



'NDA BOUND TO CRUMBLE'

P7



KAMALA HARRIS ACCEPTS NOMINATION

P9



'MGNREGA'S PRESENT STATE LIVING MONUMENT OF MODI'S BETRAYAL'

P5

NEERAJ FINISHES 2ND IN LAUSANNE DL WITH 89.49M THROW



P14

SENSEX 81,086.21 ▲33.02

NIFTY 24,823.15 ▲11.65

₹ vs \$ 83.89

GOLD 72,650 ▼220

SILVER 86,700 ▼300

BRENT CRUDE (IN \$) 77.29 ▲1.27

## WEATHER

Generally cloudy sky. Light to moderate rain / thundershower very likely to occur. Maximum and minimum temperatures likely to be around 30 °C and 26 °C respectively.

RAINFALL: 14.2mm

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

Max. 98 % Min. 89 %

TEMPERATURE

Max: 28.4 °C (+3.6) Min: 26.8 °C (+0.4)

SUN RISES

05:17 hrs 18:2 hrs

MOON RISES

20:38 hrs 08:43 hrs

New Moon on 03 September

## THUMBNAILS



Farmer Union members hold a protest against the Centre at the Punjab-Haryana border in Patiala on Friday. ■ ANI

**Indian UAV on training mission drifts into Pak due to technical snag:** An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) of the Indian Army drifted into Pakistan's Nikial Sector due to some technical snag during a training mission on Friday morning, where the Pakistani troops recovered it. "The mini-UAV on a training mission drifted into the Pakistan-controlled Nikial Sector, opposite our Bhimber Gali Sector in the Poonch district," a defence spokesman said.

## Ukraine, Russia need to engage to end war: PM

India has a role to play in bringing peace to region, says Volodymyr Zelenskyy

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday held detailed discussions with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and reiterated the need for sincere and practical engagement among all stakeholders to work out "innovative solutions," with broad acceptability for early restoration of peace.

During his visit to Ukraine, the PM had discussions with President Zelenskyy on various issues, including bilateral relations and trade, but the two leaders spent most of their time together discussing the conflict situation. Mr Modi hugged Mr Zelenskyy when the two met.

The two leaders expressed readiness for further cooperation in upholding principles of international law, including the UN Charter, such as respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of states, and agreed on the need for closer bilateral dialogue in this regard. External affairs minister



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy honour the memory of children at the 'Martyrologist' Exposition, in Kyiv on Friday. ■ ANI

S Jaishankar, briefing media on the PM's engagements in Kyiv, said this was the first visit of an Indian PM to Ukraine since diplomatic relations were established between the two countries in 1992. He said the two leaders had convivial and constructive discussions.

Mr Modi has already spelt out India's position that this was not an era of war, Mr Jaishankar said. India's essential message was India was willing to do "whatever we can" to

achieve the objective of ending the war, he said. Any exercise for peace to be productive will have to involve both sides, is the Indian view, he said.

During his talks with President Zelenskyy, Mr Modi shared the sentiments of the global South about the repercussions of the conflict for them. He also shared with him his talks with Russia's President Putin in Moscow in July.

Mr Zelenskyy spoke on both issues and about taking

forward the global peace summit regarding Ukraine.

The PM presented four BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) cubes to the Ukraine government. The cubes with a total weight of 22 tonnes will help in providing expeditious treatment to the injured and contribute to saving lives.

He visited the multimedia Martyrologist exposition on children at the National Museum of History in Kyiv, accompanied by Mr Zelenskyy. Mr Modi was deeply touched by the poignant exposition set up in memory of children who have lost their lives in the conflict.

Earlier, Mr Zelenskyy had said that India had a role in bringing peace to the region. Speaking with ANI news agency in Kyiv, Mr Zelenskyy said: "India will play its role. I think that India began to recognise that this is not just conflict, this is a real war of one man and his name is Putin against a whole country whose name is Ukraine. You are a big country. You have a big influence and you can stop Putin and halt his economy."

## Kolkata court remands accused Roy to 14 days' judicial custody

AGENCIES  
KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

A lower court in Kolkata on Friday remanded Sanjay Roy, the sole arrested accused in the rape and murder of a woman junior doctor at RG Kar Medical College & Hospital to 14 days' judicial custody.

Sanjay Roy, a civic police volunteer, was presented at the court of the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate (ACJM) at Sealdah in central Kolkata on Friday afternoon under tight security cover, as protesters had already assembled within the court premises raising slogans demanding capital punishment for the accused.

Instead of the regular courtroom, the hearing was conducted in the chamber of the ACJM, where no one was allowed to enter.

A huge police contingent under the command of an officer in the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police was there outside the room to ensure blanket security.

Although the information about the accused being remanded to 14 days' judicial custody could be confirmed, at the time of filing of the report there was no confirmation regarding the court approving a narco-analysis or polygraph test of Roy by



the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). As per procedure, the investigating agency concerned has to approach a court for permission to conduct the narco-analysis or polygraph test on any individual.

However, the tests cannot be done without the consent of the individual on whom it will be conducted.

Before giving permission the court asks the individual's consent for conducting the tests on them and only after the person agrees is it allowed to be done.

Roy was initially arrested by officers of the Special Investigation Team of Kolkata Police, however, later the city police had to hand him over to the CBI, as a Division Bench of Calcutta High Court directed the central agency to take charge of the investigation from the city police.

(PHOTO: MOUL MONDAL)

## HC orders CBI probe into RG Kar 'financial irregularities'

KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

A single judge bench of Calcutta High Court, on Friday, directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to take charge of the investigation into the alleged financial irregularities at state-run R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital in Kolkata during the tenure of former principal Dr Sandip Ghosh.

Acting on a petition by the whistleblower, Akhtar Ali, who is a former deputy medical superintendent of R.G. Kar, Justice Rajarshi Bhardwaj said the CBI enquiry on the financial irregularity will be a court-monitored one. (Page 2)

## India, USA are natural allies, says Rajnath

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

India and the United States constitute a formidable force that can ensure peace, prosperity, and stability in the world, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said while interacting with the Indian diaspora in Washington after arriving in the USA on Thursday on a four-day visit.

He described India and the USA as natural allies, destined to be strong partners.

Mr Singh asserted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's stature has grown on the global stage. "Earlier, India's words at international fora were not heeded; but today, the whole world listens to us carefully," he said.

He noted that before 2014, India was among the 'Fragile Five' nations, as coined by



Defence minister Rajnath Singh interacts with the Indian community in Washington, DC, on Friday. ■ ANI

investment firm Morgan Stanley, and today it finds itself among the 'Fabulous Five' economies of the world. He cited the firm's recent report, which says that India will become the third-largest economy by 2027.

The defence minister highlighted that the government has successfully brought 25 crore people above the poverty line. He added that as per latest data, retail inflation

fell to a five-year low of 3.54% and foreign exchange reserves have reached an all-time high of \$675 billion.

**Rajnath meets Austin:** Later in the day today, Mr Singh met with United States Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and reviewed current defence cooperation activities and explored strategies to enhance their collaboration further.

The US Department of

Defence (DoD) and the Ministry of Defence of India entered into a bilateral, non-binding Security of Supply Arrangement (SOSA). The SOSA was signed by Vic Ramdass, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for Industrial Base Policy, on behalf of the United States, and Samir Kumar Sinha, Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisitions), on behalf of the Indian ministry of defence.

Through this SOSA, the United States and India agree to provide reciprocal priority support for goods and services that promote national defence. The arrangement will enable both countries to acquire the industrial resources they need from one another to resolve unanticipated supply chain disruptions to meet national security needs.

## 27 killed as Kathmandu-bound bus with Indian tourists plunges into river in Nepal

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
GORAKHPUR, 23 AUGUST

At least 27 people were killed when a Kathmandu-bound Indian tourist bus travelling from Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh via Pokhara in central Nepal fell into the Marsyangdi river on Friday morning.

Officials in Nepal confirmed that there were 42 passengers from Maharashtra aboard the bus belonging to Gorakhpur-based Kesarwani Travel. The deceased included tourists from Maharashtra and the bus driver, Murtaja alias Mustafa, from Pipriach in Gorakhpur.

According to Gorakhpur police, a woman, named Charu, had booked two buses from Kesarwani Travel's office located near Tarang Chowk in Gorakhpur.

These vehicles were sent



to Prayagraj Railway Station, where a group of 110 tourists from Maharashtra embarked on a journey to Chitirkoot before travelling to Pokhara in Nepal via Ayodhya and Lumini. The tourists were en route to Kathmandu when the accident occurred.

Reports from Nepal said that after reaching Abu Khairi on the Pokhara-Mungling road, the bus driver lost control of the vehicle and it fell into the Marsyangdi river.

According to DSP Deep Kumar Rai of the District Police Office in Tanahun,

Nepal, the bus bearing registration number UP FT 7623 had departed from Pokhara for Kathmandu.

As per the Chief District Officer of Tanahun, Janardan Gautam, the death toll now stands at 27 with the completion of the search operation. "Within a few hours of the incident, 14 people were confirmed dead. Later due to complications, another 13 succumbed taking the toll to 27. It is really unfortunate," Mr Gautam told a news agency.

(With input from agencies)

## India in touch with Qatar over seizure of Guru Granth Sahib: MEA



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

India on Friday said it continues to follow up with Qatar with high priority reports regarding the seizure of Guru Granth Sahib by the local authorities and the Sikh community's demand for their release and hopes for an early resolution of the issue.

"We have seen reports regarding the Guru Granth Sahib seized by the Qatari authorities and the demand of their release by the Sikh community. The Government has already taken up the matter with the Qatar side and our Embassy has kept the Sikh community in Doha abreast of developments in this regard," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in response to questions.

He said it is important to note that two Swaroops of Guru Granth Sahib were taken by the Qatar authorities from two individuals/groups who were charged with running a religious establishment without the approval of the Government of Qatar. The Indian Embassy rendered all possible assistance within the ambit of local laws and regulations.

One Swaroop of the Holy Book was returned by Qatari authorities and it was assured that the other Swaroop is also kept with respect.

Akali Dal leader and former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal earlier said she has written to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, urging him to take up the issue of the release of two 'Swaroops' of Sri Guru Granth Sahib from police custody in Qatar.

## SC adjourns Kejriwal's pleas for bail, against arrest, to 5 Sept

PARMOD KUMAR  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

The Supreme Court on Friday posted for 5 September its next hearing on the plea by the incarcerated Delhi Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal, seeking bail and questioning his arrest by the Central Bureau of Investigation in the case relating to alleged irregularities in the 2021-2022 Delhi excise policy.

Mr Kejriwal had approached the top court challenging the Delhi High Court order refusing him bail and upholding his arrest by the CBI.

A bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan granted a week's more time to the investigating agency to file its reply in one of the pleas. Additional Solicitor General S.V. Raju, appearing for the CBI, had sought time to file an affidavit in one of the petitions and submitted that the agency has filed its reply in the other related petition.

## DGCA slaps ₹90 L fine on Air India for flying with unqualified crew

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Air India faced the heat of from regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) which levied a penalty of Rs 90 lakh on the airlines on Friday for operating a flight with non-qualified crew members. In addition to this, penalties of Rs 6 lakh and Rs 3 lakh were imposed on the director of operations and the director of training at Air India, respectively.

The incident involved a non-trainer line captain being paired with a non-line-released first officer. It was flagged by the airline in a voluntary report submitted to the DGCA on 10 July 2024.

Following the report, DGCA conducted a comprehensive investigation into Air India's operations, which included examining documentation and conducting a spot check of the airline's scheduling facility. The investigation revealed multiple regulatory violations and deficiencies, potentially compromising safety. In response to show-cause notices issued on 22 July 2024, the involved flight commander and DGCA-approved post holders at Air India provided explanations that were deemed unsatisfactory by the regulator.

Consequently, the DGCA imposed the penalties and warned the concerned pilot to exercise greater caution in the future.

Air India has been on the regulator's radar earlier as well. In March, it was fined Rs 80 lakh for violations related to flight duty time limitations. In February, Air India incurred a Rs 30 lakh fine for poor handling of a passenger who later died of a heart attack.

Further, earlier in January, it was fined Rs 30 lakh for not having an adequate number of pilots on duty for low-visibility landings.

## SEBI bans Anil Ambani, 24 others for five years from participating in securities market

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has imposed a five-year ban on industrialist Anil Ambani and 24 other parties from participating in the securities market. This includes former senior executives of Reliance Home Finance as well.

The move comes on account of their involvement in the misdirection of company funds.

SEBI has imposed a penalty of Rs 25 crore on Mr Ambani and restrained him from being associated with the securities market, including as a director or Key Managerial Personnel (KMP) in any listed company, or any intermediary registered with the market regulator, for a period of five years.

The regulator has barred Reliance Home Finance from the securities market for six months and slapped a fine of Rs 6 lakh on it.

Sebi, which released a 222-page final order, found



**Sebi has imposed a penalty of Rs 25 crore on Mr Anil Ambani and restrained him from being associated with the securities market**

that Anil Ambani, with the help of RHFL's key managerial personnel, had orchestrated a fraudulent scheme to siphon-off funds from Reliance Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) by disguising them as loans to entities linked to him.

Although the Board of Directors of RHFL had issued strong directives to stop such

lending practices and reviewed corporate loans regularly, the company's management ignored these orders.

Notably, between FY18 and FY19, RHFL approved and disbursed large Guaranteed Payment Credit (GPC) loans amounting to thousands of crores.

These loans were given to entities with extremely weak financial profiles, including negative net worth and negligible assets. Alarmingly, these loans were granted without any recorded collateral or security.

RHFL's management repeatedly deviated from standard credit due diligence. Despite the borrowers' glaring financial weaknesses, internal credit ratings were ignored, and the requirement to assess the probability of default was waived. This lack of scrutiny allowed risky loans to proceed unchecked.

Further, on 11 February 2019, RHFL's Board explicitly instructed the cessation of GPC loan disbursements.

However, the company continued to issue these loans, including those sanctioned by Anil Ambani in his capacity as group head.

This disregard for board directives highlights the severity of the internal control failures, Sebi noted.

Shares of Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group (ADAG) on Friday fell up to 14 per cent after Sebi restricted Mr Ambani from the securities market for five years on charges of fund siphoning from Reliance Home Finance.

Shares of penny stock Reliance Home Finance hit the 5 per cent lower circuit to a low of Rs 4.46 on BSE. Similarly, shares of retail favourite Reliance Power, which has almost doubled in the last one year, also fell 5 per cent to Rs 34.45.

Reliance Infrastructure shares fell up to 14 per cent to the day's low of Rs 202 on BSE. Trading in Reliance Communications, Reliance Capital, and Reliance Naval and Engineering remains suspended.

# Health secy clarifies on Sandip Ghosh's post, junks media news

Narayan Swarup Nigam, health secretary, said that the former principal has not been given any post

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

The former principal of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, Sandip Ghosh is now on an "extraordinary leave" and is not holding any post, clarified Narayan Swarup Nigam, state health secretary, today and also said that a special investigation team was investigating charges against him.

The Central Bureau of Investigation is investigating Sandip Ghosh for his role in the rape and murder of the trainee doctor at R G Kar hospital.

Mr Nigam today also appealed to all resident doctors, who are still on a cease-work to return to work as doctors of other states, including AIIMS Delhi, AIIMS Kalyani had withdrawn their cease work and joined duties after the Supreme Court on Thursday appealed to them



Junior doctors pay tribute to the founder of R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital Radha Gobinda Kar on his 172nd birth anniversary during a protest, in Kolkata on Friday. ■ SNS



far as he mentioned the removal of the MSVP, head of the chest medicine department and above all, principal of the hospital.

Urging the junior doctors, Mr Nigam said that due to their cease-work, a large number of people, particularly the poor section of the society is suffering due to lack of treatment and only senior doctors are rendering service to keep the health facilities

to return to work.

Going further, the state health secretary also said that the state had already acceded to the demands of the junior doctors at R G Kar and had implemented steps for which the protesting doctors were most vocal about.

On the former superintendent of R G Kar, Sandip

Ghosh, Mr Nigam clarified that the former head of R G Kar principal is on a long leave and has not been assigned any post, contrary to the information that went viral on social media that he was made OSD at Swasthya Bhavan.

He also listed the steps implemented by the state so

on track.

In the context of the news, state spokesperson of Trinamul Congress and state president of the party's social media and IT cell wing, Debangshu Bhattacharya took to X to express the Opposition's eagerness to spread fake news. He wrote in Bengali: "Another big fake news... that all the big media houses have fallen into the circle of fake news! The fake news spread by the leader of the opposition party.. I too was fooled by fake news myself!"

"Sandip Ghosh has not been transferred to the post of OSD of the Swasthya Bhavan. He has no position. He has been sent on leave. Again, Sandip Ghosh is not in any post at the moment."

So those who are promoting that Sandip Ghosh got the job three times in a row, he is very quickly being given various posts, all of which are fake news. Please rectify it."

# Sandip Ghosh moves court challenging CBI probe into financial irregularities at RG Kar

AGENCIES KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

Sandip Ghosh, the controversial former principal of R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, approached the Calcutta High on Friday challenging its order directing a CBI probe into the allegations of financial irregularities at the hospital when Ghosh was in charge of its affairs.

The hospital has been in the eye of storm ever since the ghastly rape and murder of a junior doctor on its premises came to light on the morning of August 9.

Acting on a petition filed by 'whistleblower' Akhtar Ali -- the former Deputy Medical Superintendent of R.G. Kar -- earlier in the day, Justice Rajarshi Bhardwaj ordered a court-monitored CBI inquiry into the alleged financial irregularities at the hospital.

The court also directed the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted by the West Bengal government to probe the matter to hand over all the relevant documents to the CBI officials



by 10 a.m. on Saturday.

Soon after the court passed its order, Ghosh approached the division bench of the Calcutta High Court comprising Justice Harish Tandon and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharya challenging the single-judge bench ruling, arguing that it directed for a CBI probe without taking his point-of-view in the matter into consideration.

Ghosh also sought fast-track hearing in this matter.

However, the division bench advised him to get a copy of the single-judge

bench order first.

Earlier while ordering a CBI probe into the matter, Justice Bhardwaj observed that since the central agency is already investigating the rape and murder case at R.G. Kar, it is better that the same agency carries out the probe into the charges of financial irregularities at the hospital during Ghosh's tenure.

Justice Bhardwaj also observed that investigation by multiple agencies in related cases might increase complications.

Earlier this week, Justice Bhardwaj had questioned the decision of the state government to form the Special Investigation Team a year after the Health Department was intimated about the alleged irregularities.

Stating that the inclusion of senior police officers in the SIT made it evident that the matter was serious, he had asked why similar promptness was not shown one year back when the matter was brought to the notice of the state government.

# Woman dies of electrocution in Barasat

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

An elderly woman was electrocuted after touching an electric pole at Barasat in North 24-Parganas, last evening. The incident caused tension in the locality as residents alleged negligence of the state electricity department.

Continuous rains on Thursday led to waterlogging in many places, which was also the case in Barasat, where an elderly woman was electrocuted after touching an electric pole. The victim, identified as 55-year-old Anjana Biswas, was returning home on foot through a waterlogged street when she accidentally touched the pole.

She was immediately thrown to the ground. Locals, hearing a loud noise, rushed to the scene and found her lying on the road.

The police and electricity department were promptly informed. The electricity connection was cut off, and the woman was taken to Barasat Medical College and Hospital, where the doctors declared her dead. The incident has left the family in shock.

Locals have pointed out negligence of the electricity department, and the police have started an investigation into the matter. Due to the low-pressure system, it began raining on Thursday evening in Kolkata and across the state, including Barasat. Several wards in Barasat got waterlogged.

# Kolkata doctor rape-murder case: CBI starts preliminary process for narco-analysis test

AGENCIES KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

Possibilities have surfaced that narco-analysis or polygraph test might be one of the key routes adopted by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) officials in furthering their ongoing investigation into the R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital rape and murder case.

Sources said the central agency sleuths have started the preliminary process for getting the legal sanction for a narco-analysis test of the lone accused in the case so far and some of the suspects whom the investigating officials have questioned.

However, legal brains feel that starting the actual

narco-analysis test process is a bit of a complicated legal affair.

"First the investigating agency concerned has to approach a court for permission to conduct the test on any individual or individuals. However, the test cannot be conducted without the consent of the individual or individuals on whom it will be conducted. So the court will ask that individual or individuals whether they agree to go through the test. Only if the individual or individuals give that consent, then only the court would permit the test to be conducted," explained Calcutta High Court's senior counsel Kaushik Gupta.

At the same time, sources added that through this test the CBI officials want to have a clear idea whether these suspects have any

role in tempering the evidence or any direct or indirect conspiracy related to the matter.

Meanwhile, the former and controversial principal of R.G. Kar Sandip Ghosh appeared for interrogation at CBI's Salt Lake office in the northern outskirts of Kolkata on Friday morning as well. This is the eighth consecutive day of his appearance at the central agency office and on average he is being questioned 12 to 14 hours a day by the investigating officials.

The body of a female doctor was found in mysterious circumstances on the premises of the R.G. Kar Medical College & Hospital on 9 August.

# Hooghly women's college students protest

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE HOOGHLY, 23 AUGUST

The students of Hooghly Women's College today took to the streets, protesting against the brutality inflicted upon a lady doctor at R G Kar hospital and demanded capital punishment for those involved in the heinous crime.

The principal of the women's college Dr Seema Banerjee said, the protest rally by the girl students is a spontaneous outburst of outrage. The incident has shaken the self-confidence of the students as well as women of all ages. A latent fear and panic has found its way into the minds of the students, most of the college girls come to the college on foot and on cycle and scooter. They are feeling insecure outside their homes. Justice for the RG Kar hospital doctor will instil



confidence among the women.

The college girls have organized a protest rally to demand safety and security in the society, capital punishment for those indulging in such heinous crimes against women.

The ruling party, TMC is also demanding speedy judge-

ment and capital punishment.

The protest movement by the girls, students and females should not be given a political colour since such kind of mean politics will not only harm the emotions of the females but will also dishonour them, they said.

# Suvendu slams directive on students' participation in protest rallies

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

Leader of Opposition Suvendu Adhikari today launched a scathing attack on the state government, particularly targeting the recent directive issued by the district inspector of schools in East Midnapur.

The directive allegedly threatened students and teachers with consequences if they participated in any movement not sanctioned by the school education department except any departmental programme.

Adhikari accused chief minister Mamata Banerjee's administration of being gripped by

fear as public discontent grows across the state. "Hirak Rani is trembling with fear. The spontaneous public outrage has cornered her government and shaken her entire administration," Adhikari stated.

He highlighted the widespread public movement in West Bengal, which has seen increasing numbers of people taking to the streets. The catalyst for this unrest, according to Adhikari, is a call for the 'Nabanna Abhijan', a protest march to the state secretariat, initiated by an apolitical group of students. Adhikari claimed that the state government, unnerved by the

momentum of this movement, had taken legal steps to suppress it, first raising the issue in the Supreme Court and then approaching the Calcutta High Court. The Opposition leader condemned the recent order by the school education department as an attempt to prevent students from exercising their right to peaceful protest. "Let me remind the CM that it is a free country, and such diktats have no impact. This is a public movement; you can't stop people from doing what they are willing to do out of their free will," Adhikari asserted.

Citing a Supreme Court



ruling that the state should not obstruct peaceful protesters, Adhikari declared that the power of the people had shaken the ruling establishment. "We all know that the power of

the people has rattled you, and you are afraid that nobody is scared of you anymore," he said, adding that the chief minister had lost the moral authority to govern and should resign immediately.

