israel and Gaza, which was seen as too favourable towards Israel.

## Two-tier policing

With regard to law and order, the notion of "two tier policing" appears to have entered further into the public consciousness. Justice Secretary Heidi Alexander called the accusations of differential policing a "completely baseless assertion". She



The aftermath: A restaurant owner clears debris from the street in front of his restaurant in Middlesbrough in northeast England. AFP

and Mr Starmer are among those who have said these are not protests but instances of rioting and criminal violence.

Social media site X's owner, Elon Musk, has also waded into the conflict. On August 4, Mr. Musk responded to a video of fireworks being set off by rioters, saying, "Civil war is

inevitable." He tweeted "#TwoTierKier" on August 6 in the context of a Birmingham pub attack by a group of Muslim youth, who were among those who had gathered in the city in response to the threat of a far-right protest. Several members of the local Muslim community posted a video with the pub staff,

in which they apologized for the group's violence.

The government will now seek to step up its response to the evolving problem of online disinformation. In addition to Mr. Starmer's warning that people would be held to account for their actions online, U.K. Technology Secretary Peter Kyle said he had met with officials from X, Meta, Google and TikTok, "to make clear their responsibility to continue to work with us to stop the spread of hateful misinformation and incitement".

Tommy Robinson, former leader of the far right English Defence League, was among those stoking tensions online. Ms. Alexander said that the Online Safety Act needed constant review as technology evolved.

While prominent oppo-

sition politicians have condemned the riots, their past rhetoric is linked to what is unfolding. Former U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and former Home Secretary Priti Patel, both of whom were immigration hardliners have called out the rioters. However, during his term as Prime Minister, Mr. Sunak frequently used the phrase 'stop the boats' to describe his migration strategy. Now, this has become a phrase chanted by rioters.

## Hate crimes, migration

Nigel Farage, whose anti-immigrant Reform U.K. party, won 14% of the vote share in the recent elections, condemned the violence but also said "uncontrolled" immigration was fracturing communities and alleged 'two-tier' policing.

Hate crimes in the U.K.

have steadily increased in all but one year (2022/23), since government data became available in 2012/13. Both anti-Semitism and Islamophobia had been on the rise in London following the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel and Israel's ongoing retaliation on Gaza. Sharp divisions on migration, as well as the spillover of international events, could possibly be raising the temperature between British communities.

Some 52% of Britons (Ipsos survey, February 2024) say immigration is too high and this is reflected in the positions of both Labour and the Tories.

It is therefore all but certain that a conversation and government decisions in this area are imminent, although they may be pushed down the line until tempers cool.

**LEAPING TO GLORY**

**Tentoglou defends his Olympic long jump crown**



Miltiadis Tentoglou became only the second man after Carl Lewis to win two consecutive Olympic long jump titles, adding the gold at the 2024 Games on Tuesday to the one he claimed at Tokyo three years ago. "It's a great achievement," said Tentoglou, who also claimed the world title last year. "Not bad."

**OLYMPIC RECORD**

**Yavi soars to victory in women's 3000m steeplechase**



Bahrain's Winfred Yavi won the women's Olympic 3000m steeplechase title in Paris on Tuesday. Yavi timed an Olympic record of 8m 52.76s for victory ahead of Uganda's defending champion Peruth Chemutai, who took silver in a national record of 8m 53.34s. Kenya's Faith Cherotich claimed bronze in 8m 55.15s.

**PIONEERS**

**Spain makes Olympic walking history with relay gold**



Spain won the inaugural marathon race walk mixed relay on Wednesday with Alvaro Martin and Maria Perez timing 2:51:22s. Ecuador, whose duo included men's 20km walk champion Brian Pintado, finished second (2:51:22) with Australia third (2:51:38). Martin and Perez had won two titles apiece at last year's Worlds.

**ON A HIGH**

**Aleksandra Miroslaw underlines her class as the best speed climber**



Poland's world-record holder Aleksandra Miroslaw clinched gold in women's speed climbing on Wednesday. The 30-year-old, who holds the record at 6.06s, did the vertical run in 6.10s, beating China's Deng Lijuan in a photo finish. Deng set her personal best with 6.18s. Poland's Aleksandra Kalucka won bronze with 6.53s.

# Vinesh Phogat's world comes crashing down around her

Fate deals the cruellest of hands to the Indian as she fails to meet the weight requirement for her gold medal bout by over 100 grams despite concerted efforts through the night and is disqualified from the entire competition



Jonathan Selvaraj  
PARIS

Vinesh Phogat's dream run at the Paris Olympics came to a morale-shattering halt as she failed to meet the weight requirement for her women's 50kg wrestling gold medal bout against USA's Sarah Hildebrandt.

The Indian wrestler was disqualified and was not allowed to compete in the final. She also lost out on a confirmed silver medal.

The 29-year-old was a little over 100 grams above the 50kg weight limit during Wednesday morning's weigh-in at 7.15 a.m. local time.

Vinesh weighed 49.90kg on Tuesday morning ahead of her first-round bout, well within the permissible limit. She, however, gained weight during the day as she secured three back-to-back wins to reach the final.

After her semifinal win over Cuba's Yuznelis Guzman, her weight was around 52.7kgs.

The athlete and her team spent a sleepless night without food or water to make the cut. But all in vain.

According to UWW rules, "If an athlete does not attend or fails the weigh-in, he or she will be eliminated from the competition and ranked last without a ranking."

Vinesh is the first athlete to be disqualified from her final for not making weight. She, however, has



**Leaving no stone unturned:** Vinesh and her team did everything possible to get her weight in line with her category, including starving herself and getting her hair trimmed, but to no avail. PTI

**100g too heavy**

What the rules say on weigh-in and Vinesh's disqualification



Vinesh before the weigh-in.

- For each weight class, bouts are held over a two-day span
- Weigh-ins take place in the morning for wrestlers competing that day
- A wrestler who enters the final or repechage has to weigh-in on both days
- During the first weigh-in, wrestlers will have 30 minutes to make weight
- For the second weigh-in, the window is 15 minutes
- Wrestlers can get on the scale as many times as they wish
- Contestants are weighed with their singlets and nothing else
- Two kg weight tolerance is allowed for World Cup and other International tournaments
- However, Olympics follow a strict weight restriction
- Vinesh was 49.9kg on Tuesday morning and fought three bouts over the course of the day
- She registered a weight of 52.7kg after the semifinal
- On Wednesday morning, Vinesh weighed 50.1kg
- Despite last-ditch efforts from her coaches and support staff, Vinesh could not shave off the 100g



We have to respect the rules. I'm so sad what happened to her. If you allow this 100 grams, then you would be allowed for 200 grams. There is no end

NENAD LALOVIC  
United World Wrestling president

est in women's wrestling. "It is with regret that the Indian contingent shares news of the disqualification of Vinesh Phogat from the women's wrestling 50kg class," the Indian Olympic Association said in a release.

"Despite the best efforts by the team through the night, she weighed in a few grams over 50kg this morning. No further comments will be made by the contingent at this time. The Indian team requests you respect Vinesh's privacy. It would like to focus on the competitions at hand."

struggled with weight cuts earlier and barely made the cut during the Asian Olympic Qualifiers in April this year.

Vinesh had wrestled at her first Olympics in the 48kg category. She was 22 then. As she grew older, it

became harder to maintain that weight. She then moved up to the 50kg category and then the 53kg category at the time of the Tokyo Olympics.

Even at 53kg, she was losing a lot of weight to compete.

The weight loss resulted in poor recovery and frequent injuries. Her injury also coincided with the rise of another Indian wrestler Antim Panghal.

Vinesh had no option but to drop down to the 50kg category – the light-

# In the end, Vinesh Phogat loses the battle with herself

Jonathan Selvaraj  
PARIS

Vinesh Phogat has won and lost before. However, her most devastating defeat happened on a weighing scale on Wednesday morning at the Olympic Athletes village in Paris.

Every morning before they are allowed to wrestle, wrestlers have to go through a weigh-in. If they weigh in heavier than the weight class they are entered in, they are not permitted to compete.

Competing in the women's 50kg category, the scale showed 50.10kg for Vinesh. This loss didn't just deny her what could have been. This defeat is far more insidious. After promising everything, it leaves her with nothing.

The process of cutting weight is downright dangerous. To combat the health damage, the world federation post the Rio Olympics split competitions into two day events. Almost immediately nearly every wrestler moved to a heavier weight category.

Vinesh had competed in the 48kg category at Rio. Her weight cuts – which included days where she rationed out a few 100mls of water while training at full tilt – were feats of human endurance. She moved to the 50kg category and then when that became hard to manage, up once again to the 53kg category. Very often, Vinesh would black out in the middle of a match. She would wrestle on instinct. Sometimes she would even win that way.

For reasons beyond her control, Vinesh had to wrestle in the women's 50 kg category in Paris.

At her first big test at that weight – the Asian Olympic qualifiers – she not only managed to compete but also won the Olympic quota.

Vinesh competed twice more. These though were UWW ranking events, where wrestlers are allowed to compete with a 2kg weight exemption – Vinesh wasn't competing at 50kg but at 52kg.



