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"I am prepared to work with everyone," says interim prez Ranil Wickremesinghe as Sri Lanka votes in crucial presidential election today, marking the country's first major poll since its worst economic meltdown in 2022

International Master Vantika Agrawal defeats Grandmaster Irina Krush to help India secure a 2-2 draw against US in the 9th round of 45th Chess Olympiad. The draw takes India to 15 points & the team needs 2 wins to keep gold medal chances alive

Central govt seeks explanation from edible oil companies for increase in retail prices of cooking oils despite advising them to ensure price stability amid availability of adequate stocks imported at lower duties

Pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah takes four wickets as India bundle out Bangladesh for 149 in their first innings on day 2 of the first Test in Chennai. With an overall lead of 308 runs, the hosts were 81/3 in 2nd innings with Gill & Pant at the crease

10-km traffic snarl on ORR

An empty 16-wheel truck crashed into the Metro barricades near Hebbal flyover, causing a 10 km traffic jam on Outer Ring Road Friday. Flyers with suitcases were seen getting out of their vehicles and walking to the airport. **P 5**

Bengal lifts J'khand border blockade

Bengal lifted its border blockade against Jharkhand Friday, opening traffic that stretched up to 30km during 20-hr face-off triggered by CM Mamata accusing Damodar Valley Corp of 'flooding Bengal'. **P 14**

Four BSF personnel killed in J&K accident

Four BSF personnel were killed and 24 injured as a bus carrying 36 of them for poll duty skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge in Budgam. In Kathua, a soldier died & five injured after their vehicle fell into a gorge. **TNN**

Leopard spotted at city's C-DoT campus

A leopard that was spotted crossing Hosur Road near Electronic City a few days ago was Friday seen roaming the campus of Centre for Development of Telematics, close to Infosys campus off Hosur Road. **P 2**

Sensex crosses 84k, closes at record high

Sensex crossed the 84,000 mark for the first time Friday as foreign institutional buying, following a global rally after US Fed's rate cut, drove key indices to record-highs. It touched closed at a record 84,544. **P 19**

SC objects to K'taka HC judge calling city locality 'Pakistan'

Set To Frame Rules For Judges; Seeks Report On Remarks

Dhananjay.Mahapatra @timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Friday took a dim view of Karnataka HC judge V Srishananda's purported gratuitous reference to a Muslim-majority Bengaluru locality as Pakistan, and said it would consider laying down guidelines to keep judges from getting carried away during judicial proceedings and ending up being the butt of ridicule on social media.

CJI D Y Chandrachud took suo motu cognisance of Justice Srishananda's controversial reference to a Bengaluru locality in the course of observations on traffic rule violation, which trended on social media along with his misogynistic comment aimed at a woman lawyer. The CJJ constituted a bench of the top five judges — Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B R Gavi, Surya Kant and Hrishikesh Roy besides him — to record SC's displeasure over judges going overboard in their remarks during judicial proceedings. The bench asked the HC registrar general to consult the chief justice and file a report on the unsavoury remarks.

SC slams CBI for calling Bengal courts 'hostile'

New Delhi: CBI's complaint that it is having to contend with hostility in the courts in West Bengal drew sharp reaction from Supreme Court which pulled it up for casting aspersions on the judiciary by branding all courts in the state as hostile, reports Amit Anand Choudhary. This amounts to contempt, it said. The agency took this ground to press for the transfer of trial in 42 cases related to post-assembly election violence in 15 districts out of West Bengal to another state.

► **'Entire judiciary', P 15**

IN THE COURTS

► **SC directs CBI to probe false case filed against Ajay Katara, star witness in Nitish Katara murder case. Man named as petitioner says he had nothing to do with it | P 9**

► **After Telangana CM Revanth Reddy apologises for remarks on K Kavitha getting bail, SC drops proceedings against him | P 12**

► **SC's YouTube channel paused after it is hacked, shows videos promoting cryptocurrency | P 16**

'Seek pontiff's help to save marriage'

Dharwad HC bench has advised a couple seeking divorce to resolve their differences through mediation by Gavisiddeshwara Swamiji of Gavi Mutt. A video of Justice Krishna Dixit offering this advice during hearing of the divorce plea has gone viral. The couple will meet the pontiff on Sept 22. The mutt said it's aware of the court's direction. **P 4**

marks during judicial proceedings. The bench asked the HC registrar general to consult the chief justice and file a report on the unsavoury remarks.

Justice Srishananda was appointed an additional judge of Karnataka HC on May 4, 2020, and was made permanent on Sept 25, 2021.

► **Laying down rules, P 2**

Where & why are names okayed by collegium for HCs stuck: SC to govt

New Delhi: Reigniting its tussle with the Centre for quick implementation of collegium resolutions on appointment of HC judges, Supreme Court Friday asked the latter to explain "why some of the names recommended (for judgeship) are pending and at which level", reports Dhananjay Mahapatra.

Kapil Sibal, appearing for Jharkhand govt, which has filed a contempt petition for delay in implementing collegium recommendation for appointment of the last two chief justices for the state, alleged that the Centre either "delays or maintains a stoic silence" on appointment of judges.

"Names for appointments as chief justices of various HCs are expected to be notified soon. Let us wait till next week," the SC said.

► **'Not search panel', P 15**

Naidu seeks report on Tirupati laddus; don't politicise, says Jagan

Vijayawada/Tirupati: The TDP-led govt in Andhra on Friday sought a detailed report from Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) on the alleged use of adulterated ghee in the preparation of laddu prasadam at Tirumala temple even as a full-scale war of words broke out between CM N Chandrababu Naidu and his predecessor YS Jagan Mohan Reddy on this sensitive religious issue, report Srikanth Aluri & Sandeep Raghavan.

Attacking Reddy at a public meeting in Prakasam district, Naidu said: "People are saying their sentiments were hurt (following allegations of presence of animal fat in Tirupati laddus). When the sentiments were hurt, should I spare them (culperts)?"

► **'Silent for 2 months', P 15**

WAR OF WORDS

People are saying their sentiments were hurt (following allegations of presence of animal fat in Tirupati laddus). When the sentiments were hurt, should I spare them (culperts)?"

Online tenders floated every six months. Stock accepted only after all 3 samples cleared quality test... Naidu was at helm on July 12 & report was received nearly 2 months ago. Why did he stay silent? —Ex-CM Jagan Reddy

Minister: K'taka to use Nandini ghee

Karnataka muzrai minister Ramalinga Reddy said all prasada offered at major temples in the state will be tested. He said only Nandini ghee supplied by KMF will be used in making prasada. **P 2**

Bombay HC strikes down Centre's fact check unit

Mumbai: Describing it as an infringement on the right to equality and freedom of speech, Bombay high court on Friday quashed the amended Information Technology rules enabling the Centre to set up its own fact check unit (FCU) and flag social media content about its functioning as 'fake, false or misleading', reports Swati Deshpande.

Holding the FCU to be unconstitutional, Justice A S Chandurkar of the Bombay high court — who served as 'tie-breaker judge' after a division bench in Jan 2024 delivered a split verdict — described the expression, 'fake, false and misleading', as 'vague and overbroad'.

► **'Affect individuals', P 15**

TIE-BREAKER JUDGE

► **Ruling passed by 'tie-breaker judge', Justice A S Chandurkar, after a division bench in Jan 2024 delivered a split verdict**

► **In this case, as central govt itself is aggrieved by 'fake, false and misleading' news, FCU will be an arbiter in govt's own cause, judge observes**

► **The expression 'fake or false or misleading', in absence of it being defined, is vague, says HC**

bed the expression, 'fake, false and misleading', as 'vague and overbroad'.

Gadkari: Those at helm must tolerate barbs

Pune: The real test of democracy is whether the person at the helm of affairs is able to tolerate the strongest opinion against him and introspect, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said Friday at a varsity event.

He urged thinkers, philosophers and writers to voice their opinions without fear. "At present, our country is facing a problem not about differences of opinion, but the lack of it," Gadkari said at the event citing Constitution guaranteeing freedom of expression to all. **TNN**

► **Social inequality, P 15**

CM signals probe into land case involving HDK, BSY

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: CM Siddaramaiah Friday said his govt may initiate a probe into the land denotification case in Bengaluru, which allegedly involves former chief ministers BS Yediyurappa and HD Kumaraswamy.

"The denotification of 1.11 acres of land in North Bengaluru by Kumaraswamy holds a valuation in crores. I'll get the related files and check them before ordering a probe," Siddaramaiah said, noting his ministerial

colleagues had provided documents related to the denotification, which occurred despite official objections.

The CM said the land had been taken into govt possession, with compensation awarded to the landowner. However, it was subsequently denotified in the name of a deceased individual and later registered in the name of Kumaraswamy's brother-in-law, with his aunt serving as the General Power of Attorney holder.

► **Denies allegations, P 4**

Wayanad-born Norwegian under lens for Lebanon pager explosions

Rinson Jose, 37, from Kerala's Wayanad who briefly trained for the clergy before migrating to Norway has emerged as an alle-

Israeli airstrike kills 12 in Beirut

In its deadliest airstrike on Lebanon in years, Israel said it killed a senior Hezbollah commander in Beirut while Lebanese authorities reported at least 12 people dead and dozens wounded. Hours earlier, Hezbollah hit north Israel with 140 rockets. **P 17**

Stuck in Lebanon for 23 yrs, Punjab man back home, P 11

ged link in the pager blasts that killed 12 in Lebanon.

Norta Global Ltd, a 'tech firm' based in Sofia, Bulgaria, allegedly owned by Jose, is being probed by international security agencies following reports linking it to the sale of pagers. **P 16**

After 'worst first class' flight from US, AI refunds flyer

New Delhi: Air India has issued a refund to a passenger who had the "worst first class" experience on a Chicago-Delhi flight that cost him \$6,300 (Rs 5.3 lakh) for a one-way ride. The seats and carpet were extremely dirty and had stain marks; its inflight entertainment (IFE) didn't work during the 15-hour flight; "30%" of the food options on the menu weren't available, according to Anip Patel, founder of a Chicago-based VC firm CaPatel Investments. **TNN**

► **Broken seats, P 16**



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6-year-old girl dies of dengue within 48 hours of developing fever

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Bengaluru: She was gone in a flash.

Notwithstanding the bouts of fever, she went to school and was active. However, even before she could be investigated further, six-year-old Manvitha died of dengue in less than 48 hours after her temperature shot up, recalled stationery shop owner Ravindra DK and homemaker Ramya - parents of the child - in Mariyappanapalya, west Bengaluru. Manvitha is the first of two children to have died of dengue in one week's time in the city.

Doctors usually advise monitoring a child's behaviour between fevers and waiting for three days before run-

ning a test for dengue, all the while ensuring optimum hydration and nutrition levels. However, what Ravindra and Ramya just can't come to terms with is that they ended up losing their only child even before the treatment protocol could kick in or the medical tests could be fully complied with.

"Once the rituals are over on Sunday, I will take a week's off and then return with a warning sign at my stationery shop where many kids visit, making their elders aware that dengue is still around and these are the symptoms," Ravindra told TOI.

Ravindra and Ramya said the sequence of events that preceded their daughter's death, hoping that other parents would become alert and take

pre-emptive measures against a clear and present danger.

Ramya recalled the first time Manvitha looked dull. "It was about 2.30 pm on Sept 10, when I went to pick her up from school. She complained of a headache. We went home, gave her Dolo 250, and she slept. At night, we took her to a local doctor for persistent headache, even though the fever was only low-grade. The doctor assured us it was normal for children to have a headache during fever. Manvitha slept well after taking the medicines," she said.

The next day, she was fine. However, around 7.45 pm, she developed the chills, and within an hour started vomiting. "We took her to a hospital in Nagarbhavi around 9.30 pm," Ramya said. "As she was run-



Manvitha with her parents Ravindra DK and Ramya

ning a high fever, we moved her to another hospital, but even with the medication, she kept drooling, which we later learned were the fits," Ramya said. She tested positive for dengue, but given her 2.87 lakh platelet-count, there was no immediate cause for alarm, she added.

However, her condition suddenly deteriorated. She was out of breath and was put on a ventilator. Her brain activity had come down to only 10%. It was at that point that the parents were shell-shocked to hear that their child's survival chances were bleak. Ravindra recalled taking

“Once the rituals are over on Sunday, I will take a week off and then return with a warning sign at my shop to create awareness that dengue is still around and these are the symptoms

RAVINDRA DK, Father

her to yet another hospital in the middle of the night: "Even as the doctor referred us to it, he warned us that anything could happen in the ambulance. But I had to take a chance to save our daughter."

"We reached there on Sept 12 at 6 am. Once the doctors ran some tests, we learnt that the high fever had affected her brain, and it had stopped

working. This soon led to multiple organ failure, and at 2.45 pm her heartbeat stopped," he said. "It is important that parents know these details because we didn't. There was such a lack of information. For instance, what we thought was just a harmless drooling while she was asleep, was actually the fits - something we associate with uncontrolled trembling and seizures," Ravindra said. "We are usually told to wait for three days once there's a fever and then go for a dengue test, but in our case, the condition took a turn for the worse even before that," Ravindra said.

Last time she attended school was to write exam
A class 2 student at a city

school died of dengue on Wednesday. Saturday was the last time she attended school to write her exam.

"She developed a high fever on Sunday, while Monday was a holiday. On Tuesday, her mother came to the school, saying she was unable to attend classes due to her illness," said the school principal who attended the funeral on Thursday.