BJP's West Bengal co-observer and national IT cell in-charge Amit Malviya, has raised concerns over what he perceives as a conspiracy against the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) personnel deployed at the R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital, that they may face conspiracy plotted by ruling party. Malviya has alleged that powerful individuals within the government,

led by chief minister Mamata Banerjee, are involved in a plot to malign the CISF contingent stationed at the hospital. According to Malviya, the purported conspiracy involves using a woman, potentially someone with ties to the ruling Trinamul Congress (TMC) to accuse the CISF personnel of misconduct, such as molestation. He described this as a recurring tactic employed by the West Bengal government to discredit central forces, citing previous incidents as examples of this pattern. "The CISF personnel must remain vigilant. They should consider using body cameras to protect

themselves from any false allegations. Mamata Banerjee is known to go to great lengths to shield the corrupt and criminal elements operating within the R G Kar Medical College and Hospital."

These allegations come amidst ongoing tensions between the BJP and TMC in West Bengal, with the state's political climate remaining highly charged. Malviya's remarks underscore the deepening mistrust between the central and state authorities, particularly concerning the deployment and actions of central security forces in the region.

# Oz govt explores agri sector tie-up with state

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

Australian High Commissioner to India Philip Green met state agriculture minister Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay at Nabanna yesterday and discussed possibilities for collaboration in the agriculture sector between the two countries.

Mr Green was accompanied by Mr Hugh Boylan, consul general and Mr Kevin Goh, deputy consul general from the Australian Consulate General in Kolkata. Senior officials of the state agriculture department also attended the meeting.

Different aspects and possibilities for economic cooperation in the agriculture sector were discussed in light of the free trade agreement finalized between the two countries in the recent past. Already, work on cooperation and technological collaboration in the agriculture sector has been initiated by the Australian high commission in other states.

Advantages and rich agro-resources of our state were sited to the delegation and the possibility of further technical collaboration was explored.

The already ongoing collaborative projects of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) with Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya in Cooch Behar and Malda were discussed. It involves sustainable farming technology, gender equality, increased productivity, better water use efficiency, diversified farming with animal resource development, inter cropping, bridging knowledge gaps with appropriate mechanization, household and livestock nutrition leading to an increase in farm income. In this context, it was stated that such programmes must improve the lives of the hardworking farmers. In view of this, recent sustainable agriculture and climate resilient farming techniques were emphasized.

# Protest for justice: Sex workers refuse to give soil for Durga idols

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

Echoing the demand for justice for RG Kar Hospital rape and murder victim, a sex worker of Sonagachi refused to give soil for idol making this year.

The refusal is said to have come from the secretary of the Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee, Bisakha Laskar. According to the secretary of the sex workers' organization, this year soil would not be provided for idol making from the sex workers' courtyard as a mark of protest against the brutal rape and murder of the trainee doctor at R G Kar Hospital.

Notably, for Durga Puja, the biggest festival in West Bengal, the idol makers take soil from the sex workers locality and mix it with the clay used for making the idols of the goddess. The sex workers of Sonagachi, under Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee had stopped lending the soil to the idol makers.



Durga Puja preparations in Kumartuli. ■ DEBROOP BANERJEE

The refusal came in demand of respect for the women of the sex workers' community at Sonagachi.

According to Bharati Dey, the mentor of Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee, the sex workers of the biggest red light area of the country had been fighting for the

respect of women for a long time. "Our demand of respect and safety of women is still on but refusing to give soil for idol making is not related to the alleged RG Kar Hospital rape and murder case, said the mentor. "We also have expressed solidarity with the protesting citizens and came

out in large numbers on the night of 14 August to support the demand for justice. However, refusing to give soil for idol making is not related to the R G Kar issue but a fight to be respected throughout the year rather than only while seeking the soil for the puja," she added.

# Calcutta HC rejects Bengal govt's plea for ban on march to Secretariat

AGENCIES KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

The Calcutta High Court on Friday rejected a West Bengal government plea seeking a ban on the proposed march to the Secretariat to protest against the RG Kar Medical College & Hospital rape and murder case.

The 'Nabanna Avijan' call for the march on August 27 has been given on social media by students who have invited everyone to join but without any political banner.

This is similar to the call given by women for a midnight march on Independence Day.

However, the West Bengal government approached the Calcutta High Court and after a detailed hearing on Friday afternoon the Division Bench of Justice Harish Tandon and Justice Bhattacharyya refused to entertain the state's plea seeking a ban on the march. The state govern-

ment's argument was that since there was a possibility of political parties participating in the march, tension and law and order trouble could not be ruled out.

Refusing to entertain the argument of the state government, the Bench clearly said that at this point of time the court would not intervene in the matter.

Legal circles say that the Calcutta High Court's decision is in line with the observation of the Supreme Court, where it directed the West Bengal Police not to disrupt peaceful protests over the rape and murder.

In fact, during the hearing on the rape and murder case on Thursday, the state government's counsel raised the issues of this proposed march on August 27.

The Chief Justice of India, DY Chandrachud then clearly observed that while the law would take its course, peaceful protests cannot be stopped forcefully.



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# Minimising Puja celebrations would mean losses: Organisers

Though in solidarity with the demand for justice, organisers feel boycotting Pujas would lead to losses for artistes

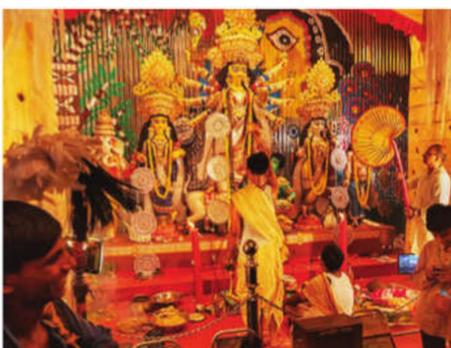
NISHAT NIZAMI  
KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

With hardly 45 days remaining for the biggest festival of the state, preparations are at an advanced stage and reversing it abruptly could bring immense losses to the entire economy of the state, claimed Durga Puja organisers in the city.

A debate is doing the rounds on social media, where sections of users are demanding boycott of the festival as a mark of protest against the brutal rape and murder of the trainee doctor at R G Kar Hospital this month. Several social media users also went to the extent of urging to call off the event or minimising its scale to the least possible.

When The Statesman took the opinion of around 40 ordinary citizens and some of the puja organisers, almost all of them demanded justice

for the victim unanimously. They echoed that minimising the scale could have a rippling effect on the common people even in the remotest part of the state and impact their livelihood adversely. Members of several clubs claimed that taking a back step at this stage was almost impossible for them. "There is no second thought about being in solidarity with the demand of justice for the victim of R G Kar. But, we do need to consider the fact that preparations for the Durga Puja begin almost a year in advance. Even the small clubs start preparing, at least, 10 months before the commencement of the Puja. Considering the fact, withdrawing the preparations would mean taking back all the advance payments and huge financial losses," said the secretary of a club in the city. "Another echoed, "We already have seen two years of small-scale Durga



Puja during the pandemic outbreak. The financial losses in those two years were unthinkable. In the past two years, we recovered to some extent following the usual festivities. Another wave of financial losses would be like a major blow to the industry."

Member of an eminent

club in the city added, "Our installations are almost ready and will be in the final form in a few days. A large amount has already been invested as advance payments. Retrieving the plans would not only adversely affect us, but would be like snatching away the livelihood of the people associated with us."

According to a senior member of the Puja organisers' body, Forum for Durgotsav, calling off the biggest festival in West Bengal would mean collapsing the industry that is witnessing a turnover of over Rs 1.5 lakh crore playing a crucial role in the state GDP. "We stand in solidarity with the demand for justice and would appeal for the harshest possible punishment for the accused," said the senior member of the Forum. However, boycotting the Puja at this stage would cripple the livelihood of the poor people who are a significant part and wait for the entire year to be able to make some earnings.

Notably, some organisers have returned the amount of Rs 85,000 given by the state government in the backdrop of the shocking R G Kar incident. A demand to refuse the amount is also gaining traction over social media.

Talking about the issue, a Forum member said, "There are over 4,700 Durga Puja clubs in the city. Of the total, around 250 of them are large scale. Apart from this, a large number of Pujas are smaller ones with a modest budget. In such circumstances, the amount is significant for them. Refusing the amount would make them struggle to execute the puja in the planned manner."

Talking over the issue, several citizens in the city said, "Durga Puja is economically important not only for the clubs but also for the ordinary citizens. It brings business to markets and traders of all sizes. Even the poorest of citizens, depending on daily sales, make good earnings during this time and wait for it the entire year. Boycotting or cutting short the scale would mean stripping off the earnings of the ordinary citizens."

## Darjeeling DM takes stock of drive against dengue in Siliguri

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
SILIGURI, 23 AUGUST



In a bid to keep the dengue situation in check, Darjeeling district magistrate Dr Preeti Goyal convened a crucial review meeting today in Siliguri, focusing on the city's corporation area.

The meeting saw the presence of key officials, including Siliguri mayor Goutam Deb and the chief medical officer of health, given that the Siliguri Municipal Corporation (SMC) area spans both Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts.

Dr Goyal emphasised the importance of implementing the state government's dengue prevention programme throughout September within the SMC jurisdiction.

The coming months, September and October, are expected to be particularly challenging, making it essential to stay ahead in the fight against dengue.

Siliguri mayor Goutam Deb, while addressing the media, offered a ray of optimism, stating that the current situation is considerably better than last year, with

only three dengue cases detected in the SMC area so far.

He confidently noted that Siliguri is faring better than many other towns across West Bengal.

"We've been proactive, implementing several programmes to tackle the dengue menace," Mr Deb shared.

"Now, we'll be integrating the state government's initiatives over the next two months, leading up to November. Every Thursday is observed as a 'Dry Day' as part of our cleanliness drive, and we're committed to maintaining and intensifying these efforts."

The mayor also highlighted that two wards within the SMC area are particularly vulnerable and require special attention to prevent any potential outbreak.

## The Statesman

For our  
Kolkata/Siliguri  
Office

WE ARE  
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### Marketing Manager - Advertisement

⇒ Candidate should be graduate. Well conversant in Media Marketing and sales. Minimum 10 - 15 years experience with maximum age limit of 50 years.

### Marketing Executives - Advertisement

⇒ Candidate should be graduate. Well conversant in Media Marketing and sales. Minimum 3 - 5 years experience with maximum age limit of 40 years.

### Job Profile : Sales Executive - Circulation

- ⇒ Must have experience in print media industry with good rapport with the trade and trade partners
- ⇒ Candidate from other industries with hardcore sales experience may also apply
- ⇒ Must have experience in selling to institutional clients like hotels/schools/colleges/institutes / corporates
- ⇒ Candidate should have minimum experience of 8-10 years in selling products to the channel partners/customers & institutions

### Key Job Responsibilities

- ⇒ Builds business by identifying and selling to prospects
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Minimum Graduation in any discipline. Management degree in marketing is preferable.

### Age

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Last date of submitting application: 30-08-2024

Mail your CV mentioning the post at [hr@thestatesman.com](mailto:hr@thestatesman.com)



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Biscuits

TENDER

**Govt. of Bihar**

**BMSICL**

**Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited**  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Patna- 800014, Bihar  
Phone/Fax: +91612 2283287, +91612 2283289

(Notice Inviting E-Bids)

**Tender for the Procurement, Rate Contract and Supply & Installation of Medical Equipment for different Govt. Health Institutions of Bihar.**  
Notice Inviting Tender No.-BMSICL/2024-25/ME-376  
(Only through E-Tender on website-https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

The Bihar Medical Services and Infrastructure Corporation Limited, Patna invites e-bids from interested parties for Procurement, Rate Contract, Supply & Installation of Medical Equipment for different Government Health Institutions of Bihar as listed below:-

SL No.	Name of Medical Equipment	SL No.	Name of Medical Equipment
1.	Electrical Suction Machine	4.	LED OT Light
2.	Autoclave Electrical (capacity 40-50 Ltr.)	5.	Mayo's Trolley
3.	Electro Cautey		

**Tender Schedule**

Tender Reference No. BMSICL/2024-25/ME-376

Date of Pre-Bid Meeting: 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 15:00 Hrs in Conference hall of BMSICL, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Bihar. All pre-bid queries (as per form-16, Section-IV of bid document) to be submitted through e-mail on bmsicltenderequipment@gmail.com upto 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024 till 15:00 Hrs

Last date and time of submission of online bids: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 up to 17:00 Hrs.

Last date and time for submission of original document of EMD: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024 till 14:00 Hrs.

Date, Time and Place of opening of Technical Bid: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024 (at 15:00 Hrs.) on the website of https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in in the office of BMSICL

Date and time of opening of financial Bids: To be announced later on https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in

Validity of Tender: 180 Days

Cost of the tender document: Rs.11,800/- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only) Non-refundable.

Bid Processing Fee: Rs 590/- (on the website of https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

1. To participate in E-Tendering the tenderer will have to be registered with E-Tendering service provider. For this, help desk - mjunction services limited RI complex, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Canara Bank, Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana road, P-5-Shastri Nagar, Patna-800014, Toll Free No.-18005726571, Email-ID: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in can be approached.

For further details please visit website state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar  
PR-006728 (Ni Ni) 2024-25 GM (Procurement) BMSICL, Patna

नरेश की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**NOTICE INVITING E-AUCTION**

No. COME-AUCTION/ATM/PLI Dated : 21.08.2024. E-Auction is invited by Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah Division, 4th Floor, Rail Yatri Niwas Building, near Howrah Station, Howrah-711011 for awarding contract of Installation and operation of Automated Teller Machines (ATM) over HWH Division for a period of 05 years. For more details and participation in E-Auction kindly visit the website www.ireps.gov.in through E-Auction Leasing Module. Catalogue No. : ATM-HWH-3, Start Date & Time : 05.09.2024 at 12.00 Hrs. 1. Lot No./Category : ATM-HWH-PDA-Gen-99-24-1. Description : Installation and operation of ATM-II at Pandooch Railway Station. Name of the Station : Pandooch. 2. Lot No./Category : ATM-HWH-AMB-Gen-97-24-1 (ATM-General) Description : Installation and operation of ATM at Arambagh Railway Station. Name of the Station : Arambagh. 3. Lot No./Category : ATM-HWH-PDA-Gen-98-24-1 (ATM-General). Description : Installation and operation of ATM-I at Pandooch Railway station. Name of the Station : Pandooch.

(HWH-238/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender No. : ELEG/OT/e-Tender Notice/409/2024-25 dtd. 21.08.2024.**

The following E-tenders are invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer / (General), Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd floor, Remote Control Building, Kolkata-700014 for the following works: 'Sl. No. 1, Tender No. : ELEG-OT-1130-2024-25. Name of the Work : Annual Maintenance Contract of 02 (two) nos. PUF paneled Mortuary Chamber (Mortuary Cabinet) for storage of 4 (four) Cadavers (Make-Blue Star) at B.R.Singhal Hospital for 03 (three) years. Sl. No. 2, Tender No. : ELEG-OT-1134-2024-25 dtd. 21.08.2024. Particulars of the Work : Proposal for installation of CCTV cameras at various goods shed viz. KGBG, BNJ, SGV, KNJ, NH & CSZ over Sealdah Division. Tender Value: Rs. 2,27,103.84 (for Sl. No. 1) & Rs. 27,34,512.00 (for Sl. No. 2). Cost of Tender document: Nil (for Sl. No. 1 & 2). Earnest Money: Rs.4,600.00 (for Sl. No. 1) & Rs. 54,700.00 (for Sl. No. 2). Completion period : 36 months (for Sl. No.1) & 08 months (for Sl. No.2). Tender Publication Date : 21.08.2024 (for Sl. No.2). Tender closing date & time: 11.09.2024, at 14.00 hrs. for Sl. No. 1 & 2. Tender bid opening date : 11.09.2024 after 14.00 hrs. for Sl. No. 1 & 2. Tender bid start date : 28.08.2024 for each. Details of Tender Notice and corrigendum issued from time to time are available at website www.ireps.gov.in (SDAH-161/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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**CONTRACT MEDICAL PRACTITIONER REQUIRED**

**CORRIGENDUM**

In reference to the above captioned advertisement published earlier regarding engagement of four (04) Contract Medical Practitioners (CMPs) on full time contractual basis for duration of one year for Asansol Divisional Railway Hospital, the following corrigendum have been made in the criteria of age : Age : Maximum 65 years or below as on 02.09.2024 only instead of Age : Maximum 65 years or below as on 02.09.2024 (05 years age relaxation for SC/ST and 3 years for OBC). All other matters/facts/dates will remain the SAME as previous advertisement.

Addl. Chief Medical Superintendent, Asansol

**Eastern Railway**

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**झारखण्ड सरकार कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा।**  
**ई-अतिअल्पकालीन पुनर्निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

**ई-निविदा संख्या- 05/RI/2024-25/RWD/CHATRA दिनांक- 21.08.2024**

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

क्र. सं.	आईडीएफिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकृतिक राशि अंक में (लाख)	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेंडर की अवधि
1	RWD/CHATRA/30/2024-25	मसूरहण्ड प्रखण्ड के मंत्रागावा पंचायत में पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. रोड महेशा से आर.ई.ओ. रोड तिलरा तक पथ का निर्माण कार्य (लं.- 2.625 कि.मी.)।	295.355	दो करोड़ पन्चान्बे लाख पैंतीस हजार पाँच सौ मात्र	15 माह	प्रथम

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि :- 24.08.2024  
3. ई-निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- 30.08.2024 अपराह्न 5.00 बजे तक।  
4. ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :- 02.09.2024 अपराह्न 3.30 बजे।  
5. ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता :- कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा, द्वितीय तल, विकास भवन, चतरा।  
6. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष संख्या :- 06541-296208

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।  
कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, चतरा।

PR 333514 Rural Work Department(24-25)D

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग**

**शुद्धि पत्र**

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक-1091 दिनांक-29.07.2024 द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं-06/2024-25/RWD/EE/HAZARIBAG, दिनांक-29.07.2024, जिसका PR No-331393 Rural Work Department (24-25)D से प्रकाशित निविदा के क्रमांक-4 पर अंतिम विषयगुह प्रखण्ड से ग्राम चटकरी से उच्चाधना भाया रोहनिगांडा तक पथ के SBD में e-Procurement Notice के Class of Contractor - I के स्थान पर II पढ़ा जाय।

शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।  
विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए वेबसाइट jharkhandtenders.gov.in में देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, कार्य प्रमण्डल, हजारीबाग

PR 333559 Rural Work Department(24-25)D

**कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, गुमला**

**शुद्धि पत्र**

एतद् द्वारा भवन निर्माण विभाग में निबंधित सभी समुचित श्रेणी के संवेदकों को सूचित किया जाता है कि पी 0 आर 0 संख्या- 331656 Building (24-25) D द्वारा प्रकाशित ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या- 05 BCD/GUMLA/2024-25 से संबंधित सूचना निम्नवत पढ़ा जाय -

क्र 0 सं 0	मद	पूर्व की तिथि	संशोधित तिथि
1	वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि	23.08.2024	28.08.2024, 11.00 AM
2	वेबसाइट में निविदा खोलने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	28.08.2024	02.09.2024 03.00 PM
3	निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	29.08.2024	03.09.2024 03.00 PM

शेष सभी शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।  
कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमण्डल, गुमला।

PR.No.333581 Building(24-25):S

**WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**OPEN TENDER, Engineering Department**

E-Tender on behalf of the President of India acting through Sr. Divisional Engineer (Co-Ordination), Divisional Manager (Works), West Central Railway, Jabalpur for the following works:- NIT No.: DRMW/JBP-119-2024 dtd. 21.08.2024. Name of work with location: Laying of track and extension of bridge in connection with provision of shunting neck and double exist at Gosalpur under Divisional Engineer (Central) jurisdiction, Approx. Cost of the work: 3,07,76,706/-. Earnest Money: 3,03,900/-. Completion period: 08 Months. Last date & time for submission of tender (Upto 15.00 hrs on): 13.09.24, Tender to be opened at 15.15 hrs: 13.09.24. The complete information of the above of the above 'e-tender' is available on website https://ireps.gov.in and also placed on notice board of the Divisional Railway Manager (Works) Office, West Central Railway, Jabalpur. Tenders other than in the form of e-bids shall not be accepted against above tenders.

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) West Central Railway, Jabalpur

सबसे भारत अभियान एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

**REVISED TIMINGS OF HOWRAH-MOKAMA-HOWRAH EXPRESS**

The timings of 13029/13030 Howrah-Mokama-Howrah Express will be revised at stations mentioned against them as under : • 13029 Howrah-Mokama Express [w.e.f. (JCO) 24.08.2024] : Revised Arrival time at Mokama at 09.45 hrs. Timings between Howrah and Tall Jn. will remain same. • 13030 Mokama-Howrah Express [w.e.f. (JCO) 25.08.2024] (Arr./Dep.) : Mokama Dep. - 15.37 hrs. Tall Jn. - 15.42/15.43 hrs. Hathidah Jn. - 15.50/15.52 hrs. Barhiya - 16.04/16.06 hrs. Dumri - 16.14/16.15 hrs. Mankatha - 16.23/16.25 hrs. Luckeesarai Jn. - 16.33/16.35 hrs. Kiul Jn. - 16.41/16.43 hrs. Bansipur - 16.53/16.55 hrs. Mananpur - 17.02/17.04 hrs. Jamui - 17.17/17.22 hrs. Gidhar - 17.35/17.37 hrs. Dadpur BH - 17.55/17.57 hrs. Jhajha - 18.15/18.20 hrs. Rajia Halt - 18.25/18.26 hrs. Narganjo Halt - 18.32/18.33 hrs. Simultala - 18.49/18.51 hrs. Talwa Bazar Halt - 18.55/18.56 hrs. Lahabon - 19.03/19.04 hrs. Jasidih Jn. - 19.19/19.20 hrs. Kurnabad Rohini - 19.27/19.28 hrs. Sankarpur - 19.33/19.34 hrs. Mathurapur - 19.43/19.44 hrs. Nawapatra - 19.52/19.53 hrs. Madhupur Jn. - 20.00/20.05 hrs. Joramow - 20.16/20.17 hrs. Madankata - 20.24/20.25 hrs. Vidyaasagar - 20.34/20.35 hrs. Jamtara - 20.51/20.53 hrs. Chittaranjan - 21.09/21.11 hrs. Rupnarayanpur - 21.18/21.19 hrs. Salanpur - 21.26/21.27 hrs. Sitarampur - 21.35/21.37 hrs. Barachak Jn. - 21.44/21.45 hrs. Asansol Jn. - 22.00/22.20 hrs. Kalipahari - 22.28/22.29 hrs. Raniganj - 22.44/22.49 hrs. Andal Jn. - 22.57/22.59 hrs. Waria - 23.08/23.10 hrs. Durgapur - 23.18/23.23. Panagarh - 23.38/23.40 hrs. Mankar - 23.49/23.51 hrs. Khana Jn. - 00.24/00.25 hrs. Bardhaman - 00.39/00.54 hrs. Bandel Jn. - 01.55/02.05 hrs. Chuchura - 02.13/02.14 hrs. Chandannagar - 02.19/02.20 hrs. Seoraphuli - 02.34/02.35 hrs. Shrirampur - 02.44/02.45 hrs. Bally - 02.57/02.58 hrs. Howrah Jn. Arr. - 03.35 hrs.