**Disappointment:** Vinesh faced setbacks in Rio and Tokyo, but the Paris heartbreak is her most devastating one. GETTY IMAGES

The Olympics were just the second time where she had made that exact 50.00kg mark.

The night before her first day of competition her water intake went down to zero. She worked out on an Exercycle in her sauna suit. When she grew tired, she sat inside a sauna squeezing out the most adamant drops of water. Then when her energy returned, she returned to the cycle. It was brutal but it worked.

She had had a celebratory glass of juice that morning right after she had first made weight. She had had another couple of litres of fluid to rehydrate herself before her bout. Another 2000 grams of body weight gained. A couple of light snacks throughout the day to keep her energy up – 700 grams more.

By the time Vinesh was done with her day's competition she weighed 52.7kg. In the days to come coach Woller Akos will wonder what could have been done differently. What is clear is that everything that could be tried was.

Vinesh didn't sleep all through the night. She was on the treadmill and in the sauna the entire time. She also didn't consume anything. Her weight was reducing but not nearly as fast as needed. In desperation, her coaches trimmed the elastic in the bottom of her costume. They considered drawing blood but discarded the idea. They then chopped her hair.

The scale didn't budge. At 7.30 a.m. on Wednesday, there was nothing more that could be done. Vinesh stood on the scales. 50.1 it read.

She stuck a finger into her throat in a desperate attempt to puke and make weight. But nothing came out. She stood on another scale in the faint hope that there was some error in calibration.

50.1 it said again. She tried asking for a few minutes more. A few minutes and she would find a way to lose that last wretched amount of weight. Just like the scales, the officials refused to budge.

Just like that her competition was done. From what it's known Vinesh collapsed in the hall. She was put on a drip to speed up her recovery and when that didn't work was rushed to a hospital.

At the Wrestling Arena, her competitors, coaches and even the UWW president expressed sympathy but Vinesh is placed last. None of Vinesh's competitors managed to beat her.

In the end the only one able to beat Vinesh Phogat was Vinesh Phogat.



**Thursday calling:** Indian sports aficionados will hope Neeraj reprises his Tokyo exploits. RITU RAJ KONWAR

# Neeraj has stiff competition as he aims to repeat Tokyo heroics

Jonathan Selvaraj  
PARIS

It's going to be down to Neeraj Chopra once again isn't it?

When he strides into the Stade de France on Thursday, it will take the talismanic spear thrower's broad shoulders to wrest an Olympic campaign that began promisingly but now seems mired in despair back to confidence. So far, he's done little that makes it seem the burden is too heavy for him to carry.

The 24-year-old will go into the final as the reigning Olympic champion. He's also the defending world champion.

**Biggest throw** He also goes into the summit clash with the biggest throw in the qualification round (89.34m). It's his best throw of the season and over the last couple of years. He achieved it in his very first attempt and looks like he's more than capable of doing more.

None of this will matter in the final though.

"There's no comparison between the qualifying and final rounds. There is a difference in mentality.

There is a difference in conditions," he said.

Conditions predict big throws. The track is fast. There's no cross breeze either.

Neeraj knows he will have to be at his best. He might have an Olympic title. None of the other 11 finalists do. They are all hungry to get that gold medal as well.

**The contenders**

Not all of them will be counted as contenders of course. The threat is likely to come from four others – European champion Julian Weber (87.76m in qualify-

ing), Olympic silver medalist Jakub Vadlejch (85.63m), World silver medalist Arshad Nadeem (86.59m) and two-time world champion Anderson Peters (88.63m).

Neeraj knows the competition is likely to be fierce. Although he is the Olympic and world champion, he also knows he's not unbeatable.

The Indian has competed thrice this year – his season opener at the Doha Diamond League, at the Federation Cup in Bhubaneswar, the Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland.

He was beaten by Va-

dlejch in Doha – a win that the Czech considered as revenge for previous losses. But there are other throwers out for revenge too.

Pakistan's Arshad is there. He calls Neeraj with the honorific *bhai* and finished behind him at the World Championships. But he's throwing as effortlessly as ever and will surely want to earn his own place in the spotlight.

There's Peters too. The Grenadian is smarting after being denied a third world gold in Budapest a year ago.

In his warm up ahead of

the qualifying round, dressed in his track pants and jackets, he threw what looked like a near 90m throw.

Can't forget Weber either, the sole German in the Olympic final. He's carrying a proud tradition of throwing with him. He's finished just outside the podium at the last couple of Worlds and the Tokyo Olympics. Surely he won't be denied another time.

That's just what Neeraj will be expected to do. There are a number of claimants to his throne. He must push his way out to the front.

## IN BRIEF



RITU RAJ KONWAR

## Sreejesh wants the players to focus on bronze medal match

Goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh said the Indian team should grab its second chance to win a medal in the Paris Olympics instead of worrying about the 2-3 loss to Germany in the hockey semifinals on Tuesday. "It's a medal match. It's not about me, it's about the country. We will get a last opportunity to get a medal for our country rather than worry about what happened against Germany," said Sreejesh. "Spain is not an easy team. They are real fighters. The way they played in the quarterfinals showed that we can't relax," said Sreejesh. — **Y.B. Sarangi**



## Netherlands' Bouwmeester wins women's dinghy gold

Marit Bouwmeester of Netherlands won the gold in women's dinghy at the Paris Olympics on Wednesday, marking the fourth straight Games in which she has reached the podium. Denmark's Anne-Marie Rindom, who won gold in Tokyo three years ago, took the silver. Line Flem Hoest of Norway got bronze. The 36-year-old Bouwmeester won silver in this class of sailing in London in 2012, followed by gold in Rio in 2016 and bronze in Tokyo. This was her first Olympic medal as a mother.

## Algeria boxer Khelif marches into the summit clash

Algerian boxer Imane Khelif, embroiled in a major gender controversy at the Paris Olympics, won her semifinal on Tuesday to guarantee at least a silver medal in front of a raucous Roland Garros crowd that chanted her name. She defeated Thailand's 2023 world silver medalist Janjaem Suwannapheng in a unanimous points decision to march into Friday's final in the women's 66kg category.



## Ireland's Harrington retires after retaining her boxing title

Ireland's Kellie Harrington retained her Olympic boxing title on Tuesday at Roland Garros in Paris — and then called it quits. The 34-year-old Dubliner won gold at 60kg at the Tokyo Olympics and defeated China's Yang Wenlu by split decision to make it two golds in a row.

## INDIANS IN ACTION

A look at some Indians who will compete on Thursday (all times IST):

**Athletics:** Women's 100m hurdles: Repechage (Jyothi), 2.05 p.m.; Men's javelin throw final (Neeraj), 11.55 p.m.

**Golf:** Women's Individual Stroke Play: Round 2 (Aditi, Diksha), 12.30 p.m.

**Hockey:** Men (bronze medal match): vs Spain (5.30 p.m.).

**Wrestling** (session begins at 2.30 p.m.): Freestyle 57kg (1/8 final): Men: Aman vs Egorov (Mkd); Women: Anshu vs Maroulis (USA).

## GOING FOR GOLD

**Athletics:** Women's Long Jump, Men's Javelin, Men's 200m, Women's 400m Hurdles, Men's 110m Hurdles

**Boxing:** Men's 51kg, Women's 54kg

**Canoe Sprint:** Men's Canoe Double 500m, Women's & Men's Kayak Four 500m

**Cycling Track:** Women's Keirin, Men's Omnium

**Diving:** Men's 3m Springboard

**Hockey:** Men

**Marathon Swimming:** Women's 10km

**Sailing:** Men's and Women's Kite

**Sport Climbing:** Men's Speed

**Taekwondo:** Men -68kg, Women -57kg

**Weightlifting:** Men's 73kg

**Wrestling:** Men's Greco-Roman 67kg, Greco-Roman 87kg, Women's Freestyle 53kg

## India needs to surmount a strong Spain to match Tokyo showing

The return of Rohidas will boost India's penalty corner defence and attack apart from strengthening the backline.



**Y.B. Sarangi**  
PARIS

The sting of the defeat to Germany in the keenly-fought semifinal must be hurting India. But all is not lost for the Harmanpreet Singh-led team which meets a strong Spain in the bronze medal match of the men's hockey event of the Olympics at the Yves du Manoir Stadium here on Thursday.

India consistently lifted its game and performed better against tougher opponents, including Olympic champion Belgium and Australia in the pool matches and Great Britain and World champion Germany in the quarterfinals and semifinals respectively.

The loss to Germany



**Time for action:** With opponents working on ways to curtail Harmanpreet's influence, the others have to step up. RITU RAJ KONWAR

was a setback to a long-standing dream, but India must realise that it could not make use of the opportunities that came its way.

Opponents working on ways to check Harmanpreet in penalty corners is to be expected.

Hence the side should look at enhancing its accuracy in converting field goal chances.

The forwardline comprising Mandeep Singh, Abhishek, Sukhjeet Singh and Lalit Upadhyay would do well to keep calm like

their colleagues in the back.

The return of Amit Rohidas, who served a one-match suspension after being red-carded against Great Britain, will boost India's penalty corner defence and attack apart

from strengthening the backline.