"We told the parent to take care of the child. On Wednesday night, she passed away. She was taken to a nursing home, but that did not have a ventilator. So, she had to be moved to another hospital, but by then, her condition had deteriorated. We came to know from the parents that the child had dengue," the principal added.

Bengaluru advocates tell CJ to stop live-streaming of court proceedings

Want Judges To Show More Sensitivity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Advocates Association of Bengaluru (AAB) has requested the chief justice of Karnataka high court to stop live-streaming of court proceedings.

In a letter to Chief Justice NV Anjaria, AAB president Vivek Subbareddy and the other office-bearers cited the controversies that have erupted over Justice V Shrishananda's recent statements.

"Apart from that, it has hurt the sentiments of advocates as they have been made objects of censure in such statements," the letter said.

The AAB president told TOI that live-streaming has seen several YouTube channels attributing adverse and mischievous meanings to legal deliberations. "Therefore, it is demanded that judges be cautious and show more sensitivity towards lawyers. We are glad that the SC has intervened to lay down guidelines in this area," he added.

Larger issue

"The recent comment

CAUTION NOTICE

Karnataka high court on Friday displayed a caution notice prior to the commencement of live-streaming of its proceedings, wherein viewers were warned from recording, sharing, or disseminating the videos of live court proceedings without obtaining permission.

"No person or entity (including print and electronic media, and social media platforms) other than an authorised person or entity shall record, share and/or disseminate live-streamed proceedings or archival data," the notice said while referring to Rule 10 of the Karnataka Rules on Live Streaming and Recording of Court Proceedings, 2021.

"Any unauthorised usage of live-streaming will be punishable as an offence under the Indian Copyright Act, 1957, Information Technology Act, 2000, and other provisions of law, including the law of Contempt," the notice further stated.

about a lady advocate has grabbed national attention. While this brings into focus the larger issue of treatment of younger members of the bar by judges - particularly that of lady advocates - AAB requests that until such time that there is sensitisation of

According to PUCI-Karnataka and All India Lawyers' Association for Justice (AILAJ), the remarks display an animus both on grounds of gender and of religion



COURT OF LAW: The letter said if streaming isn't stopped, the public image of courts will take a beating

COURT TO CONSIDER LAYING DOWN RULES

► Continued from page 1

The bench said with increasing number of people watching live telecast of judicial proceedings, the resultant intense scrutiny on social media required judges to exercise restraint during proceedings to avoid gratuitous or impertinent remarks.

In a bid to preserve the dignity of judiciary and people's faith in it, the bench said it would consider laying down guidelines for smooth conduct of judicial proceedings to help maintain the sanctity of proceedings and insulate them from being subjected to public ridicule

views that could be aired in open courts, there should be a total stoppage of live-streaming of such courts," the AAB letter further said.

Otherwise, the public image of courts will take a beating, the AAB letter said. Terming the judge's jibe

because of a few voluble judges. The bench sought the assistance of attorney general R Venkataramani and solicitor general Tushar Mehta in laying down guidelines and taking the suo motu proceedings to its logical end.

In its order, the CJ-led bench said, "The attention of the court has been drawn to media reports pertaining to certain comments which have been made by a judge of Karnataka HC, Justice V Shrishananda, during the conduct of judicial proceedings.

"We have requested the AG and SG to assist this court. At this stage, we request the

as "wholly irrelevant", the AAB communication added that all the good work of the "learned judge" is set at naught with such comments.

Meanwhile, PUCI-Karnataka and All India Lawyers' Association for Justice (AILAJ) said they were

registrars general of the HC of Karnataka to submit a report to this court after seeking administrative directions from Chief Justice N V Anjaria in regard to the subject matter. This exercise may be carried out in the next two days and a report be submitted to the secretary general." The bench posted the matter for further hearing on Wednesday.

With hearings in the SC and HCs going live after the Covid pandemic, comments of judges, especially colourful ones and those that sound like scolds, acquire virality on social media, bringing judges and courts under public scrutiny.

shocked at the "brazenly stereotypical" and "inherently prejudiced" remarks of Justice V Shrishananda.

According to them, the remarks display an unconstitutional animus both on grounds of gender and of religion.

Govt to all temples: Use only Nandini ghee for prasada

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Amidst the brewing controversy over the use of animal fat in the famous Tirupati laddus, Karnataka govt Friday ordered all the 34,000 muzrai temples across the state to mandatorily use 'Nandini' ghee manufactured by the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) for the preparation of 'prasada' and food served to devotees. Besides, the govt has also directed the temple staffers to ensure the quality of prasada is not compromised.

A circular in this regard has been issued by the commissioner of the Hindu religious institutions and charitable endowments department (Muzrai). Muzrai minister Ramalinga Reddy told TOI that the circular was issued keeping in mind the latest controversy at Tirupati. "All our temples have been using Nandini ghee manufactured by KMF for the preparation of prasada and food at temples for decades. We have not encountered Tirupati temple-like problems here to date. Yet, we wanted to ensure that there shall not be any doubt in the minds of devotees and hence issued an official order to use only Nandini Ghee," Reddy said.

Asked whether the state govt would take up testing of prasada or food in all the ma-

'Have panchagavya for purification'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Hours after AP CM N Chandrababu Naidu alleged ghee used to prepare Tirupati laddus was laced with animal fat during the



YSRCP regime, thousands of devotees who had eaten the prasada hurried to find a solution to purify themselves. Dharamadhikari of Sringeri Sharada Peetham, Daivajna KN Somayaji, said people were worried as they had eaten laddus with traces of cow and pig fat, and also fish oil as prasada and their religious sentiments were hurt. "Several people

asked me about the ways to purify themselves. I appealed to those who ate the laddus as prasada not to feel guilty about it as it was not their mistake," said Somayaji.

He appealed to the public to have panchagavya, a mixture of five products - dung, urine, curd, ghee, and milk - derived from cows. They have to mix them using dharbe (holy grass) chanting appropriate veda mantras and consume it. It is a must for those who want to purify themselves, he said.

He said one can also have theertha snana (holy bath) and can perform Kushmanda Homa. He alleged that animal fat was used deliberately and proper planning had gone into it but the entire thing hurt religious sentiments.

temple of Karnataka, he clarified, "There is no need for such sampling and testing of prasada from temples as Karnataka has not witnessed Tirupati-like incidents. In case of any complaints, we can consider testing it."

Karnataka has over 34,000 temples managed by the department and many offer a variety of prasada including laddu, Mysore pak, puliyogare, a mixture of fried Bengal gram and sugar, or

a mixture of boiled channa.

Out of the 34,000 temples, 205 are classified as 'A' category with an annual income of over Rs 25 lakh, followed by 193 'B' category temples with income between Rs 5 lakh and Rs 25 lakh. The remaining temples are under the 'C' category. Almost all 'A' category temples have dedicated kitchens with state-of-the-art facilities to prepare prasada and cook food for the devotees.

Crook poses as ex-BBMP engineer, cheats contractor

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Bengaluru: A cybercriminal, posing as a retired BBMP chief engineer, cheated a 46-year-old contractor of over Rs 1.5 lakh by requesting financial help, citing an emergency. He reportedly called eight other individuals and successfully shortchanged some of them as well.

Siddharaju Karigowda from Nagawara, received a call from 8895160683 around 11.45am on Sept 13. Speaking to TOI, Karigowda said the caller introduced himself as KT Nagaraj, retired chief engineer of BBMP and now engineering advisor for DCM DK Shiva Kumar. He claimed that he was in Delhi with his family to invite friends for his daughter's wedding. He claimed

Imposter played all roles: Karigowda

Karigowda said since he had recorded the call. "After learning about the fraud, I heard the recording and realised that the imposter himself had spoken to me as Nagaraj, ACP, other police officers, and his son, trying to change his voice," he said.



med that the gold ornaments he had purchased got stolen in Delhi, but were subsequently recovered by the police. The fraudster said he can't speak Hindi and sought help in communicating with them. The 'officer' informed Karigowda that a team of 20 officers had worked diligently to recover ornaments worth Rs 17 lakh and asked him

to inform Nagaraj to pay Rs 1 lakh as a reward to them.

"The miscreant made me bargain with the 'officer', who finally agreed for Rs 90,000. The fraudster told me that he had Rs 50,000 in cash and needed help with rest of the money. He promised to return it after coming back to Bengaluru. I agreed and transferred Rs 40,000 to a QR Co-

de that he sent," he said.

"He again called me and gave the phone to the cop, who said the ACP wanted proof for the Rs 90,000 transfer and asked me to transfer Rs 50,000 more to same QR code. So, I did," he said.

Later, the imposter asked for more money as he and five others had to travel back and didn't have the cash. Karigowda transferred Rs 62,200. "The next day, the number was switched off. I then searched and found Nagaraj's number. He informed me that the fraudsters had used his name and contacted eight others, including his cousin. A few among them had paid the money too. It was then I realised I was cheated," he said.

Karigowda lodged a complaint at Govindapura police station on Sept 16.

Leopard spotted on C-DoT campus in E-city, dept sets up 5 camera traps

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Spotted a few days ago while crossing Hosur Road near Electronics City, an elusive leopard was seen roaming the campus of the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) on Friday morning, near the Infosys premises, off Hosur Road. Locating the movement of the leopard on the C-DOT campus, the forest department has set up two cages to capture and translocate the big cat.

Leopard Task Force (LTF) personnel and forest officials discovered the movement of the wild animal on the C-DOT campus after rummaging through CCTV footage. The department has also set up five camera traps in the region to capture the movement of the leopard. "We spotted the leopard mo-



Two cages with baits have been set up on the campus to capture the wild animal

ving towards thick vegetation beside a building inside the C-DOT campus," explained a senior official, who is overseeing the operations at E-city.

Two cages with baits have also been set up in different locations on the campus. "We are hopeful of capturing the leopard tonight or Saturday morning," the official said.

Govt proposes 6 days of paid period leave in public & pvt sectors

Nithya Mandyam
& Yashaswini Sri | TNN

Bengaluru: The state govt is considering a landmark move to provide six days of paid menstrual leave annually for working women in both the private and public sectors.

An 18-member committee has been formed to draft a bill titled 'The Right of Women to Menstrual Leave and Free Access to Menstrual Health Products,' aimed at improving the work-life balance for women. Labour minister Santosh Lad said, "We are reviewing the proposal and have scheduled a meeting with the committee members. This initiative aims to support the female workforce, as women face significant phy-

MANY WOMEN HAIL 'BOLD INITIATIVE'

The govt's move has evoked positive reactions from women professionals and youngsters in the city. Many said it is a welcome and much-needed move. Here are some reactions

ANNETTE SAYANI | associate director of corporate communications at a private organisation, called it a "bold step in redefining workplace norms." She added, "This initiative fosters an inclusive culture that prioritises individual well-being and champions progressive thinking."

MUSKAAN MIRANI | a student, echoed this sentiment, calling the proposal a "great initiative" by the govt. "It acknowledges the physical and emotional challenges women face. This not only fosters a more inclusive environment but also empowers women to prioritise their well-being without fear of stigma or judgment," Mirani said.

NAYANIKA CHATTERJEE | a techie from Bellandur, said, "The govt's decision to implement menstrual leave marks a progressive step toward recognising women's health needs at the workplace. It acknowledges the physical and emotional toll menstruation can take on many women. Six days per year is not enough for women, who experience periods every month. Currently most women have to take leave out of their set of planned leave in a year which is rather unfair. But it is certainly an initiative that is required and should be more often talked about. It is off to a good start."

AMRUTA AYAPILLA | an associate working near Old Airport, pointed out that six days per year may be insufficient. "On average, periods last about six days each month, so the current allocation feels inadequate. If offering more days isn't feasible, the govt could consider increasing the total annual leave or providing a smaller allowance per month. Importantly, it should not be mandatory. Women should have the option to use it as needed," she said.

MALINI PARMAR | co-founder of Stonesoup, disagreed with the proposal, questioning the rationale behind the number of days. "Why only six days of leave? Less than 30% of women experience dysmenorrhea and it happens for 12-24 days in a year. Associating periods with pain is such a disservice! I see more women taking leave for childcare. Women already face pay and promotion disparity," she said.

sical and emotional fluctuations throughout their lives. The leave will be flexible, allowing women to choose when they need time off."

"It's not just about being progressive. Women face many challenges, especially after marriage or when they have children. There are many factors to consider," Lad said.

If implemented, Karnataka will become the fourth state after Bihar, Kerala and Odisha to provide women with 'period leave'. Interestingly, in Dec 2023,

former Union women and child development minister Smriti Irani opposed a similar proposal in Parliament. She argued that menstruation is a natural process and

shouldn't be treated as a disability needing special leave, warning that it could hinder equal opportunities for women. Fast forward to July 2024, the Supreme Court han-

ded the decision on menstrual leave policies to the Centre and state govts, encouraging them to consider the matter for female students and working women.

According to police sources, there were no burn injuries on Sujathan's person. They said an autopsy was carried out in Victoria hospital and viscera samples sent to the forensics to know the cause of death. A spokesperson from MS Ramaiah hospital management, who on Thursday issued a press statement saying no one was injured, chose not to respond to TOI's query about the death. "Since the investigations are on, we choose not to react," the spokesperson said.

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Ahead of byelection, Cong wrests Channapatna CMC

13 of 16 JD(S) Corporators Join Governing Party

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: In a significant boost to the governing party ahead of the upcoming byelection to the Channapatna assembly segment, Congress has gained control of Channapatna city municipal corporation (CMC) through strategic defections from Janata Dal Secular.

Over the past few days, 13 of the 16 JD(S) corporators have switched to Congress, prompting the Ramanagara deputy commissioner, who also serves as the district returning officer, to recognise them as Congress members.