**REVISED TIMINGS OF BALLIA-SEALDAH EXPRESS**

The timings of 13106 Ballia-Sealdah Express will also be revised at stations mentioned against it as under [w.e.f. (JCO) 25.08.2024] (Arr./Dep.): Jhajha - 19.00/19.10 hrs. Jasidih - 19.42/19.47 hrs. Madhupur Jn. - 20.14/20.19 hrs. Chittaranjan - 21.17/21.20 hrs.

Chief Passenger Transportation Manager

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

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**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender Notice No. : ELS/SDAH/OT/24-007 Dated : 21.08.2024.** E-Tender is invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/EMU/Sealdah, 1st Floor, Control Building, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, Kolkata-700014. Tender No. : ELS/SDAH/OT/24-007. Name of Work : Shed cleaning of SFR EMU carshed, dry sweeping of EMU coaches at SPR EMU carshed & TRS/SD during daylight and mechanical washing of EMU coaches for 02 years i.e. 730 days. Tender Value : Rs.20807983.90. Cost of Tender document : Rs.10000.00. Earnest Money : Rs.254000.00. Completion Period : 24 Months. Date and time of Closing : 19.09.2024 at 14.00 hrs. Detail of tender notice and corrigendum issued from time to time are available at website www.ireps.gov.in.

(SDAH-163/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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**e-Tender Notice**

e-Tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide Contractor vide NIT - 05 / BGGP / 2024-25, dated- 23.08.2024. Last date of submission Bids (Online) 30.08.2024 upto 1.00 PM Others details can be seen from the notice board of the undersigned in any working days also as well as in http://wbenders.gov.in

Sd/- Pradhan Buraganj GP

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

**OFFICE OF THE SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICER**  
Ranaghat, Nadia

Memo. No. 338 / Dev(R) Dated: 23-08-2024

**Notification for Selection of ASHA**

Notification for recruitment of ASHA worker (Vacancy: Ranaghat I Block-01(One), Ranaghat II Block - 04 (four), Santipur Block - 01(One) and Hanskhai Block-05) has been published. Forms can be submitted at concerned BDO office from 23-08-2024 to 13-09-2024 on all working days (from 11-00 a.m. to 4-00 p.m.). For details please contact to the office of the concerned BDO and EMO's offices and to the office of the SDO, Ranaghat. Also visit at www.nadia.gov.in for more details.

Sd/- Sub-Divisional Officer Ranaghat, Nadia

**West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited (WBFDCL), KB-19, Sector-III, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700106**

**ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE**

The undersigned publishes NITs for the project 'Advance-Cum-Creation of Miscellaneous Plantation on ECL land' on behalf of EOM, GPW, WBFDCL and DCF, URF Division as follows:

NIT No.	Name of Project	Bid Submission Start Date	Last Date of Bid Submission
29/GPW/WBFDCL/2024-25	At Jhanjha UG (Subsided Area), Jhanjha Area over 15 Ha. during the year 2024-25.		
30/GPW/WBFDCL/2024-25	At Sonepur Bazar OCP (Int. OBO) over 16 Ha. during the year 2024-25.	24.08.2024	07.09.2024
31/GPW/WBFDCL/2024-25	At Sonepur Bazar OCP (Int. OBO) over 14 Ha. during the year 2024-25.		

Details of NITs can be seen at www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbfdcl.com Sd/- DM, KFCO, WBFDCL

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No. ELD-125-WC-OT-03-24 dated 20.08.2024.** E-tender notice is invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (TRD), Eastern Railway, DRM Building, near Howrah Station, Howrah-711011 against Tender No. ELD-125-WC-OT-03-24. Name of Work with its location : Replacement of Jumper for Isolator and Drop Jumper in Howrah Division of Eastern Railway. Approx. Cost of the work: Rs. 30023909.00. Cost of tender form : Nil. Earnest Money/Bid Security to be deposited at the date of issue of LOA. Tender closing date & time : 11.09.2024 at 15.00 Hrs. Opening of tender : Tender will be opened any time after closing of tender. Tenderers may visit website www.ireps.gov.in for full details / description/specification of the tenders and submit their bid online. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any manual offer if received shall not be accepted and will be summarily rejected.

(HWH-237/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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**Government of Jharkhand**

**Department of Industries**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Nepal House, Doranda, Ranchi-834002

**Tender Reference No. 1837 Dated: 23.08.2024**

**TENDER NOTICE**

**Selection of Event Management firm for Jharkhand Pavilion**

Sealed tenders are invited by Director of Industries, Government of Jharkhand for Design, Erection, Decoration, Maintenance & Management of Jharkhand Pavilion during "HTF - 2024" scheduled from 14<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

S. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Publishing of RFP/ Tender on website	23 <sup>rd</sup> August, 2024
2	Period of downloading and Submission of tender	Start date: 23 <sup>rd</sup> August, 2024 to End date: 06 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024, 3:00 PM
3	Last date for receiving queries	08 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024
4	Response to queries	10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024
5	Technical proposal opening	12 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024, 5:00 PM
6	Mode of submission of Tender methodology	12 <sup>th</sup> September, 2024, 12:00 PM
7	Financial Bid Opening	To be notified
8	Cost of Tender	INR 10,000/- in Form of Demand Draft in favour of Director- Industries, Ranchi (to be submitted physically latest by 3.00 PM on 27 August 2024)
9	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	INR 1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakhs only) in form of Bank Guarantee in favour of Director- Industries, Ranchi by 3.00 PM on 06 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
10	Website for downloading Tender Documents	https://www.jharkhand.gov.in/industries
11	Mode of submission of Tender Contact Details.	Offline Directorate of Industries, Nepal House, Doranda, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834002 Website: https://www.jharkhand.gov.in/industries Email: jhr-doi@nic.in

Tender document can be collected from O/o Director Industries, Directorate of Industries, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Nepal House, Doranda, Ranchi or downloaded from https://www.jharkhand.gov.in/industries

For any clarification, please contact Sh. Lalit Kumar (Mob No. 9934706606), Under Secretary, Directorate of Industries, the undersigned reserved the right to reject, cancel any particular or all bid offer without assigning any reason whatsoever. The decision of the undersigned shall be final and binding.

Director of Industries Govt. of Jharkhand

PR 333586 Industries (24-25)\_D

**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Tender Notice No. 222-S/1W-I Dated : 19.08.2022.** e-Tender are invited online by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, Remote Control Building, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014. Tender No. : TN-137-24-25. Name of the Work : At Dum Dum Junction - Nahali Junction Section - Nahali Junction : Provision of standard height gauge as per RDSO at Level Crossing Gate No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9A, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 (Total 13 Nos.) With all ancillary works under Senior Section Engineer (Works)/ Barrackpore. Tender Value: Rs. 1,78,09,374.46. EMD: Rs. 2,39,100.00. Date & time of closing of tender : 18.09.2024 at 15.00 hrs. Date & time of Opening Tender : 18.09.2024 at 15.30 hrs. Completion period of the work : 18 (Eighteen) months. The Tender Documents and other details are at : www.ireps.gov.in. The bidding for the tender is to be submitted through the e-tendering on above website. Manual Offers will be summarily rejected.

(SDAH-164/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**Open E-Tender Notice No. 122-124-MLDT-24-25 Dated : 19.08.2024.** Open E-tender notice is invited by DRMR/EM/Sealdah, Eastern Railway, Sealdah Town Office Building, PO-Jhajhala, Dist-Malda, Pin-732102 (W.B.) for the following works : Tender No. : 122-MLDT-24-25. Name of work : Open e-tender for construction of Subway in lieu of Level Crossing Gate No. 34-Special at Km 400/0-1 between Dhanauri-Kiul stations and in lieu of Level crossing gate No. 23 at Km 377/9-387/0 in between Masudan-Abhalpur stations in Jamalpur-Kiul section under the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer-Line/Jamalpur under Divisional Engineer-III/Eastern Railway Malda. Tender Value : 105216055.61. Tender No. : 123-MLDT-24-25. Name of Work : Open e-tender for construction of Subway in lieu of Level Crossing Gate No. 26 at Km 382/6-7 and Level Crossing Gate No. 27-Special at Km 386/4-5 between Abhalpur-Kajrah stations in Jamalpur - Kiul section under the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer / Line/Jamalpur under Divisional Engineer-III/Eastern Railway Malda. Tender Value : Rs. 129595746.35. Tender No. 124-MLDT-24-25. Name of Work : Open e-tender for construction of Subway in lieu of Level Crossing Gate No.16-Special at Km 361/6-7 and Level Crossing Gate No. 17-Special at Km 362/7-8 between Jamalpur-Dasarahpur stations in Jamalpur-Kiul section under the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer / Line / Jamalpur under Divisional Engineer-III/Eastern Railway Malda. Tender Value : Rs.110912082.58. Tender closing date & time : for 3 (Items) 10.09.2024 at 15.30 hrs. Website particulars & Notice Board : www.ireps.gov.in / DRM Office/MLDT. (MLD-82/24-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**No. : EL/50/Tender/37/1634 Dated: 21.08.2024.** E-Tenders are invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (Genl.), Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301 from reputed tenderers having valid Electric contractor licence and capable to complete the following work financially.

**Tender Notice No. : EL-37-24. Name of the work with its location :** Asansol Division-Water Pipe Line connection at Dumka station from Source Mayurakshi river. Tender value : Rs. 9,85,679.00. Cost of tender documents : Nil. Earnest Money : Rs. 19,700.00. Completion period for the work : 12 (Twelve) months. Date & time of closing & opening : 13.09.2024 at 11.00 hrs. Complete details can be seen in the Railways website ireps.gov.in (ASN-154/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in

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**झारखण्ड सरकार, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय कम्पाईड बिल्डींग, ओल्ड हास कोट एरिया, बोकारो**

**ई-अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना**

**ई-अल्पकालीन निविदा संख्या :- 17/2024-25/RWD/EE/BOKARO दिनांक - 23.08.2024**

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

क्र 0 आईडीएफिकेशन संख्या / पैकेज संख्या	कार्य का नाम	प्राकृतिक राशि (रुपये में) अंक में	अक्षर में	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	टेंडर की अवधि
1 RWD/EE/BOKARO/29/2024-25	एनएफए-32 से रिटर्नड गॉव तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.150 कि०मी०)।	94,62,800.00	चौरान्बे लाख बासठ हजार आठ सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
2 RWD/EE/BOKARO/30/2024-25	कनफट्टा रानु सिह के घर से मोबी सिह के घर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.010 कि०मी०)।	96,94,100.00	छियान्बे लाख चौरान्बे हजार एक सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
3 RWD/EE/BOKARO/31/2024-25	बराघाट रोड से चिकुडीह होले हुए मैदान तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.020 कि०मी०)।	99,81,400.00	नियान्बे लाख इक्वसरी हजार चार सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
4 RWD/EE/BOKARO/32/2024-25	आर०डी० रोड जोरी से आर०डी० रोड रोड भाया बड़ गाड़ तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.020 कि०मी०)।	81,12,800.00	इक्वसरी लाख बासठ हजार आठ सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
5 RWD/EE/BOKARO/33/2024-25	कुम्हरी पंचायत विवाकर सिह के घर से गोरई टोला सालकबाबा होले हुए गुणाकर दत्ता के घर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.030 कि०मी०)।	99,56,500.00	नियान्बे लाख छयन हजार पाँच सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
6 RWD/EE/BOKARO/34/2024-25	कुम्हरी रोड रोड रोड से आर०डी० रोड भाया कोरडीह शिव मंदिर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.200 कि०मी०)।	89,42,200.00	नवसरी लाख बसतीस हजार दो सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
7 RWD/EE/BOKARO/35/2024-25	सोनीपुकर पंचायत के बाबुडीह निवासी पी०डी० महतो के घर से नवन राजस के घर होते हुए महावीर महतो के घर तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.050 कि०मी०)।	82,67,100.00	बसतीस लाख सडसठ हजार एक सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
8 RWD/EE/BOKARO/36/2024-25	बांधडीह दक्षिणी ग्राम पंचायत तैतियाडीह रोड से लेकर चिन्मामोडा तक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.220 कि०मी०)।	94,29,800.00	चौरान्बे लाख उनतीस हजार आठ सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
9 RWD/EE/BOKARO/37/2024-25	बासडीह ग्राम पंचायत में बहादुरपुर एनएफ० रोड से कुसमट्टा होले हुए शाई रकुल एक पथ निर्माण कार्य (लम्बाई- 1.000 कि०मी०)।	74,74,600.00	चौहत्तर लाख चौहत्तर हजार छ सौ रू० मात्र	06 माह	प्रथम
10 RWD/EE/BOKARO/38/2024-25	गोगज				

'MGNREGA's present state living monument of Modi's betrayal'

In the guise of using technology and Aadhaar, the Modi gov't has deleted over 7 crore workers' job cards, Kharge said

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday took a jibe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and said the present state of the scheme is a living monument of his 'betrayal' of rural India.

The Congress chief in a post on X wrote, "In 2005, on this day, our Congress-United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government enacted Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) to ensure



'Right to Work' to crores of people in rural India.

Pointing out that presently there are 13.3 crore active workers who depend on MGNREGA, he alleged despite low wages, abysmal work-

days, they are facing chief of job cards.

Attacking the BJP-led government at the Centre, Kharge said, "In the guise of using technology and AADHAAR, the Modi government has

deleted over 7 crore workers' job cards, cutting these households off from MGNREGA work."

Referring to the Union Budget, he said, "This year's Budget allocation for MGNREGA is just 1.78 per cent of the total budgetary allocation, which marks a 10-year low in the scheme's funding."

"The lower allocation by the Modi government contributes in artificially suppressing the demand for work under the scheme. The Economic Survey has already laid the groundwork to justify the low allocation, by claiming that MGNREGA demand does not necessarily correlate with rural distress," the Congress

chief said.

Kharge, who is also the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha said, "Recent Parliamentary Standing Committee report has said that the daily wages paid under the MGNREGA are inadequate. For instance, since 2014, the daily wage rate for Uttar Pradesh has increased just 4 per cent per year, when inflation has been much higher than that. Today a labourer earns on an average a mere Rs 213 per day."

He said the Congress is committed to provide Rs 400 per day as national minimum wage.

"Even though Rural Inflation is higher than Urban

Inflation for 13 straight months, Modi government's apathy towards rural poor continues," Kharge said.

The Congress chief added, "The present state of MGNREGA is a living monument of PM Modi's betrayal to rural India."

Echoing similar sentiments, Congress MP Rajeev Shukla said, "Today, reminiscing the historic moment when the empowering and epic legislation MGNREGA was passed by the UPA Government 19 years back."

He said it still stands as a testament to the power of collective effort in ensuring livelihood security and dignity for every citizen.

Ministry of Education directs all states/UTs to implement guidelines on school safety and security



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

The Education Ministry has directed all States/UT to implement "Guidelines on School Safety and Security" which are in alignment with the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) guidelines.

These guidelines, inter-alia, contain provisions for fixing the accountability of the school management in the matter of the safety and security of children studying in Government, Government-aided, and Private Schools.

To strengthen the procedures, accountability and safeguard the students, in pursuance of the Supreme Court order, the Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education has developed the 'Guidelines on School Safety and Security-2021'.

The guidelines provide measures for preventive education, accountability of various stakeholders, reporting procedure, legal provisions concerned, support and counselling, and a safe environment. These guidelines are crucial to accessibility, inclusiveness, and positive learning outcomes.

The guidelines, which are advisory, detail the accountability of various stakeholders and different departments in ensuring the safety and security of children in schools.

The purpose of these guidelines is to create an understanding among all stakeholders, including students and parents, on the need for co-creating a safe and secure school environment for the holistic development of children.

These will also make different stakeholders aware of the acts, policies, procedures, and guidelines already available on different aspects of safety and security - physical, socio-emotional, cognitive, and specific to natural disasters as well.

The purpose is to empower different stakeholders and enable clarity on their role in the implementation of this guideline and fix accountability for keeping children safe and secure in schools, including while children are transported to and from, to attend school or go back to their homes in a school transport on School Management and Principals and Teachers in Private/Unaided Schools.

A key purpose is to emphasise the 'Zero Tolerance Policy' against any negligence on the part of any individual or management when it comes to the safety and security of children in schools, the ministry said in a statement on Friday.

The guidelines had been circulated to all States/UTs/Autonomous Bodies of DoSEL and Stakeholder Institutes on October 1, 2021.

Ministry of Health calls for end to colonial-era convocation attire in medical institutes

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Friday directed the Central government Medical Teaching Institutes to design appropriate dress code for the convocation ceremony of their respective institutes based on local traditions of the state and said the current tradition of black robe and cap is a colonial legacy which needs to be changed.

In a letter addressed to the HeadS of all the Central government hospitals, AIIMS/INIS/Central government Medical Teaching Institutes, TC Naulak, Under Secretary in the ministry of health and family welfare wrote, "I am directed to invite a reference to the PANCH PRAN (five resolutions) enunciated

by the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi)."

"In this regard, it is observed that currently as a matter of practice black robe and cap is being used during convocation by various Institutes of the Ministry. This attire originated in the Middle Ages in Europe and was introduced by the British in all their colonies. The above tradition is a colonial legacy which needs to be changed," said the letter.

Accordingly it has been decided by the Ministry that the various Institutes of the Ministry including AIIMS/INIS engaged in imparting medical education will design appropriate India dress code for the convocation ceremony of their institute' based on local traditions of the state in which the institute is located, it said.

Thackeray: Make 'Maharashtra Bandh' successful to arrest 'perverse mentality'

AGENCIES MUMBAI, 23 AUGUST

Maha Vikash Aghadi (MVA) ally, Shiv Sena (UBT) President and ex-CM Uddhav Thackeray on Friday issued a clarion call to the people asking them to participate in Saturday's Maharashtra Bandh (shutdown) wholeheartedly to protest against 'perverse mentality' in the state, here.

He said that the shutdown would commence from Saturday morning and would be on till 2 p.m., while all essential services shall be exempt, urged for stopping local trains and bus services during half-day 'bandh', called by the combined Opposition including Congress, Nationalist Congress Party (SP), Shiv Sena (UBT), plus other allies.

"Tomorrow's 'bandh' is not political. There's a fear



in the minds of the people not only in Maharashtra but across India. The masses are concerned about the safety and security of their little girls, daughters, women who go to schools, colleges, hospitals, offices and other places. The 'bandh' is to express their sentiments against the perversity," said Thackeray. He said that in the past

10 days, there have been many such incidents of atrocities against the womenfolk, almost daily even in Maharashtra, that have shocked the people and raises serious concerns on the safety of the women in the minds of all, including their families.

"As the heads of the family, the fathers or brothers can keep their businesses, offices

or other establishments close to register their anger against the prevailing situation. I humbly call upon all the people to voluntarily join the 'Maharashtra Bandh' tomorrow," appealed Thackeray.

On restricting the time limit from morning to 2 p.m. (around 8 hours), Thackeray said it was on account of the preparations for the upcoming festivals of Janmashtami and Dahi Handi (August 27-28), followed by Ganeshotsav, and to ensure that people are not inconvenienced by the shutdown.

Shiv Sena (UBT) Chief Spokesperson Sanjay Raut said that the 'bandh' would be successful as there is deep angst among the people, and "if the government had given a free hand to the police to handle crimes", the need for a shutdown would not have arisen.

TENDER

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER Tenders are invited by Executive Engineer, Mathurapur-I Panchayat Samiti under MDW 2023-2024 and BEUP Fund through the NIT No. 342 & 343. Last date of application of NIT No. 342 is 11.09.2024 up to 5.30 p.m. and NIT No. 343 is 03.09.2024 up to 5.30 p.m. For details, please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in

Government of West Bengal Notice Inviting e-Tender E.E.-on behalf of P.M.Z.P. invites Tenders vide Tender ref. no. PAMD-N-125/2024-25 and PAMD-N-684/2023-24 (2nd call). Submission end date is 30.08.2024 up to 16.00 hrs. For details visit website www.wbpdac.in & www.pzmid.wb.org

PRESS NOTICE E-Tenders are hereby invited from bona fide, experienced and reliable contractors for execution of the supplying of fingerlings, limes & fish food having requisite credentials for execution of 2 Nos. different schemes under PMKSY WDC 2.0 scheme in Purulia District on and from 23-08-2024 to 04-09-2024, vide NIT No. 14 / PMKSY-WDC2.0 / 02-PSME / 24-25. Details of timing, eligibility criteria etc. please visit: www.wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL ABRIDGED FOI NOTICE N.I.E.O. No. WB/W/EE/MDMD/e-EOI-04 OF 2024-2025 On behalf of the Government of West Bengal, Notice Inviting Expression of Interest is invited by the undersigned for 01 (One) no. of work under Metropolitan Drainage Mechanical Division, I&W Dte., Govt. of West Bengal. Bid Submission End Date: 23.09.2024 at 5.00 P.M. Other details will be available from the notice board of office of the undersigned on working days and also from website: www.wbiwd.gov.in and https://wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER Tender ID: 2024\_WBP\_734969\_1 Dated: 16.08.2024. Work Title: Supply of Miscellaneous Articles/ Items. For the period from AUG 2024 to MARCH 2025. Bid closing date: 27.08.2024. For more details log on to: www.wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL e-TENDER NOTICE NIT-09 of 2024-25 EE/NMD-II Ref: Tender ID: 2024\_PHEd\_737316\_1 to 3 Sealed NIT in WB/No. 2911 are invited by EE/NMD-II, PHE Dte. for S/D/I & Commissioning of Different W/S/5. The details of work will be available at website: www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbghed.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL e-TENDER NOTICE e-Tender is invited by the Assistant Engineer, Jalpaiguri Sadar Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte. On behalf of Governor of West Bengal. NIT No. 14 of 2024-25. For details visit website: www.wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER E-Tender No. 07 of 2024-25 of the Executive Engineer, Barasat Division No. II, PW, (Roads) Dte. Visit this website: www.wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE Executive Engineer, PWD Diamond Harbour Divn. invites PWD/EE/HD/NIT No.-05/2024-2025 for the works- Emergent Repair of Kamarpole to Kalicharanpur Road from 0.00 kmp to 1.00 kmp, 2.00 kmp to 2.50 and 4.70 kmp to 5.72 kmp, kmp under Diamond Harbour Division (PWD.) during the year 2024-25. Estimated Amount- Rs. 5,43,191.00. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737143\_1. Bid submission Starting date: 21.08.2024 & Bid Submission closing date 03.09.2024 at 12:00 P.M. may be seen & downloaded from the official website of P.W.D. http://etender.wb.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE EE, PWD, Cob. Divn. invites online e-tender (e-NIT 15). Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737202\_1. Bid submission start date: 28.08.2024, 10.30 hrs & Bid submission closing date: 05.09.2024, 18.30 hrs. Downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE EE, PWD, Cob. Divn. invites online e-tender (e-NIT 15). Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737202\_1. Bid submission start date: 28.08.2024, 10.30 hrs & Bid submission closing date: 05.09.2024, 18.30 hrs. Downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE Executive Engineer, Alipurdur Division invites online e-tender for the work of NIT No. 04 of 2024-25 of EE/PWD/AFOD. Setting up of a POCSO Court at ground floor of existing District Judge court building at Alipurdur, in the District of Alipurdur. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737220\_1. Estimated Amount: Rs. 20,94,300.00. Bid submission start date (online) 26.08.2024 from 12.00 P.M. Bid submission closing date (online) 09.09.2024 up to 02.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & Tender documents may be downloaded from: http://wbtender.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL KMDA TENDER NOTICE e-NIT No. H/EE/EN/EB/SD/EM/ KMDA/ET-11 of 2024-25 Online item rate-part tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, (G/M), EB/SD, EM Sector, KMDA, KVIA, Vivekananda Road, 3rd Floor, Kolkata-700006, from reliable, successful, bonafide and experienced agencies / manufacturers, for the work, Name of the Work, Estimated Value, Earnest Money, Time of Completion, Supply of all the required parts, equipment, machine, items etc., fitting-fixing each and every part etc. and the units as a whole, testing, commissioning including obtaining all sorts of statutory certificates, clearance etc. and trial running of departmentally supplied one no. 20-passenger and two nos. 3-ton goods lift at G-5 Logistic Hub, Garden Reach, Rate to be quoted, Rs.53,500/-, 02 months. Last date & time of online tender submission: 08.09.2024, 12:00 hrs. For details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-444) www.kmda.wb.gov.in www.wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL Notice Inviting e-Tender No.: 2510/WBPCPR-19/1/2021-SEC(WBPCPR)-WBPCPR Date: 22/08/2024 The West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights invites e-Tenders for printing, binding and supply of all the (four) issues of 'WBPCPR Children Magazine' (Hullor), a quarterly magazine during the next one year. Bid submission start and closing dates are 23/08/2024 and 03/09/2024 respectively. For details interested persons may view the website: www.wbpcpr.org & visit https://wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL e-TENDER NOTICE e-Tender is invited by the Assistant Engineer, Hasnabad Sub-Division, PHE Dte. On behalf of governor of West Bengal. NIT No. 14 of 2024-25. For details visit website: www.wbtenders.gov.in