Spain, which gave a good fight to the Netherlands in a pool match and stunned a formidable Belgium in the quarterfinals, will be a tough nut to crack though.

## Medal drought

Looking to end its 16-year-old medal drought in the Olympics, Spain will depend on its leading goal scorers Jose Basterra and Marc Reyne to get an upper hand.

India had prevailed over Spain in their last two engagements in the FIH Pro League in Bhubaneswar and Rourkela in February last. It would bank on those experiences to devise plans for another win to ensure a much-needed medal when India is struggling to match its last Olympics' tally.

Following its historic bronze in Tokyo, India's second consecutive podium finish after 52 years would be a fitting farewell to seasoned goalkeeper P.R. Sreejesh, who is performing at his peak and is all set for his last dance.

## Germans get the better of India, this time in table tennis

**Y.B. Sarangi**  
PARIS

India bowed out of the women's team event after losing 3-1 to the superior Germany in the quarterfinals of the Olympics at the South Paris Arena's table tennis venue here on Wednesday.

The 11th-ranked India could not match Germans' controlled performance.

The doubles pair of Sreeja Akula and Archana Kamath could not offer much resistance against Yuan Wan-Xiaona Shan in the first game. The Indians, however, combined better to play some fine shots to make it 1-1.

The Indians led 9-6 in the third game when Wan hit it out, but Sreeja & Archana could not gather two more points and saw the Germans regain their lead. The Germans' superb cross court shots helped them seize the initiative.

In the first singles encounter, 25th-ranked Manika Batra went 1-0 up against World No. 100 Annett Kaufmann. But Annett bounced back to have six game points secure the



**Distraught:** Archana and Manika react after the loss. PTI

next as Manika made several errors. The 18-year-old southpaw raised her game and played some excellent shots to tame Manika in the next two. Archana's cool-headed approach under pressure and a win over 40th-ranked Shan kept India in the competition. As Shan spoiled three game points, the Indian showed her resolve and employed her variation to claim the first game 19-17.

Archana, ranked 123rd, lost momentum in the second game, but dominated again by getting engaged in some rallies and executing flat shots in the next two to bridge the gap.

Annett eased past Sreeja in the fourth game to win the game for the Germans. The Indian found Annett's sharp shots from unpredictable angles difficult to handle and lost in 23 minutes.

On her loss to a lower-ranked player, Manika said: "I was getting confused. Annett played really well today. She was well prepared."

**The results: Germany bt India 3-1** (Yuan Wan-Xiaona Shan bt Sreeja Akula-Archana Kamath 11-5, 8-11, 12-10, 11-6; Annett Kaufmann bt Manika Batra 8-11, 11-5, 11-7, 11-5; Xiaona Shan lost to Archana Kamath 17-19, 11-1, 5-11, 9-11; Annett Kaufmann bt Sreeja Akula 11-6, 11-7, 11-7).



**Numero uno:** Gabby Thomas clocked 21.83s to win her first major title. REUTERS

## Gabby Thomas sprints to the 200m title

**Agence France-Presse**  
PARIS

American Gabby Thomas stormed to a brilliant victory in the women's Olympic 200m in Paris on Tuesday to clinch her first major title of her career.

Thomas clocked 21.83s to win ahead of St. Lucia's Olympic 100m champion Julien Alfred, who timed 22.08s. Thomas' USA teammate Brittany Brown claimed bronze in 22.20s.

Thomas, 27, a bronze medalist at the Tokyo Games three years ago, is the first American woman to win an Olympic short sprint title since childhood idol Allyson Felix won the

200m at the 2012 London Games. "It's an unbelievable feeling," Thomas told reporters after her win.

"It's indescribable, I'm so excited. If I didn't get this gold medal today I don't know what I would have done."

"I'm really in disbelief because having an Olympic gold medal is something in my wildest dreams. But at the same time I know how hard I've fought for it."

"This has been six years in the making, head down, working hard, going to really hard meets, pushing yourself, and now it's here and I've done it. This is the happiest moment of my life."

## Shooting star Manu returns to a rousing welcome

**Sports Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

There was a rousing welcome for double Olympic medallist Manu Bhaker on Wednesday morning at the Indira Gandhi International airport. The 22-year-old, who won the bronze medals in the air pistol and mixed air pistol event with Sarabjot Singh, returned along with the other shooting medallist, Swapnil Kusale, from the Paris Games.

While Manu hogged all the attention along with her coach Jaspal Rana, it was a relatively subdued welcome for Swapnil, who had won the rifle 3-position medal.

Of course, there was no dearth of flowers or garlands, as the two medal winners were showered with the warmth of love of



**Proud moment:** Manu and her coach Rana arrive in Delhi. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

the adoring fans, especially from the shooting fraternity.

Quite understandably

Manu was thrilled to get a quick taste of home food, as her mother Smedha and father Ram Kishan

Bhaker received her at the airport. There was a felicitation function planned for the medallists by the Union

Sports Minister Dr. Manu Sukh Mandaviya, but it got postponed following the shocking news of the disqualification of Vinesh Phogat from the wrestling finals in Paris.

A series of media interaction with the shooters, especially Manu, also got cancelled, as everyone stayed focused on the gloomy news of Vinesh.

The felicitation and other functions are expected to be done soon, as the government has been particularly prompt in presenting the cash awards for the medals won in international competition.

In fact, Sarabjot Singh who had returned earlier has already been presented his share of ₹22.5 lakh for the bronze medal by the Sports Ministry.

It will be a short home

## Medals table

					<b>T</b>
Country	G	S	B	T	
1 USA	25	33	32	90	
2 China	24	22	16	62	
3 Australia	17	12	10	39	
4 France	13	16	29	49	
5 Great Britain	12	16	20	48	
6 Japan	12	6	12	30	
7 Korea	11	8	7	26	
8 Italy	9	10	8	27	
9 Netherlands	9	5	6	20	
10 Germany	8	5	4	17	
<b>65 India</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	

## GOLDIES

**Miltiadis Tentoglou (Gre):** Men's Long Jump

**Winfred Yavi (Brn):** Women's 3000m Steeplechase

**Gabby Thomas (USA):** Women's 200m

**Kellie Harrington (Irl):** Women's 60kg

**Amit Elor (USA):** Women's Freestyle 68kg

**Spain (Alvaro Martin and Maria Perez):** Marathon race walk mixed relay

**Marit Bouwmeester (Ned):** Women's Dinghy

**Matt Wearn (Aus):** Men's Dinghy

**Aleksandra Miroslaw (Pol):** Sport Climbing: Women's Speed

**Li Fabin (Chn):** Weightlifting Men's 61kg

**Keegan Palmer (Aus):** Skateboarding Men's Park

**Australia:** Cycling Track Men's Team Pursuit

**USA:** Cycling Track Women's Team Pursuit

**Nao Kusaka (Jpn):** Men's Greco-Roman 77kg

**China:** Artistic Swimming Team Acrobatic Routine

**Mohammadhadi Saravi (Iri):** Men's Greco-Roman 97kg

**Quincy Hall (USA):** Men's 400m



Diksha Dagar. REUTERS

## THE INDIA SHOW

A look at some of the Indian performances on Wednesday:

**Athletics:** Women's 100m hurdles (round 1): Jyothi (seventh in Heat 4, 35th overall), enters repechage; Women's javelin throw qualification: Annu (29th overall), DNQ for final; Men's high jump qualification: Sarvesh (25th overall), DNQ for final; Marathon race walk: Mixed relay final: Priyanka & Suraj (DNF); Men's triple jump qualification: Abdulla (21st overall) and Praveen (27th overall), DNQ for final.

**Golf:** Women's Individual Stroke Play (round 1): Diksha (T7), Aditi (T13).

**Table tennis:** Women's team (quarterfinal): lost to Germany 1-3.

**Wrestling:** Women's freestyle 53kg (1/8 final): Antim lost to Yetgil (Tur) 0-10.

Sport

# Wily Wellalage bowls Sri Lanka to an emphatic series victory

The Lions maul the visitors to pull off a 110-run win in the third and final encounter; the 2-0 result brings to an end a 27-year-old wait for a favourable verdict in bilateral match-ups against the World's top-ranked ODI side

INDIA IN SRI LANKA

S. Dipak Ragav  
COLOMBO

For the third match in a row, the Sri Lankan spinners spun a web around the mighty Indian batting to bowl their side to a sensational 2-0 series triumph after beating the Men in Blue by a mammoth 110 runs in the third and final one-day international at the R. Premadasa International Cricket Stadium on Wednesday.

The win also marked Sri Lanka's first one-day bilateral series win against their neighbours in 27 years, set up by its spinners who aptly took 27 out of the 30 wickets (nine in each match). Chasing 249 for victory, India succumbed to left-arm spinner Duniath Wellalage's tricks, who scalped a brilliant five-wicket haul (5.1-0-27-5).

The visitor's chase followed a similar pattern to the first two games, where skipper Rohit Sharma (35) got the team off to a flyer yet again. But once he was back in the dugout, the other batters were like deer caught in the headlights against Lanka's twerkers.

Wellalage struck four times in his first four overs as India went from 53 for one to 82 for six in under six overs. The left-arm spinner claimed his first wicket of the day when Rohit edged to the keeper and



Sleight of hand: Wellalage spun out the Indian batting order with a five-for. AFP

later trapped Virat Kohli leg-before as he missed an arm ball trying to play the spin.