POLITICS & POLICY

The deputy commissioner's order on Sept 17 stated that the merger is legal since two-thirds of JD(S) members have voluntarily joined Congress. As a result, the strength of the regional outfit has dwindled to just three corporators in the 31-member CMC, while Congress has increased its numbers to 24. An independent corporator has also switched allegiance to Congress.

JD(S) has expressed concern over this development and is contemplating legal action. "The decision of the deputy commissioner is illegal, and we will question it in a court of law," said KA Tippeswamy, MLC and state JD(S) spokesperson.



SITTING PRETTY: DK Shivakumar, president of the Karnataka Congress unit, is determined to win the byelection to Channapatna assembly seat

The political manoeuvre comes at a crucial time as a bypoll for the Channapatna assembly seat is expected to be announced in a couple of days. The election was necessitated following the resignation of then MLA, HD Kumaraswamy, JD(S) state president, who was elected to the Lok Sabha in May. Both deputy chief minister DK Shivakumar and his brother, former MP DK Suresh, are heavily invested in the constituency and hope to reclaim the seat previously held by Kumaraswamy.

Shivakumar and Suresh have been actively campaigning in Channapatna since May, meeting with constituents and announcing several development initiatives, including a housing scheme aimed at benefiting the poor. Their efforts appear to be part of a broader strategy to regain political ground after Suresh's defeat in Bangalore Rural

constituency in the Lok Sabha elections. Shivakumar has repeatedly said that no matter who the party candidate is, it would be a referendum on his leadership skills.

JD(S) downplayed the defections, insisting it will have no effect. "This is a temporary setback, and it will not impact our prospects in the byelection," a senior JD(S) functionary asserted. "Shivakumar and Suresh had done similar 'gimmicks' before the Lok Sabha elections. They had taken several of our local functionaries, including a few former members of urban local bodies. Still, Congress lost badly in the Old Mysuru region. The same thing will repeat in Channapatna."

How these defections will affect the prospects of Congress and BJP-JD(S) in the run-up to the bypoll is the question as both sides gear up for the impending electoral contest.

Hampana picked to launch Dasara, celebrations to begin from Oct 3

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: Renowned writer and scholar Hampa Nagarajiah, popularly known as Hampana, will inaugurate this year's Dasara festival on October 3 atop Chamundi Hills, Mysuru, chief minister Siddaramaiah announced.

The CM said the Dasara high-power committee had chosen Hampana, while Mysuru district in-charge minister HC Mahadevappa, head of the Dasara executive committee, will formally invite the octogenarian scholar to preside over the event.

Hampana, who met the chief minister during a Kannada meet at Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), expressed his gratitude for the honour. He described Dasara as a "desi habba" (indigenous festival) celebrated by people across all castes and communities. Reflecting on past celebrations, Hampana recalled the grandeur of the festival under the Mysuru maharajas.

Hampana, a distinguished linguist, researcher, professor, and Jain scholar, is an alumnus of Mysuru's prestigious Maharaja's College. He completed his post-graduation in Kannada from the University of Mysore in 1959 under the mentorship of eminent writers and professors, including Kuvempu, Ti Nam Srikantiah, and DL Narasimhachar. He began his teaching career in 1959 and later served at Bangalore University, retiring in 1996. Hampana held key positions in the Kannada Sahitya Parishat, serving as its secretary and president.

The scholar has authored over 65 works, including Dravid Bhashavijnana, Nagakumara Charite, Dhanyakumara Charite, and Soulava Bharata. He is widely respected for his contributions to Jain literature and research. In recognition of his contributions, Hampana received numerous honours, including the Chavundaraya Award, Mahaprajna Jain Literature Award, and the honorary degree of Nadoja from Hampi University.



FESTIVE SEASON: Chief minister Siddaramaiah with renowned writer and scholar Hampa Nagarajiah, better known as Hampana, at a function in Mysuru on Friday. Hampana later said it would be an honour for him to launch Dasara festivities

Karnataka and Kannada should be breath of state's people: CM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: Chief minister Siddaramaiah Friday emphasised the importance of maintaining the state's pluralistic identity and urged Kannadigas to work towards strengthening the Kannada environment.

Speaking at a 'Karnataka Cultural Outlook' meet, jointly organised by the Kannada and culture department and Kanakadasa Study and Research Centre at Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) on Friday, he highlighted the state's legacy of diversity and inclusivity.

Reflecting on Karnataka's rich cultural history, Siddaramaiah said that in 1973, then chief minister D Devaraj Urs renamed the state Karnataka. He criticised the previous BJP govt for not celebrating the golden jubilee of this event and announced that his govt is marking the occasion as 'Kannada Janotsava'.

"Karnataka and Kannada should be the breath of seven crore people," he said, adding that while the state welcomes all languages, Kannada must be promoted and used actively. He called on Kannadigas to create a strong Kannada environment, comparing Karnataka's linguistic identity with that of neighbouring states, where local languages dominate everyday life.

Siddaramaiah expressed concern over the abandonment of pluralism and secularism, especially among educated individuals, and called for a revival of these values. He stressed that Karnataka has always been a land where humanistic pluralism flourishes.



BJP instigating communal clashes: Siddaramaiah

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: Chief minister Siddaramaiah accused BJP of provoking communal violence in the state, alleging that the saffron party was responsible for the recent unrest during Ganesha immersion processions in parts of the state.

While responding to questions on the incidents, Siddaramaiah also criticised the media for not presenting facts accurately. He said the unrest was not as widespread as was made out to be in media reports. "There were around 60,000 Ganesha idol installations this year, but only two incidents of violence were reported," he said, referring to a stone pelting incident in Davanagere city and group clashes in Nagamangala town.

Siddaramaiah blamed BJP for the communal violence in Nagamangala, Mandya district. "BJP indulges in instigation, and they are the reason for com-



RELIGIOUS CLASH: File picture of BJP workers protesting the violence in Nagamangala

munal violence. Such incidents occur due to their actions," he said. In the same tenor, he acknowledged negligence on the part of the police during these incidents, pointing out that three policemen including a deputy superintendent have been suspended.

HDK denies role in land denotification

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: Union minister HD Kumaraswamy Friday denied allegations by governing Congress that he facilitated denotifying a plot of land in Bengaluru, insisting that he had no role in the matter. He said an investigation had found no illegality, but the case has remained open as a political ploy to target him.

Several ministers in the Siddaramaiah govt Thursday urged the Lokayukta to expedite its investigation into the alleged denotification of 1.1 acre of land at Ganganahalli in Kasaba hobli, Bengaluru North, which reportedly involves former chief ministers BS Yediyurappa and Kumaraswamy. At a press conference, Krishna Byre Gowda, Dinesh Gundu Rao, and Santhosh Lad presented documents linked to the case.

Kumaraswamy ridiculed Byre Gowda, saying, "I was under the impression that Byre Gowda was intelligent as he studied abroad, while I studied at a school in Haradanahalli in Hassan." He said Siddaramaiah had initiated the case against him in 2015 through a person named Jaya Kumar Patil. "For the past three months, they have been struggling to do something against



MUTUAL BENEFIT? Congress claims BS Yediyurappa denotified the land which was later registered in the name of HD Kumaraswamy's brother-in-law

me," he said, questioning why no action was taken during Siddaramaiah's tenure from 2015 to 2018.

"I'm not running away; I need not take protection under someone else's name. The only relationship with that property is that it is related to my wife's mother. I'm not denying that. But did I denotify the land?" Kumaraswamy asked.

Byre Gowda alleged that a 'benami' named Rajashekharaiah had filed a petition in 2007, seeking denotification of land acquired 30 years prior: Kumaras-

wamy was CM at that time. Byre Gowda said the original owner had 21 heirs, who had given Kumaraswamy's mother-in-law a general power of attorney.

He claimed that despite recommendations against denotification by the principal secretary, urban development department, in 2010, Yediyurappa, who succeeded Kumaraswamy as CM, ordered the denotification and the land was later registered in the name of Channappa, Kumaraswamy's brother-in-law.

"Did I denotify the land? Or did I prepare the ground for denotification? What was my role?" Kumaraswamy asked while accusing Byre Gowda of making allegations "to appease someone", adding, "No one can shake me... investigate it in whatever way you want."

The JD(S) state president rubbished claims that Yediyurappa had worked to benefit him, saying, "Everyone knows that there was a fight between us then. Will Yediyurappa do me a favour?" He insisted that he had never sought favours in his political career. "If anyone brings out even a single minor mistake of mine while at the helm, I will not remain in politics for five seconds," he declared.

Bulldozers will be back in Kothanur after minister's order to reclaim forest land

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Bulldozers will be back demolishing properties in Bengaluru after a hiatus of more than a year, with forest minister Eshwar Khandre on Friday ordering forest officials to reclaim 22.8 acres of 'lost' forest land, worth Rs 700 crore, in Kothanur area of KR Pura limits, Bengaluru East.

Close on the heels of the minister's direction, forest officials have initiated the process to evict encroachers and reclaim the land. With the part of the disputed land piece already housing buildings and structures, the reclamation process is set to ruffle several feathers.

Sources close to the forest minister revealed that the state govt, keeping in mind the fast-depleting green cover around Bengaluru, had granted 22.8 acres of land on sur-



Years of oversight left the green space vulnerable to illegal construction. With the part of the disputed land having buildings, the reclamation is set to ruffle feathers

vey number 48 to the forest department to raise tree plantations way back in 1999-2000. However, much to the dismay of many, the forest dept 'forgot' to take possession of the allocated land for raising plantation all these years. Subsequent records available from the revenue department revealed that out of the total 22.8 acres of land, only 13 acres were categorised as forest land, and the remaining was granted to various individuals without the consent of the forest department.

"It was disappointing to know that no forest official evinced any interest all these

days in reclaiming the land and raising the plantation. Despite allocation to the forest department, our officials have failed to raise the plantation. I have sought a report on this. Besides, I have directed the officials to obtain the sketch of the 13 acres and scout for the remaining nine acres of land. There is literally no trace of 13 acres of land and it needs to be identified afresh. If there is any land encroachment, that will be evicted by initiating procedure under section 64(a) of the forest act," Khandre said.

A senior official from the forest department revealed

to TOI that if not for a few families, which were illegally cultivating the land, the said land would have been easily gobbed by the land sharks.

"Hopng that the land will formally be allocated to them, these families were squatting on the land. While the southern part of the said land still has enough trees and vegetation, several houses, godowns, and buildings have come up on the northern boundary of the land. A prominent builder has also commenced work to build a large apartment complex after buying it from those who had the illegal grants without the consent of the forest department. A notice has already been served to the builder to stop all construction work till further notice. Our RFO has been told to dig a trench at the access road so that nobody enters the land," explained the official.

Divorce case: Judge directs couple to seer for mediation

Chamaraj Savadi | TNN

Koppal: The Dharwad bench of Karnataka high court has advised a couple seeking divorce to resolve their differences through mediation by Sri Gavisiddeshwara Swamiji of Gavi Mutt, Koppal. A video of Justice Krishna S Dixit offering this bit of advice during hearing of the divorce petition on Wednesday has gone viral on social media. Justice Dixit counselled the husband and wife, saying, "Problems are common in any marriage. However, it is not right for a couple to separate by focusing (only) on (these) issues." He also advised the couple to seek help from a psychiatrist. The couple informed the court they did. The judge then advised them to seek guidance from a swamiji. When the judge himself suggested Gavisiddeshwara Swamiji, comparing him to Swami Vivekananda, the couple agreed to go by his choice.

Teen who fell into open drain at Govindapura dies

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Nineteen-year-old Syed Javeed, a resident of Byrappa Layout in Govindapura who had fallen into an open drain on 6th Cross, Govindapura Main Road on Sunday night, succumbed to the injuries five days later on Friday night.

Govindapura police confirmed that Javeed died around 9pm. He had been unconscious since he sustained the injuries.

Police said they had registered a case of negligence against BBMP officials and contractors based on a complaint filed by Javeed's mother, Ayesha Banu, on Wednesday. This

case will be converted into death due to negligence.

Banu stated in her complaint that her son was busy tying banners for the Eid Milad festival on Sunday night when he fell into the open drain. She alleged that BBMP and the contractor who had carried out the road and drain development were responsible for the incident.

"Initially, we registered a case for causing injuries due to negligence. Now, we will convert it into death due to negligence against the BBMP officials and contractor," said Govindapura police. Cops will hand over the body to his family after a post-mortem examination on Saturday.

Muniratna held in rape case as soon as he walks out of jail

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Kaggalipura police from Ramanagara district on Friday arrested BJP MLA from RR Nagar, Muniratna N, on charges of repeatedly raping a 40-year-old woman between the years 2020 and 2022. Muniratna was arrested soon after he walked out of Bengaluru central prison, where he was lodged after being arrested in an atrocity case.

Besides the rape case, police will probe the alleged honey trap case levelled against Muniratna and six associates of his, including the gunman.

"We will produce Muniratna before the special court for elected representatives on Saturday morning, seeking his custody. Today, he will be lodged in Kaggalipura police station," an investigating officer said.

Earlier on Thursday night, police had waited for Muniratna outside Bengaluru central prison, hoping that the lawmaker would walk out. However, Muniratna did not turn up, and police had to return empty-handed.

Muniratna had been arrested on Sep 14 in the atrocity case. In another case where he was accused of threatening to extort a BBMP contractor, he had been granted anticipatory bail.



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10-km, 2-hour traffic snarl on ORR after truck rams Metro barricades

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: A 16-wheel empty truck rammed into the barricades set up for Metro work on the Outer Ring Road near the Hebbal flyover, bringing traffic from Ramamurthynagar and Nagawara to a standstill on Friday morning.