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE The Executive Engineer - II, Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte. invites e-NIT for "Day to day maintenance of entire electrical installations for both non-residential & residential buildings & Operation of Compound Light for all working day & holidays round the clock in the premises of Garden Reach S.G. Hospital, Kolkata." Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737442\_1. Last date of submissions - 10/09/24 upto 12.00 Noon. All documents can be seen & obtained from the websites: https://wbtenders.gov.in / www.pwdwb.in and office Notice No. Sd/- Executive Engineer - II Kolkata South Health Electrical Division, PW Dte. ICA: T148293/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (NIT No. WBPWD/EE/HCD/e-NIT - 05 (2nd call)/2024-25 of Executive Engineer, PWD, Howrah Construction Division. (1) Name of Work - Regular maintenance work except N.Das building at Howrah District Hospital (Sanitary & Plumbing works) for the period of 1 (one) year. Estimated Amount: Rs. 6,84,000.00 Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737090\_1. Bid Submission end date: 31.08.2024 at 3.00p.m. Details will be available from the website: http://wbtenders.gov.in and notice board of this office on all working days within office hours. Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Howrah Construction Division. ICA: T148232/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE, SEC, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700091 TENDER NOTICE Tender Reference No.: WBPHE/SEC/NIET-38/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024\_PHEd\_729056\_1 & 2024\_PHEd\_729056\_2 e-Tenders in WB/2911 are invited for the work: "Laying, fitting, fixing, jointing etc of different dia pipe line and other allied works of Swarnapnagar Block" / "Laying of pipeline and other allied works under Basirhat-I block" under Integrated Surface Water Base Piped W/S Scheme for Arsenic affected blocks of Baduria, Basirhat-I & II, Swarnapnagar and Degana in the district of North 24 Parganas under Barasat Arsenic Division, PHE Dte. (Sl. No. 1 & 2) & Corrigendum uploaded. Bid Submission Closing Date (Online): 06.09.2024 at 04.30 p.m." Further details are available in the website: http://wbtenders.gov.in/mis/en/app. Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, PHE Dte. ICA: T148481/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL WR/IDA-NIT Executive Engineer (A-I), Krishnagar - I (A-I) Division, WR/ID invites e-tender for following Works, Re-Winding and repairing of Submersible electro motor pump set (different H.P.), Renovation at office premises for S/D Office, and Supply of different material under Krishnagar-I(A-I) Division within the jurisdiction of Krishnagar (A-I) Circle. vide e-NIT No-04 & 05 and NIT No-04/2024-2025 of Executive Engineer (A-I), Krishnagar - I (A-I) Division, Krishnagar, Nadia. Tender ID: 2024\_WROD\_736387\_1 to 3 and 2024\_WROD\_736387\_4 and 2024\_WROD\_735398\_1 to 2. Total estimated amount up to tender to Rs. 14,93,046 lakh. Last dropping date: 30.08.2024 up to 18.00 hours and 28.08.2024 up to 14.00 hour. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website: http://wbtenders.gov.in for details. Sd/-Executive Engineer (A-I) Krishnagar - I (A-I) Division, Nadia ICA: T148103/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PW(ROADS) TENDER NOTICE EE, Cob Hwy, Divn, PW, (Roads) Dte. invites online e-tender for work of (1) Urgent repairing works at different stretches at 5.00kmp and 10.00kmp of Patgram Bhutan Cross Road under Coochbehar Highway Division, in the district of Coochbehar. NIT No. 04(E) of 2024-25, (Sl No. 3) Estimated Amount: Rs. 13,02,195.22 Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_737179\_2. (2) Fulbari-chikilguri road from 1.00kmp to 2.80kmp, patch repairing work under Coochbehar Highway Division in the district of Coochbehar. NIT No. 04(E) of 2024-25, (Sl No. 2) Estimated Amount: Rs. 13,02,195.22 Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_737179\_1. (3) Fulbari-chikilguri road from 1.00kmp to 2.80kmp, patch repairing work under Cooch Behar Highway Division, PW (Roads) Directorate in the district of Cooch Behar during the year 2024-25. NIT No. 04(E) of 2024-25, (Sl No. 3) Estimated Amount: Rs. 14,73,475.00 Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_737179\_3. (4) Jungled cutting and installation of necessary road safety Sign Boards alongside Chhangrabandha-Mathabanga - Cooch Behar road (SH-16) from 70.00km to 93.00 km (In stretches) under Cooch Behar during 2024-25. NIT No. 04(E) of 2024-25, (Sl No. 4) Estimated Amount: Rs. 9,62,716.00 Tender ID: 2024\_SH\_737179\_4. Bid submission Start date (online): 24.08.2024 from 9.00 a.m. Bid submission closing date (online) 06.09.2024 upto 06.00 p.m. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from: https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Roy prithviraj Executive Engineer, PWD Hooghly Construction Division, Chawkbazar, Hooghly ICA: T148613/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE E.E., Murshidabad Electrical Division, PW/Directorate invites online tender for the following NIT/NIQ No: WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/62/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/63/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/64/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/65/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/66/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/67/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/68/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/69/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/70/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/71/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/72/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/73/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/74/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/75/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/76/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/77/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/78/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/79/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/80/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/81/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/82/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/83/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/84/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/85/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/86/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/87/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/88/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/89/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/90/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/91/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/92/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/93/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/94/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/95/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/96/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/97/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/98/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/99/e-Q OF 2024-25, WBPWD/EE/MS/ED/100/e-Q OF 2024-25. Last date & time of online tender submission: 08.09.2024, 12:00 hrs. For details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-444) www.kmda.wb.gov.in www.wbtenders.gov.in

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise) Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1965SC039154 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237 Notice Inviting e-Tender Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tender-Adv/24-25/SGTP/ICC-2258 Date: 20.08.2024 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTTP/ICC-2258/24-25 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, SGTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for the job "Procurement of Crusher Plates (Breaker Plates and Screen Plates) for Ring Granulator, Model No: RG733 installed at Stage - I CHP-MM Department, SGTPP, WBPDC. Tender Document Download Start Date: 21.08.2024 at 03.00 PM. Bid Submission End Date: 04.09.2024 at 03.00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Arun Mandal, Senior Manager (Purchase), Phone: 8336903813, E-mail: amonda@wbpcdc.co.in For details please visit: https://wbtenders.gov.in ICA: T148802/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise) Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1965SC039154 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237 Notice Inviting e-Tender Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tender-Adv/24-25/SGTP/ICC-2258 Date: 20.08.2024 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTTP/ICC-2258/24-25 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, SGTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for the job "Contract for round the clock operation of in-plant Rail Movement Control Cabin for SGTPP Inside Rail Yard for Two (02) Years". Tender Document Download Start Date: 23.08.2024 at 10.00 hrs. Bid Submission End Date: 16.09.2024 up to 15.00 hrs. Contact Person: Mr. Jaydeep Kundu, Senior Manager (Contract Cell), Mobile: 8336903813, E-mail: jkundu@wbpcdc.co.in For details please visit: https://wbtenders.gov.in ICA: T148823/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL KMDA TENDER NOTICE e-NIT No. H/EE/EN/EB/SD/EM/ KMDA/ET-11 of 2024-25 e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, South Division, SD&SWM Sector, KMDA, Baghajatin, STP Complex, Kolkata-700094, from reliable, successful, bonafide and experienced agencies, for the work, Name of Work, Estimated amount put to Tender (with 18% GST, 1% Cess), Earnest Money Deposit, Time of Completion, Cleaning Juggles, Silt Clearance of Nayanjarai from Jalukhura F.P. School to Bagmati More (Culvert) towards Banerjeebat Bus Stand (Culvert) in Word no-23 under Maheshtala Municipality. (2nd Call). Rs.7,08,366/-, Rs.14,167/-, 45 days. Last date & time of Online Tender submission: 07.09.2024 upto 18.00 hrs. For details contact the above office or visit both websites. (KMDA-446) www.kmda.wb.gov.in www.wbtenders.gov.in ICA: T147982/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE Executive Engineer, Nadia Division, P.W.D. invites online e-tender for the work of Sl.1: Emergent Brick stitching work at different roads under Krishnagar Construction Sub-Division No-I, P.W.D. in the District of Nadia during the year 2024-25 Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737066\_1. Sl. 2: Krishnagar to NH-34 Link Road from 0.00 to 0.800 Km-Patch repair work in different stretches under Krishnagar Construction Sub Division No-I, P.W.D. during the year 2024-25. Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737066\_2. Bid submission start date (online): 21/08/2024 from 06:30 P.M. Bid submission end date (online): 31/08/2024 up to 05:00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender document may be downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in ICA: T148192/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL e-TENDER NOTICE e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer Mechanical Electrical Division Berhampore PHE Dte vide Ref. No. WBPHE/EE/ME/ED/NieQ-12 OF 2024-25 and Tender ID: 2024\_PHEd\_737251\_1 Guarding arrangement through registered firm organized by Ex-Military personnel. List date for Submission of Technical and Financial Bid (online): 18-09-2024 upto 4.00 P.M. Dated of Opening technical proposal (online): 20-09-2024 after 4.30 P.M. NE: All others of the above NleQ will remain unchanged. All details can be seen from the website: http://wbtenders.gov.in & www.wbphed.gov.in ICA: T148433/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL PWD TENDER NOTICE EE, PWD, Hooghly Construction Division invites online e-Tender for the work of Emergent repairing of both side shouldering of Goghat to Pundahat Road from ch. 8.20 kmp to ch. 12.53 kmp under Hooghly Construction Sub-Division-I, PWD under Hooghly Construction Division, PWD during the year 2024-2025. Estimated Amount: 1,17,23,56.00. NIT no: WBPWD/EE/HCD/NIT 09/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024\_WBPWD\_737029\_1. Bid submission start date (online): 30.08.2024 from 6:00 PM. Bid submission closing date (online): 14.09.2024 up to 2:00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT/NIT and other documents may be downloaded from: http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Roy prithviraj Executive Engineer, PWD Hooghly Construction Division, Chawkbazar, Hooghly ICA: T148613/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL Mass Education Extension Directorate Bikash Bhawan, 9th Floor, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700091 e-TENDER NOTICE E-tender is invited for supplying of food i.e. Tea, Tiffin, Refreshment and Hall & Stage Decoration etc. for the participants/officers in connection with observation of International Literacy Day on 8th September, 2024. The last date for Bid submission is 12.00 hrs. For details contact the above office in NIC-e-tender portal vide the Notice No. MEED/DIR/e-Q/2024-25 dated 14.08.2024. Sd/- Director of Mass Education Extension, Govt. of West Bengal ICA: T148913/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise) Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1965SC039154 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237 Notice Inviting e-Tender Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tender-Adv/24-25/SGTP/ICC-2259 Date: 20.08.2024 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTTP/ICC-2259/24-25 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, SGTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for the job "Procurement of Filter Bags & Cages for Dust Extraction System at Stage - II CHP-MM Department, SGTPP, WBPDC. Tender Document Download Start Date: 21.08.2024 at 03.00 PM. Bid Submission End Date: 04.09.2024 at 03.00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Arun Mandal, Senior Manager (Purchase), Phone: 8336903813, E-mail: amonda@wbpcdc.co.in For details please visit: https://wbtenders.gov.in ICA: T148873/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited (A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise) Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1965SC039154 Sagardighi Thermal Power Project P.O. Monigram, P.S. Sagardighi, Dist. - Murshidabad, Pin - 742237 Notice Inviting e-Tender Ref. No.: WBPDC/ Tender-Adv/24-25/SGTP/ICC-2259 Date: 20.08.2024 NIT No.: WBPDC/SGTTP/ICC-2259/24-25 E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, SGTPP, WBPDC from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 (three) Part bid system for the job "Procurement of Filter Bags & Cages for Dust Extraction System at Stage - II CHP-MM Department, SGTPP, WBPDC. Tender Document Download Start Date: 21.08.2024 at 03.00

# The Statesman

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## Hydropower Diplomacy

Nepal's expanding energy exports to India signal a pivotal shift in South Asian regional cooperation, particularly in the energy sector. The recent approval by India to import an additional 251 MW of hydropower from Nepal, bringing the total import to 941 MW, underscores the growing interdependence between the two neighbours. This partnership is not just about the exchange of electricity but also about fostering economic growth, enhancing energy security, and cementing geopolitical ties. For Nepal, the hydropower sector represents a critical economic lifeline. Blessed with abundant water resources, the country has long been recognised for its hydroelectric potential. However, political instability, inadequate infrastructure, and limited market access have historically hampered its ability to fully harness this potential. The recent surge in energy exports to India marks a turning point in Nepal's economic trajectory. By tapping into India's vast energy market, Nepal stands to generate substantial revenue, which can be invested in the country's infrastructure and social programmes. Last year alone, Nepal's electricity exports generated NPR 16.9 billion, a significant boost to its economy. This trend is likely to continue as more hydropower projects come online. For India, this partnership is equally strategic. As India grapples with the challenge of meeting its growing energy demands, particularly in states like Bihar, which will soon benefit from these imports, diversifying energy sources is critical. Nepal's hydropower offers a reliable and sustainable option, helping India to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and move closer to its renewable energy goals. Furthermore, this cooperation aligns with India's broader strategy of regional integration, where the energy trade serves as a foundation for deeper economic and political ties.

However, the implications of this energy partnership extend beyond economics. Geopolitically, India's engagement with Nepal in the energy sector can be seen as part of its broader strategy to counter-balance China's growing influence in the region. China has been investing heavily in Nepal's infrastructure and hydropower sectors, positioning itself as a key player in the country's development. By strengthening its energy ties with Nepal, India is reinforcing its position as a reliable partner and ensuring that Nepal remains within its sphere of influence. This dynamic also highlights the importance of regional cooperation in addressing shared challenges.

Both India and Nepal face the impacts of climate change, and hydropower offers a clean and sustainable solution to their energy needs. By working together, the two countries can build a more resilient energy infrastructure that benefits both populations. The expansion of Nepal's energy exports to India is a win-win situation for both nations. It provides Nepal with a steady revenue stream and an opportunity to develop its hydropower potential fully. For India, it offers a reliable source of renewable energy and strengthens its strategic position in the region. As this partnership continues to grow, it could serve as a model for regional cooperation in South Asia, fostering greater economic integration and stability in the region.

## Job Strategies

India's employment landscape is undergoing profound transformation. As the country continues its economic ascent, the complexities of job creation across various sectors have become more apparent. The notion that a single, overarching employment strategy can address the diverse needs of India's workforce is increasingly untenable. Instead, sector-specific plans that cater to the unique challenges and opportunities within each industry are essential for sustainable and inclusive job growth. At the heart of India's employment dilemma is the need for quality jobs that offer security and upward mobility. While the sheer number of jobs is important, it is equally crucial that these jobs provide pathways for the unemployed and underemployed to improve their socio-economic status. This is particularly pressing in a country with a rapidly growing workforce, where projections indicate that the employable population will reach nearly 65 per cent by 2040. Agriculture remains the largest employer in India, yet it is plagued by low productivity and inadequate incomes for rural workers. Despite recent job creation in this sector, its potential for long-term employment growth is limited by mechanisation and other technological advancements. To sustain rural livelihoods, policies must focus on improving agricultural productivity and transitioning workers to related fields, such as agro-processing and retail services. This shift aligns with broader structural changes in the economy, where labour moves from agriculture to industry and services.

The service sector, on the other hand, represents a beacon of hope for India's employment future. With sectors like information technology, banking, and finance leading job creation in recent years, the service industry has proven to be a dynamic driver of employment growth. However, the challenge here is to ensure that these jobs are "good" jobs - positions that offer security, fair wages, and opportunities for advancement. To achieve this, India must continue to invest in high-growth sub-sectors such as digital services, healthcare, and renewable energy while also addressing the needs of gig workers by providing social security and fair labour practices.

Manufacturing, a sector once seen as the backbone of India's economic growth, has faced stagnation in job creation. Automation and a capital-intensive approach have limited its ability to absorb a growing workforce. To revitalise this sector, India must integrate manufacturing with the service sector and leverage policies like Make in India and the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes. Strengthening research and development within businesses can also spur job creation by fostering innovation and high-value production. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) play a critical role in job creation, contributing significantly to GDP and exports.

However, these enterprises need more targeted support, including better access to credit, digital transformation incentives, and partnerships with educational institutions to align skill development with industry needs. By optimising MSME value chains, especially in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, India can create employment opportunities in smaller towns and boost economic growth. India's employment challenges cannot be addressed through a one-size-fits-all approach. Each sector presents unique opportunities and obstacles that require tailored strategies.

# Building BRICS

The Global South is no more in the age of innocence. Thanks to the rise of BRICS, the structure of global power is no longer a pyramid. This burgeoning club has acquired a formidable clout and now we live in a new period of competitive multilateralism... BRICS has emerged as a powerful geopolitical entity thanks to the rise of the Global South



Way back in 2012, Zbigniew Brzezinski wrote about "the receding West" in his book *Strategic Vision* and argued that "the long-lasting political domination of the world by the West has been fading for some decades." No one was therefore surprised when French President Emmanuel Macron told the Economist in 2019 that "what we are currently experiencing is the brain death of NATO".

Many Western geopolitical sages have made similar statements. Henry Kissinger wrote in his book *World Order* that the world is in a parlous condition verging on international anarchy. Guardian columnist Siman Tisdall explains how the US is now changing from a global power to "smart power" using soft power tools, economic levers, technological advantage, intelligence gathering and not brute military force and full-scale invasions.

Today, frontier technologies like artificial intelligence, robotics, quantum computing, 6G telecommunications, genetic engineering and nanotechnology have become the new building blocks of a competitive multipolar order.

The Global South is no more in the age of innocence. Thanks to the rise of BRICS, the structure of global power is no longer a pyramid. This burgeoning club has acquired a formidable clout and now we live in a new period of competitive multilateralism.

Europe's "Belle Epoque" is long gone as Keynes described it as "projects and politics of militarism, of racial and cultural rivalries and restructured exclusion." The world order is now a "post-Western world". But both the Western world and the Global South face new challenges.

Global politics has entered a transformative paradigm shift. It is a new phase of "techno-geopolitical uncertainty" as geopolitics and geoeconomics have made way for geotechnology. It would not be an exaggeration to say that global trends and phenomena are transmuting into a delicate global economic, political and technological turbulence.

The post-Berlin Wall order is over. One can discern the gradual end of Scandinavian neutrality and equidistance. The expansion of the European Union and NATO defy logic. The end of Europe by James Kirchick says it all. He argues that Europe is on a razor's edge.

BRICS has emerged as a powerful geopolitical entity thanks to the rise of the Global South. It is flexing economic and political muscles that no other platforms or groupings of the developing world ever did. It has momentum on its side. It has surpassed the G7 and accounts for 32 per cent of global GDP in PPP terms. The dynamism of the economy is in the Global South. When a club has a waiting list for getting in, it is hard to characterise it as irrelevant.

BRICS is an economic elephant in the room. It has become a feel-good factor and a reliable pillar of the emerging global order. BRICS has another advantage. To use the musical allegory, BRICS are like soft Beatles whose members are free to release solo albums. But it needs to do much more. BRICS requires new imagination. It needs new paradigms, tools and strategies. It certainly needs a new cooperation paradigm. The old matrix of donor-recipient relations is no more relevant nor is it desirable. There is no one donor who is not receiving and there is no one recipient who is not giving.

BRICS' growing profile has provoked bewilderment, jealousy, bouts of paranoia and muddled thinking in the West. BRICS perspectives and agendas, many in the West believe, seek to tear up its carefully crafted global rulebook. BRICS has now become what an analyst calls "a staple of foreign policy jargons" in the West. And this grouping appears in Western governments' "white papers", think tank reports, newspaper columns and social media posts.

But BRICS faces its own set of challenges. Competing visions and agendas are being pursued by old and new BRICS members. BRICS' challenge is how to become an anchor of global politics.

In the age of poly-crisis, BRICS must offer a vision of what is needed and what is possible. It must lay out its detailed agenda for change and provide a blueprint of a just, sustainable and compassionate world.

It must work to restructure the rules of commerce to create an alternative economic model beyond growth that nurtures social bonding and responsibility. BRICS needs an infrastructure of new ideas and incentives. Footloose capitalism has dealt a fatal blow not only to democracy but also to the market. Hence, this platform must promote its vision of what David C. Corten calls "a living economy for

living Earth". Equally important is not to ignore the idea of international solidarity.

Big is not always beautiful. Mindless expansion is counter-productive. BRICS Plus has been described as 'a new world order of strategic multi-alignment'. No one knows yet what perspectives the new members have on issues articulated by BRICS.

BRICS' vision for a new global governance system should not be a clone of the World Bank or IMF. There is need to steer away from the paradigm of economic growth that prioritizes GDP. Growth is not cherry-picking. It is inclusion, distribution and sustainability.

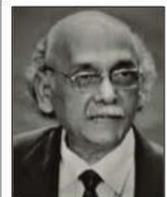
There are still loose bricks in the BRICS wall. It will have to create a common vision. It is still far from being at the cutting edge of global politics.

BRICS would need to have clear positions on climate crisis, disaster management, strategic technologies, supply chain resilience, health security and counter-terrorism. It must take a position on the future of work, the fraying of social contract among others.

The G20 under the Brazilian presidency is seriously contemplating a global minimum tax on the world's 3,300 billionaires. BRICS too must support this initiative.

The West's narratives and magic of ideas have lost their marbles. BRICS needs better ideas and stories. It must promote a paradigm that privileges equality of outcome, not merely equality as a right and a theory.

But if BRICS has to become the world's collective waking dream, it would need a new compass to walk the path towards a future. Remakes, reboots, spinoffs and imitations leave little space for new ideas both in cinema and international politics.



ASH NARAIN ROY  
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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

## A responsibility

SIR, Today's letter, "Let the System Work" by Professor Subrata Mukherjee carries a valuable message in the context of the doctors' protest against atrocities.

With due respect to the striking doctors, I request them, in line with the Hon'ble Supreme Court's appeal, to resume duty on humanitarian grounds and offer medical care to thousands of patients, many of them in critical condition.