In the 13th over, Wellalage castled Axar Patel and had Shreyas Iyer trapped in front — both batters caught on the back foot. Despite playing nine batters, Rohit's men surrendered meekly in just two hours and were shot out for 138. Fittingly, Wellalage, whose cameos with the bat in the first two matches proved vital for the hosts, took the final wicket.

Earlier, Avishka Fernando slammed a brilliant 96 (102b, 9x4, 2x6) and found able support from Pathum Nissanka (45) and Kusal Mendis (59) to help the home team post 248 for seven.

After winning a crucial toss for the third time, Sri Lanka made good use of

the conditions in what appeared to be the best strip of the series, at least for the first half of the innings.

Avishka and his opening partner Nissanka got their team off to a solid start, taking apart Mohammed

Siraj, India's lone frontline pacer. Siraj was wavered, either drifting onto the pads or giving width, and Nissanka was quick to pounce on the opportunities, collecting four boundaries.

Once Nissanka was dismissed, Avishka and Mendis forged an 82-run alliance for the second wicket. The former reached his half-century in style, driving Axar square through the off-side fence. In the 29th over, Avishka punished Siraj by running him down third-man for a boundary before authoritatively pulling the pacer over square-leg for back-to-back maximums.

Riyan Parag (three for 54), making his ODI debut, got the breakthrough by catching Avishka in front with his leg-spin, four short of what would have been a well-deserved century. Despite the Lions' mini-collapse, going from 171 for one to 199 for six once the pitch started taking turn, Kusal held fort at one end to help his side finish strongly. In the end, it proved more than enough.

SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA		INDIA BOWLING	
Pathum Nissanka c Pant b Axar 45 (65b, 5x4, 2x6), Avishka Fernando lbw b Parag 96 (102b, 9x4, 2x6), Kusal Mendis c Gill b Kuldeep 59 (82b, 4x4), Charith Asalanka lbw b Parag 10 (12b, 1x6), Sadeera Samarawickrama lbw b Siraj 0 (1b), Janith Liyanage b Washington 8 (12b, 1x4), Duniath Wellalage b Parag 2 (3b), Kamindu Mendis (not out) 23 (19b, 1x6), Maheesh Theekshana (not out) 3 (4b); Extras (lb-1, w-1); 2; Total (for seven wks. in 50 overs): 248.		Siraj 9-0-78-1, Dube 4-0-9-0, Axar 10-1-41-1, Washington 8-1-29-1, Kuldeep 10-0-36-1, Parag 9-0-54-3.	
FALL OF WICKETS		INDIA	
1-89 (Nissanka, 19.5 overs), 2-171 (Avishka, 35.3), 3-183 (Asalanka, 37.6), 4-184 (Samarawickrama,		Rohit Sharma c Kusal Mendis b Wellalage 35 (20b, 6x4, 1x6), Shubman Gill b Asitha 6 (14b), Virat Kohli lbw b Wellalage 20 (18b, 4x4), Rishabh Pant st. Kusal Mendis b Theekshana 6 (9b, 1x4), Shreyas Iyer lbw b Wellalage 8 (7b, 2x4), Axar Patel b Wellalage 2 (7b), Riyan Parag b Vandersay 15 (13b, 2x4), Shivam Dube lbw b Vandersay 9 (14b, 1x4), Washington Sundar c Vandersay b Theekshana 30 (25b, 2x4, 3x6),	

Kuldeep Yadav lbw b Wellalage 6 (30b), Mohammed Siraj (not out) 0 (0b); Extras (lb-1); 1; Total (in 26.1 overs): 138.

**FALL OF WICKETS**  
1-37 (Gill, 4.3), 2-53 (Rohit, 7.1), 3-63 (Pant, 9.2), 4-71 (Kohli, 10.5), 5-73 (Axar, 12.1), 6-82 (Shreyas, 12.5), 7-100 (Parag, 15.6), 8-101 (Dube, 17.3), 9-138 (Washington, 25.6).

**SRI LANKA BOWLING**  
Asitha 5-0-29-1, Theekshana 8-0-45-2, Wellalage 5.1-0-27-5, Vandersay 5-0-34-2, Asalanka 3-1-2-0.

**Toss:** Sri Lanka.  
**Pol:** Fernando.  
**Pos:** Wellalage.  
Sri Lanka won by 110 runs to clinch the three-match series 2-0.

# Durand Cup: East Bengal eases past Downtown Heroes

Sports Bureau  
KOLKATA

Emami East Bengal FC consolidated its position on top of Group A with a 3-1 win over 10-man Downtown Heroes FC in the 133rd Durand Cup here on Wednesday.

Madih Talal opened the scoring for East Bengal from a free-kick in the 29th minute before Downtown Heroes levelled with a fine goal from Aafreen Basharat in the 30th. Spanish midfielder Saul Crespo converted from the spot to help East Bengal regain the lead in the 36th before substitute Jesin T.K. completed the tally with a goal in second half injury-time.



No worries: Crespo celebrates after scoring East Bengal's second from the spot. DEBASISH BHADURI

East Bengal tallied six points from two wins to continue on top of the group. Indian Army picked up its second win on the trot by convincingly outplaying Assam Rifles 3-0 in a Group D encounter at Jamshedpur.

**The results: At Kolkata:** Group A: Emami East Bengal 3 (Madih Talal 29, Saul Crespo 36-pen, Jesin T.K. 90+3) bt Downtown Heroes FC 1 (Aafreen Basharat 30).  
**At Jamshedpur:** Group D: Indian Army FT 3 (Alan Thapa7, Pradeep Singh 61-pen, Sunil B. 89) bt Assam Rifles FT 0.

# It's Imperial Blue vs. Yukan in the Chief Justice's Cup

BENGALURU: Imperial Blue and Yukan may fight out the finish of the Chief Justice's Cup (1,400m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Aug 8). False rails (width about from 5m 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

**1 SKYLINE PLATE (1,400m),** rated 20 to 25, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Alice Blue (3) B.R. Kumar 62, 2. Sea Diamond (4) P. Sai Kumar 61.5, 3. Estefania (6) Antony 59.5, 4. The Omega Man (5) P. Mani 59.5, 5. Double Vision (8) Dhanu S 59, 6. Tankinika (2) Vivek 59, 7. Ice Storm (1) M. Rajesh K 58.5 and 8. Sacred Creator (7) Angad 57.

**2 BHISHMA PLATE (1,400m),** rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 2-30: 1. Southern Power (3) Arshad 60.5, 2. Free To Play (2) Darshan 59.5, 3. Measure Of Time (7) Akshay K 59.5, 4. Castaneda (1) Antony 57.5, 5. Star Comet (5) Koshi K 56.5, 6. Raffles (8) Dhanu S 56, 7. Glow In The Dark (4) R. Pradeep 55 and 8. Peridot (6) B.R. Kumar 53.

**3 DHARMAPRAKASHA L.S. VENKAJI RAO MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m),** maiden 3-y-o only (Terms), 3-00: 1. Dr Ash (5) Salm Khan 56, 2. Enjoyable (3) Sai Kiran 56, 3. Forever Royal (2) R. Pradeep 56, 4. Krystallos (4) Akshay K 56, 5. Makoto (6) Dhanu S 56, 6. Rodney (1) B.R. Kumar 56, 7. Flash (7) Sandesh 54.5 and 8. Kamet (8) Antony 54.5.

**4 D. KUMAR SHIDDANNA MEMORIAL TROPHY (2,000),** rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Aquamatic (1) Suraj 62, 2. Starkova (4) S.J. Moulin 60, 3. Stellar Gold (5) Koshi K 59.5, 4. Magnus (6) Neeraj 53, 5. Constable (2) G. Vivek 52.5 and 6. Tjepolo (3) J. Chinoy 52.5.

**5 CHIEF JUSTICE'S CUP (1,400m),** rated 80 & above, 4-00: 1. Imperial Blue (2) Antony 60, 2. Dun It Again (4) Faizan Khan 57.5, 3. Kalamitsi (5) I. Chinoy 56.5, 4. Nezhah (1) Sandesh 56.5, 5. Shubankar (3) Sai Kiran 53.5 and 6. Yukan (6) Akshay K 53.5.

**6 D.M. KUMARASWAMY MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m),** rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Crosswater (4) Antony 60, 2. Disruptor (9) Darshan 59.5, 3. Golden Peaks (2) Akshay K 58.5, 4. Roman Spirit (12) Koshi K 57.5, 5. Adjustment (11) Neeraj 57, 6. Victoria Doreesani (7) Suraj 57, 7. Samurai Blue (10) S.J. Moulin 56.5, 8. Extraordinary (6) Sai Kiran 56, 9. High Opinion (1) P. Sai Kumar 55.5, 10. Armory (3) Angad 55, 11. Lex Luther (8) Vinod Shinde 54.5 and 12. Blue God (5) G. Vivek 52.5.