The situation persisted for two hours, prompting people in cabs to get out of their vehicles and trek ahead. Traffic policemen said many of those getting off cabs were seen lugging suitcases and could be flyers bound for Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

Normally, police use cranes to remove heavy vehicles that break down on busy roads. But here, bringing the crane was impossible due to



TRUCK TROUBLE: Police had to sweat for two hours to remove the truck and clear the traffic between Hebbal and Ramamurthynagar

traffic snarl. Finally, two earth excavators (JCBs) were used to remove the truck.

According to police, the truck, which had entered the city from KR Puram around 6.30 am, was heading out of the service road towards Hebbal. However, while driving near Yogeshnagar, close to

Nagawara Lake on Outer Ring Road around 7.15 am, a car reportedly appeared suddenly in front of the truck, forcing the driver to swerve to the right to avoid a collision. In the melee, the truck driver lost control of the vehicle, jumped the median separating the service road from the

main carriageway and rammed the BMRCL barricade before coming to a halt.

"Fortunately, there were no other vehicles in front of the truck. As the truck blocked the carriageway heading towards Hebbal, the morning traffic started piling up and there was a long queue of vehicles up to Nagaravara, around 10 kilometres. The traffic movement was affected till KP Puram. Roads inside Manyata Tech Park used by people coming from Thanisandra Road were also clogged with vehicles," traffic police said. Traffic police diverted the vehicles to Tannery Road. "By 8.30 am, we removed the truck and it took another hour to bring the traffic flow to normalcy," police said.

BMTC bus runs over man

Bengaluru: An over-speeding BMTC bus knocked down a man aged around 40 years on the service road near Amar Junction in Majestic Tuesday night. The police are yet to ascertain the identity of the man. A case has been registered against driver Gopal by Upparpet traffic police.

Citing preliminary investigation, police said the incident happened around 11.45pm. The Yeshwantpur depot bus came to the BMTC bus stand in Majestic from Nela-mangala. When the driver was taking the service road to enter the bus stand, he failed to notice the man crossing the road and hit him. The victim suffered severe head injury and died on the spot. The man was not carrying any identity proof or phone. The police arrested the driver. The body has been preserved at Victoria hospital mortuary. **TNN**

BBMP teams to visit houses to capture GPS

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The BBMP authorities on Friday clarified that the civic body's teams were visiting households in

Bengaluru only to gather the GPS coordinates of their properties after the civic body's SMS campaign raised questions about their genuineness and sparked other doubts.

The BBMP staff, the BBMP's statement said, would carry a mobile app containing ward-wise information of all properties and capture the GPS of the property.

The authorities requested citizens to help the team with correctly identifying their house in the BBMP's list for the purpose of tagging them.

"In a few days, the BBMP will launch Citizen Module for GPS capture of properties and then citizens can themselves capture GPS of their houses or properties and upload," a BBMP statement said.

The BBMP would later roll out eKhata online, the statement said, adding that it would share the procedure and

details about eKhata later.

The BBMP is working on launching a faceless, contactless and online digital eKhata issuance system. The civic body has digitised about 21 lakh properties in the BBMP limits. The BBMP has said the GPS of each property is mandatory to get the eKhata.

According to the BBMP, the property GPS will be the unique identity of a property, or its Bhu Aadhaar.

An earlier SMS campaign asked citizens to keep copies of their property tax receipt when the teams visit. A large number of property owners participated in the recent one-time settlement (OTS) scheme and have paid their taxes through demand drafts, but have not got receipts or acknowledgements. The SMS made many of them visit the ARO offices, demanding the latest tax paid receipt.

Senior BBMP officials clarified that the earlier SMS sought property tax receipt only for referring to property tax application numbers to correctly pick a citizen's property from a long list. The application numbers will ensure the BBMP teams don't end up mistagging any property.

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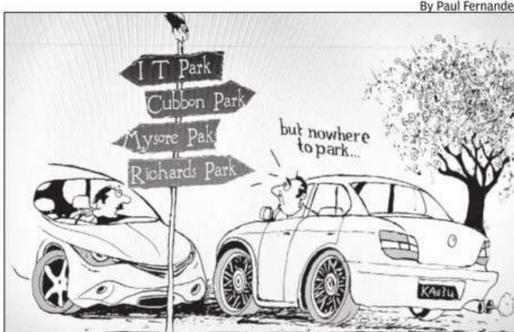
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While being a medical postgraduate, I would work continuously for 38 hours, sometimes for up to 72 hours. I wouldn't sleep a wink. Fortunately, that was only for a finite length of time. IT professionals in Bengaluru often complain of sleep deprivation. Our sleep wake cycles are influenced by circadian rhythm and a personal biorhythm. When there is a mismatch between these two, there will be sleep deprivation. Chronic sleep deprivation is associated with premature cardiac events and metabolic syndromes like diabetes and dyslipidemia. It could also result in irritation, loss of energy, memory problems, muscle fatigue and a dull demure.

As we age, it is advisable to consider moving away from shift work and making necessary changes to prioritise our sleep health. Setting aspirational goals is crucial, but it is also essential to focus on work efficiency rather than simply putting in long hours. Leave work-related thoughts and concerns at the office. Establish a consistent bedtime and sleep schedule. These are the ways to improve our overall well-being.

Dr Satyanarayana Mysore | CHAIRMAN AND HEAD, PULMONOLOGY & SLEEP MEDICINE, MANIPAL HOSPITAL



By Paul Fernandes

'I'VE TRAVELLED 40 KM FOR A DOSA'

Food delivery platforms say Bengaluru orders more dosas than any other city. Maybe it has to do with the variety of dosas and range of innovations that locals have done



Manu Muraleedharan

The farthest I have travelled for a dosa in Bengaluru was 40 km, from Whitefield to a place in Nagarbhavi, where they have Medu dosa, an unbelievably soft khali dosa. Was it worth it? Absolutely yes. My phone battery was empty by the time I returned, but my soul felt full.

I lived in Electronic City earlier, and now I live in Whitefield, both not really known for our 'uru' food. So I end up travelling a lot for my dosa cravings. I have been to most of the greats in the city, like Vidyaarthi Bhavan, Shri Sagar CTR, Taza Thindi, MTR, Chikkanna Tiffin Room, Namma SLN. I have also eaten at the OG Mylari Dosa in Mysuru where I was accompanied by a cow at 7 in the morning.

I have to confess I was never a dosa lover till I moved to Bengaluru. Eating that first masala dosa in Bengaluru was a revelation. A crispy masala dosa with chutney and filter coffee is not just sustenance, it is an emotion. But my favourite is the khali dosa, that spongy dosa dipped in

the thick piquant coconut chutney just hits the spot. I have to always get double chutney to satisfy my taste.

You talk to a local anywhere in Bengaluru, they have a special dosa place in their neighbourhood that they swear by. Anytime you ask which is the best dosa in Bengaluru on Reddit, you will see hundreds of replies. Dosa being the versatile player it is, there are many flavours of dosa everywhere. The spongy khali dosa, crispy masala

la dosa, paper-thin roast, the green Sabakki dosa at Namma SLN, Davangere Benne dosa, and Mulbagal dosa were all heritage innovations, and we continue to innovate with modern avatars of dosa like cheese and chocolate dosa.

Always served fresh off the griddle, dosa provides a very hygienic and healthy option for the hungry. In any neighbourhood you will find a Darshini serving fresh hot dosas at an affordable price. Bengalureans seem to have an unending love affair with dosa.

Manu Muraleedharan works as an architect in a software MNC.

RETURN TO OFFICE, STUDENT INFLUX CAUSE RENTS TO SOAR

With new supply coming in, the market is beginning to stabilise

Mini.Thomas@timesofindia.com

BENGALURU RENTAL GROWTH HIGHEST IN INDIA



B'luru rentals outpace other cities

Cities	Avg monthly rentals growth (Rs)			
	Micro Markets	2021-end	Q2 2024	% change
BENGALURU	Sarjapur Rd	21,000	35,000	67%
	Thansandra Main Rd	20,500	32,000	56%
Hyderabad	46-50%			Mumbai 26-38%
Pune	52-60%			Kolkata 30-46%
NCR	40-56%			Chennai 33-40%

Source: Anarock, study looks at key locations in each city. It also finds that rentals tended to outpace capital appreciation in Bengaluru, Chennai, Pune and Kolkata, while capital appreciation outpaced rental growth in Hyderabad, NCR, and Mumbai



The average rent for a 2BHK at SJR Verity in Bellandur is Rs 45,000-Rs 50,000

Rentals in the city have been soaring since 2022. And it's the result of multiple factors. Lots of new companies are coming in, especially what are called global capability centres (GCCs) of MNCs, and they are creating new jobs. Companies are increasingly discouraging remote work and asking employees to return to the city. There's a rapidly growing influx of students from around the country, attracted by the city's prestigious educational institutions. And students and young professionals are packing themselves into apartments to save on costs and avoid rigid PGs.

Property consultancy Anarock finds that Bengaluru rental growth has been probably the highest among large Indian cities. A report it released this week shows that Sarjapur Road saw a rental increase of 67% between 2021-end and the first half of 2024, with average monthly rentals for 2BHKs (approx 1,000 sqft) rising from Rs 21,000 to 35,000. Annual rental increases typically tend to be between 5% and 10%. What's happened over the past two-and-a-half years is more than twice that.

"Areas in close proximity to the IT corridor, such as east Bengaluru and northeast, have experienced the most dramatic increases," says BS Nesara, chairman of real estate company Concorde. "But house rents are also skyrocketing in the central Bengaluru district (CBD), Indiranagar, Koramangala," he says.

San Francisco of India

The biggest reason is clearly the robust job market, and companies demanding that employees work from office, and not from their hometowns. These trends are continuing. Most recently, Amazon CEO Andy Jassy issued a return-to-office mandate, saying that "the advantages of being together in the office are significant."

Nesara says Bengaluru has established itself as the "San Francisco of India," serving as a hub for talented professionals in the IT industry, related businesses, and startups.

Flats preferred over PGs

The other growing trend is of millennials, especially students and freshers, increasingly choosing shared apartments over PG accommodations due to the greater freedom and privacy they offer. Unlike PGs, which often come with curfews, guest restrictions, and fixed meal schedules, shared apartments provide flexibility in daily routines.

"Students appreciate the autonomy and ability to customise their space, which creates a more comfortable living environment. Additionally, while the rent for shared apartments (Rs 13,000-Rs 20,000 per occupant) is often higher than PGs, students can split costs like utilities and groceries, making it affordable," says 21-year-old Samreen Alam from Kolkata, who is doing her post-graduation in Bengaluru. The average cost of living for students in Bengaluru, including rent, utilities, and food, she says, ranges between Rs 20,000 and Rs 30,000 per month."

I've witnessed a sharp and unprecedented rise in rents over a short period. The increase is making it increasingly challenging for many to find affordable housing, especially with the significant security deposits being demanded. The high cost of living is starting to impact the city's appeal for professionals and newcomers.

Saniya Sunny | SENIOR TECHNICAL WRITER, LIBRE WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES, WHITEFIELD

The influx of students and working professionals has led to a space crunch in the city's housing market. This imbalance highlights the need for real estate developers to create more accommodation.

Nikita Lengade | SOFTWARE ENGINEER WITH EY AND RESIDENT OF GURUKRUPA APARTMENTS, C V RAMAN NAGAR

I pay a monthly rent of Rs 28,000 for my 2BHK flat. That's around 33% of my monthly income. Then there's maintenance costs. The cost of living in the city has shot up.

Sumesh K S | RESIDENT, ROYAL RESIDENCY, TAVEREKERE

These kinds of arrangements are the bane of apartment complexes, with many residents objecting to so many youngsters staying together in an apartment. But for the flat owner, the total rental can be substantial. Depending on how many they pack into a flat, a 3BHK could earn them Rs 60,000-Rs 70,000 per month or more.

Staying far from hotspots

Chintan Kothari, partner in Settler Real Estate Consultants, says while there has been this big growth in demand for housing, supply

A noteworthy trend has emerged post Covid, wherein individuals - who during Covid were staying with their parents in their hometown - are opting to bring their parents to Bengaluru, rent a separate flat for them in close proximity to their own residence. This arrangement allows for a degree of independence and privacy for both parties, while still maintaining a sense of familial closeness and support.

Sonia Jimmy | DIRECTOR, SONIA'S REALTY MEDIA AND RESIDENT AT PRESTIGE JINDAL CITY

Some key areas including Sarjapur Road and Whitefield have seen rent hikes due to their proximity to IT hubs and business parks. The overall increase in property prices has also contributed to the higher rental yields. Moreover, the influx of students and young professionals seeking accommodation has created a good demand for smaller units like studios and one-bedroom units.

Viswa Prathap Desu | COO-RESIDENTIAL, BRIGADE GROUP

Living independently in a 1RK apartment at Nanjappa Circle, I find the monthly rent of Rs 8000 to be quite fair. My apartment is located just 900 metres from St Joseph's University, where I did my post graduation. Presently, I am enrolled in a BE program at Christ College, Koramangala, which is located 4.3 km from my current dwelling. Despite my efforts, I have been unsuccessful in securing an affordable place to live in Koramangala. The apartments I viewed were cramped, lacking proper ventilation, and the rents were significantly higher, ranging from Rs 10,000 to Rs 15,000. Commuting to college is a pain, as I rely on public transportation. The daily travel is time-consuming and often uncomfortable.