According to a section of doctors and some medical associations, they have the same right to protest as citizens. But the main difference between a doctor and a citizen lies elsewhere. It's responsibility. Only a doctor can operate on a patient, confirm treatment and give medicine. Only a doctor is authorized to issue a death certificate. People all over the world have supported the doctors' protest against the horrific RG Kar incident.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court has taken suo motu action. Doctors and their associations would do well to trust the Supreme Court and resume work on humanitarian grounds.

Yours, etc., Indrani Guha, Kolkata, 23 August.

## AN OPPORTUNITY

SIR, Bangladesh has retained the second position globally behind China in the export of readymade

garments. Due to instability in Bangladesh, garment exports may be affected.

India should make efforts to fill this gap. This effort can raise the level of Indian readymade garment exports globally.

Yours, etc., Nabnit Panigrahi, Rayagada, 22 August.

## DOUBLE-SPEAK

SIR, Please refer to today's report "Badlapur protest is politically motivated". Even as the chaos in Kolkata is far from over, yet another allegation of inhuman sexual assault of two young girls in Badlapur, Maharashtra has sent shock-



waves through the country.

The region has erupted into enraged protests disrupting transport and other services, prompting a high-handed response from the police and administration in the form of lathi charge and Internet suspension.

Now, the glaring irony is that the same BJP which is going full throttle against the West Bengal government, endorsing and joining in protests, has taken little time in terming the unrest in Maharashtra as 'political'.

The reason is obvious - it is an alliance partner in the Eknath Shinde-led Mahayuti government. Meanwhile, the Maha Vikash Aghadi has called for Maharashtra bandh on August 24.

Perhaps a coincidence, but it exposes the hypocrisy of the leadership and their despicable act of

## UNFORTUNATE

SIR, It is an unfortunate but sad reality of our society that neither a 4-year-old girl nor a 60-year-old woman is safe in our country. All are equally vulnerable.

Bombay High Court is spot on in its assessment. And what a pity that the Mahayuti government in Maharashtra termed the protest after the Badlapur rape incident as political.

Law and order is a state subject and no one but the state government is responsible for failing to stop such heinous crimes. The least the Maharashtra government can do is to take ownership and act fast after the crime.

By terming the protests as political, they are doing disservice to both the family of these girls and people of the state. The state police's keenness to lodge FIR against protestors displays wrong priorities.

Yours, etc., Bal Govind, Noida, 23 August.

using sexual assaults against women/girls as an opportunity for political brownie points in one case, while downplaying it in another.

The political subjugation and hijacking of women's vulnerability in society is grossly misappropriate and undermines the chances of justice.

And here comes yet another irony: while it took almost a week for the police to file an FIR in the sexual assault, it was far quicker in registering FIRs against 300 people and arresting 40 protestors, almost promptly.

With the next assembly elections looming on the horizon, and the situation already becoming volatile, government authorities have suddenly woken from their slumber - announcing the formation of a Special Investigation

A MEMBER OF THE ANN ASIA NEWS NETWORK

## ASIAN VOICES

### Initiating religious reform at Pashupati

An observing Hindu devotes the month of Shrawan to fasting and praying to Lord Shiva. The Mondays of the month are particularly auspicious, especially the last one. I'm not religious anymore, yet the last Monday of Shrawan (August 12, 2024) became special for me at the Pashupati temple premises. On that extraordinary day, I stood at the sacred podium of a month-long Kotihoma Mahayagya and bravely addressed some 15,000 devotees and hundreds of high-caste gurus, demanding religious reform.

A few days prior, at our initiation with some liberal and young organisers of the holy festival, a Shudra, Krishna Damai from Baitadi (who holds a master's degree in Sanskrit literature), had made history by sitting on the most auspicious chair of a Brahmin pundit and delivering a short sermon. It was the first incident of this kind in Nepal.

Traditionally speaking, my presence on the dais would have been deemed polluting. We aren't allowed to enter the temples and religious events in many parts of the country, even today. These violations of the conventional caste rules vis-à-vis Hindu rituals and customs at the headquarters of the Nepali Hindu religion, as it were, have reverberated across Nepal and probably India, too - naturally offending some Hindus and encouraging others. This has a significant symbolic meaning in terms of tackling the widespread problem of caste hatred and separation amongst Nepalis in the country as well as in diaspora communities. People may quickly formulate conspiracy theories, and some may even attribute

## THE KATHMANDU POST

this historical change to the influence of the wave of Hindu politics across the border. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has developed policies and programmes to ensure Dalits somehow stayed within the Hindu fold. Of course, the pundits offering to consecrate some Dalits with the Sanskrit language at the Pashupati Kotihoma must have also felt the urgency to become progressive to contain the rapid expansion of the Christian community here. But it wasn't really due to the external pressure, nor was it pre-planned as such. Some open discussions on the relationship between religion and caste have started, mainly on social media. There has been growing awareness about the role Hindi rituals and customs play in subjugating Dalits and relegating them to a status lower than a street dog. Once the grand Kotihoma festival began at Pashupati, some people asked why Bahun priests had not included Dalit scholars of Sanskrit, such as Krishna Damai. Eventually, this call was heeded, and young pundits running the show invited him to deliver his sermon. A teacher of the Sanskrit language and literature in caste-infested far western Nepal, Krishna had little experience in public speaking, let alone sitting alongside Bahun pundits and delivering a sermon to a massive gathering of Hindu devotees. Unsurprisingly, he claimed that it was something he'd never even dreamt of before. He didn't speak for very long and certainly didn't blame the religious texts, customs and traditional culture for caste discrimination. The contents of Krishna's brief sermon at the Kotihoma don't matter. In essence, the presence of a Shudra body in such a sacred and holy space in front of a large crowd of devotees and numerous live television cameras was significant.

Team, fast tracking of the case, establishing Vishaka Committees, implementing a host of safeguards provided under Vishaka guidelines, and what not.

Yours, etc., Khokan Das, Kolkata, 22 August.

## PRESTIGE ISSUE

SIR, This refers to your editorial "Fragile Stalemate", published yesterday. The war between Ukraine and Russia has seen-sawed with no end in sight.

As hundreds are slaughtered, neither side is willing to compromise, making the battle a prestige issue. Putin and Zelensky must come out of this mindset and stop this carnage.

Yours, etc., Aranya Sanyal, Siliguri, August 22.

# 'NDA bound to crumble'

Ujjwal Raman Singh is credited with ending the 40-year-long political drought of the Congress in the Allahabad Lok Sabha seat in the Lok Sabha polls held this year. The prestigious seat was last represented by the Congress in 1984 when Bollywood veteran Amitabh Bachchan won it. Former prime ministers Lal Bahadur Shastri and V P Singh had also represented the constituency. A law graduate and an alumni of St. Stephen's College, Delhi, Ujjwal (51) joined the Congress before the 2024 Lok Sabha polls after leaving the Akhilesh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party. Manoj Bhadra of The Statesman talked to the two-time MLA and former minister in the Mulayam Singh Yadav cabinet on his win from the Allahabad seat and the rising popularity of the Akhilesh Yadav-Rahul Gandhi pair.

a shop of love. People want love. Everyone has been troubled by this government.

**Q: You are a first-time MP, representing an important Lok Sabha seat of the country. How do you feel about it and what are your views about the NDA government?**

**A:** Though it is my first term in Parliament, I have been an MLA in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly twice. As all can see, the present NDA government's third term is full of contradictions and they have already shown their biased attitude towards the majority of states in the Union budget. I have a gut feeling that this NDA government will crumble under its own weight and will not complete its full term.

**Q: You gave your first speech in Lok Sabha on the budget which was appreciated by everyone. Your comments on the Union budget 2024-25.**

**A:** This Budget is only meant to benefit their friends (NDA partners). This budget has reduced funds in the field of education. The government only spent 2 per cent of GDP on education, whereas countries like China spend 5 per cent of GDP on education. In absolute terms, in China Rs 56,600 crore is spent on education and in India just Rs 1,440 crore.

You cannot take this country forward by ending education. If you had given good education to the youth and increased the budget to 6 per cent of the GDP, then somewhere this country would have progressed, but this government has tried to reduce it.

**Q: You had said that the NDA government will crumble under its own weight. Can you elaborate?**

**A:** Thanks to this government, the middle class is angry about indexation. You are destroying their hopes of a better life. Farmers are angry at the fact you are not giving them a legal guarantee of MSP (minimum support price), but this government does not understand the pain of farmers.

In UP, electricity is a big issue as farmers are unable to run their tubewells for irrigating their agricul-



tural land due to scanty rainfall. Besides, the law and order issue remains a major problem for the state's citizens.

**Q: What is your demand for Prayagraj?**

**A:** Talking about Prayagraj, if you fall ill, there are no good hospitals. The Modi government talks about All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) in the whole country, but Prayagraj was not given any AIIMS. Mr Modi had said in 2014 that he would revive the industrial area of Prayagraj, but not even a single industry has been revived so far.

The governments of Mulayam Singh Yadav and Akhilesh Yadav talked about giving tribe status to Kol caste in Prayagraj. They even sent a proposal for the same but the Centre did not act on it. Moreover, the issue of giving tribal status to 17 castes was passed in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly by the previous Samajwadi government, but the NDA yet again turned a deaf ear to it.

**Q: The Yogi Adityanath government passed the controversial Nazul Land Bill and later it was dropped in the legislative council due to opposition by its own members. What is your comment as even the BJP MLA from Prayagraj had opposed it?**

**A:** The Nazul Land Bill is a total fraud, and it should be scrapped. Through this Bill the BJP government is trying to cover up its scams done in Ayodhya, Prayagraj and other places where the officials in connivance with the BJP leaders grabbed several thousand acres of nazul land.

If the government is serious on this Bill, then they should make a provision to provide all benefits to the bonafide applicants and take action against the officials who were involved in the land scam.

**Q: What is your take on the Centre's U-turn on lateral entry in JPC jobs and recommending a JPC on the WAQF Amendment Bill?**

**A:** I have already said that this government will collapse on its own burden and wrong doings. The Congress had opposed the lateral entry appointments as it would adversely impact the reservation granted to the SCs, STs and OBCs. We can say outrightly that lateral entry is an attack on Dalits, OBCs and Adivasis and the BJP and seeks to destroy the Constitution by snatching reservations from Bahujans. It was an infringement on the Constitutional norms too, violating the rights of the people.

The Congress had demanded for a JPC on the Waqf Amendment Bill as it was detrimental to the property rights of individuals and religious institutions without adequate legal safeguards. Besides, the Bill is an infringement of the Fundamental Right of Religious Freedom under Article 14, 25, 26 and 30 of the Constitution. There are several provisions in the Bill which will certainly violate the rights of the minorities provided in the Constitution.

## OCCASIONAL NOTE

THE announcement that a responsible committee of non-party great men has been formed to provide against the possibility of The Times newspaper falling at any future period into unworthy hands will be generally welcomed. It solves a great problem in a negative direction, but still leaves it open to question how the famous enterprise at Printing House Square is to be carried on if its owners ever wish to sell, and if suitable successors cannot be found to undertake a task which at certain periods has proved a heavy financial burden. The present plan has been under discussion since the Walter-Astor purchase after Lord Northcliffe's death two years ago. It has been considerably reduced in scale, and practical journalists will be glad that the Spectator's proposals for a permanent editorial managing committee containing such distinguished Fleet Street names as the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chief Justice has been conveniently for gotten.

## NEWS ITEMS

### MYSORE MAHOMEDANS

## RELIGIOUS RIOT NARROWLY AVERTED

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A SERIOUS situation has developed in Mysore city among Mahomedan residents owing to the advent of a political moulvie named Muslim Sab Vellori, which nearly culminated in a riot. A few persons were injured. The city police and magistrates, however, succeeded in averting what would otherwise have certainly ended in bloodshed between two factions of Moslems.

The moulvie came to Mysore three months ago and obtained a following, mostly among young and impulsive Mahomedans by preaching that during the ensuing Mohurrum festival no true Musselman should worship or carry taboos, assuring them that these acts were against the tenets of Islam.

On Thursday he went to the court surrounded by a large mob who were shouting "Allah ho Akbar." A disturbance followed in which several persons were injured. The presence of the City Magistrate, District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police were necessary to quell the trouble.

### PEACE IN PACIFIC

## FRANCE AND BRITAIN'S POSITION

THE Left organ *Era*. Nouvelle in de fending Great Britain's refusal to join the League of Nations pact of mutual assistance says that Frenchmen forget nowadays that Great Britain depends on her dominions as much or perhaps more than the Dominions depend on Great Britain. It was just as important that Great Britain should be assured of peace in the Pacific as in Europe. The possibility of a conflict between the United States and Japan loomed on the horizon, and it was impossible for Australia and therefore Great Britain to remain indifferent to that possibility. The League's draft pact in nowise assured peace in the Pacific because the United States refused to adhere to it. If Great Britain accepted the pact she would be giving Japan a purely one-sided assurance.

## EFFECT ON PLANTATIONS

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

FOR the first time in 32 years the annual meeting of the United Planters' Association, regularly held at Bangalore has had to be postponed from July 18. This is one of the results of the floods in the planting districts, the condition on many of the estates demanding the presence of managers and assistants if their labour is to be retained. Cooly lines and communications must be restored and food supplies assured in very remote areas.

For a similar reason, namely, the repair of flood ravages in four out of eight districts of the Mysore State the annual conference of the Mysore Engineers' Association, due to be held here this month, has been indefinitely postponed.

Reporting further on the effects of the floods in Mysore district, the Dewan says 3,000 houses in 43 villages in the Narsipur taluq on the Kabni river have been washed away. In Narsipur town alone 500 houses were submerged, including the Treasury.

## INDUS IN FULL FLOOD

THE river Indus is in full flood and sad accounts are to hand of the loss of life and property in the affected area of the Muzaffargarh district.

# Fodder for the Olympic buffalo

F S AIJAZUDDIN

THE Summer Olympics 2024 are over. The victors have returned to savour their spoils, the vanquished to count their losses.

These Olympics had 10,714 athletes competing before a worldwide audience of 30.6 million viewers — truly a global spectator sport.

None but Olympians know the price they have had to pay — for full-time training, coaching, medical, travel and other costs, apart from being deprived of a regular income.

The International Olympic Committee does not grant any awards beyond the medals themselves. It believes that the spirit of the Olympics is enough: "It is not to win but to take part; it is not the triumph but the struggle."

Before the Paris Olympics began, the World Athletics Federation announced that \$2.4m (\$50,000 each) would be given to each gold medalist in the 48 athletic events.

National Olympic committees supplement this with incentives to their own nationals. Hong Kong topped the list with \$768,000. (It won two golds.) Singapore offered \$745,000, but that was clearly not enough. It won only one bronze. The lowest incentive (\$13,000) came from Australia, whose athletes won 18 golds. But as one Olympian put it: "A gold medal is a wonderful thing, but

if you're not enough without it, you'll never be enough with it."

Each country honours its Olympians in different ways — some with victory parades, others with cash rewards, a few with national awards. Far-sighted nations support their athletes on their way up Mount Olympus. The myopic wait until they have succeeded, and then applaud them on the way down.

Pakistan's Olympian Arshad Nadeem has been smothered with garlands and suffocated with banquets ever since his triumphant return. The cornucopia of gifts emptied upon him have included cash of Rs 280 million, plus cars and other gifts.

In Punjab, the governor gave him cash of Rs 2 million and a car. The chief minister of Punjab presented a cheque of Rs 100 million and the key to a Honda Civic car. The chief minister also presented Nadeem's coach Salman I. Butt with a cheque of Rs 5 million.

In Sindh, the chief minister awarded Nadeem Rs 50 million. The Karachi mayor announced a Rs 50 million cash award for Nadeem and promised to establish an athletics academy named after the Olympian. The Sindh sports minister gave a cheque, both from his department and personal funds. The local government minister declared that an important road in Karachi would be named after Arshad Nadeem. The

planning and development minister gifted a car to Arshad Nadeem's mother.

Army Chief General Asim Munir announced the allotment of a residential plot at DHA Multan (once a huge mango orchard).

Wapda has awarded Rs 1 million to Nadeem while his employer Lesco has proposed his promotion to the 19th grade. And President Zardari promised to award him the country's highest civilian honour — the Hilal-i-Imtiaz.

It is proposed to grant the Sitara-i-Imtiaz to Salman Butt (Nadeem's coach), and also to Nadeem's mother. While her efforts, like Nadeem's, were a solo achievement, some might cavil whether a SI award should be distributed so freely. They might say it demeans its stature. Apart, that is, from it being regarded as a rebuke to shared parenthood. Surely, Nadeem's father Muhammad Arshad deserves acknowledgement too. He supported his son from his modest, honest earnings for 36 years as a construction labourer.

Nadeem has asked the government for a modern track and field stadium and a university for women in his hometown — Mian Channu.

In all this maelstrom of flattery, Nadeem has retained his sense of humour. When asked about the buffalo gifted to him by his father-in-law, Nadeem replied: "I was a bit surprised



[ ] I wondered since my father-in-law is a very rich person and has a lot of land ... if only he had given me four to five acres of farmland instead of the buffalo".

The rustic father-in-law may feel miffed. Having given Nadeem first his daughter and now a healthy buffalo, in Mian Channu that is regarded as largesse enough.

Hopefully, all the promises made to Arshad Nadeem will be honoured. He should heed the advice of the late Prince Philip who had experience in such matters.

Prince Philip visited Lahore in the 1990s to raise funds for the World Wildlife Fund (of which he

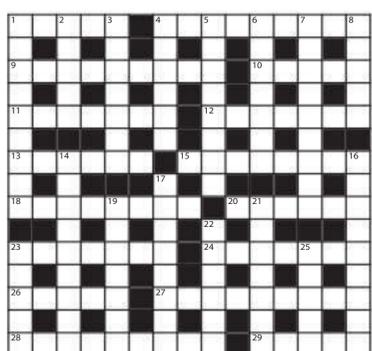
was president). He attended an auction of paintings by local artists. As soon as the auction ended, he took the Pakistani auctioneer aside and advised him to collect the money before the successful bidders left the event. "Be quick. They tend to change their minds once they have had their photographs taken with me."

The ancient Greeks rewarded their victorious Olympians with a crown woven from fresh laurel leaves. They found it cheaper than cash, and handy the morning after as fodder for the buffalo.

Dawn/ANN.

## CROSSWORD

NO-292883



### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

WALPURGISNIGHT  
AEPAHNOV  
LIMPS TRANSPIRE  
LOEEVETS  
PUNCTUATE INTRO  
PARADURGICER  
PARADOX SCARCER  
EOTITOE  
REPINED SERNUM  
NIOFI  
FABLE POUNDSTIG  
ULRLEUD  
SWISSROLL BRASS  
TNEMCANIC  
AIGATHIACHIRITITIE

### ACROSS

- Expert solver will do this (5)
- Radiation damage in red wines (5,4)
- Some European is turned on wearing pants (9)
- Sew? Mean to go round end of skirt (5)
- Jazzy felt hat: nothing to make you jump here (3,4)
- What's no longer grown in rocky area? (7)
- Piece in G sharp (6)
- Remaining ill, ignoring a new headache (8)

- Cut first of details from verdict about Times (8)
- Thirst? Number tapping into big river (6)
- Offered to wrap big bird in silky fabric (7)
- Article craftily ignoring Liberal chaos (7)
- Some trouble I routinely encountered back in college (5)
- Eastern philosophy recalled in the past with US actress ignoring a Western (5,4)

- What is red, swirling? Not usually this kitchen sight (9)
- Planet core that's hot ultimately? (5)
- DOWN
- Study enduring artist (9)
- Get on? Get on after accommodating soldiers (5)
- Merlin working to support King in fortress (7)
- Rope binding one officer that's convicted (6)

- Chap to blow away, though carrying large stringed instrument (8)
- Judge's arrival about to take effect (7)
- Very interesting sailor to celebrate circling globe (9)
- Congregation notice Priest around hospital (5)
- Detectives receiving boost, source of a big shift (9)
- Sadly hear about latently gutted cricketer's unwanted departure from game? (5,4)

- Does it matter about me? Rather (8)
- Super ficial broadcast about manor-house? (7)
- Ignorant article in Le Monde is about a conflict (7)
- One who dislikes stocking line offering backless dress (6)
- Lineage's length included in startling comment supported by daughter (5)
- A lot of work evident around one church feature (5)

NOTE: Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required. (By arrangement with The Independent, London)



Army chief reviews security situation in Manipur

AGENCIES  
IMPHAL, 23 AUGUST

The Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Upendra Dwivedi, on Friday began his two-day visit to Manipur to review the security situation in the ethnic strife-torn north-eastern state, officials said.

This is General Upendra Dwivedi's first visit to Manipur after taking over as the COAS on 30 June.

Soon after his arrival in Imphal, the COAS accompanied by senior Army officers met Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh.

General Upendra Dwivedi also held a discussion with the heads of various security agencies in the state, wherein he expressed his appreciation for the insights shared by them, the spokesman said.

He also said during his meeting with the Chief Minister, the Army Chief discussed the internal security situation and the role of the Army and Assam Rifles in ensuring early return of peace and stability in Manipur.

The COAS reaffirmed the Army's commitment to ensuring a secure environment for the people of Manipur.

The Chief Minister later said in a post on X: "deeply appreciate General Dwivedi's visit to Manipur. Deliberated on critical issues concerning the current situation of our state. We reaffirmed the cooperation between the state government and the security forces in effectively responding to the challenges we face, maintaining peace and harmony in the state."

# 'India will make continuous progress in space science'

Launching the first National Space Day, President Murmu said space exploration has increased the capabilities of human beings and transformed imagination into reality

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Launching the first National Space Day Celebration at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, President Droupadi Murmu Friday expressed confidence that India will make continuous progress in space science and continue to set new standards of excellence.

National Space Day is being celebrated to commemorate the successful landing of the 'Vikram' Lander on the surface of the Moon on August 23, 2023. The President also presented awards to winners of the 'Robotics Challenge' and 'Bharatiya Antariksh Hackathon'.

Speaking on the occasion, she said that ISRO has had a wonderful journey since its initial days. It has made



remarkable achievements in the space sector. Along with this, ISRO has also made invaluable contributions to the country's social and economic development.

She appreciated the dedicated scientists who have

placed India's Space Programme among the best Space Programmes in the world by using minimum resources.

The President said the progress of India's space sector is extraordinary. Be it a

completed Mars mission with limited resources, or the successful launch of more than a hundred satellites at once, India has made many impressive achievements.

She said space exploration has increased the capabilities of human beings and transformed imagination into reality. But space exploration is a challenging task. Research conducted to solve the problems during space exploration accelerates the development of science and improves human life. Many sectors have benefited from developments in the space sector, including health and medicine, transportation, security, energy, environment, and information technology.

The President pointed out that with the opening of the space sector to the private sector, the number of startups has increased at a very

rapid pace. This has not only brought progress in space research but also given new opportunities to our youth to showcase and hone their talents.

She was happy to note that just a few months ago, an Indian company successfully launched a single-piece 3D printed semi-cryogenic engine-powered rocket, the first such achievement.

"We have to be prepared for future challenges. Space debris can cause problems for space missions," she observed while appreciating the 'ISRO System for Safe & Sustainable Operations Management' facility which is being operated to ensure continuous progress of space research activities. She was also happy to note that India is moving forward to make all its space missions debris-free by the year 2030.

# Rape of teenage girl sparks widespread protests in Assam

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
GUWAHATI, 23 AUGUST

Local organisations have called for a complete shutdown in Dhing, a town in Assam's Nagaon district, after the arrest of one of the three accused in connection with the rape of a teenage girl.