**7 GALILEE PLATE (1,800m),** rated 20 to 45, 5-00: 1. Sekhmet (2) Faizan Khan 62, 2. Ardakan (1) Arvind K 61.5, 3. August (5) Antony 60.5, 4. Pharazon (6) Suraj 59, 5. Regal Aristocracy (4) Sandesh 58.5, 6. Southernaristocrat (7) Koshi K 57.5, 7. My Vision (8) Jagadeesh 56, 8. Ahead Of The Curve (9) Vinod Shinde 55, 9. Royal Whisper (3) Salman Khan 53.5 and 10. Mystical Air (10) G. Vivek 53.

## DELHI TRANSCO LIMITED

(An Undertaking of Government of NCT of Delhi)  
CIN : U40103DL2001SGC111529  
Shakti Sadan, Kotla Road, New Delhi-110002  
Website : www.dtl.gov.in  
Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2024

S. No.	Particulars	INR Lakhs			
		Quarter Ended 30.06.2024 (Un-audited)	Quarter Ended 31.03.2024 (Un-audited)	Quarter Ended 30.06.2023 (Un-audited)	Year ended 31.03.2024 (Un-audited)
1	Total income from operations	39,971.81	39,283.16	38,721.94	157,282.56
2	Net Profit/ (loss) for the period before tax (before exceptional items)	29,923.88	27,797.57	25,206.73	108,325.87
3	Net Profit/ (loss) for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	29,923.88	27,797.57	25,206.73	108,325.87
4	Net Profit/ (loss) for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	21,655.53	21,877.64	21,434.60	89,161.33
5	Total comprehensive income for the period (comprising profit for the period (after tax) and other comprehensive income (after tax))	21,749.61	21,905.88	21,458.16	89,206.26
6	Paid up equity share capital	395,100.00	395,100.00	395,100.00	395,100.00
7	Reserves (excluding revaluation reserve)	283,983.72	262,234.23	201,061.80	262,234.23
8	Net worth	679,083.72	657,334.23	596,161.80	657,334.23
9	Paid up debt capital/ outstanding debt	4,065.49	4,901.98	18,038.76	4,901.98
10	Outstanding redeemable preference shares	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Debt equity ratio	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
12	Earnings per share (of INR10/- each) (for continuing and discontinued operations)				
	Basic & Diluted (INR)	0.55	0.55	0.54	2.26
13	Capital redemption reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Debenture redemption reserve	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00
15	Debt service coverage ratio	2.73	16.32	15.81	8.71
16	Interest service coverage ratio	201.88	245.41	75.60	124.46

**Notes forming part of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2024.**

a) The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the quarterly financial results are available on the websites of the Stock Exchange (www.bseindia.com) and the listed entity (www.dtl.gov.in).

b) The Financial results for the quarter ended on 30th June, 2024 have been recommended by Audit Committee and approved by Board of Directors at their meeting held on 07.08.2024. The Independent Chartered Accountant have conducted the limited review of these financials results.

c) For the items referred in regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the Bombay Stock Exchange and can be accessed on the URL (www.bseindia.com).

d) No investor complaints were pending at the beginning of the quarter and no complaints were received during the quarter.

e) Previous period's figures have been regrouped/re-classified wherever deemed necessary.

By order of the Board of Directors  
For Delhi Transco Limited

Date: 07.08.2024  
Place: New Delhi

Mukesh Kumar Sharma  
Director (Operation)

### CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department  
Administrative Office: No.24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001, E-Mail ID: crmd@cityunionbank.in, Phone: 0435-2432322, Fax: 0435-2431746

#### TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following properties mortgaged to City Union Bank Limited will be sold in Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.48,45,225/- (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Forty Five Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty Five rupees)** as on 31-07-2024 together with further interest to be charged from 01-08-2024 onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors No.1) Ms. Interior Options, C-389, Pocket C, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi - 110076, No.2) Mr. Zeeshan Haider Rizvi, S/o. Mr. Hasan Rizvi, C-389, Pocket C, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi - 110076, No.3) Mrs. Rafat Rizvi, W/o. Mr. Zeeshan Haider Rizvi, C-389, Pocket C, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi - 110076.

**Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank (Property Owned by Mrs. Rafat Rizvi, W/o. Mr. Zeeshan Haider Rizvi)**  
Commercial Shop No.31 (addressing 496.80 Sq.ft.), on Ground Floor, Block No.1, Sector -1, in Panchsheel Well Bazar at GH - 6, in Township known as Crossings Republik, Dundaheera, Ghaziabad (UP), Boundaries : North : Shop No.30, South : Others Property, East : Others Property, West : Entrance of the Shop/Open Area/Others Property.

**Reserve Price : Rs.1,02,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Two Lakh only)**

**AUCTION DETAILS**

Date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
18-09-2024	City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi-Mayur Vihar Branch, C-53, Ground Floor, Shashi Garden, Phase - I, Mayur Vihar, Delhi - 110091, Telephone No.011-22755089, Cell No.9312282476.

**Terms and Conditions of Tender-cum-Auction Sale:**

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. (2) The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, New Delhi-Mayur Vihar Branch, C-53, Ground Floor, Shashi Garden, Phase - I, Mayur Vihar, Delhi - 110091. (3) The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd., together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of "City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. (4) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact Telephone No.011-22755089, Cell No.9312282476. (5) The properties are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever- there is" basis. (6) The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at 01.00 p.m. on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay 25% (inclusive of EMD paid) of the sale amount immediately on completion of sale and the balance amount of 75% within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of 25% shall be forfeited. (8) The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. (9) The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. (10) The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. (11) The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 06-08-2024 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office: 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287, Telephone No.0435-2402322, Fax: 0435-2431746, Website: www.cityunionbank.com

### GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG  
NOTICE INVITING e TENDERS

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Bhoranj invites online bids on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from registered/eligible contractor/Firms for the following work (s) through online process.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender	Time
1.	Augmentation and Imp. Of LWSS Dharmrol in Tehsil Bhoranj Distt, Hamipur (HP). (SH- Construction of 1 No OHSR 4,20,000 Ltr. Cap. With 5 mtr staging height at vill. Kalyat, OHSR 50000 ltr. Cap. at Dharmrol with 10 mtr staging height)	66,95,300/-	99,500/-	800/-	Six Months

Last date of filing/ uploading the tender through e-tendering 16.08.2024 up to 11.00 AM  
The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be obtained from the website [www.hptenders.gov.in](http://www.hptenders.gov.in)

HIM SUCHANA Executive Engineer,  
AVAM JAN SAMPARK Jal Shakti Division, Bhoranj,  
HP/1319/24-25

### U.P. COOPERATIVE SUGAR FACTORIES FEDERATION LTD

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पत्र संख्या 382/यू.पी.एफ.ई.ओ.आर.डी.सी./2024-25 दिनांक: 06.08.2024

**एक्सप्रेशन आफ इन्टरेस्ट**

उपरोक्त के सहकारी मिल संघ लि., द्वारा सहकारी चीनी मिलों में उपलब्ध पुरानी बैगास का अत्यंत उपयोग कर मूल्य-वर्धित उत्पाद बनाकर स्थानिक मूल्य प्राप्त किये जाने हेतु इच्छुक फर्म/स्टार्टअप से निविदा 30.08.2024 तक 10 से 15 मिनट की प्रेजेन्टेशन के माध्यम से एक्सप्रेशन आफ इन्टरेस्ट मंगाना गया है। इस हेतु इच्छुक फर्म/स्टार्टअप द्वारा संघ की वेबसाइट [www.upsugarfed.org](http://www.upsugarfed.org) से अधिक जानकारी प्राप्त की जा सकती है। (कुमार विनोद) प्रबन्ध निदेशक

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### HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

"A State Government Undertaking"

**"NOTICE INVITING TENDER" (e-Tendering Mode only)**

Online tender (Two part bid) are invited for the supply of following item(s), on the prescribed form (Tender Documents). The Start, End dates and times of submission and opening of Techno Commercial Bid of tender are as per detail given below. The Detailed Tender Notice, terms and conditions along with tender documents can be viewed/downloaded from website <https://www.hptenders.gov.in>

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Description of Items	Qty. (in Nos.)	Estid. Cost (in Lacs)	Tender fee inclusive of GST@8% (Non-refundable) (in Rs.)	published online on dated	Start date & time of bid submission	End date & time of bid submission	Date & Time of opening of Comm. bid.
1.	CE(MM)-11/2024	ISI Marked 1/3.5/4 Core 1.1KV LT unarmoured XLPE insulated, PVC Sheathed Aluminum Conductor cables of various sizes.	155,34 Kms.	669.80	1475/-	08.08.2024 (on 3.00 p.m.)	08.08.2024 (from 3.00 p.m.)	20.08.2024 (upto 11.00 a.m.)	22.08.2024 (at 11.30 a.m.)

Chief Engineer (MM)

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Mr. N SELVA KUMAR  
PH: 9820350726  
[selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in](mailto:selvakumar.n@thehindu.co.in)

THE HINDU  
India's National Newspaper

## Ankita Raina enters the pre-quarterfinals in Roehampton

**TENNIS**

**Sports Bureau**

Ankita Raina defeated Kathleen Kanev of Germany 6-3, 7-5 in the first round of the \$25,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Roehampton (Great Britain) on Wednesday. In the \$15,000 ITF men's event in Curtea de Arges (Romania) Manas Dhamne beat Adam Panaras of France 6-3, 6-2 in the first round.