Christina Oommen | STUDENT, CHRIST UNIVERSITY, KORAMANGALA

of housing - particularly for middle-income renters - has just not kept pace.

The steep rentals have forced many to seek accommodation far from their workplaces. A growing number of people are therefore commuting longer distances to reach their offices. The situation not only affects their quality of life, but also contributes to the city's overall traffic woes.

Sumesh K S, a former IBM employee, found himself living 12 km from his workplace due to the exorbitant rental prices near his office. The commute, which could take anywhere

The rising demand for rental housing in Bengaluru can be attributed to increased job opportunities and work-from-office becoming the norm. In the last quarter (Q1FY25), gross leasing of office space in Bengaluru stood at 4.8 million sqft, the highest across major cities. We expect this trend to continue at similar levels.

Additionally, there is a spillover effect from industrial activities and major tie-ups announced by global manufacturing companies. The demand for rental housing in the city will remain robust, especially with more global capability centres (GCCs) setting up shop here.

Abhishek Kapoor | GROUP CEO, PURAVANKARA LIMITED

While demand has surged, the supply of rental properties, especially in prime locations near IT parks and central business districts, hasn't kept pace. This imbalance between supply and demand leads to higher rents. Rising inflation and the cost of property maintenance and taxes have also led property owners to increase rents. Shortage and poor quality of PGs have driven up demand for apartment rentals in gated communities.

Chintan Kothari | PARTNER, SETTLER REAL ESTATE CONSULTANTS

from 45 minutes to an hour depending on traffic conditions, was a daily challenge for the 44-year-old techie.

Market is stabilising

However, Saurabh Garg, co-founder and chief business officer of property discovery platform NoBroker, says new housing supply is gradually coming in, and so the city is now beginning to see a tapering off of rental increases. "The indication is that the rental market is stabilising," he says.

DEAR READER

Is it difficult to find affordable housing? What kind of problems are you facing due to high rentals? Send your feedback to timescommunity@timesofindia.com.

6 generations of gurus & shishyas



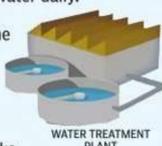
This picture, taken at a conference in IISc, Bengaluru, in July has six generations of gurus and shishyas. From right to left, we have Padma **Shri B L Deekshatulu** (91, former IISc professor who later moved to lead National Remote Sensing Centre in Hyderabad), who was the PhD advisor of **N Viswanadham** (82, former chair of computer science & automation - CSA - dept, IISc, and former chair of electrical sciences division, IISc), who was the PhD advisor of **Y Narahari** (65, former chair of CSA, IISc, and currently honorary prof at IISc), who was the PhD advisor of **N Hemachandra** (58, IIT-Bombay), who was the PhD advisor of **Vikas Vikram Singh** (associate professor, IIT-Delhi), who was the PhD advisor of **Varagapriya**, who completed her PhD in this year.

The three-day symposium was organised by the students and alumni of the Game Theory Lab (GTL) at CSA, and revolved around contemporary themes in game theory, mechanism design, and artificial intelligence. Y Narahari is the principal investigator at the lab. "The felicitation on the last day of the event was attended by 150 of my students," Narahari said.

Retrofitting to reuse waste water

South City, a 25-year-old apartment complex on Bannerghatta Road, has started utilising treated wastewater in a big way. The initiative involved connecting 1,630 apartments in 13 high-rise blocks. It is helping conserve 350 KLD (3.5 lakh litres) of fresh water daily.

An official dedication of the project, which provides treated water for flushing purposes, is scheduled to take place today (Sept 21) at the complex. Ram Prasath Manohar, chairman, BWSSB, will be the chief guest. Vikram Rai, president of Bangalore Apartments' Federation, told us that this is the first instance of a large-sized community retrofitting its piping system to reuse water on such a large scale.

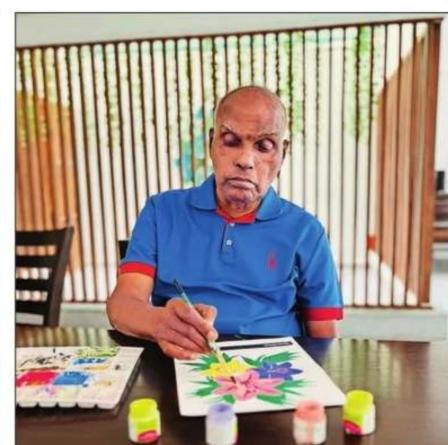


ALZHEIMER'S & ART

On the occasion of World Alzheimer's Day today (Sep 21), Bangalore International Centre (BIC) in Domlur is presenting 'Colourful Whispers', an art exhibition showcasing artworks created by those residing at the Dementia Care Centre of KITES Senior Care.



Indrani, a 54-year-old resident, has found painting to be a therapeutic activity. She experiences a profound sense of tranquillity while creating her artworks.



For **Rama**, an 84-year-old resident, discovering his passion for painting has brought immense joy. Each brushstroke he makes, he says, is a reflection of his personal journey.



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SECONDARY AGRI CAN BOOST RURAL ECONOMY; ICAR MUST FOCUS ON CONVERTING WASTE TO WEALTH, SAYS MURMU



Assam sizzles at close to 40°C in monsoon

Prabin.Kalita@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: Daytime temperatures from IMD-run automatic weather stations (AWS) in Assam recorded above 40 degrees Celsius in 17 locations across 13 districts on Friday, forcing authorities to cut down school timings as weather experts blamed the freaky weather to a haphazard monsoon.

According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), maximum temperatures have increased by 5 to 6 degrees Celsius above the normal over the last few days. This spike is primarily due to insufficient precipitation and is predicted to remain unchanged in the coming days.

In Kamrup metropolitan district, which includes Guwahati, an AWS recorded 45.9 degrees Celsius at Gauhati University and 40.7 degrees Celsius within the city. These and other AWS data were "moderated" by IMD to below 40 degrees C. The record for the highest day temperature in Guwahati since 1951 is 40.6 degree C recorded on April 24, 2014.

An IMD scientist at Guwahati Regional Meteorological Centre told TOI the data from AWS at various locations are computer-generated raw data which have to be verified by meteorologists. "AWS data may not be wrong, but verification is done using data gathered from nearby manual temperature monitors and the historical climate data of the area. After the verification, the final figures are released," he said.

The final data after verification for Guwahati's maximum temperature on Friday stood at 38 degrees C, 5.6 degrees above normal, prompting authorities to order schools in Kamrup metropolitan district to start at 7.30am and shut down by 12.30pm starting Saturday.

Similarly, the AWS recorded Dibrugarh's maximum daytime temperature 40.2 degrees C while post-verification it was corrected at 38 degrees, still 6.7 notches above normal. The highest temperature of 47.2 degrees C was recorded at the automatic weather station at the Sonitpur agriculture field monitoring unit. Later, officials moderated it to 36.7, again 4.8 degrees above normal.

With the temperature soaring, the Kamrup metro district elementary education officer that school hours are being cut down "due to ongoing heatwave in the district" and issued several guidelines for schools to follow "in order to avoid the ill-effects of heatwave."

Schools have been asked to ensure that morning assemblies are conducted inside the classrooms. Schools have also been asked to ensure students drink sufficient water and for that the school should have enough drinking water inside the school. Schools are asked to advise students not to wear waistcoats or ties. "Schools should ensure that all fans are functional, and all classrooms are properly ventilated. In case of power cuts, alternate power backups must be arranged," the order stated.

6 dead, 22 injured in Jalna truck-bus collision

Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar: Six people died and 22 others were injured when a truck trying to overtake a vehicle on the narrow Beed-Jalna road collided with a state transport bus in Ambar tehsil of Maharashtra's Jalna district Friday morning.

The driver of the Beed-bound truck — ferrying sweet lime — apparently lost control of the vehicle and crashed into the bus coming from the opposite direction, near Shahpur in Ambar's Wadigodri area around 8.30am, Jalna SP Ajay Bansal told TOI.

The deceased were identified as truck driver Shaikh Jabbar Shaikh Anwar (56), truck cleaner Satish Devidas Naik (45), both from Anjangan in Amravati district; bus conductor Bandu Tushiram Bargaje (52) from Beed, and passengers Rahibai Rangnath Kalsait (65) of Buldhana, Panchfula Bhagwan Solunke (75) of Beed and Rehmatbi Mehbub Pathan (70) of Beed, police said.

TN dairy company says it did not supply adulterated ghee to TTD

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Madurai: A R Dairy Food Pvt Ltd, a dairy company based in Tamil Nadu's Dindigul, has refuted charge that it supplied adulterated ghee to Thirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) following allegations that the ghee used to make Tirupati laddu contained animal fat. The company's officials told reporters on Friday

that the ghee supplied by them was duly tested before despatch and subsequently tested by TTD too. They have sent all test reports to TTD.

Related reports on P 14-15

ter the row erupted, said the company's quality control officials Leni and Kannan. They claimed the company supplied ghee to TTD in June and July and stopped af-

ter that. The test report on Tirupati laddu does not mention the company name anywhere, they said, adding that the ghee manufactured by them is available in markets.

Sources in the food safety department said they conducted tests in the company after complaints in July about substandard ghee. They found the products satisfied all food safety standards, the

officials said. In wake of the laddu row, national food safety officials would probe the complaint further, they said.

"The contribution of A R Dairy in the ghee supplied to TTD is merely 0.1% of ghee procured by TTD. We sent just four tankers of it. Food safety officials and AGMARK officials have also inspected our products and found no anomalies," said qua Leni.



This spike is primarily due to insufficient precipitation and is predicted to remain unchanged in the coming days, says Met dept



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Source: Bangalore Mirror March, 2024

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Condition of witnesses in Indian legal system very pathetic: SC

Directs CBI Probe Into False Case Against Witness In Katara Murder

AmitAnand.Choudhary
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Observing that the condition of witnesses, who are considered the eyes and ears of justice, was pathetic in the Indian legal system and they were subjected to harassment by high-profile accused, Supreme Court on Friday directed CBI to probe the false case registered against Ajay Katara, the star witness in Nitish Katara murder case, when it came to light that the petitioner whose name was used to file the case had nothing to do with it.

A bench of Justices Bela M Trivedi and Satish Chandra Sharma said brazen attempts were made to falsely implicate Ajay Katara by filing a false case in the name of Bhagwan Singh in Allahabad High Court and the SC on the basis of false and fabricated documents and many advocates were involved in facilitating filing of the case. It



Witnesses are the backbone in the decision-making process, SC said

said the matter assumed serious concern as advocates, who are officers of the court, were involved in the ill-motivated litigations of unscrupulous persons, and assisted them in misusing and abusing the process of law to achieve their ulterior purposes. Holding that witnesses were the backbone in the decision-making process in the adversarial system prevalent in the country, the bench said, "However, the condition of

witnesses in the Indian legal system is very pathetic. Witnesses are threatened, coerced by using force and lured by monetary considerations, at the instances of those who are in power; their henchmen and hirelings, with a view to smother and stifle truth, and to make a mockery of justice. Though the witness protection scheme has been framed by the central govt and approved by this court, there is hardly any effective imple-

mentation of the same."

In this case, petitions were filed against Katara in Allahabad HC and the SC in the name of Bhagwan Singh but Singh told the court that he had not filed any petition. The appeal in SC was filed in Singh's name challenging the HC order to quash proceedings against Katara. Thereafter, the court tracked the lawyers who were involved in filing the petitions. It said no court could allow itself to be used as an instrument of fraud and no court could allow its eyes to be closed to the fact that it was being used as an instrument of fraud.

Ajay Katara was the star witness in the Nitish Katara murder case and on the basis of his testimony, along with other evidence, the accused in the case Vikas Yadav and Vishal Yadav, the son and nephew of ex-MP D P Yadav, were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for life by a trial court.

SC: PM or Prez can do little when private job terminated

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday refused to entertain a Kashmiri Muslim's petition questioning the inaction of prime minister's office in remedying his termination of service with a Google vendor in 2015 after he was subjected to racial and religious discrimination that started with 'Hindustan Zindabad' slogan pasted on his desk telephone.

Zahid Showkat told a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra that he was also allegedly threatened that if "you don't say Hindustan Zindabad, your sale would not be updated". Though he had complained against his termination to a Gurugram labour court, he alleged that his represen-

tation against racial discrimination and termination to PMO has been collusively disposed of without any hearing. CJI Chandrachud said, "You are filing a writ petition under Article 32 against PMO. Your complaint that your services were terminated after harassment at the workplace. You complained to the labour court. You pursue remedies in accordance with law. You can't seek disclosure of the proceedings in PMO." "Once the matter is before the labour court, the PMO would not interfere. You must challenge the labour court's order if you think a wrong order is passed. Any Executive functionary, even PMO, will not be able to do anything as it is a labour dispute with your employer," the CJI said. "You can challenge your

termination on grounds of discrimination, whether religion or region. Writing a complaint to an Executive functionary will not give you relief. They have no power to direct the Google vendor to reinstate you," the SC said.

When he said his complaint was wrongfully closed by the labour court, the SC told him that he can challenge the same in a court of law. "Writing a letter to the PM or the President would not give you relief as the dispute arises from a private contract for employment.

The SC cannot also issue a direction to a private company to employ you. We have rule of law and you have remedy for wrongful termination of your employment," the court said while dismissing the petition terming it "misconceived".

SC: Let Maha roads be free of potholes

New Delhi: Supreme Court Friday dismissed a petition by an association against Maharashtra chief minister alleging that the policy for award of road construction contracts has been tweaked by the state govt to completely shut out small contractors from filing bids for such projects.