Tafazul Islam was apprehended following an intensive investigation, but the search continues for the remaining two suspects.

The victim, a class X student, was found in a semi-conscious state near a pond by local residents, who immediately alerted the authorities. She was rushed to the Dhing First Referral Unit (FRU) after being discovered naked and traumatized on the roadside. The sheer brutality of the attack has sparked widespread outrage in the area, with protesters taking to the streets, demanding the swift arrest of all those involved.

The Dhing Regional Stu-

dent's Union of Assam has condemned the attack and announced a complete shutdown of the town until all perpetrators are apprehended.

As part of the protest, all shops, markets, and educational institutions in Dhing have been closed. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has expressed his outrage, directing the Director General of Police (DGP) to visit the crime scene and ensure that justice is served. In a statement on X, he said, "The horrific incident at Dhing, involving a minor, is a crime against humanity and has struck our collective conscience. We will not spare anyone and will bring the perpetrators to justice."

This incident follows closely on the heels of another tragic crime - the rape and murder of a doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College - further intensifying public anger and calls for urgent action from the authorities.

## Court denies bail to 6 accused in Pune Porsche crash case

A Pune Sessions Court has rejected the bail applications of six persons accused in the 19 May Porsche hit-and-run case involving a minor for alleged tampering with evidence, "as it could send a wrong message to the society". Two techies travelling on a motorcycle were fatally knocked down by the Porsche speeding at over 200 kmph at around 3.30 a.m. on 19 May, sparking a nationwide furor.

## Flood relief: Centre okays release of ₹40 cr for Tripura

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

The BJP-led government at the Centre approved the release of Rs 40 crore in advance on Friday, as its share from SDRF, to provide immediate relief to the flood-affected Tripura.

In a post on X, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said, "Given the flood situation in Tripura, the Central government, under the leadership of (Narendra) Modi Ji, has approved the release of Rs 40 crore in advance, as the Central share from SDRF, to provide relief to the affected people."

"The 11 NDRF teams, 3 columns of the Army, and 4 helicopters of the Air Force deployed by the Centre are already assisting the state government in relief and rescue operations. No matter what, our sisters and brothers in Tripura will find the Modi



Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha interacts with flood-affected people during his visit to a relief camp set up at West Bokafa XII School, at Santirbazar in South Tripura on Friday. ANI

government standing shoulder-to-shoulder with them to battle these difficult times," he said.

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha expressed gratitude to the Centre for the support.

Taking to social media platform X, the chief minister said, "I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji and Home Minister Amit Shah Ji for

tutions, including government, government-aided, and private (schools, colleges and state-run universities) will remain closed until further notice," he had said earlier.

The home minister on Thursday spoke to the chief minister and inquired about the flood situation in the northeastern state. He assured him of all possible assistance from the Centre to the state.

On Wednesday, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge wrote in a post on X, "Deeply concerned about the flood situation caused by heavy rainfall in Tripura where many people have lost their lives, and about 5,600 families have sought refuge in relief camps. Our deepest condolences to the families of the bereaved. They must be provided compensation at the earliest."

"Due to the current flood situation, it has been decided that all educational insti-

tuations, including government, government-aided, and private (schools, colleges and state-run universities) will remain closed until further notice," he had said earlier.

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## Assam: 2,500 candidates shortlisted in army's Agniveer recruitment rally

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
GUWAHATI, 23 AUGUST

The Indian Army on Friday successfully wrapped up its Agniveer recruitment rally, which took place from August 16 to 23, at Upendranath Brahma Football Stadium in Assam's Udalguri district.

In addition to the recruitment of Agniveers, the rally also conducted selection for the position of Junior Commissioned Officers (Religious Teacher) from all seven north-eastern states.

The comprehensive selection process involved a series of assessments, including physical fitness tests and medical examination.

Successful candidates will be sent to respective training centers, where they will begin their journey as dedicated members of the Indian Army.

The districts represented at the rally included Baksa, Chirang, Barpeta, Goalpara, Bongaigaon, Dhubri, Darang, Udalguri, Kamrup Metro, Kamrup Rural, Kokrajhar, Nalbari, and South Salmara.

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**RESTORATION OF ONE PAIR TRAIN SERVICES BETWEEN HOWRAH & BARDHAMAN**

In reference to the earlier notification regarding Cancellation of EMU Trains due to Traffic & Power Block on Down Howrah-Bardhaman Chord line between Jaugram & Gurup stations from the intervening night of 09/10.08.2024 to the intervening night of 05/06.10.2024 intermittently, it is to be stated that the block is hereby treated as cancelled on the intervening night of 24/25.08.2024 due to rainfall and bad weather. Consequently, the following trains will be restored on 25.08.2024: From Howrah - 36811 & From Bardhaman - 36812. Passengers are requested to follow the public address system at stations.

Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah  
**EASTERN RAILWAY**

**TENDER**

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

E-Procurement Tender Notice 16/2024  
Tender Notice Dated 20.08.2024

Description: Drone Camera set with 01 Nos. of Battery for SPARMV/ART.

Tender No.	Qty.	EMD	Tender Opening Date
13245650	01 Set	₹ 28,900/-	16.09.2024

Note: 1. The complete information of above E-Procurement Tender are available on IREPS website i.e. <https://www.ireps.gov.in>. 2. Bids other than in the form of E-Bids shall not be accepted against above Tender. For this purpose, Vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS website along with class III Digital signature certificates issued by CCA under IT Act-2000. 3. Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall only be considered. Rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight away ignored and shall not be considered. 4. Documents being attached should be signed on their body. 5. Allocation for "Cost of Drawing" is 2,650 and for "Earnest Money deposit (EMD)" is Deposit Misc. stores-00844517. In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the IREPS website may be approached. 148824 FA

North central railways @CPNCRCA www.nctr.indianrailways.gov.in

## Assam government proposes Manipuri as associate official language in select districts

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
GUWAHATI, 23 AUGUST

The Assam government has put forward a proposal to officially recognise Manipuri as an associate official language in four districts of the state, including Cachar, Karimganj, Hailakandi, and Hojai in Barak Valley, and Hojai in central Assam.

The Assam Official Language (Amendment) Bill, 2024, was introduced in the state assembly on Thursday by Parliamentary Affairs

Minister Pijush Hazarika, representing Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, who also oversees the Home and Political department.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the bill, Mr Sarma highlighted the significant Manipuri-speaking population in these districts. He acknowledged that the demand for official recognition of Manipuri has been longstanding among these communities.

"The amendment is intended to allow the use

of Manipuri as an Associate Official Language for specific official purposes in the districts of Cachar, Karimganj, Hailakandi, and Hojai," Mr Sarma stated. To formalise this recognition, the bill proposes the introduction of a new Section 5B to the Assam Official Language Act, 1960.

Meanwhile, Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has praised Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma for proposing to introduce Manipuri as an Associate Official Language in

three districts of Barak Valley and Hojai in Assam.

In a post on X, Mr Singh expressed his deep appreciation, highlighting the significance of this decision for the cultural, social, and linguistic preservation of the Manipuri community in Assam.

"This decision will be a significant step towards the preservation & protection of the cultural, social, and linguistic identity of the Manipuris in the state of Assam," Mr Singh said.



**LEISURE**

**10 MINUTE CROSSWORD**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35

**ACROSS**

- Lavatory (Informal) (3)
- Bread-making mixture (5)
- Grown-up (5)
- Russian citadel (7)
- Landing gear (13)
- Curt (6)
- Small crustacean (6)
- Sausages in batter (4-2-3-4)
- Ridiculous (7)
- Speak pompously (5)
- Happening (5)
- Weeding tool (3)

**DOWN**

- Wash (clothes) (7)
- Freshwater mammal (5)
- Imposed settlement (6)
- Dig up (7)
- Board game (5)
- Make (11)
- Translator (11)
- Easily bent (7)
- Set apart (7)
- Thoroughfare (6)
- Church passageway (5)
- Err (5)

**SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

- Worn
- Peace (One-piece)
- Eastern
- Naive
- Loot
- Continue

**DOWN**

- Retrieve
- Washout
- Nausea
- Punctual
- Alien
- Eyelet
- Unfortunate

By arrangement with The Independent Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required.

**BEETLE BAILEY/Mort Walker**

HAS BEETLE MADE ANY MOVES TOWARD ASKING YOU TO MARRY HIM? NO

BEETLE SELDOM MAKES ANY MOVES

**RED EYE/Bill Yates & Mel Casson**

I DON'T CARE IF HE'S BIGGER THAN ME, I'M GONNA TELL HIM OFF!

MAYBE TANGLEFOOT IS BRAVER THAN I THOUGHT

NOPE

**DADDY DAZE/John Kovaleski**

SO...WHAT'S WITH ALL THE CARS?

TRAFFIC IS BACKED UP BECAUSE OF AN ACCIDENT UP THE ROAD

WELL, I HOPE IT GETS CLEARED UP SOON.

I NEED TO GET TO THE BATHROOM SO THERE ISN'T ANOTHER ACCIDENT.

**NEED TO KNOW**

**Ambulance**  
FD Block Association (Amb) 9830452536, 9830181286  
Happy Calcuttans 24400160  
City Point Nurses Centre 2567-4113, 9831142623  
People's Relief Committee 2280-4943/9444

**24 hrs Medical Oxygen Delivery**  
BOC India Ltd. 9831277777

**Blood Banks**  
Ashok Laboratory 24720333  
Central Blood Bank 23510619

**Life Care 2284-6940**  
Peoples Blood Bank 2455-5164/5557  
RK Mission Seva Pratishthan 2475-3636/39

**Police/Fire**  
Laibazar (Police Control Room) 22143230  
S.P. (North 24-Pgns) 25423005  
S.P. (South 24-Pgns) 2479-3333/1311  
Bhawani Bhawan 24791761/9, 24791933  
Fire Service Station Salt Lake: 2357-5293;

**Howrah 2666-8111; Behala 2497-6285**

**Civic Services**  
Kolkata Municipal Corporation: 2286-1000  
Water: 2543-1602

**Calcutta Telephones**  
Changed Number Announcement: 1951, 1952, 1953

**Taxi Refusal**  
SMS 575756: Complaint and registration

**Police Toll Free No. 1073**  
Transport Deptt. No. 6451-6718

**CESC Fault Reporting**  
1912 and 4403-1912

**Trains**  
Howrah Station Old Complex 1331/1332 (Auto Telephone Numbers), 1310, 2636-7412/2542/2581 (manual). Sealdah: 2350-3535/3537  
Shalimar Station: 2668-1121, Eastern Railway and South-Eastern Railway: 139.

**SCRABBLE® GRAMMS**

PAR SCORE 175-185 by JUDD

**FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN**

**SCRABBLE®**

Directions: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 5-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam-Webster) and OWS Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). Judd's solution tomorrow. 18-25-12

**SUDOKU Concepts Sudoku** By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level: ★★★

answer to previous puzzle

Sudoku is a number-placement puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that no row, no column and no 3x3 box contains the same number. The difficulty level increases through the week.



THUMBNAILS

**Herbal care brand expands portfolio:** Herbal beauty and personal care brand Oshea Herbals announced the expansion of its beauty care portfolio with the launch of Papaya Clean 11in1 Gel Cream and Glopure 11in1 Gel Cream at the brand's Dealer's Meet in Kolkata. Launched at an exciting price range of Rs 99, Papaya Clean 11in1 Gel Cream and Glopure 11in1 Gel Cream will be available across all major retail channels and e-commerce platforms. Oshea Herbals also plans to open 20 kiosks in this financial year.

**India's foreign exchange reserves rose USD 4.5 billion to reach USD 674.7 billion:** India's foreign exchange reserves increased by USD 4.546 billion, reaching USD 674.664 billion, just below their all-time high, during the week ending August 16, according to data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday. The previous record high was USD 674.919 billion. The reserves have been fluctuating for some time. In 2024 alone, they have risen by approximately USD 45-50 billion cumulatively. This buffer of foreign exchange reserves helps insulate domestic economic activity from global shocks. According to the latest data from the RBI, India's foreign currency assets (FCA), the largest component of forex reserves, rose by USD 3.609 billion to USD 591.569 billion. Gold reserves during the week increased by USD 865 million, bringing the total to USD 60.104 billion. India's foreign exchange reserves are now sufficient to cover more than 11 months of projected imports. In the calendar year 2023, the RBI added about USD 58 billion to its foreign exchange reserves. In contrast, India's forex reserves saw a cumulative decline of USD 71 billion in 2022. Forex reserves, or foreign exchange reserves (FX reserves), are assets held by a nation's central bank or monetary authority.

# Benchmark indices end flat ahead of Fed Chair Powell's comments

Sensex closed 33 points, or 0.04 per cent, up at 81,086.21, while the Nifty 50 ended 12 points, or 0.05 per cent, up at 24,823.15

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 23AUGUST:

**B**enchmark indices ended flat on Friday with positive bias in a rangebound trading as investors remained cautious ahead of Fed Chair Powell's comments. Sensex closed 33 points, or 0.04%, up at 81,086.21, while the Nifty 50 ended 12 points, or 0.05%, up at 24,823.15. Nifty 50 closed in the green for seven consecutive sessions. The index has man-

aged an overall gain of 2.8% during this period. BSE Midcap index was down 0.6%, while smallcap index ended flat. Among the sectors, auto index was up 1%, while metal, realty, media, PSU Bank and IT down 0.5-2.5%. Nifty Realty plunged 2.43% to end as the top loser among sectoral indices, followed by the Media and IT indices. Nifty Midcap 150 index fell half a per cent, while the Smallcap 250 index ended 0.22% up. On Nifty 50, the shares



of Bajaj Auto (4.74%), Coal India (1.70%) and Bharti Airtel (1.59%) closed as the top gainers.

Shares of LTIMindtree (1.27%), Wipro (1.16%) and ONGC (1.01%) closed as the top losers. Reliance Power shares fell 5% after SEBI banned promoter Anil Ambani from the securities market for five years. Sebi has imposed a penalty of Rs 25 crore on Ambani and restrained him from being associated with the securities market including as a director or Key Managerial Personnel (KMP) in any listed company, or any intermediary registered with

the market regulator, for a period of 5 years. RailTel Corporation of India shares rose nearly 6% after the company secured a work order worth Rs 52.66 crore from the Uttar Pradesh Police Recruitment and Promotion Board. The shares of Bajaj Auto surged nearly 5% after it saw an increase in two-wheeler EV market share while Ola Electric, a newly listed company, saw a decrease. Amid eyes on US Fed Chair Powell's speech, gold

prices traded higher. MCX gold rate opened above 71,400 per 10 grams level, while Silver prices rose above 84,030 per kg level. Major Asian and European peers were largely positive and the dollar hovered near one-year lows. Global Central Bank officials gathered in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, for the annual Economic Symposium. Investors will be focused on Fed Chair Powell's address for clues on the timing and extent of the Fed rate cut and policy easing cycle.

## Finance Minister interacts with marble, granite industry MSMEs in Udaipur

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 23AUGUST

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday interacted with the MSME entrepreneurs from the marble and granite industry in Udaipur, Rajasthan. She was addressing an event organized by Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) at Sukher Industrial Area in Udaipur. While interacting with the entrepreneurs, the minister reiterated the government's commitment to expand the outreach of banking services for the benefit of MSMEs. She mentioned that in the recently announced Union Budget, there are a number of key recommendations for MSME sector including expansion of branch network of SIDBI. As part of the budget announcements and to seek feedback from the field, the Finance Minister mentioned her intent to visit several MSME clusters with the illustrious land of Maharana Pratap, Udaipur being the first in the series.

## Repco Bank posts 11 per cent growth in FY24, presents dividend cheque to Amit Shah

**The bank's area of operation extends across the state of Tamil Nadu, as well as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Puducherry**

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 23AUGUST

Repco Bank presented a cheque of Rs 19.08 crore towards dividend to Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah. The cheque was towards dividend @ 25% on the share capital of 76.32 crore held by Government of India for the Financial Year 2023-24. The Bank posted 11% growth in Business Mix during the FY2023-24. As a remarkable achievement, today the Bank has crossed Business Mix of Rs.20,000 crore. It was handed over by the Chairman Repco Bank, E. Santhanam and Managing Director, O.M. Gokul. Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, and Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MHA Govind Mohan were also present on the occasion.



Repco Bank is a Government of India Enterprise, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Repco Bank, officially known as the Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Limited, was established on November 19, 1969. It was registered as a cooperative society under the Madras Cooperative Societies Act, 1961. The Bank's area of operation extends across the state of Tamil Nadu, as well as Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, and the Union Territory of Puducherry. As of March 31, 2024, the Government of India holds a share value of Rs 76.32 crore in the bank. Repatriates hold Rs 66.22 crore, while the state governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Karnataka hold shares worth Rs 7.13 crore, Rs 1.05 crore, Rs 0.61 crore, and Rs 0.17 crore, respectively.

## 'We are committed to fulfilling energy needs of the nation'

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, 23 AUGUST

Dr. Prem Sagar Mishra has emerged as a trailblazer in the coal industry, with a remarkable journey spanning over three decades. As the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), he has led the company to unprecedented heights, achieving record-breaking performances in coal production, overburden removal, and offtake. In an exclusive conversation with Shishir Roy Chowdhury, Dr. Mishra shares his insights on leadership, innovation, and sustainability, offering a glimpse into his remarkable journey and the transformative initiatives that have positioned SECL as a front-runner in the coal industry.



tonnes of coal to consumers, out of which the highest 147.5 million tonnes were dispatched to power plants in the country which is the highest ever dispatch to the power sector in a single year. Over Burden Removal (OBR) for FY23-24 stood at 323.5 MCUM with a record growth of 22%. **2. How do you see SECL's role in making India self-reliant in the area of energy in the years to come?**

**1. How was the recently concluded FY2023-24 for SECL from a coal production and dispatch point of view?** A. The recently concluded FY2023-24 marked a year of remarkable achievements for SECL. Through our employees' dedication and hard work, we registered the highest coal production in our history of 187 million tons. SECL clocked a historic growth of 20 million tons in annual coal production compared to FY2022-23. I would like to mention here that this was the second consecutive year that we registered an annual growth of more than 20 million tons which reflects our resolve to secure the country's energy needs. SECL did exceptionally well in coal dispatch also in FY23-24 which ensured adequate availability of coal to our thermal power plants across the nation. In the financial year 23-24, SECL dispatched 180.5 million

Gevra's annual capacity to 70 million tons which paved the way for the mine to become the largest coal mine in Asia. We are planning to take its capacity to 100 million tonnes in the future and make it the world's largest coal mine. Similarly another megaproject, Kusbunda, achieved the feat of becoming country's third largest coal mine with annual production for FY 23-24 breaching the 50 million ton mark.

**3. We hear a lot about sustainable mining technology being used in coal mines. Can you tell us a little bit about that?** A. While we are committed to fulfilling the energy needs of the nation we are equally concerned about the doing so in an environment-friendly manner. To do so SECL has deployed state-of-the-art, "Surface Miners" in our open-cast mines for extracting coal. These world-class machines can extract coal without the need for drilling and blasting. The machines also cut the coal in small sizes during the process of extraction and the in-built sprinkler system doesn't let coal dust emanating during the extraction process into the air ensuring a cleaner environment. In FY 23-24 more than 70% of SECL's production came from Surface miners. Similarly in underground mines, we have deployed Continuous Miners which ensure safe and efficient extraction of coal.

As per our UG vision, we want to increase UG production to 30 million tons by FY 2027-28 and therefore we are planning to deploy more Continuous Miners in the underground mines of SECL to boost coal production from these mines while ensuring safety and efficiency. Gevra stands today as the largest coal mine in the country with coal production for FY23-24 crossing 59 million tonnes. We achieved a significant milestone in FY23-24 when we secure environmental clearance to expand

**4. The Ministry of Coal is giving a lot of push to eco-friendly dispatch of coal through First Mile Connectivity projects. Please tell us about the same at SECL.**

A. First Mile Connectivity (FMC) is very crucial for ensuring swift, safe, and sustainable transportation of coal. Under the guidance of the Ministry of Coal, SECL has already built FMC projects in its mega projects and many more will be commissioned in the near future. Recently, SECL family became witness to a significant milestone when on 24 February 2024, three FMC projects of SECL - SECL Dipka OCP CHP in Dipka area and Chhal OCP CHP and Baroud OCP CHP in Raigarh area were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Dipka OCP Coal Handling Plant at Dipka area of SECL is a major project constructed at a cost of over Rs 211 crores. The project with an annual coal handling capacity of 25 MT has an overground bunker capacity of 20,000 tonnes and a 2.1 km long conveyor belt, which facilitates rapid loading of 4,500-8,500 tonnes of coal per hour. The Chhal OCP Coal Handling Plant in SECL's Raigad area has been built at a cost of over Rs 173 crore. It has an annual coal dispatch capacity of 6 MT. The Baroud OCP Coal Handling Plant has an annual capacity of 10 million tonnes of coal designed for handling. It has been completed at a cost of Rs 216 crore.

FMC projects are crucial for transporting coal in an environment-friendly manner as coal is transported from mine to siding with the help of conveyors instead of dumpers by road.

## Classified

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
It is for the awareness to the General Public that Original Sale Deed Being No- 0603-03055 for the year 2019 And Deed No. 0603-03080 for the year 2019, Registered before A.D.S.R Chinsurah, Hooghly, Dist. Hooghly, (Sri Arun Dutta as Purchaser) had been missing from the custody of my Client namely Anun. Dutta S/O Suresh Chandra Dutta, and could not be traced out and A General Dairry has already been lodged in Chinsurah Police Station, Dist-Hooghly, State - West Bengal, being G.D.E. No-884. Dated 14.08.2024 by Sri Arun. Dutta. If any person Right Title Over the said property of the Sale Deed is/are requests to inform the undersigned within fifteen days (15 Days) of the Notice. Otherwise no claim shall be entertained thereafter.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to all concerned that my Clients 1) ABDUL MAJID, 2) MUSTAQE AHMED, both sons of Abdul Hayat, purchased land measuring 8 cotahs of R.S. & L.R. Dag No.1386, R.S. Kh. No. 471, L.R. Kh. No. 321, Mouza-Fanchghara, J.L. No. 8, P.S. Baraurip, on 19-08-19 Deed No. 6239, & 14-11-19 Deed No. 7157 from Md. Sabir Ali & others through their constituted attorney ILIAS MONDAL, son of Late Aiji Mondal (G.P. Deed No. 323/12). My client applied mutation in favour of their names, in the BL & LRO. If any objection of anyone contact to BL & LRO Baraurip within 7 days from this notice.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, Krishna Devi W/o, Late Bikash Chandra Saha of 43, Saradapally, Sector-I, P.O. Makhla, P.S. Uttarpara, Dist-Hooghly, Pin- 712245, W.B., My date of birth has been wrongly recorded as 01/01/3001 in Place of my actual date of birth as 31/08/1971. Hereby declare that I have changed my name from Krishna Devi to Krishna Devi and hereafter be known as Krishna Devi vide an Affidavit No. 13121, dated 12/8/24 before the Hon'ble 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Chinsurah Court Hooghly (Sadar).

**TENDER**

UTTAR Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Punditbari, Cooch Behar - Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) - Online tenders are being invited from reputed agencies for of Various types of (a) Supply and installation of Equipment / Instruments & IT Materials and (b) Supply of Seed Bags. For details please visit: www.wbtenders.gov.in Registrar (Actg.)