**The results: €74,825 Challenger, Bonn:** David Pel & Bart Stevens (Ned) bt Luca Sanchez (Fra) & Divij Sharan

6-2, 6-4.  
**First round, \$25,000 ITF women, Brazzaville:** Dev Javia bt Yash Chaurasia 6-3, 6-2.  
**\$25,000 ITF men, Taipei:** S. Mukund bt Mitsuki Leong (Mas) 7-6(2), 6-2; Kazuki Nishiwaki (Jpn) bt Sidharth Rawat 6-3, 6-2.  
**\$15,000 ITF men, Curtea de Arges:** Manas Dhamne bt Adam Panaras (Fra) 6-3, 6-2.  
**\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir:** Daniel Khazime bt Chirag Duhan 6-2, 7-6(5).  
**\$25,000 ITF women, Roehampton:** Ankita Raina bt Kathleen Kanev (Ger) 6-3, 7-5.  
**Pre-quarterfinals: \$15,000 ITF women, Tbilisi (Georgia):** Elena Jamshidi (Den) bt Smriti Bhasin 4-6, 7-6(7), 7-5; **Doubles:** Sofya Gapankova & Kseniya Yersh bt Edda Mamedova & Saumya Vig 6-1, 7-6(3).

## Neeraj subdues Tirth in the quarterfinals

**Sports Bureau**

Top seed Neeraj Yashpaul fought past qualifier Tirth Doshi 7-6(5), 3-6, 6-3 in the men's quarterfinals of the HPCL Mittal ₹200,000 AITA ranking tennis tournament in Chandigarh on Wednesday.

**The results, quarterfinals: Men:** Neeraj Yashpaul bt Tirth Doshi 7-6(5), 3-6, 6-3; Sarthak Sudan bt Priyanshu Choudhary 6-3, 6-2.  
**Women:** Anjali Rathi bt Mahika Khanna 2-6, 6-4, 6-0; Chevika Reddy bt Samriti Punyani 6-4, 6-4; Riya Sachdeva bt Samaira Malik 6-2, 6-0; Sahira Singh bt Ayushi Singh 7-5, 6-1.

## Decision on Vinesh unfortunate: Gavaskar

Legendary batter urges the concerned authorities to make a very strong protest, fears this incident could impact the rest of the Paris contingent

**Shayan Acharya**  
MUMBAI

As Vinesh Phogat crashed out of the Paris Olympics on Wednesday, former India cricket captain Sunil Gavaskar called the whole episode 'unfortunate'. "I think it's unfortunate and unfair. I do hope that the authorities will take notice of it, make a strong response to this because this is not just the initial round.

"We're talking about the gold medal round and therefore this cannot and should not be taken lying down by anybody in India - whether it's the Indian



Gavaskar. SHAYAN ACHARYA

think we actually must be protesting very, very strongly about this whole issue."

"It can be disheartening for the whole contingent. This is where the sports persons tend to lift themselves up. This is the challenge to lift yourself over and above this and get into a winning situation."

Gavaskar was disappointed to see young shuttler Lakshya Sen bowing out.

"I was a bit disappointed. We need to look at whether it's more of a mental issue, even Prakash (Padukone) said he did not know why Lakshya lost," Gavaskar said.

Olympic Association or the government of India," Gavaskar said on the sidelines of the launch of TVS Apache Spartan Race India. Gavaskar added, "I



**INBRIEF**



### Argentina's di Maria extends Benfica deal through 2025

Veteran Argentina winger Angel Di Maria, 36, has decided against a return to his homeland and extended his deal with Portuguese club Benfica, the Lisbon outfit said on Wednesday. He had been in negotiations to join Rosario Central of Argentina but had a change of heart. "I am happy to stay at Benfica for one more year" to "continue to win titles," the 36-year-old said. Di Maria helped Argentina win the World Cup and Copa America and has starred with Real Madrid, Manchester United, Juventus and PSG.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**Olympics 2024:** Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & JioCinema, 11 a.m. onwards  
**Football:** Durand Cup, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 3.30 & 6.30 p.m.  
**West Indies vs South Africa:** 1st Test, day 2, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

## Kimranvir, Gurleen guide Sant Baba Hari School to win over SL team

**SUBROTO CUP**

**Sports Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

Kimranvir (2) and Gurleen helped Sant Baba Hari Singh Model School, Mahilpur, to a 3-2 victory over Sri Lanka School Football Association in a group-A league match of the 63rd Subroto Cup under-17 girls' football tournament at the GD Goenka World School ground on Wednesday.

Rumesha and Kalsika scored a goal each for the Sri Lankan team.

**The results (league): Group-A:**

Betkuchi HS, Guwahati, bt Coast Guard Public School, Nani Daman, 21-1; Sant Baba Hari Singh Model School, Mahilpur, bt Sri Lanka School Football Association 3-2.

**Group-B:** Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protishtan bt The King's School, Goa, 3-0; Government SSS, Sombaria, Sikkim, bt Dhirubhai Ambani International School, Mumbai, 27-0.

**Group-C:** The Prompt Sabal Leikai HS, Imphal, bt SRV Government Model HSS, Ernakulam, 2-0; Infocus Inida Public School, Balisha Bira North, West Bengal, bt Army Public School, Patiala, 12-0.

**Group-D:** JNV East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya, bt RSB Arya Vidya Mandir, Juhu, 1-0; Vidya Devi Jindal School, Hisar, bt GSSS,

Kotala, Samrala, Ludhiana, 2-0.

**Group-E:** Mother International School, Ranchi, bt Faith HSS, Himatnagar, 3-0; Modern School, Barakhamba Road, bt Government SS, Monigong, Arunachal Pradesh 3-1.

**Group-F:** RKS Girls HS, Siwan, Tripura, bt Harish Panwar Uchha Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Nainital, 7-0; Springfield HSS, Aizawl, bt RKS Girls HS, Siwan, 13-0.

**Group-G:** Home Mission School NCC, Aizawl, bt Sainik School, Sambalpur, 18-1; Government HS, Kohima, bt Air Force Bal Bharti School, Lodhi Road, Delhi, 2-0.

**Group-H:** GSSS, Alakhpura, bt Vidya Gyan School, Bulandshahr, 13-0; Nandajhar AT HS, West Bengal, bt Shashkiya HSS, Kanya Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, 1-0.

**THE HINDU AT THE GAMES PHOTO CONTEST**

With four World Championship titles and four ISSF World Cup gold medals, identify this rising star in Indian shooting who will be representing the country at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

Scan QR code or visit [newsth.live/THOPH](http://newsth.live/THOPH) to take the quiz. Top 3 winners\* every day win gift vouchers.

Answer to yesterday's quiz: **Gymnastics**

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# Manu has shown other women athletes the importance of self-belief

The head coach of the 10m air rifle contingent feels that the hard work has paid off, and calls for reinstating the junior programme in order to create athletes with a champion's mindset; just being talented is not enough and we need to create a very strong base of athletes who can perform on the big stage



RITU RAJ KONWAR

## INTERVIEW

### SUMA SHIRUR

**Amol Karhadkar**  
MUMBAI

Heading into Paris, she was the last Indian female shooter to have entered an Olympic final. On her return to India, Suma Shirur - who was the head coach of the 10m air rifle contingent at the Paris Games - is all smiles for multiple reasons. Not only did an Indian woman shooter earn a medal this time but the air rifle shooters also performed exceptionally in Paris. Shirur shared her thoughts about the turnaround from Tokyo to Paris. Excerpts:

**Is Suma Shirur over the moon that finally we have a female shooter medalist or are you disappointed that the record has been snatched away from you?**

I am definitely happy because I belong to the first generation of Indian shooters and I was still the last woman finalist. Over the years, it had actually started to worry me as to why we are not able to do it.

Why are the women not able to come out of their shell and to perform on the Olympic stage?

I am very happy that finally all those inhibitions have been shredded and we have Manu (Bhaker), who has shown the way to a lot of other women athletes in creating that self-belief - at a high level, we are also strong enough to be able to stand the pressure and be able to perform. This is definitely going to help a whole lot of other women shooters who are extremely talented.

**From Tokyo to Paris, what exactly changed in Indian shooting?**

Tokyo was, of course, very heartbreaking, but I would say the circumstances were very different - because of the COVID lockdown just before the Olympics, things were not so easy. There were decisions that were made. Most of it was just to keep the team safe from COVID. But anyway, that's history. Definitely a lot of lessons to be drawn, knowing that just having athletes who have very good world rankings is not going to help. We just need to have athletes going into the

Olympics who are in form.

I would say from Tokyo to Paris, keeping the basic framework the same, a lot of things were added and included into the system, and one of the most important things was having the Olympic selection trials. It was a new concept, so it could have gone either way. We all believed that no system is ever perfect, but we needed to do things in a way that... unless we try things out, we will never know how it works. I am very happy that the Olympic selection trials were a huge success because all the bonus points were taken away. Yes, it was a little more difficult for the shooters. If the selection process was so difficult, the ones who come out of the selection process are definitely fitter, stronger and more capable of performing at a stage like the Olympics. This is one of the major things.