Appearing for Maharashtra State Contractor's Association, senior advocate K Parameshwar told the bench that the state's Aug 2017 policy revised the rules for award of contracts worth Rs 1.5 crore. Another circular was issued clarifying that road construction work contracts shall be clubbed only if projects are on contiguous length of road and that distinctly separate projects on non-contiguous roads would be awarded separately. However, the state clubbed all road project works together, counsel argued. THE

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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

Karnataka State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board

Kalyana Suraksha Bhavana, ITI Compound, Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru-560 029.
Tel Nos :080-29753354, 29653354 & 29543646 Website: <https://karbwwb.karnataka.gov.in>

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Central Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 and Rules, 1998 with a view to collect 1% Cess on the cost of Construction from the Employers or Contractors in order to augment the resources of the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board constituted under the Building and other construction Workers (Regulation of employment & conditions of service) Act, 1996. Accordingly, the Central Government has issued a Notification for levying 1% Cess on the total cost of the Building or other construction works which excludes the cost of land and compensation paid to workers or their dependants under the Employees Compensation Act, 1923.

Applicability

The Act applies to every establishment, which employs or had employed on any day of the preceding 12 months, 10 or more workers in any building or other construction work.

And

All Government Departments, Public sector undertakings and other governmental agencies/bodies carrying out any building or other construction works which are covered under section 2(d) of the main Act shall, in case the work is carried out through a Contractor deduct 1% of the amount of the cost approved as per the tender notification from the bill at the time of making payment to the contractors.

Building and Other Construction Work Means

Construction, alteration, repairs, maintenance or demolition of or in relation to, building, streets, roads, irrigation, drainage, generation of power, dams, canals reservoirs or other construction works.

Levy of Cess

Cess is levied under Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act 1996 read with The Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Rules, 1998 at one per cent on the cost of construction including all expenditure incurred by the employer in connection with the building or other construction excluding land cost and compensation payable under Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. Every Employer under sub rule (1) of Rule 6, shall within thirty days of commencement of his work or payment of Cess, as the case may be, furnish to the Assessing Officer, information in Form I.

Account details of the Board to which the Cess has to be paid

- Name of the Account Holder : Karnataka Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
- Bank Name : Canara Bank, Workers Welfare Board Branch, Kalyana Suraksha Bhavana, Bannerghatta Road, ITI Compound, Dairy Circle, Bengaluru-560029.
- Account Number : 1371101079786
- Bank IFSC Code : CNRB0007295

For Khajane-2 Transaction Amount has to be remitted to Deposit Account Number 26572E181

PENALTIES:

- 1) Interest payable on delay of Cess: 2% per month on the amount to be paid.
- 2) Penalty for nonpayment of Cess: The authority can impose an amount of penalty not exceeding the Cess amount payable.
- 3) If any Employer/Contractor furnishes any false return: punishable with imprisonment which may extend to Six months or fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both.
- 4) Willful/Intentional evasion of Cess: Punishable with imprisonment which may extend to six months or fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both.
- 5) Any amount due under this Act (Including any Interest or penalty from an employer) may recovered in the same manner as an arrear of land revenue.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer and Secretary

DIPR/CP/2080/Zen/2024-25

For more information contact: Labour Helpline 155214, Labour Officers or Senior Labour Inspectors/Labour Inspectors, Department of Labour. Website: <https://karbwwb.karnataka.gov.in>

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आयुक्त अफिस राजी

U.P. STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Mahatma Gandhi Marg, Tehri Kothi, Lucknow-226 001
PBX : 2622363, 2628461, 225439, 2611107
e-mail : gml2@upsrtc.com/cgmlt@upsrtc.com

E-Tender Notice

U.P.S.R.T.C. is inviting e-tenders from only eligible sources for purchase of 3,108 Buses, 42 Trucks (Eligibility for participating in tender is given in the tender documents) for following item :-

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1	High End luxury 12-M Nos. 100	2422MT/2024-49MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	03.10.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
2	AC Sleeper 12-M Nos. 39	2423MT/2024-50MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	01.10.2024 At 15:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 Hrs.
3	Non AC Sleeper 12-M Nos. 51	2424MT/2024-51MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	01.10.2024 At 15:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
4	AC Mid Segment 2x2 12M Nos. 197	2425MT/2024-52MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	01.10.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
5	AC Mid Segment 2x3 Nos. 72 10M	2426MT/2024-53MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	01.10.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
6	Ord. 11 Meter 6 Cylinders-Nos. 1297 Bus Body	2427MT/2024-55MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	30.09.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
7	Ordinary 10 Meter 4 Cylinders 2x3-50 Seater-445	2428MT/2024-56MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	30.09.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
8	Ord. 9 Meter-827	2429MT/2024-57MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	30.09.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
9	80 Nos., CNG-2x3 -11M Bus Body	2430MT/2024-59MT/2024 DT. 20.09.2024	21.09.2024 to 14.10.2024 At 15:00 PM	30.09.2024 At 12:00 Hrs.	14.10.2024 At 16:00 PM
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tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE Public are hereby notified that our Client intends to purchase the agricultural land details of which are given in the schedule below and referred to as the Schedule Property from the present owners (1) Sri Siddagangappa s/o Munishamappa (2) Smt Ganrajamma w/o Siddagangappa (3) Ms Mala d/o of Siddagangappa, (4) Ms Shilpa d/o Siddagangappa, (5) Sri Mohan s/o Siddagangappa and (6) Sri Chetan s/o Siddagangappa who have represented that they are the only true owners in peaceful possession of their such within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which our Client shall presume and deem that the aforesaid owners have clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and none else has any right, title, interest or claim over the Schedule Property. Our Client shall be at liberty to proceed with the intended transaction. Claims and objections received after 15 days shall not be entertained or binding on our Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of agricultural land measuring 15% Guntas in Survey No. 13 (now Survey No. 13/2) of Bychapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District bounded on the East by: Land bearing Survey No.15 West by: Land belonging to Manjula Reddy, North by: Land Belonging to Manjula Reddy, South by: Land belonging to Narayanamma Mr. Balasubramanya Partner Fox Mandal Unit No. 105 Prestige Centre Point Cunningham Road, Bangalore - 560 052 Mob No. 9731532229

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sandhya Ganesh, W/o Sri Ganesh I Dovidappa, R/o No #31, 4th C Main, 3rd G Cross, Judges Colony, 2nd Block, 3rd Stage, Bangalore North, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore -560079 I Have changed my name from Sandhya Ganesh to Sandhya Ganesh Devadiga vide Affidavit Number IN- KA6111270235001W dated 16.07.2024 for all the purpose

I, Lakshmi Rajagopal, W/o

Late C N Rajagopal, residing at C-302, Brigade Regency, No.75,8th Main,19th Cross, Malleshwaram West, Bangalore 560055, am also known as Lakshmi Rajagopalan in SKF India Ltd. Both names refer to the same person. My name is Lakshmi Rajagopal in PAN and Aadhaar. Affidavit dated 05/08/2024

I M R Shazama, R/o No.123,

Comfort Manor, 3rd Floor, 3rd Cross, Blooming Flowers School, Patel Munayappa Layout, RT Nagar, Bangalore-32 have changed my name to Shazama Begum vide affidavit dtd.14th Sep 2024 sworn before notary Fahim Unnisa

I, SMARANIKA TRIPATHY,

D/O Saroj Kumar Tripathy, R/O Flat-501, 670, 20th cross, KPCL Layout, Kasavanahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka, India-560035 have changed my name to SUSHRI SMARANIKA TRIPATHY.

I, Bhuvana mother of Barath

S Jawad, have changed his name Barath Jawad S Vide affidavit date 20-09-2024 before notary Mohammed Hussain.K Bangalore-60

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personal

No tight timelines for Gaganyaan, don't want Boeing-like situation: Somanath

Chethan.Kumar@timesgroup.com



S Somanath

Bengaluru: While saying that a final decision on when the first crewed mission under Gaganyaan would happen, depending on how the three uncrewed missions and other tests go, ISRO chairman S Somanath Friday said they wouldn't want a Boeing-like situation—inferring to astronauts Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore being stuck at the International Space Station. Answering a specific question on Gaganyaan timelines, he said: "If everything goes well, if all three [uncrewed] missions go well, then we will have the manned mission. So we're not putting a very tight timeline... I don't want to end up like what happened with Boeing."

The space agency has already been taking a cautious approach in the implementation of Gaganyaan with emphasis on thorough testing and preparation. "We should be very pessimistic. We should be working in such a manner that [we assume] it can go wrong. That type of approach is very important for us to make sure that mission finally becomes successful," Somanath said.

He revealed that the first of the three uncrewed missions could happen either later this year or early next year. ISRO is also planning the second test vehicle mission and other abort missions as part of preparations for Gaganyaan.

Speaking about the four big projects cleared by the Union cabinet Wednesday, Somanath said: "These plans align with PM Modi's long-term space vision for India leading up to 2047. These initiatives are part of a larger goal to land an Indian astronaut on the Moon by 2040 and represent the first phase of a 6-8 year plan to develop necessary technologies and capabilities."

The four key projects include Chandrayaan-4, a Venus Orbiter Mission, a Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV) designed to boost payload capacity and reduce launch costs and plans for an Indian space station to be operational by 2035.

While the initial design of

Chandrayaan-4 has been completed, he said it would take two more years for the final design. This lunar mission aims to bring back samples from the Moon. Work on critical technologies, including docking and robotic sample retrieving arms are ongoing.

The NGLV aims to increase payload capacity from the current 10 tonne to approximately 30 tonne for low Earth orbit missions, incorporating reusability and modularity to substantially reduce space access costs. The Indian Space Station project will provide a permanent habitat for astronauts, enabling continuous space research in areas such as microgravity, biology, drug discovery, and materials science, with ISRO, as per Somanath, "exploring international collaborations" for these ambitious undertakings.

Stressing on the importance of the Venus mission, Somanath said the "future generation wouldn't pardon us if we don't study it" and that there was scientific interest in these missions. He pointed out that nations like Russia, China and are also sending missions to Venus by 2028, the same time frame India is planning its mission.

"...Venus is our nearest planet, though we went to Mars a little far away earlier. Venus is more challenging because its atmosphere has a hundred times more pressure than that of Earth. Mars, Venus and Earth are all sister planets. They're alike in terms of size, geometry, mass, gravity, speed, etc. But Earth is habitable. Why are Mars or Venus not habitable? We don't know. Tomorrow Earth may become uninhabitable due to some reasons. So if you don't study what is happening in Mars and Venus, possibly, our future generation will not pardon," Somanath said.

Isro, IN-SPACE working with states planning own space policy: Somanath

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: With several Indian states, including Karnataka, showing initiative to have special space policies, ISRO chairman S Somanath on Friday said that the space agency and Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) are actively working with the states to develop their space ecosystems.

"Space policy initiatives are being taken not only by Karnataka but also by other states like Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. They are all primarily looking at creating an industrial ecosystem in the state to support space activity in terms of new companies starting there, how to incentivise their activity, etcetera," he said at the Bengaluru Space Expo (BSX). He added that IN-SPACE is working with the states on how they can help them to create a space ecosystem. "IN-SPACE, with the help of ISRO, will look at how these space clusters are created. You know, there are many issues like the capital-intensive facilities like testing, etcetera, which many companies will not be in a position to create. So how we can help by creating such an eco-

system through funding support," Somanath said. The options being discussed include how to enable industries coming up in industrial clusters of such states to use nearby ISRO facilities. IN-SPACE is going to do all of that specifically for private company engagement strategy.

BSX 2024 Ends
Apparao Mallavarapu, chairman of the CII national committee on space, said that with more than 160 exhibitors and more than 10,000 visitors, including delegates, the latest edition of BSX had given the industry a good platform. Stating that BSX has grown both in size and impact, he said there's been an impressive transition from importing technology to developing it domestically. "People (companies) are trying to develop complex systems on their own," he said, highlighting the surge in private startup companies building their own satellites — a marked change from just five years ago.

He acknowledged the challenges in transforming technology into viable business opportunities, emphasising the need to carefully address the economic aspects of space activities.

Isro, IN-SPACE & NSIL complete 75 tech transfer milestone

Bengaluru: ISRO, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE), and space PSU NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) have achieved a milestone by signing 75 Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements with Non-Governmental Entities (NGEs) since the implementation of space reforms. The Centre announced the space reforms in mid-2020.

The latest batch of five ToTs was signed on Friday, pushing the total count to 75. The agreements were inked with private companies including Anabond, Salvo Industries, Micropack, and Astra Microwave Products. These agreements are part of a broader initiative to grant private players access to ISRO's advanced technologies, foster-

ring innovation and commercial applications across various sectors, IN-SPACE said.

The technology transfer programme extends beyond space-related applications to areas such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure, defence, telecommunications, and cybersecurity.

Pawan Goenka, chairman, IN-SPACE, highlighted the significance of this achievement and said: "The milestone of 75 ToTs marks a significant step forward in empowering India's space private sector. This reflects our effort at IN-SPACE in facilitating successful collaborations between ISRO, NSIL and non-governmental entities, supporting them in driving innovation and contributing to the growth of a thriving space economy in India," he said.

Stranded in Lebanon for 23 yrs due to lost passport, man returns home

IP.Singh@timesofindia.com

Jalandhar: A man from Punjab returned from Lebanon after being stranded there for 23 years because he had lost his passport there in 2006 and all subsequent attempts to return home failed. By the time he got home, one of the two little sons he had left behind had a son of his own.