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**JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY**  
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Admission Session: July-December, 2024  
Applications are invited from Indian National for admission to the PhD programme (Admission session July-December, 2024) in the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies, Law & Management, J.U. The last date for online payment is 8th September, 2024 and the last date of submission of hardcopy of application(s) with online payment receipt and other documents is 9th September, 2024 (4:30 p.m.). For detailed information please see the University website: https://jadavpuruniversity.in/ Secretary Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies, Law & Management

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, SMT. Mimmy Roy, residing at Mahjer Rasta, Post: Buroshibhala, P.S.: Chinsurah, Hooghly, notified that my name is wrongly spelled as Mimmy Biswas (Roy) in my Aadhaar Card and changed via an affidavit sweared before the Judicial Magistrate 1st Class 3rd Court Chinsurah on 21-08-2024. Hence, Smt. Mimmy Roy and Smt. Mimmy Biswas (Roy) is the same and one identical person.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, AMIT Banerjee, S/o. Ajit Banerjee, residing at 2, Kailash Pandit Lane, P.S.: New Alipore, Kolkata-700053 declare vide affidavit (No. 53623) sworn before the 1st Class Judicial Magistrate, Alipore Court on 21-08-2024 that my daughter Aishi Banerjee and Tista Banerjee is the same and one identical person.

This is inform that, Applicant - S. G. PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED has been accorded the Environment Clearance from the WBSEIAA for his Proposed Copiballavpur-II Sand Block MGB-158, at Mouza-Dangaria, P.S.: Beliabhera, Dist.: Jhargram, West Bengal. EC Identification No. - E-C 24 C 0 1 0 7 W B 5119619N, Dated: 14-08-2024. The copy of said Clearance is available with the Parivesh Portal of MOEF&CC.

I, SITAL Kumar Sana, S/o. Mahadeb Chandra Sana, of 20/1, Kali Kundu Lane, P.S. & Dist.: Howrah-711101, hereby declare that I am also known as Sital Sana and both are same person and my name. My son's name is Sayan Kumar Sana. I declared on 19-08-24 through affidavit in the Court of 1st Class Judicial Magistrate at Howrah.

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Sr. No.	Name of Borrower (s) / No. Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s)	Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Description of Immovable Property (ies) / Secured Asset (s)
1.	Borrower : Mr. Rajarshi Sen Sharma Co-Borrower : Mrs. Aprita Sen Sharma	Rs. 24,11,712/- as on 31.03.2024	24.05.2024	20.08.2024 (Symbolic Possession)	The property being Flat-2C-East North West-Side, (Super Built Up Area-65 square meter) approx., Floor-2, Amrit Bati, Holding-118, Rabindra Nagar (Paschim), L.R. Dag-386 (P), L.O.P. No.-417, CS Plot-420, 428 (P), JL-57, Ward-30, Mouza-Laskarpur, P.S.-Sonarpur, Kolkata-700153 and the undivided proportionate share of the land and construction thereon present and in future (the said property). The property butted and bounded as follows : On the North : By L.O.P. No. 415; On the South: By 20 feet wide Municipal Road; On the East : By L.O.P. no 418; On the West : By 16 feet wide Municipal Road.
2.	Borrower : Mr. Mainak Chakraborty	Rs.19,68,940/- as on 31.03.2024	24.05.2024	23.08.2024 (Symbolic Possession)	The property being Flat No.: 2B, admeasuring 650 sq. ft. (60.41 sq. mtrs) approx., on the S/E/N portion of the Second Floor of the building known as "Ganapati Kunja", constructed upon land admeasuring 02 cotahs 04 chittaks 19 sq. ft. more or less situated at Mouza : Raghunathpur, J.L No.: 8, Dag No.: 163, Khatian No.: 2896, Holding No.: AS/170/1/17/09, Block: RG, within the limits of Ward No.: 9 of Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation, Premises No.: RG-23/2, Sarkar Bagan, Raghunathpur, P.S.: Baguiati, Kolkata : 700059, Dist.: North 24 Parganas, alongwith the undivided proportionate share of the land and construction thereon present and in future (the said property). The premises is butted and bounded as follows : On the North : Premises No. : RG-23/3, Sarkar Bagan, Raghunathpur. On the South : Premises No. : RG-23/1, Sarkar Bagan, Raghunathpur. On the East : Premises No.: RG- 171/E, Sarkar Bagan, Raghunathpur, On the West : 12 feet wide common passage.

\*with further interest as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realisation.  
However, since the borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) mentioned hereinabove have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) mentioned hereinabove in particular and to the public in general that the Authorised Officer/s of HDFC have taken symbolic possession of the immovable property (ies) / secured asset(s) described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him/them under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the dates mentioned above.  
The borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) and Legal Representative(s) mentioned hereinabove in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid Immovable Property(ies) / Secured Asset(s) and any dealings with the said Immovable Property (ies) / Secured Asset(s) will be subject to the mortgage of HDFC. Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is/are invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset(s).  
Copies of the Panchnama to draw and Inventory made are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) is / are requested to collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.  
Place : Kolkata  
Date : 24.08.2024  
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Sd/- Sandipani Bhattacharya  
Authorised Officer  
Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013

'Israel's evacuation orders have displaced 90 pc of Gaza residents'

AGENCIES UNITED NATION, 23 AUGUST

Successive Israeli evacuation orders in Gaza, including 12 just in August, have displaced 90% of its 2.1 million residents since the Israel-Hamas war began in October, the top U.N. humanitarian official for the Palestinian territory says.

virus has been circulating for the first time in a quarter-century because of the destruction of hospitals and water infrastructure, along with overcrowded living conditions.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Office says a delegation from the country has arrived in Cairo to resume efforts to salvage a cease-fire deal.

The talks are being mediated by the United States, Egypt and Qatar. A crucial sticking point involves Israel's demand for lasting control

over two strategic corridors in Gaza.

The war began on Oct. 7, when Hamas and other militants stormed Israel, killed around 1,200 people — mostly civilians — and abducted around 250. About 110 hostages are still inside Gaza, a third of whom are believed to be dead.

The Israeli offensive launched in response has killed more than 40,000 Palestinians in Gaza, according to the local Health Ministry, which doesn't say how many were militants or civilians.

Palestinians plan UN resolution demanding to end Israeli occupation

AGENCIES UNITED NATION, 23 AUGUST

The Palestinians said Thursday they are planning to introduce a U.N. General Assembly resolution in September enshrining the recent sweeping ruling by the U.N.'s top court that declared Israel's presence in the occupied

Palestinian territories unlawful — and setting a time frame for it to end.

Riyad Mansour, the Palestinian U.N. ambassador, told the U.N. Security Council that the resolution, which would not be legally binding, is essential to spur the end of Israel's occupation. "We are sick and tired of

waiting," he said. "The time for waiting is over."

The International Court of Justice on July 19 issued an unprecedented, sweeping condemnation of Israel's rule over the lands it captured 57 years ago. It called for settlement construction to stop immediately.

Israel captured the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip in the 1967 Mideast war. The Palestinians seek all three areas for an independent state. Israeli Ambassador Danny Danon, who spoke to the council after Mansour, made no mention of the Palestinians' plan or the court ruling. But Israeli

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu denounced the nonbinding opinion by the court's 15 judges, saying the territories are part of the Jewish people's historic homeland. Mansour did not disclose the time frame the Palestinians are planning to include in the General Assembly resolution.

RAJASTHAN STATE FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LTD. In connection with Open E-Tender No. SDSTE-SEG-HASSDAC-24 dated 13.09.2024 published in this newspaper on 21.08.2024.

CORRIGENDUM In connection with Open E-Tender No. SDSTE-SEG-HASSDAC-24 dated 13.09.2024 published in this newspaper on 21.08.2024.

CORRIGENDUM In connection with Abridged Tender Notice No. ASN/II/03 of 2024-25 published in this newspaper on 21.08.2024.

EASTERN RAILWAY Following E-tender is invited online by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway Station, Howrah-711101.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER For and on behalf of President of India, the Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer (G) S.E. Railway, Kharagpur-721301

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER Tender Notice No. PCMM/GEN/ITP/2024/31, Dated: 23.08.2024, TENDER FOR "E" PROCUREMENT SYSTEM.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER Tender Notice No. PCMM/GEN/ITP/2024/31, Dated: 23.08.2024, TENDER FOR "E" PROCUREMENT SYSTEM.

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Construction-1) North Western Railway, Jaipur invites E-Tender for the following works up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date.

S. E. RAILWAY - TENDER Tender Notice No. PCMM/GEN/ITP/2024/31, Dated: 23.08.2024, TENDER FOR "E" PROCUREMENT SYSTEM.

e-TENDER NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER UNDER SSM, UTTAR DINAJPUR For details please visit: www.wbtenders.gov.in

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS NOTICE FOR "WALK-IN-INTERVIEW" No. GMA/Med/Re-engagement/Retired Staff Date: 19.08.2024

EASTERN RAILWAY Open Tender Notice No. 34-SDSTE-ASN-2024-25, dated: 23.08.2024, Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS NOTICE FOR "WALK-IN-INTERVIEW" No. GMA/Med/Re-engagement/Retired Staff Date: 19.08.2024

EASTERN RAILWAY Tender Notices are also available at Website www.er.indianrailways.gov.in

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS Assistant Personnel Officer (A) For PCPO/CLW/Chittaranjan

Metro Railway, Kolkata Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/M/Co-Ordination, Metro Railway, Kolkata for and on behalf of the President of India invites e-tender for the following work.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY E-Tender Notice No. AGC-EL-C-T-02-2024-25 Date: 20.08.2024 Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer (Const.), North Central Railway, Agra for and on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through online only (E-Tendering) for the following works.

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA University of Calcutta invites the e-tender vide Ref. No. (E-Tender No. ET / Adm / CBT / Registrar / 24-25 & Tender ID: 2024\_CU\_738776\_1), Dt. 23-08-2024.

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA University of Calcutta invites the e-tender vide Ref. No. (E-Tender No. ET / Adm / CBT / Registrar / 24-25 & Tender ID: 2024\_CU\_738776\_1), Dt. 23-08-2024.

SIGNAL & TELECOM WORKS IN LUMDING DIVISION E-Tender No.: SNT-14-LMG-2024-25, Dated: 21-08-2024.

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NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY 2nd Corrigendum No. Dy. CE/C/AGC/TN/2024/13 Dated: 21/08/2024

RAIGANJ UNIVERSITY Notice Inviting E-Tender Rates are invited from reputed agencies through online against the procurement / service vide NIET No. Fin-66 / 24 (AMC / NIET)

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EASTERN RAILWAY Open Tender Notice No. 34-SDSTE-ASN-2024-25, dated: 23.08.2024, Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Eastern Railway, Asansol Division, Station Road, Asansol, Pin-713301

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS Assistant Personnel Officer (A) For PCPO/CLW/Chittaranjan

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE Senior Div. Electrical Engineer/Gen/N.C.R./Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite the following e-Tenders on prescribed form for the following works up to 15.00 hrs. on 13.09.2024.

MAHATRANSCO NOTICE INVITING TENDER CPD/45 -2024-25 The due Date and Time of submission and opening of following SRM e-tender is extended as follows:

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Shekhar Home tries to capture Holmes but exploits



GAUTAMAN BHASKARAN

It is, more often than not, well, nigh impossible to recreate a masterpiece. Even more so, a masterly character. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's much-celebrated and lionised sleuth, Sherlock Holmes, living in a gas-lamp-lit London's 221B Baker Street, has evoked unrealistic ambition. Writers and moviemakers have tried to recreate the detective and his illustrious sidekick, Dr Watson, who once served in the British Army. Dare say, these efforts have been in vain, for to get the feel of Holmes and his times, one would need another Doyle. I firmly believe this.

There have been umpteen books copying Mr Holmes' exploits. I remember reading Donald Thomas' *New Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. I have also seen movies like Feluda and Byomkesh Bakshi, which have tried to get into the shoes of the moody British detective. But they have not been able to match the original. No way.

There is something magically unique about our man with a pipe who strums a violin while sitting in a room filled with tobacco smoke. The aura that Doyle created around his hero cannot be duplicated. At least nobody has been able to, up until now. So, *Jio Cinema's* latest six-episode series, *Shekhar Home*, falls flat trying to create yet another Holmes, yet another Watson, Inspector Lestrade, or Mrs Hudson. However, their names have been changed to suit the desi flavour. Sherlock becomes Shekhar (played by Kay Kay Menon), and Watson is Jayavrat (Ranvir Shorey).

Sherlock's brother, Mycroft, is called Mrinmay (played by Kausik Sen), Mrs Hudson is Mrs Henry (Sheraz Patel) and the bumbling cop, Lestrade, is Laha (Rudranil Ghosh). Irene Adler, the only woman to get Holmes's 'Adrelinin' flowing, is Irabaty (Rasika Dugal). We also have Professor Moriarty or M (Kirti Kulhari), of course. Can Holmes exist and thrive without his arch enemy? Created by Aniruddha Guha and Srijit Mukherji and produced by BBC Studios India, the Hindi-language drama has an essentially Bengali flavour; it is set in Bihar and Bengal (Kolkata). The town, Lonpur, is an imaginary one, and the bloody murders are committed there between 1991 and 1993. (I wonder why the original language could not have been Bengali.)

The episodes, helmed by Mukherji (the first four) and Rohan Sippy (the last two), deal with different stories. But unfortunately, they did not grip me, although the performances were superb. The writing was rather insipid. The direction is not tight enough.

The series explores murders, robberies and spirits, and one, *Bhaskar Villa*, talks about family secrets—a la *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. The ghost story is silly. Against Doyle's serious approach, Guha and Mukherji adopt an irreverent tone. So, I found it difficult to admire or appreciate Shekhar Home's adventures.

If at all there is a plus point in the series, it is the incredibly wonderful acting by Menon. He carries *Shekhar Home* towards some kind of watchability. Shorey is not bad either, and both are bold enough to sport looks that are far from flattering. But Menon could have been even better had it not been for a poorly penned part.

The writer is a senior film critic and author

A double bill

ANIT MUKERJEA

The different districts of West Bengal, like Uttarpara and further away in the outskirts, for instance, Naihati, have produced some of the finest talents in theatre. On 13 August this year, the Tapan Theatre played host to a sizable audience who came to view a double bill, namely two one-act plays staged by two theatre groups, Uttarpara Uttarayan and Gotrahin Art Academy from Naihati, that had the stamp of professional polish.

The Uttarpara Uttarayan theatre group started its dramatic journey through the Proscenium Theatre in 2010 and has grown in strength. Initially, for the first two years, it was busy arranging theatre festivals, inviting renowned theatre groups from different fringe areas of the state to stage plays, and then starting its own productions for the past decade. The evening's dramatic event unfurled with Uttarpara Uttarayan's production of *Khelaghar*, directed by Jayanta Dasgupta.

He managed to sustain audience interest by tapping the best acting skills of his stage actors, coupled with his even pacing and body language, conjuring up a lively performance. *Khelaghar* had a simple plot, but in that simple plot there were complexities of dicey, mysterious circumstances. The characterisation of the father and daughter who return home is marked by excellent performances. Her reluctance to reside with her father in a dilapidated house she deems haunted is put up for sale and advertised in the newspapers.

A stranger arrives on the day and buys the property for 2 lakhs, which is worth twenty, as the house possesses

The writer is an independent contributor

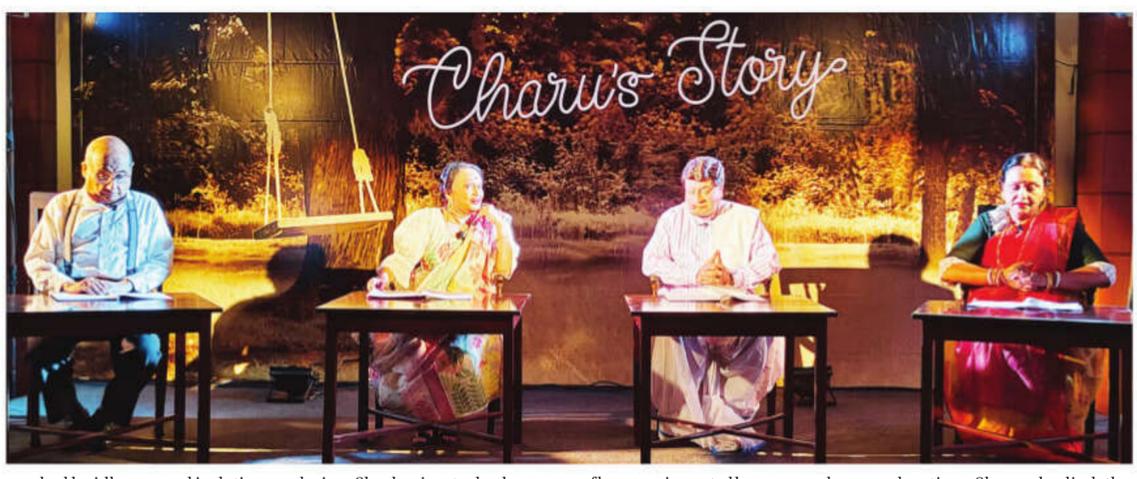
An evocative dramatisation of love and solitude through Tagore's Nashtanirh

ANWESHA SANTRA

Loneliness, youth, passion and the pangs of unrequited love often converge to create a crucible of emotions that both torment and illuminate the human soul, with the mind pondering whether it is venial to pursue the deepest yearnings of the heart even when such pursuits threaten to upend the fabric of societal duty. This ambiguous interplay between moral absolutes and the fluidity of ethical dilemmas challenges one to reevaluate one's perceptions, urging to find a profound appreciation for the nuanced and often overlooked shades of grey that lie between the stark contrasts of black and white. Such is the tale *Nashtanirh* or *The Broken Nest* by Rabindranath Tagore, which vividly portrays the life of a lonesome, empathetic and disoriented woman of the nineteenth century, confined within the opulent yet isolating grandeur of a sprawling mansion.

A dramatised reading through an English transcreation of *Nashtanirh* titled *Charu's Story* was performed at The Saturday Club in Kolkata last week. Directed by Piali Ray (who played Charulata aka Charu), *Charu's Story* had effectual dialogues rich in emotion and subtlety, interspersed with the evocative melodies of Rabindrasangeet. Set against the poignant backdrop of an empty swing in an expansive garden—a metaphor for yearning and isolation—the play narrated the story of Charu, a woman ensnared in the silken yet suffocating confines of 1870s Calcutta.

Charulata, the solitary wife of Bhupati (played by Pradip Mitra), drifts through the corridors of her palatial, secluded existence—a life



marked by idleness and isolation. Bhupati, her husband, immersed in the relentless pursuit of his journalistic endeavours through The National Herald, unwittingly neglects the emotional needs of his wife, devoting his energies to the ink-stained pages rather than to the sacred bonds of matrimony.

Sensing the deepening chasm of loneliness in Charu's life, Bhupati entrusts his cousin Amal (played by Sumit Ray), a young and idealistic writer, with the delicate task of offering Charu companionship and nurturing her burgeoning literary talents. Yet, as the sands of time slip through the hourglass, what begins as a simple mentor-student relationship soon blossoms into something far more complex and forbidden. Charu, drawn irresistibly to Amal, finds herself entangled in the tendrils of unspoken

desire. She begins to harbour a growing sense of jealousy towards her sister-in-law, Mandakini—known as Manda—(played by Rajrupa Chakravarty) whenever she witnesses Amal and Manda spending time in each other's company. A quiet resentment stirs within her, particularly at the sight of Manda's simple yet intimate gesture of offering *paan* (betel leaves delicately prepared with condiments) to Amal.

Amal, however, is torn between the magnetic pull of Charu's affections and the moral obligation to uphold his cousin's trust—a trust already marred by the treachery of Charu's brother, Umapada.

In an effort to preserve his honour and the sanctity of familial bonds, Amal takes his leave, abandoning Charu to the desolate chambers of her unfulfilled longing. Charu, overwhelmed by the crushing weight

of other unreciprocated love, succumbs to a hysterical outburst in the presence of Bhupati, laying bare the fractured remains of their marriage. The play then goes on to tell what is left for the forsaken Charu and her humiliated husband—the shattered fragments of their nest be mended, or has the fragile edifice of their union been irrevocably sundered?

Pradip Mitra's portrayal of Bhupati, the industrious yet well-intentioned husband, was masterful, capturing the character's layers with acuity and depth. Sumit Ray was equally compelling as Amal, imbuing the role with profound ingenuity. Rajrupa Chakravarty breathed life into Manda, her vibrant energy and flawless chucklesome comebacks providing a delightful counterpoint to the unfolding drama. Piali Ray's performance as Charulata was nothing short of

enchanting. She embodied the essence of a solitary woman—a neglected wife, a woman hopelessly enamoured and a gifted writer who begins her literary journey with uncertainty, only to witness her world unravel with quiet despair. She seamlessly transitioned between these personas, delivering a performance that resonated with shades of melancholy, joy, elation and sorrow.

*Charu's Story* evocatively recalls the essence of Tagore's incisive critique of the oppressive and banal nature of society's hyper-moralism and the pervasive hypocrisy with which it often treats women. Through Charu's journey, the narrative lays bare the oppressive weight of societal expectations that stifle individuality and reduce women to mere symbols of virtue, rather than recognising them as complex, autonomous beings.

Celebrating classical dance heritage

TAPATI CHOWDHURIE

Gunghroo Dance Academy and Centre for Dance concluded its festival to celebrate Nritya Sangam Festival 2024 a few days ago, with the active collaboration of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, at Gyan Manch, Kolkata. Artistic director Vidushi Madhumita Roy Misra and her institution, Gunghroo, celebrated the ancient Indian tradition of Guru-Shishya-Parampara. The culture of the country believes in handing down knowledge of the arts from one generation to the next.

Guru-Shishya-Parampara is more important in the present times, when many aspirants depend on YouTube gurus and land up acquiring half-baked knowledge in their subject. There is no substitute for a guru in flesh and blood standing before you and imparting training. The principal objective of Madhumita Roy Misra, a renowned Lucknow Gharana Kathak, in holding this festival was to uphold the talents of veterans alongside those of newcomers and encourage young artists towards a more disciplined and artistic venture in their chosen field of the performing arts.

The students of Gunghroo Dance Academy presented three brilliant choreographies based on Chartaal ki Sawari of 11 beats, Ek boond Barish ki (the monsoon), and Tarana. All three were choreographed by Madhumita Roy Misra. Each performance portrayed Kathak's unique style and storytelling, encompassing classical compositions and innovative choreography. It was a moment of joy when rasikas and performers jointly felt aesthetic bliss while it was being performed.

The duet presentation by Arindam Dalui and Sourav Pal captivated the audience with their brilliant performance of 16-beat Teental. Rhythm is there in the universe to be felt and enjoyed, and there it was calming our senses to dwell in its beauty. Kathak dancer Souvik Chakraborty, with his intense love for the Kathak idiom and the art of story-telling, performed Surya stuti based on Teental. The concept was

absolutely enthralling. Brisk pirouettes were eye-catching.

Nilopa Maitra and Nitisha Banerjee's Kathak duet, based on the Ghazal "Fasle aise bhi honge," was a piece of poetry. One could verily see a scene of great beauty with dancers gliding along with their perfect movements, dancing to the demands of the taala and laya. Kathaka Paramita Maitra's choreography was impeccable. The costume's colour and design gave one a glimpse of the importance of colour

to be chosen for a particular time, space, and occasion.