Apart from that, the overall system was focused on a more holistic approach, so the shooters were physically and mentally stronger. We were more focused on the process and technically also, all the coaches worked hard on each and every athlete and the high performance director was appointed to keep various sections well-coordinated.

Overall it has been very, very good teamwork and though it's an individual sport, it's very important to have a team that backs you. Once we were able to iron it out, everything comes along the way.

**Shooting is one of the foremost individual disciplines in Indian sport wherein a coordinated effort between personal coaches and the national coach is paramount. As a part of the national coaching group this time around, how did you actually handle this aspect, especially in the aftermath of the Tokyo debacle?**

That's true. Honestly, I don't even know what this hullabaloo is all about because both the roles are completely different. Neither can the chief coach take the place of a personal coach nor can a personal coach take the place of the chief coach. The roles are completely different. Both are equally important. I have been a personal coach also, I have been a chief coach also, and I feel that what is very important is that we respect each other. I can't say that I am better than a personal coach. There is no



I am definitely happy because I belong to the first generation of Indian shooters and I was still the last woman finalist. Over the years, it had actually started to worry me as to why we are not able to do it

**SHIRUR**  
on her record being broken

comparison of any sort. We need to respect each other's role. If we are clear about the roles, the athletes also benefit.

When an athlete is coming into the national team and when we have to go out there and perform, we are definitely not going to teach them how to shoot. They are here because they have good personal coaches. As far as the chief coach is concerned, it's very important that I have to look at the overall team and the overall mood of

the team, the overall well-being of the team. And it's also important to ensure that everyone is in the right mood, I have to be observant, and if there are technical hiccups coming along the way, I need to iron that out. It's also about making those right decisions under pressure.

When I have an athlete coming out in between a match, what you say is very important. When we are going into a big competition like the Olympics, it's impossible to have all the personal coaches behind the shooter on the lane. It's not happening because of the restrictions with the number of coaches. So it's very important to have a coach who understands the overall system and who understands an athlete and was able to make that decision, so it's also very important for the athlete to have that trust in the coach who is sitting there behind them and where there is no conflict of interest. All that we want is that India should win a medal. It's not about individuals, but it's more about the country as a whole and we are able to perform well as a team.

**You mentioned performing well as a team. In your domain - 10m air rifle - how would you sum up the campaign?**

I am happy with the overall performance and yes, of course, I would have been happier and content with a medal. As a coach, definitely I would look at performance because in my event all the four have performed

really well. Arjun Babuta was almost there and in one shot, he missed out on a medal. Ramita also was in the finals and they were very close. Sandeep (Singh) lost his place in the final, so I think when I look at the overall team performance, I am satisfied. We narrowly missed on a medal but for the performances, I am happy and it just goes to show that now we are on the right track. Going forward, if we keep working this way, definitely we will have more medals coming in our kitty.

**Overall from the shooting contingent's perspective, do you think you all have managed to shed all the disappointments of the two previous Olympic cycles?**

For sure. Everyone is like - finally, after two cycles - really celebrating the shooters, which was much-needed because of all the work that was put in at an individual level, at a coach level, at a federation level, from the government level. Everyone has been completely into it in trying to put the ghosts of Tokyo out of our minds. And I do hope that going forward, we are going to take things forward from Paris and leave Tokyo behind.

**Now that you have buried the ghosts of the past, what is it that is required in the next couple of years before the real preparations begin for Los Angeles 2028?**

I firmly believe that a lot of our work and a lot of the shooters who were performing here are the ones who were part of the junior programmes that were set up and from 2018. They managed to qualify and perform at Paris. I believe that we must reinstate the junior programme because that lays the foundation of a whole batch of shooters who need grooming. If a good shooter gets a roadmap, we can groom him/her into becoming a very tough, competitive athlete who will be able to perform at a high level. We need to continue to stress on the junior programme and keep grooming our athletes. Just being talented is not enough. Creating a champion's mindset comes over time. We need to continue the process and we need to continue to keep grooming our young athletes so that you know we are able to create a very strong base of athletes who can perform on the big stage.



**On the right track:** Shirur says although Arjun Babuta narrowly missed out on a medal, she is happy with the overall performance. RITU RAJ KONWAR

# Scientists find 'hidden' hormone that keeps mice mothers' bones healthy

During breastfeeding, the body diverts energy from the reproductive system to producing milk. This drop in oestrogen should lead to weaker bones. But surprisingly, mothers' bones become stronger to meet the high calcium demands of their babies and to make up for bone lost during pregnancy

Adhiraj Goel

**O**steoporosis is a condition in which the body's bones become weak and brittle. There are more than 10 million cases of osteoporosis every year in India, and it disproportionately affects ageing women more than men. The hormone oestrogen plays a crucial role in this condition because it stimulates the growth and formation of new bone. After menopause, the decreased function of the ovaries leads to oestrogen being depleted in the body, resulting in the loss of bone mass.

In a recent study published in the journal *Nature*, researchers at the Universities of California in San Francisco and Davis reported uncovering a novel brain-derived hormone that they say is responsible for increased bone mass in postpartum lactating mothers. The hormone is called CCN3.

## A 'secret' path

Oestrogen plays a crucial osteoanabolic role: it stimulates the growth and formation of new bone. Consider oestrogen as a manager who tells (or signals) the members of her bone construction crew when to start and finish their jobs. During breastfeeding, the body signals to suppress oestrogen production in the ovaries, diverting energy away from the reproductive system to focus on milk production. This drop in oestrogen should lead to weaker bones.

But surprisingly, mothers' bones become stronger during this time to meet the high calcium demands of their babies and to make up for bone loss during pregnancy.

As a result, scientists have suspected that there is another way in which the body strengthens bones, independent of oestrogen.

For their studies, the researchers started with mice genetically modified to not produce a protein called oestrogen receptor alpha in the hypothalamus. Through systematic studies with these mice, they found that specific neurons, called KISS1 neurons, used the CCN3 hormone to maintain bone mineralisation during lactation.

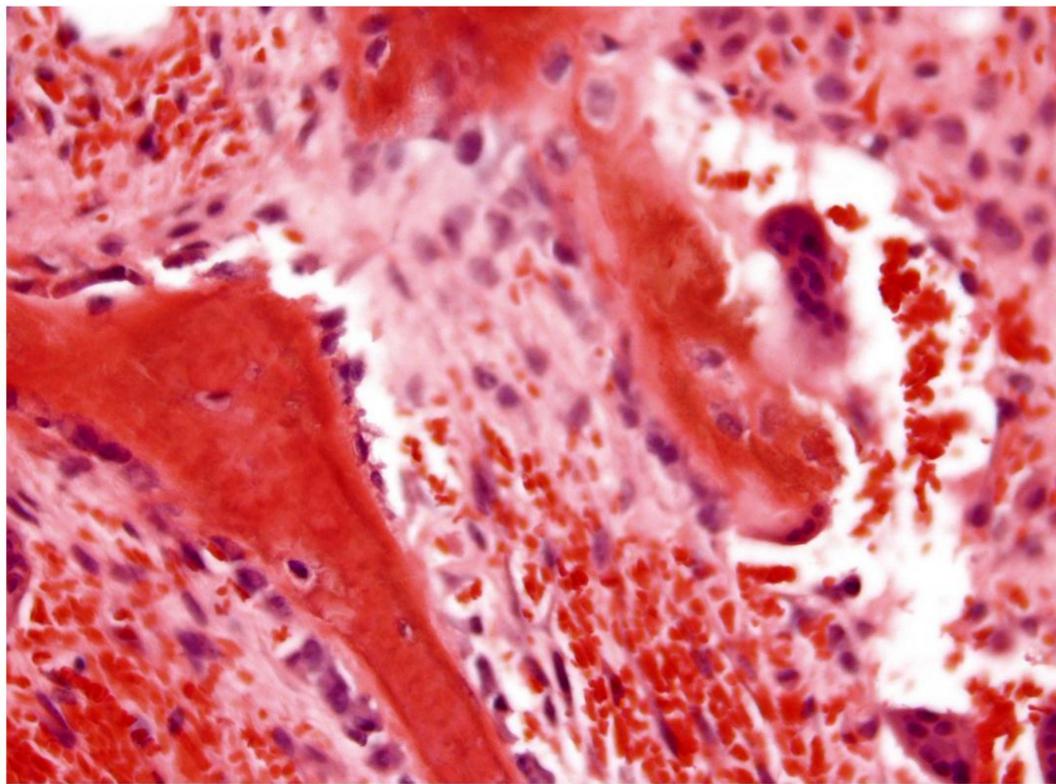
CCN3 belongs to the CCN family of proteins. They are involved in several biological processes, including embryonic development, tissue repair, wound healing, and cancer progression.

Previous work has shown that KISS1 neurons are located in the arcuate nucleus (ARC), a critical part of the hypothalamus that regulates metabolism, reproduction, and bone health. Scientists also know KISS1 neurons are key to regulating bone mass in females.

## A brain-derived factor?

The body maintains its bone mass – not gaining too much, not losing too much – by maintaining a balance between skeletal stem cell-based bone formation and osteoclast-based bone resorption. Skeletal stem cells give rise to bone tissue, while osteoclasts are cells that break down bone tissue.