Gurtej Singh, of Mattewara village in Ludhiana dis-

trict, managed to return to India and was reunited with his family after Rajya Sabha member Baba Balbir Singh Seechewal took up his case with the ministry of external affairs, which then facilitated his return. Other men from his and neighbouring villages, who had gone with him to Lebanon in 2001, returned in 2006, but he could not.

Gurtej, who belongs to the Mazhabi Sikh community, returned to his village on

Sept 6 after having left in 2001. The entire village celebrated his return.

Gurtej's elder son, Munish, was a little boy when his father left home. Today he, too, has a young son. In the 23 years that he was away, Gurtej lost his father and brother. His younger son, Devinder Singh, now in his mid-twenties, is yet to get married. He insisted he would wed only on his father's return.

"I was working in a factory

making coats and sweaters in Ludhiana but was finding it very difficult to sustain the family. I thought of moving abroad and somehow arranged Rs 1 lakh, demanded by a travel agent. I wanted to give a better future to my two sons. Initially I was flown to Jordan, from where I was sneaked into Syria, and then to Lebanon. In 2006, I lost my passport and then all my attempts to return failed. I was working there in the fields,

and it was frightening due to the long conflict in the region," Gurtej recalled as he met Baba Seechewal along with his family at Sultanpur Lodhi on Friday.

Baba Seechewal told TOI that Gurtej had been making rounds of the Indian embassy in Lebanon, but every time embassy officials would ask him to get some proof. "Back home his family sought help from the Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh, but failed

to get a copy of the record of his lost passport from there. This continued for years."

The Rajya Sabha MP said the Chandigarh passport office was slow to react after his team contacted them. "They picked up pace only after CBI, in February, arrested the Jalandhar regional passport officer, against whom I had written to the external affairs minister, in a corruption case, said Baba Seechewal.



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3 organs of state must have mutual respect & not transgress their limits: SC

Telangana CM Apologises For His Remark On Kavitha's Bail

AmitAnand.Choudhary @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Underscoring that the three organs of governance — executive, legislature and judiciary — must respect each other and not transgress their limits while

criticising, Supreme Court on Friday dropped proceedings against Telangana CM Revanth Reddy for his contemptuous remark against its order granting bail to BRS leader K Kavitha in the Delhi excise scam case and let him off after he tendered an apology. A bench of Justices B R Gavi and K V Viswanathan cautioned all constitutional functionaries to be alert and responsible while passing comments on court proceedings but at the same time made it clear that any fair cri-

ticism was welcome. It had taken strong exception to Reddy's statement that "there is also talk that Kavitha got bail because of the deal between BRS and BJP" and had sought explanation from him for casting aspersions on court proceedings. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for the CM, told the bench that Reddy had apologised twice and the proceedings should be dropped. "Noting the apology, we close the matter and do not wish to proceed further. We

put in a word of caution that all constitutional functionaries, be it the executive, the legislature or the judiciary, should perform their constitutional duties within their respective wings. Such unwarranted comments unnecessarily bring about friction. We only advise that one should be careful enough while making comments about orders of this court, even as fair criticism is welcome," the bench said. The matter came up when the court was hearing a plea

seeking transfer of trial against Reddy in a 2015 cash-for-vote case out of the state as being chief minister, his trial may not be free and fair in Telangana. Disposing of the transfer petition, the bench directed the anti-corruption bureau of the state, which is the prosecuting agency in the 2015 case, not to take instructions or report to the CM pertaining to the case. The petition was filed by four members of the Telangana legislative council/assembly, seeking transfer of trial to Bhopal.

Can't bring politicians under anti-defection law: SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday said it cannot issue a direction to bring unelected politicians or individuals under the ambit of anti-defection law to bar them from changing loyalty from one party to the other. Refusing to entertain a PIL challenging the validity of Tenth Schedule, which in the alternative argued for extension of anti-defection law to one and all, a bench headed by CJI D Y Chandrachud

said a constitution bench of the SC had upheld the validity of Tenth Schedule in Kihoto Holohan in 1992. The Tenth Schedule, or the anti-defection law, was enacted through 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1985 providing for disqualification of a member of either House of Parliament of a state legislature if he/she defected to a party other than the one on whose ticket he/she had got elected to the

concerned House. Pune-based petitioner, Ajit V Ranade, argued that when the Constitution was applicable to all citizens, why should the Tenth Schedule be confined in its application only to elected representatives. The CJI said the Constitution guaranteed freedom of choice and expression to every citizen and the SC cannot impose a ban on private individuals from changing their loyalties from one party to the other. **TNN**

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No. PSO(C)/e-auction/1/2024-25 **E-AUCTION OF** Dt. 19.09.2024
SCRAP VEHICLES/BUS BODIES/MATERIALS/TYRES/TYRE MATERIAL etc. available at Karimnagar and HZ/Uppal on AS IS WHERE IS BASIS will be conducted on following dates:
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For details please visit above website and TGSRTC website <https://tgsrtc.telangana.gov.in> (Tenders). Sd/-
DIPR R.O. No.: 418-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25 **CHIEF CONTROLLER OF STORES**

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Suratgarh Super Thermal Power Station, Suratgarh-335905
Online Tender Notice - 3060 (RVU2425WLOB01110)
E-tenders are invited for work Annual Rate Contract for transportation of pond/mound ash from Ash Dyke of STPS, RVUN, STPS to various locations of user agency(s), within 300 Kms. Tender details are available on websites <http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in> (for e-tender), www.energy.rajjasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in.
Raj.Samwad/C/24/5450 RVUN/PR-4057 Addl. Chief Engineer (O&M)

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Ltd.
Gandhi Block, Smastiyahimn, Tikli Marg, Jaipur - 302005
Phone No: 0141-2229887, 2229065, Website: www.rmhc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in
CIN:U24232RJ201196C03067, E-mail: ed@rmhc-jrc@nic.in
No.: F-8 (J)RMSC/EP/M/1/2024-25/NIB-849/712 Dated: 20/09/2024
NOTICE INVITING BID
Bids for Item Transcutaneous Bilirubinometer, are invited from interested bidders up to 17.10.2024: 06:00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the state, and <http://rmhc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in> UBN No.: MSC2425GLRC00034
Raj.Samwad/C/24/5429 Executive Director (EPM)

UTI Infrastructure Technology And Services Limited
(A Government of India Company)
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For details and bidding through GeM portal, please log on to: <https://gem.gov.in>.
Bid for Supply of Manpower for Providing Housekeeping Services at Corporate Office Belapur Navi Mumbai (GeM Bid Number : GEM/2024/B/5417872).
All in general are requested to visit website <https://www.utiitsl.com> and <https://www.gem.gov.in> regularly for details and free download of all the tender documents / RFP with terms and conditions.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact Number 96461 47777)
TENDER ENQUIRY No TSQ-1157/TD-I
Dy. CE/TL (Design), PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for the procurement of ACSR Panther for the 66KV works to be carried out under RDSS in departmental mode, as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1157/TD-I. For detailed NIT and Bidding Document, please refer to <https://gem.gov.in> (GeM Portal) from 18.09.2024 (11:00 AM onwards).
Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://gem.gov.in> (GeM Portal).
C-72/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3478/2023/37910

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact Number 96461 47777)
TENDER ENQUIRY No TSQ-1158/TD-I
Dy. CE/TL (Design), PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for the procurement of ACSR Zebra for the 66KV works to be carried out under RDSS in departmental mode, as per PSPCL Specification No. TSQ-1158/TD-I. For detailed NIT and Bidding Document, please refer to <https://gem.gov.in> (GeM Portal) from 18.09.2024 (11:00 AM onwards).
Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://gem.gov.in> (GeM Portal).
C-72/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3479/2023/37911

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation Ltd.
Gandhi Block, Smastiyahimn, Tikli Marg, Jaipur - 302005
Phone No: 0141-2229887, 2229065, Website: www.rmhc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in
CIN:U24232RJ201196C03067, Website: <http://www.rmhc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in>
No. F02(178)RMSC/Proc./565 (MD)/NIB-14/2024/3916 Dated: 20.09.2024
Corrigendum - III in NIB-14/2024
In Reference to NIB No. 14/2024 Dated - 25.07.2024 UBN No. MSC2425GLOB00024 Corrigendum-III is issued for inclusion in the bid document. All details may be seen on www.eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajjasthan.gov.in & www.rmhc.health.rajjasthan.gov.in.
Raj.Samwad/C/24/5457 Executive Director (Proc.)

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF, ENGINEER PWD ZON E KOTA
No. 1347 NIT No. 07/2024-25 Date 16.9.2024
Notice Inviting Bid
NIB No. PWD2425A1619
Bids for works District Jhalawar Kolana Airport in Aprone Taxiway & Drainage year 2024-25 in PWD Zone Kota (2 Nos works) are invited from interested bidders upto 6.00 pm, 16.10.2024 Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppp.raj.nic.in>) of the Rajasthan and <http://www.pwd.rajjasthan.gov.in> website. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2147.00 lacs.
UBN No. 1. PWD2425WLOB05834 Sd/- (A.K. Sahu)
2. PWD2425WLOB05835 Addl. Chief Engineer
DIPRC/8828/2024 PWD Zone Kota

KRIBHCO Green Energy Pvt. Ltd. (KGEPL)
Corporate Office, Noida, Uttar Pradesh
(100% owned subsidiary of KRIBHCO)
Tel: 0120-2543762
REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ)
KGEPL invites bids from experienced bidders for construction of Plant Shed, Pipe rack, Plant internal Structural Work and Pipelines including supply of required materials as per the approved design for CO2(Carbon Dioxide) Plant and auxiliaries for M/s. Krishco Green Energy Pvt. Ltd. at Nellore, Andhra Pradesh and Hazira, Scope of work covers Plant Shed, Pipe rack, Plant internal Structural Work and Pipelines including supply of required materials etc. as per process requirements of Bio Ethanol Project located at KGEPL-Sarvepalli Bit-II (Village), Venkatchalam Mandal, Industrial Area Sarvepalli,SPSR Nellore, Andhra Pradesh-524321 and KGEPL-Hazira Road, KRIBHCO Nagar, Limla, Surat-Gujrat-394515
Interested bidders can download RFQ from web site <https://www.krhibco.net/1it> - 27th Sep-2024 at 16.30 Hrs.
Last date of submission of the Bid: 17.00 Hrs on-27th Sep-2024
RFQ No: KGEPL/P/004 Chief Financial Officer, rvenkat@krhibco.net

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB H.O. Building, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in Contact No. 96461-18773
TENDER ENQUIRY No. QO-2354/PO-P
Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 80,200 Nos. 9 Mtr. Long PCC Poles as per PSPCL specification no. QO-2354/PSPCL/PO-P. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 22.09.2024 onwards.
NOTE : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
C-72/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3477/2023/37907

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact Number 96461 47777)
TENDER ENQUIRY No TSQ-1159/TD-I
Dy. CE/TL (Design), B-1 Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for carrying out survey, design, fabrication, testing, supply, laying of foundation, erection of 66 KV monopole structures along with cross arms on Turnkey basis. Stringing and sagging of conductor and Earthwire (Porcelain insulators, Conductor and Earthwire along with all accessories for conductor and Earthwire will be supplied by PSPCL at its own cost) and commissioning of 66 KV monopole line as per detailed scope mentioned in Part-6 of tender specification no. TSQ-1159. For detailed NIT and Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 23.09.2024 from 11.00 AM onwards.
Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.
C-72/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3480/2023/37913

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise) Corporate ID U40101UR2004SGC028675
"Viduyt Bhawan" Near ISBT, Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002 Tel. No. 0135-2642711
E-TENDER NOTICE
Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Limited invites E-Tender for "Construction of 220/33 kV GIS Substation, Banbasa, Tanakpur" against tender specification no. PICUL/E-Tender/C&P-I/SS-10/2024-25. The last date submission of e-bid is upto 24.10.2024 15:30 Hrs. For more details please visit e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2024_PTCU1_75027_1) and for e-tender notice our website www.ptcul.org.
For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8899899000. Letter No. 1691/HOPU/PTCUL Dated: 19.09.2024 Superintending Engineer (C&P-I)
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone),
9th Cross, 9th Main, Jayanagara, 2nd Block, Bengaluru -11
No: SADH(S)TENDER/14/2024-25 Dated: 20.09.2024
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System) (STD KW-4)
(Through GOK KPP Portal <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> only)
The Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South), (Referred to as Employer in these documents) invites Tenders to implement in accordance with KPPP rules 2000, from eligible and experienced Person/Agencies/Firms (Referred to as Tenderers in these documents) registered in Labour Department for Maintenance of Parks.