Trina Roy, a product of the Jaial genre of Kathak, seems to be aware of her duties as the carrier of a great legacy. A serious Kathaka, she has been honing her skills in the all-round aspect of Kathak to carry on taking the right steps to keep it alive and not allowing the style to fade away into oblivion. She has excellent command over Laya and Taalim. She regaled the audience by performing Tandav Ang and, with adhr-

Dancers Paulami Basu, Indira Tripathi, and Paramita Bhattacharya had a beautiful grip over the nine matra taals with which they started and ended with a teen taal. Their strong movements and well-synchronised footwork made an effective and unmatchable statement. Their choreography depended on the Dhrupdangi tarana of 9 beats. They were marvellous.

Nandini Chakraborty and Debasmita



Mukherjee danced eight and a half beat taal dexterously before taking up a ghazal to show their emotive qualities. While the whole evening was devoted to Kathak, Madhumita Roy Misra also included a group Kuchipudi dance to add flavour to the evening. The pranks played by Krishna on Mother Yasoda in this style were welcomed by the audience. Krishna's activities never fail to rouse the flavour of Balyaras, be it any dance form. Madhuri Majumdar, a direct disciple of Kuchipudi exponent Vempati Chinna Satyam, choreographed the beautiful presentation.

The writer is a senior dance critic

# 'Coach told me not to let fame get to my head'

Have resumed training, focussing on areas in which I lacked in Paris: Aman Sehrawat



AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Aman Sehrawat brought India's only medal in wrestling at the 2024 Paris Olympics when he won the bronze medal in the men's 57kg category. The 21-year-

old has been at the fabled Chhatrasal Akhada since he was 11 and has always had his eyes set on an Olympic medal.

The words 'Olympics Gold' and 'If it were easy, everyone would do it' are written on the walls of Aman's room at the Chhatrasal Akhada and

India's youngest-ever medal winner at the Games is not content with a bronze medal and has already set his sight on the gold medal at the 2028 LA Olympics.

"I have started training and will focus on the areas I lacked in at the Games and now my focus is on an

Olympic Gold medal," he told IANS on Friday.

Aman defeated Puerto Rico's Darian Cruz 13-5 in the bronze medal match in the men's 57 kg category. The victory has seen him rise up to World No. 2 in the United World Wrestling rankings in the category.

This was the sixth Olympic medal to come from the 'Chhatrasal Akhada' under the tutelage of legendary wrestling coach Satpal Singh with Sushil Kumar having won the honour twice and Aman, Ravi Dahiya, Bajrang Punia and Yogeshwar Dutt all having won one medal each.

Aman went on to reveal what his coach said to him before and after his Olympic performance.

"The coach had talked to me before the Olympics and told me 'You should focus on your own bouts and not change your style according to your opponent.' When I returned he told me to not let the fame get to in your head and I should behave exactly like I used to before I won the medal as I have to go even further," added Aman.

# PGA Tour: Matsuyama, Im enjoy fast starts, Bhatia, Theegala well behind at BMW Championship

AGENCIES  
CASTLE ROCK, 23 AUGUST

Japanese star Hideki Matsuyama carried on from where he left the St. Jude Championships, which he won last week, and stayed hot with his new putter for solo second place with 5-under-67 at the BMW Championship. Korea's Sungjae Im (68) and Si Woo Kim (69) enjoyed fast starts to keep the good times rolling for Asian golfers in the FedEx Cup Playoffs.

However, Indian-Americans Akshay Bhatia (72), T-22) and Sahith Theegala (73; T-34) and Indo-British Aaron Rai (74; T-38) were some way behind in the 50-man field. Byeong Hun An, also from Korea, opened with a 72. American Keegan Bradley, who was the last man in 50th place to qualify for the BMW Championship, fired with a bogey-free 66 to take the lead after the first round.

Four days after securing a two-stroke victory at the FedExSt. Jude Championship

for his second win of the season and 10th PGA TOUR title, the 32-year-old Matsuyama was in the element once again at Castle Pines Golf Club in Colorado with six birdies, which included a monster 74-foot birdie conversion on the fourth hole.

Im and Kim are determined to join the winner's party in this week's penultimate Playoffs event, shooting a 68 and 69 for T3 and T7 respectively as they chase early leader.

The 26-year-old Im is seeking a third PGA TOUR win, and his cause was helped with six birdies, including three opening gains to start his day. He was particularly sharp with his short game as he scrambled for six par saves to stay on the leaderboard. With Castle Pines being 6,200 feet above sea level, players like Im have had to make adjustments to distance control as balls fly further and the thinner air makes the 8,130-yard property a challenging walk.

# Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan among 156 named in a murder case FIR: Report

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST



Bangladesh's veteran all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan is amongst 156 people named in a murder case FIR filed in Dhaka's Adabor area, in connection with the protests called by students in the country earlier this month.

According to a report in Cricbuzz, the FIR was filed on August 22 by Rubel's father, Rafiqul Islam, which names 154 local Awami League leaders and activists accused of his son's demise on August 7, including Shakib and then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who subsequently fled to India.

"Besides them, another 400-500 unnamed people were also accused in the case. According to the case statement, Rubel joined the

peaceful protests of the Student Movement against Discrimination demanding quota reforms in government jobs on August 5 in the Adabor Area."

"Following orders from Hasina and the other accused, unidentified people attacked the protesting students by firing against them. During this incident, two bullets hit Rubel on his chest, thereby causing grave injuries to which he eventually succumbed. As per the chargesheet, he is said to be accused no.28 in the FIR lodged by Rafiqul," said the report.

**CENTRAL SILK BOARD**  
(Ministry of Textiles - Govt. of India)  
BTM Layout, Madiwala, Bengaluru - 560 068, Karnataka  
Phone: +91 80 26282699 Fax: +91 80 26681511 E-Mail: estab.csb@nic.in

Advt. No. CSB/01/2024  
**RECRUITMENT NOTICE** Date: 24.08.2024

Please refer to Central Silk Board's Brief Advertisement No. CSB/01/2024 dated 24.02.2024 and Notice dated 16.04.2024 published in CSB's website and in the Employment News on 24.02.2024 for recruitment of 122 Scientist-B (Pre-Cocoon) based on score secured in ICAR AICE-JRF/SRF (PhD) - 2024 examination.

The Online application link has opened from 22.08.2024. Interested candidates should apply ONLINE ONLY. The detailed advertisement is available at the website of CSB [www.csb.gov.in] under the link "JOB Opportunities". The last date for receipt of online application is 05.09.2024. Candidates should compulsorily read the detailed advertisement carefully before making an online application.

CBC: 41109/12/0012/2425  
Member Secretary

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
(Department of Health Research)

Department of Health Research invites application from eligible and suitable officers for filling up of two posts each of Scientist D and E on Deputation (including short-term contract) basis. The last date for submission of application is 24th October, 2024. Details of post, eligibility conditions, etc. for the post of Scientist D and E are available on the website of Department of Health Research: <https://dhr.gov.in/vacancies>

Sd/-  
Rajeev Saxena  
Under Secretary  
A.12025/02/2022-HR

CBC 17301/11/0006/2425

No. 10/12/2016-NCLT(Pt-V)/589  
GOVT. OF INDIA  
**NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL**  
6th Floor, Block-3, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

**NOTIFICATION** Dated: 06-06-2024

Filling up posts of Assistant Registrar in National Company Law Tribunal Bench on deputation basis.

Applications are invited for filling up the following posts in National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) for filling up existing/future vacancies in its benches as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Post	Bench	Pay Level	No. of Post (Tentative)
1.	Assistant Manager	Mumbai	Level-11 (Rs. 67,700 - 2,08,700)	1

2. The selected candidate will be required to serve at NCLT Bench for which he/she is selected.

3. Last date for receipt of applications will be 60 days from the date of publication of the advertisement in the Employment News/Rozgar Samachar.

4. For further details please visit: [www.nclt.gov.in](http://www.nclt.gov.in) (under "Career")

Naveen Kumar Kashyap  
Secretary-in-Charge  
National Company Law Tribunal

CBC 07118/12/0009/2425

**CENTRAL SILK BOARD**  
(Ministry of Textiles - Govt. of India)  
BTM Layout, Madiwala, Bengaluru - 560 068, Karnataka  
Phone: +91 80 26282699 Fax: +91 80 26681511 E-Mail: estab.csb@nic.in

Advt. No. CSB/02/2024  
**BRIEF ADVERTISEMENT** Date: 24.08.2024

Central Silk Board INTENDS to recruit candidates for filling up of Scientist-B posts by DIRECT RECRUITMENT at CSB Headquarter and its Offices located in the country by short listing the applicants for interview in the subject/specialization - Textile Engineering & Fibre Science (TF) & overall score secured by the applicants in the IIT GATE-2025 exam which will be conducted by the IIT, Roorkee tentatively during Feb, 2025, as per the vacancy details given below:

Name of the post	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	UR	Total	PwBD
Scientist-B (Post Cocoon)	6	3*	5	3	11	28	2*

\* One post each of ST and PwBD are backlog posts.  
Note: The number of posts indicated is tentative & it may change during detailed advertisement.

Applicants are advised to apply for IIT-GATE 2025 examination online through the website <https://gate2025.iitr.ac.in/> when the same is notified on the IIT-Roorkee website. However, the Opening date of GATE 2025 Online application Processing System is 24.08.2024.

Applicants are advised to refer to the website of Central Silk Board: [www.csb.gov.in](http://www.csb.gov.in) under "Job Opportunities" and read the INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS appended to the advertisement before applying for the IIT-GATE 2025 examination.

CBC: 41109/12/0010/2425  
Member Secretary

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CBC 10601/13/0011/2425

## 'BUMRAH IS LIKE A KOHINOOR DIAMOND'

Former India wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik said fast-bowling spearhead Jasprit Bumrah is like a Kohinoor diamond for the national team, adding that being entrusted with the responsibility of captaincy will increase the risk of him being injured. Bumrah previously led India as a stand-in captain during the rescheduled fifth Test against England at Edgbaston in 2022, when regular skipper Rohit Sharma was out due to COVID-19 infection. He also guided India to a 2-0 series victory in a three-match T20I series against Ireland last year, where he made a comeback post a layoff of 11 months due to a serious back injury.

For more updates [www.thestatesman.com](http://www.thestatesman.com)

# Neeraj Chopra finishes second in Lausanne DL with 89.49m throw

Paris Olympics bronze medallist Anderson Peters of Grenada won the event with his monster throw of 90.61m

TRIDIB BAPARNASH  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Two weeks after winning the silver medal at the Paris Olympics, star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra, nursing a long-standing groin injury, came up with a season best effort of 89.49m to finish second in the Lausanne Diamond League on Thursday.

The 26-year-old Chopra was at fourth spot till the fourth round before sending his spear to 85.58m in his fifth attempt. He saved the best for the last as his sixth and final attempt measured 89.49m, which was better than his performance in the Paris Olympics. In Paris, Chopra pocketed the silver with an effort of 89.45m.

After the first four rounds, Neeraj was in danger of missing the sixth but made a spectacular recovery with his fifth round effort of 85.58m to eventually stay on course.



Only the top three after five rounds get their respective final attempts.

Two-time world champion and Paris Olympics bronze medallist Anderson Peters of Grenada won the event with his second round monster

throw of 90.61m while Julian Weber of Germany took the third spot with 87.08m.

"The feeling wasn't great at first, but I'm happy with my throw, especially the second (career) best throw on my last attempt. It was a

tough start, but the comeback was really nice and I enjoyed the fighting spirit I showed," Chopra said after the event.

"Even though my early throws were around 80-83m, I pushed hard in the last two attempts finishing strong.

Competing at this high level, it's important to stay mentally tough and fight through," he added.

With seven points from Thursday's second-place finish, Chopra will be on joint third spot with Weber on Diamond League standings with 15 points. Peters jumped to top spot with 21 points.

Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch, who finished seventh (82.03m) on Thursday, is in second spot with 16 points.

Peters, who had struggled to find his form last year, led the competition from beginning to end and he stamped his class with the 90m-plus throw in the last round. He has a personal best of 93.07m which he had produced in 2022.

Chopra, who confirmed his participation at the Diamond League meeting in Lausanne last Saturday, had said that he will take a decision on a possible surgery to correct a troublesome groin niggle

after the end of the season. He has been managing the injury since winning the gold in the Budapest World Championships last year.

This season's DL finals will be held in Brussels on September 14. He needs to finish in the top-six of the Diamond League meetings series standings to qualify for the season finale. There is another DL meeting -- in Zurich on September 5 -- which has a men's javelin throw event in its roster.

Chopra was the Diamond League champion in 2022 and finished second behind Jakub Vadlejch of Czech Republic in the winner-takes-all DL final in Eugene, USA, last year. Chopra had won the Lausanne leg of the Diamond League in 2022 and 2023, but could not do so this time. In fact, Chopra is yet to win a DL meeting this year. He finished second behind Vadlejch in Doha on 10 May.

## Durand Cup: Mohun Bagan survive Punjab FC scare, win 6-5 in penalties to seal semis spot



AGENCIES  
JAMSHEDPUR, 23 AUGUST

Defending champions Mohun Bagan Super Giant (MBSG) downed a valiant Punjab FC 6-5 in sudden-death penalties, to make the semifinals of the 133rd Durand Cup, after both sides ended a thrilling quarterfinal clash 3-3 in regulation time at the Tata Steel Sports Complex stadium here on Friday. Scottish defender Thomas Aldred scored the final penalty for the Mariners to beat keeper Ravi Kumar's effort and secure victory in what was a see-saw battle.

The Shers struck first through a Luka Majcen penalty early in the first half only for MBSG to go ahead courtesy of two strikes on either side of the half-time whistle by Suhail Bhat and Manvir Singh.

Croatian midfielder Filip Mrzljak and Argentine forward Norberto Vidal then scored in succession to give Punjab the lead again only for Australian Jason Cummings to restore parity in the 79th minute as the game went to

tie-breakers given there was no provision for extra time.

Then even though Cummings missed MBSG's first spot-kick, Punjab's Croatian defender Novoselec was stopped by Mariners keeper Vishal Kaithi from converting the fifth kick which would have given them the win, as Greg Stewart promptly brought MBSG back on level terms.

As sudden death kicked in Melroy Assisi converted for the Shers and so did Subhashish Bose and Aldred (with the winning kick) for MBSG, but Vishal's second save, this time off Denechandrang Meetei, turned decisive in the end. Among MBSG's other scorers in the tiebreaker were Manvir, Liston Colaco and Dimi Petratos while Vinit Rai, Vidal, Bakenga and Mrzljak scored for the Shers.

A wonderful 1-2 between Luka and Vinit saw the latter in the clear inside the Mariners penalty area and as he was about to strike, Spanish central defender Alberto Martin was adjudged to have brought him down. The Shers' talisman made no mistake with the spot-kick. The equaliser came at the stroke of half-time. Liston initiated it as he had been for the entire half with his forays down the left. On this occasion, he cut inside and laid it on for Greg Stewart whose first-time strike took a deflection off Suhail lurking just outside the six-yard box and wrongfooted Ravi to trickle in.

## Rodrigues hopes to fine-tune herself with WCPL stint ahead of women's T20 World Cup



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

With a couple of months to go for the women's T20 World Cup in the UAE in October, India's Jemimah Rodrigues is happy to prepare herself for the big-ticket tournament by taking part at the ongoing Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL) for Trinbago Knight Riders (TKR), alongside India team-mate Shikha Pandey.

Rodrigues, who has already featured in the Hundred and Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) in Australia besides the Women's Premier League (WPL), said the stint

at WCPL will help her iron out some of the shortcomings before featuring in her career's fourth T20 World Cup.

"These are the matches that I'm actually going to get before going and playing like proper team matches (T20 World Cup)," Rodrigues said at a media interaction organised by FanCode.

"I'm really looking forward to a few things that I'm working on to try and implement it here because when you do it in practice it's different. When you do it in a match, it's way different and franchise cricket has always excited me."

On the prospects of playing

cricket in the Caribbean, Jemimah said she loves the challenge of playing under different conditions, and hopes to carry forward the learnings into the World Cup.

"I love travelling. I love playing for different teams. I love meeting new people and new cricketers and getting to know them, how their mind works and how to play in different conditions. Because every time you go to play cricket, you don't get the same kind of situation. Every time it changes," she said.

"The more you're in that situation and in those pressure

moments I think that's the best preparation you can have, so for me, I look at it more as a preparation for the T20 World Cup, and at the same time an added responsibility playing for TKR to do whatever I can to make sure my team wins at the end, so I'm just looking forward to playing these matches and I'm very excited for that," she added.

Rodrigues, who made her international debut as a teenager in 2018, found the going tough after hitting a rough patch in 2021. However, she redeemed herself during her stint with Northern Superchargers in the Hundred, amassing 249 runs in seven innings, including a best of an unbeaten 43-ball 92 in the very first game.

Back in India colours, head coach Anil Muzumdar moved Rodrigues to the No 5 slot to lend stability to the middle order, but in the WCPL, she could be batting at No.3.

On being asked if the change would affect her, Rodrigues said, "I think every batter has their own formula. But I think for me, it's very important to assess the conditions quickly and know which shots work for me on a slower track."

"For me, just knowing which shots work and having that clarity and going out there with clarity helps wherever I play. For me, the basic formula is just having clarity and applying yourself and playing wherever you're playing," she added.

## Tokyo Paralympics double medallist shooter Avani hopes to repeat feat in Paris

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 23 AUGUST

Star para shooter Avani Lekhara, who scripted history by becoming the first Indian to clinch a pair of medals in Tokyo three years ago, is hoping to repeat her feat in the upcoming Paris Paralympics, starting August 28.

Recently ace pistol shooter Manu Bhaker stole the spotlight with her unprecedented two-bronze medal haul at the Paris Olympics, and Avani is hoping to do an encore in her own domain in the showpiece event. Both Manu and Avani had made their Olympics debut in the Japanese capital.

In Tokyo, Avani became the first Indian woman to clinch a pair of medals at a

single Paralympics when she won the 10m air rifle gold and the 50m rifle three-position bronze in the SH1 category. This category is for rifle shooters with lower limb impairment e.g. amputations or paraplegia with the ability to hold their gun without difficulty and shoot from a standing or sitting position.

Mutual admiration and respect are the hallmarks of top sportspersons and Avani is delighted that the 24-year-old Manu Bhaker alone contributed two of India's six medals at Paris 2024.

"I feel proud that we are both shooters. When I won two medals in Tokyo, it was a new awakening for women in sports in India... a barrier was broken. Manu did the same and going forward, I



wish more such barriers are broken," Avani said.

Avani is more confident going into the Paris Paralympics with the post-Tokyo phase helping in attaining maturity and personal growth. The 22-year-old shooter is supported by the Union sports ministry's Target Olympic

Podium Scheme (TOPS).

"TOPS has always been very supportive in terms of training and procurement of equipment, coaching and exposure. They are always a call away," said Avani.

Avani's composure is a tell-tale sign of a maturing athlete.

"It's not about money or fame, the greatest takeaway in the post-Tokyo phase has been how my self-confidence has improved. From a shy introvert girl due to a disability to what I am today is a lot of change has happened for sure. Communication with various types of people have been personally enriching but the recognition and support that I am getting is the real success for me," said Avani.

While Avani keeps her focus on the three shooting events that she will participate in the upcoming Paralympics in Paris from August 28 to September 8, the Jaipur-based shooter, who was rendered a complete paraplegic after a car accident when she was 12, continues her dream to

become a judge one day.

Avani has just completed her graduation (BA LLB) and plans to go for her Masters before she takes the final plunge into law by entering competitive examinations.

For now, of course, Avani is backing her training to win more laurels for India and open new frontiers for para sports. "It's much better now but we still need more awareness and visibility," she says.

India are sending their largest-ever contingent of 84 athletes to the Paris Paralympics. They will compete in 12 sports including archery, athletics, badminton, canoeing, cycling, blind judo, powerlifting, rowing, shooting, swimming, table tennis, and taekwondo.



## Asian Surfing Championships 2024: Kishore Kumar becomes first Indian to reach semi-finals



AGENCIES  
THULUSDHOO, 23 AUGUST

Kishore Kumar, the teenage Indian surfing sensation who boasts multiple national championships, has made waves in international waters by becoming the first-ever Indian to reach the semi-finals of the Asian Surfing Championships 2024.

Hailing from Tamil Nadu, Kishore is competing in the U-18 Boys category at the championship being held in Thulusdhoo, Maldives. With eight Indians competing across four categories in the event, which serves as a qualifier for the Asian Games 2026, Kishore Kumar remains the sole Indian surfer keeping the country's hopes alive.

In Heat 3 of the quarter-

finals, Kishore Kumar captivated the judges with his manoeuvres, achieving the highest score of 11.50 among his heat's quarterfinalists. John Chan from Chinese Taipei came in second, while local surfer Sayyid Salahuddin finished third with scores of 8.76 and 7.90, respectively. Kumar has demonstrated consistent excellence, having secured first place with scores of 12.86 in Round 1, 14.33 in Round 3, and 11.50 in the quarterfinals. Notably, his Round 3 score remains the highest ever recorded by an Indian surfer in this competition.

Yesterday, Harish Muthu and Kishore Kumar advanced to the quarterfinals of the Asian Surfing Championship 2024 in the Men's Open and U-18 categories, respectively. However, Harish narrowly missed out on a spot in the semi-finals after a tough competition.

Speaking on his achievement, Kishore Kumar said, "I'm thrilled beyond words to have secured a berth in the semi-finals of the Asian Surfing Championship. It's been tough competing against Asia's best surfers, but I remained confident and focused. I gave it my all, and I'm happy to have made my country proud and brought some joy. My next goal is to qualify for the finals and win a medal for India".

Speaking about Kishore's performance on Friday, Samai Rebound, Head Coach, Indian Team, said, "We are absolutely delighted with Kishore's performance today and are eagerly awaiting to see him make history tomorrow. Kishore's talent, dedication, and hard work are evident in every competition he enters. I have every confidence that he will bring us great joy and pride tomorrow".

All eyes will be on Kishore tomorrow as he strives to maintain his exceptional performance in the semi-final, which is scheduled for the same day.

## APPOINTMENT

**IFFCO** Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited  
Paradeep Unit  
Advertisement No. POP/HR/App/2024 Date: 21.08.2024

**Requirement of Act Apprentices for IFFCO, Paradeep Unit**

Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited, Paradeep Unit, District - Jagatsinghpur (Odisha) invites applications for the post of **Act Apprentices** from candidates possessing Diploma (Chemical) / Diploma (Mechanical) / Diploma (Electrical) / Diploma (Instrumentation) / Diploma (Civil) / B.Sc. (PCM) / ITI (Fitter) / ITI (Mechanic) / ITI (Welder) / ITI (Electrician) / ITI (Instrument Mechanic) / ITI (Turner) / ITI (Mechanic Motor Vehicle) / ITI (Draughtsman Mechanical) / ITI (Draughtsman Civil) / ITI (Computer Operator and Programming Assistant) / ITI (Refrigeration & AC)

**How to apply:**  
For details of advertisement and required qualification, age, apprenticeship, categories, emoluments, other eligibility criteria of the above mentioned post and how to apply etc. visit our website [www.iffco.in](http://www.iffco.in) and go to careers and click on requirement of Act Apprentice for IFFCO, Paradeep Unit and apply online or at [www.iffcoyuva.in](http://www.iffcoyuva.in). The online application form may also be directly accessed on <https://appspsd.iffco.coop/trms/candidate/>.

It is mandatory to submit online application form.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR CANDIDATES:**  
Date of opening of online application: 22.08.2024, 10.30 hrs  
Date of closing of online application: 10.09.2024, 23.59 hrs

**FOR QUERIES / CLARIFICATION:**  
Contact No: 06722-22 / 4716 / 4758 / 4761