The researchers isolated a specific skeletal stem cell population from wild-type mice and transplanted them into mutant mice. The result was higher bone mineralisation in the mutant female mice.



Bone-making cells called osteoblasts (purple) rimming a bony spicule (pink, on diagonal). In this tissue, the osteoblasts have retracted and are separated from each other and from their underlying matrix. NEPHRON (CC BY-SA 3.0)

The researchers also delivered such skeletal stem cells near the ARC of the mutant mice using minimally invasive surgery and recorded the appearance of mineralised bone-like structures in the hypothalamus.

These structures didn't appear in wild-type mice, however, implying the presence of a brain-derived factor that promoted bone formation in the mutant mice.

## Mounting a unique response

To identify the factor driving these changes, the researchers put the mutant mice on a high-fat diet known to affect the function of KISS1 neurons, including the production of the suspected factor.

As expected, the mutant mice lost bone mass on this diet. The researchers extracted RNA from the ARC of these mice and sequenced it. They found that two genes, called *Ccn3* and *Penk*, had been upregulated earlier but whose effects were lost after the high-fat diet began.

A gene is said to be upregulated when a cell expresses it more because it needs to produce more of the protein the gene encodes for. (The opposite goes for downregulation.)

Of the two genes, only the hormone produced by the *Ccn3* gene – called CCN3 – was found to be located in all the KISS1 neurons in the mutant mice.

Importantly, the researchers found that CCN3 had been explicitly upregulated in mutant female mice but not in wild-type female and male mice or in mutant male mice. This suggested that the mutant female mice, which were unable to sense oestrogen because they lacked oestrogen receptor alpha, mounted a unique response. It highlighted a potential sex-specific regulatory mechanism for bone formation involving CCN3.



Researchers at the Universities of California in San Francisco and Davis have reported uncovering a novel brain-derived hormone that they say is responsible for increased bone mass in postpartum lactating mothers. The hormone is called CCN3

The team also found CCN3 increased the frequency with which (or the absolute number of) skeletal stem cells matured into cells that form bone and cartilage. CCN3 enhanced the potential of skeletal stem cells to mature into these bone- and cartilage-forming cells.

Thus, the hormone helped produce more cells that built bones and cartilage and made these cells better at doing their job, leading to stronger and healthier bones.

## A dose-dependent response

Finally, the researchers conducted a series of experiments to establish the role of CCN3 as an osteoanabolic hormone, i.e., that it is involved in making bone. When they extracted skeletal stem cells from wild-type mice and cultured the cells with the CCN3 hormone, they recorded a 200% increase in mineralisation.

They were able to replicate this result in male and female human skeletal stem cells as well, confirming its broad applicability.

*Ex vivo* and *in vivo* experiments further validated these findings. Low doses of mouse CCN3 significantly increased the bone mass of young and aged femurs and of adult wild-type mice. In two-year-old male mice with bone fractures, treatment

with CCN3 accelerated bone repair – and the higher the dose, the faster was the repair.

In mice, the researchers also reported that CCN3 is absent during early and late pregnancy, and drops again as lactation decreases. Deliberately reducing the amount of CCN3 hormone in KISS1 neurons before pregnancy didn't affect a mouse mother's fertility or ability to produce milk.

But when mothers with low CCN3 levels were lactating and had a low-calcium diet, they had lower bone density, which negatively affected the survival of their offspring.

## A new treatment choice?

These findings prove the CCN3 hormone secreted by KISS1 neurons in the ARC part of the hypothalamus is crucial to maintaining maternal bone mass, at least in mice.

The groundbreaking study also revealed a pathway in which hypothalamic neurons sidestep conventional routes to directly release hormones into the bloodstream, providing fresh perspectives on the communication between the brain and the body in mice. It also emphasises the need to allocate funds for research on female health and biology.

The identification of CCN3 presents new opportunities to investigate its potential as a therapeutic agent for hereditary and chronic skeletal disorders, broadening the range of treatment choices for osteoporosis.

(Adhiraj Goel is joining the biology department at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a post-baccalaureate scholar in 2024. He has a keen interest in science communication. [adhiraj.iitd@gmail.com](mailto:adhiraj.iitd@gmail.com))



This image provided by the University of Tokyo shows the Mata Menge humerus fragment, left, at the same scale as the humerus of *Homo floresiensis* from the Liang Bua cave on the island of Flores, Indonesia. YOUSUKE KAIFU/AP

## Tiny bones shed light on mystery 'hobbits'

Agence France Presse

The discovery of a tiny arm bone suggests that an ancient human dubbed the "hobbit" only shrank down to their diminutive size after they arrived on an Indonesian island a million years ago, scientists said on August 8. Much about the pint-sized *Homo floresiensis* has been shrouded in mystery since the first fossils suggesting their existence were found on the island of Flores in 2003.

These tool-using *hominins* are believed to have been living on the island as recently as 50,000 years ago, when our own species *homo sapiens* was already walking the Earth, including in nearby Australia. From some 60,000-year-old teeth and a jawbone found in an island cave, scientists had previously estimated the hobbits were around 1.06 metres tall.

But the discovery of part of an upper arm bone as well as some teeth at an open-air island site on the island suggests some hobbits stood just one metre tall around 700,000 years ago, according to a study in the journal *Nature Communications*.

Study co-author Adam Brumm, an archaeologist at Australia's Griffith

**One side argues the hobbits descended from an earlier hominin which arrived a million years ago. Others believe *Homo erectus* became trapped on the island, only to then evolve into the smaller *H. floresiensis***

University, told AFP that it was the smallest humerus fossil of an adult hominin ever found. The discovery could tip the scales in a heated debate among scientists about how *H. floresiensis* became so small.

One side argues that the hobbits, nicknamed after the little heroes in J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy novels, descended from an already small earlier hominin which arrived on Flores around a million years ago. Others believe it was our ancestor *Homo erectus*, which were roughly our size and had spread throughout Asia, that became trapped on the island, only to then evolve into the smaller *Homo floresiensis* over the next 300,000 years. The researchers behind the latest discovery believe it strongly supports the latter theory. These ancient humans "reduced drastically in body size according to a well known evolutionary phenomenon known as island dwarfism," Dr. Brumm said.

Under this process, larger animals tend to shrink over time to adapt to their limited surroundings. The tropical island was home to other smaller-than-normal mammals, including a cow-sized relative of the elephant. The newly discovered teeth also look like smaller versions of those from *Homo erectus*, the researchers said.

"If we are correct, it seems that *Homo erectus* was somehow able to cross formidable deep-sea barriers to reach isolated islands like Flores," Dr. Brumm said.

"We don't know how they were doing this," he said, adding that "accidental 'rafting' on tsunami debris" was one possibility. Once these ancient humans were trapped on the island, they managed to survive for hundreds of thousands of years, evolving into "strange new forms," Dr. Brumm said.

For feedback and suggestions for 'Science', please write to [science@thehindu.co.in](mailto:science@thehindu.co.in) with the subject 'Daily page'

## THE SCIENCE QUIZ

### Firestorms, when fires make their own winds...

Vasudevan Mukunth

#### QUESTION 1

An important cause of a firestorm is the \_\_\_\_\_. Here, when air heated by the fire rises in a hot column, the fire's heat draws more air in from its surroundings. Fill in the blank.

#### QUESTION 2

One of the most intense bombing raids during World War II, comparable in strength to atomic weapons, was the bombing of a German city named \_\_\_\_\_. On February 13-15, 1945, the U.S. Air Force destroyed 6.5 sq. km of it and killed 25,000 people by creating a firestorm. Fill in the blank.

#### QUESTION 3

What is the name for the cumulus clouds that are created by large fires, including firestorms?

#### QUESTION 4

Name the February 7, 2009, bushfire in Australia that produced the most intense firestorm in recorded history to date in Australia. It released 1,500 times as much energy as the nuclear bomb dropped on Hiroshima.

#### QUESTION 5

A \_\_\_\_\_ is created when eddies of air spinning in the air, like a vortex, trap some combustible gas or other substances that have since caught fire. Fill in the blanks. They are a

common sight in firestorms.

Answers to August 6 quiz:

- Treaty that specifies the meaning of 'proliferation' – Ans: **Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons**
  - Representative who floated a plan to destroy the U.S. nuclear arsenal – Ans: **Bernard Baruch**
  - Three "threshold" states under the Non-Proliferation Treaty – Ans: **India, Pakistan, and Israel**
  - Name of technologies with both civilian and military applications – Ans: **Dual-use**
  - 1967 treaty that prohibits nukes from being placed in earth orbit – Ans: **Outer Space Treaty**
- Visual: **Mohamed ElBaradei, IAEA**  
First contact: K.N. Viswanathan | Shivan Srivastava | Sadhan Panda | Seema Das | Shreya Arora



Visual: Name the fire event depicted in this famous painting. It began on July 18 in 64 AD, raged for nine days, and destroyed 70% of its host city, possibly with a firestorm. PUBLIC DOMAIN

Please send in your answers to [science@thehindu.co.in](mailto:science@thehindu.co.in)