KARNATAKA SKILL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
(Govt. of Karnataka undertaking)
"Kaushalya Bhavan" 3rd Floor, Near Dairy Circle, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru 560029,
Phone: 080-29522222
E-mail: eoi_rfp@kaushalkar.com
No: KSDC/ADM/MANPOWER, CALL-2/CR-08/2024-25 Dated: 20.09.2024
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation has invited the "Procurement of Manpower Services in Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation (KSDC)" Tender (Two cover bid system as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act-2000 through e-procurement portal. Bids are invited from the eligible bidders for
"Procurement of Manpower Services of Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation (KSDC)" Tender Document Number: KSDC/ADM/MANPOWER CALL-2/CR-08/2024-25. Tender Document is Available for download from: 21/09/2024 Last date for Proposal Submission: 05/10/2024. The e-tender notification documents & tender processing fees. EMD details are available in e-procurement web portal: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> Helpdesk- Phone No +91-8046010000 / +91-8068948777 or you may also contact the office during working hours.
Sd/-
Tender Inviting Authority and Executive Director KSDC, Bengaluru.
DIPR/DDU/2096/AKAR/2024-25

UTTARAKHAND CIVIL AVIATION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Doon Helidrome, Sahasrdrhara Road, P.O. Kulan, Dehradun Pincode 249013 Email: ucadadon@gmail.com
No. 2159/UCADA/2024 Date: 20/09/2024
ADVERTISEMENT
Applications are invited from Indian nationals with full particulars for the following Post on Contract Basis in the Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) Government of Uttarakhand:-
S.No. Post Name Vacancy Remarks
1. SKAB-200 Aircraft Sr. AME (Cat-B1) 01 On Contract Basis
2. Quality Inspector 01 On Contract Basis
3. Foreman 01 On Contract Basis
4. Procurement Expert 01 On Contract Basis
Application should reach UCADA, through E-mail ucadadon@gmail.com till 5:00 P.M of 28.09.2024.
The relevant details are available on our website www.ucada.in
CEO, UCADA

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813; website : www.pspcl.in; Contact No. : 96461-19383, 96461-11036
e-tendering portal : <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
Tender Enquiry No. QO-253/PO-C Date: 20.09.2024
Chief Purchase Officer/MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd Floor Multistory Building, The Mall Road, Patiala, invites E-tender for procurement of 20 MT ISI Marked Polypropylene yellow coloured rope, 3 strand, Hawser Laid, conforming to IS:5175-1992 (with latest amendments) and PSPCL Specification QO-253 for 10mm, 16mm & 20mm sizes.
For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 24.09.2024 from 12:30 PM onwards.
Note : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
C-71/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3476/2023/37890

Sl No.	Name of the works
1.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in BTM Layout Assembly Constituency Parks Amount put to tender (excluding GST): ₹ 1,29,87,523/- EMD: ₹ 2,00,000/-
2.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Padmanabhanagara Assembly Constituency Parks Amount put to tender (excluding GST): ₹ 1,16,41,514/- EMD: ₹ 2,00,000/-
3.	Beautification, Landscape Development, Water Facility and other Civil Works in Jayanagara Assembly Constituency Parks Amount put to tender (excluding GST): ₹ 1,09,65,812/- EMD: ₹ 2,00,000/-

Calendar of Events: (1) Date of Notification is 20.09.2024. (2) Tender can be downloaded from 24.09.2024. (3) Pre bid meeting on 27.09.2024 at 4:00 pm. (4) Tender Closing date 03.10.2024 at 4:00 pm. (5) Technical bid opening date is 04.10.2024 at 4:30 pm. (6) Financially Bid Opening Date After approval of Technical bid.
Sd/- Senior Assistant Director of Horticulture (South Zone)

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
CORRIGENDUM
No. PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/CORRIGENDUM/24/22 Dated: 16.09.2024. The following Corrigendum of E-Tender/s is for supply of materials for manufacture of Electric Locomotive. The Prospective/likely suppliers are requested to look up the website www.ireps.gov.in. These are E-Tenders; manual offers bid for these tenders will not be accepted under any circumstances, only electronic offer bids shall be accepted. For detailed instructions please refer to website. Sl. No.: [01], Tender Notice no.: SI No. 262 of PCMM/CLW/HWH/E-Procurement/24/49 Dated: 05/08/24. Tender No.: 14242951A. Tender Opening Date: Tender Opening Date is to be read as "27/09/24" instead of existing entry.
PR6/638 PCMM/CLW/HOWRAH
Like us on : www.facebook.com/clwraha

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office : PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number : U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website : www.pspcl.in (Contact No. : 96461-18774)
Tender Enquiry No. MQP-241/2024-25/PO(M) Dated: 19.09.2024
CE/Metering, PSPCL, C-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Reading, Analysis, Integration with billing system and 1 year O&M of 1000 No. Power Quality Meters complying to IEC 61000-4-30 class A. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 19.09.2024 (12:00 PM onwards).
Note: Corrigendum and amendments, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
C-718/24, DPR/Pb. 76155/12/3475/2023/37887

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Viduyt Bhawan" Near ISBT, Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002
Corporate ID U40101UR2004SGC028675, Tel. Fax no. 0135-2642711
E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-I
The pre-bid clarifications and Annexure-A of TOR of the E-Tender for "Construction of 400 KV GIS Switching Substation Pipalkoti" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-II/SS-08/2024-25 has been uploaded on e-tender website. For more details please visit the e-tender website www.uktenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2024_PTCU4_74828_1) and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.
For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8899899000
Ro No. 1698/HOPU/PTCUL DATED 20.09.2024 Superintending Engineer (C&P-II)
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ
ಪ್ರಾಚೀನೇಶ್ವರ ಇಲಾಖೆ
ದೊಡ್ಡಕೆರೆ ಮೈದಾನ, ಇಂದಿರಾನಗರ, ಮೈಸೂರು-570010. ದೂರವಾರ್ತೆ: 0821-2523626, ಇಮೇಲ್: evibill@authority@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 03/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.09.2024
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಐಟಿಎಂಎಲ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಭಿವಿಧಾನ
ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಇವರಿಂದ ಒಟ್ಟು 05 ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ KW-1 ರ ನಿರೂಪನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆಯ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ರಮಣದ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕದೊಳಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಗೆ ಇಟ್ಟ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 7852200.00 ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ 157044.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.2246940.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 56174.00 ಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳು ವೇಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಪದವನ್ನು ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಕೆಲಸದ ವೇಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಹೆಸರು	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ
1	KEA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT47	Providing, Fixing, Erecting Floor Mounted BILEVEL Drinking water fountain with Bottle Filler With Water Purifier System in KEA CAMPUS.	720000.00	18000.00	26-09-2024 16:00:00
2	KEA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT46	Providing, Fixing, Erecting KINNARA DASARA (INTER ACTIVE PARK) IN Karnataka Exhibition Authority (KEA OLD OFFICE)	7852200.00	157044.00	26-09-2024 16:00:00
3	KEA/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT45	Providing, Fixing, erecting and Maintenance of Fountain, Nozzles, Motor rewinding, GI Pipes, MS Panel Boards, ug cables and high mast lights in KEA Premises.	6735391.02	134708.00	25-09-2024 15:00:00
4	KEA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT44	Providing, Fixing, Erecting Design LED PIXEL 3D LIGHTING MODEL IN A BLOCK Colour lighting in Karnataka Exhibition Authority in Rent Basis	2246940.00	56174.00	26-09-2024 16:00:00
5	KEA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT43	Providing, Fixing, Erecting Design High Quality of high bouquet SELFIE POINT in Karnataka Exhibition Authority.	3060000.00	76500.00	21-09-2024 16:00:00

ಸಹಿ/- ಸಹಾಯಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಸಿವಿಲ್).
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಮೈಸೂರು.
DIPR/MYSKAVITA/590/2024-25

Centre for Development of Advanced Computing
Expression of Interest (Eoi)
C-DAC invites Expression of Interest (Eoi) from Indian companies for Selection of Industry Partner for Implementation, Training, Fleet Management and Maintenance of the C-DAC ERSS solution
For details visit www.cdac.in

HUBBALLI DHARWAD SMART CITY LIMITED
CSS No. 122/124, HDMC, Samskritika Bhavan, 1st Floor, New Cotton Market Road, Hubballi, Phone : 0836 - 2355322.
E-mail : smartcityhubballidharwad@gmail.com, Website : www.hubballidharwadsmartcity.com
No. : H.D.S.C.L./PMC Tender/M.D./2024-25/384 Date : 20-09-2024

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION (Short Term)
Adv. No.03/2024-25 Date : 20-09-2024
1) The Managing Director, Hubballi-Dharwad Smart City Ltd (HDSSL) invites the bid from eligible bidders through E-Procurement under Karnataka public procurement & Transparency Act 1999-2000. The website for online bidding is <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> 3) All the bid documents can be seen and obtained from Website <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> 4) Tender documents will be available for bidding on above Website. 5) Other documents can be seen in the bid documents, 6) Any information on Addendum / Corrigendum / Cancellation of Tender can be seen in the said website, 7) For further details please contact General Manager (Tech), Hubballi-Dharwad Smart City Limited, Hubballi during the Office hours on Telephone No: 0836-2355331 and 2355322, information can also be obtained from Website <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>

1) Indent No : HDSSL/2024-25/SE0002, Name of Work : Appointment of Project Management Consultants for implementation of Smart City Mission project in Hubballi - Dharwad City, EMD Amount (Rs.) : 1,21,000/-, Tender Documents Available From : 23-09-2024, Pre-Bid Meeting held on : 27-09-2024 at 11.00 hrs at Office of HDSSL, New Cotton Market Road, Hubballi, Last Date for Submission of Tender Documents : 30-09-2024 at 16.30 hrs, Technical Proposal will be Opened on : 02-10-2024 at 16.30 hrs, Project Duration : 06 Months.
Sd/- General Manager (Tech.) Hubballi - Dharwad Smart City Limited, Hubballi.
Sd/- Managing Director, Hubballi - Dharwad Smart City Limited, Hubballi.
DIPR/Dharwad/405/Manjali/2024-25

B-305 GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail: ceroads.bbbs@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-Roads-II-03/2024-25
1. The Chief Engineer (Roads-II), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system through ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for Roadwork as mentioned below :
2. Nature of work : Road works
3. No. of work : 1 No.
4. Tender Paper cost : Rs.10,000.00
5. Class of Contractor : Special Class/Super Class
6. Available of bid document the website : From 10.00 A.M. of 24.09.2024 to 5.30 PM of 15.10.2024
7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt.17.10.2024 at 11.30 A.M.
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : <https://tenderodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Roads-II), Odisha
OPR-34111/11/0006/24-25

O-294 GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, ANGUL
Tender Call Notice for Building work in Odisha
Bid Identification No. Building Online AGL- 09/2024-25
Dt. 19/9/2024
No. 2409//
1. Name of the work : Building work
2. Total No. of work : 1 No.
3. Estimated cost : Rs. 175.40 Lakh Approx.
4. Class of Contractor : 'B' & 'A' Class
5. Period of completion : 18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months
6. Other details.
Procurement Officer
Bid Identification No. : Availability of tender on-line for bidding : Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification : Date & Time of opening of tender :
From To
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Angul
Building-Online-AGL-09/2024-25
25.09.24 at 10.00 A.M. 09.10.24 up to 5.00 P.M. 08.10.24 up to 1.00 P.M. 14.10.24 at 11.00 A.M. Will be intimated later on
(1) For detailed Notice Inviting Tenders. Please visit to the website [www.t](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in)

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
 (A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 Special Land Acquisition Officer-2, No. 14/3, 1st Floor, Aravinda Bhavana Building, Nrupathunga Road,
 Bengaluru-560001
 No. : KIADB/LAQ/(K-RIDE)/65/2024-25 Date: 12.09.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Under section 28(2) of KIAD Act 1966)

It is hereby given publication for the information of the public that the KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD, Bengaluru has proposed to acquire the following scheduled properties for the purpose of Corridor-4 of Karnataka Rail Infrastructure Development Company Limited (K-RIDE). The Preliminary Notification Under Section 28(1) in this behalf is issued vide Notification No: CI 114 SPQ 2024 Bangalore dated:02-09-2024 by the Government of Karnataka and the same has already been published in the Karnataka Gazette dated:11.09.2024

All the absolute owners and interested persons in the Scheduled properties specified below shall file their OBJECTIONS IF ANY to the undersigned , Notice u/s 28(2) of KIAD Act, has already been served to the notified Khatedar/Anubhavdar, interested persons. As some of the property owners refused to receive the notice and address of some of the Khatedars are not available, notices could not be served. Hence, this notice is published in the Newspapers to provide opportunity to them. Any contracts for the disposal of the said lands by sale, Mortgage, Assignment, Exchange or otherwise or any improvement made therein without prior permission of the competent authority, after the date of publication of this notification under the provisions of KIAD Act 1966 will be disregarded while assessing compensation for such parts of the said lands as may be finally acquired.

The map of the area comprised therein and the notification specifying the lands which is proposed to be acquired may be verified in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer, KIADB, (K-RIDE), Bengaluru during the office hours on all working days. Enquiry is fixed on **14.10.2024 at 11.00 a.m.** in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2, K.I.A.D.B. (K-RIDE), No.14/3, 1st Floor, Aravinda Bhavana Building, Bengaluru. Interested persons are hereby requested to be present with relevant documents. Failing which, it will be considered that there is no objection from your side and further action will be taken in accordance with law.

Schedule

SL. No	I.D. No	Property Owner	L.A/CT Sy. No	Total Extent	Area acquired (sq.Mtr.)
Enquiry Date: 14.10.2024 Time: 11.00 a.m Village : Munnekolalu Hobli: Varthuru Taluk: Bengaluru East Dist: Bengaluru Urban					
1	C4/14/850-890/Munnekolala/01	1. Sharadamma 2. P. Krishna Reddy 3. G.V.Manoj Kumar 4. V.Jayanthi & Suranjini 5. Mallikarjuna Reddy 6. Rajeshwari 7. Sarkara	81/2C	8096.65	42.08
2	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/01	Chandrashekar J S/o Jayarama Reddy			58.42
3	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/02	Sarkari Gomala			694.86
4	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/03	Chandra W/o Kalimuttu			16.60
5	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/04	Yashoda W/o Munirathnam			15.03
6	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/05	Hali Rasthe	99/1	43519.51	12.51
7	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/06	Ramaiah S/o Chennappa			18.40
8	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/07	Renukamma W/o Venkatasubbaiah			14.47
9	C4/16/240-385/Munnekolala/08	Hali Rasthe			5.41
10	C4/16/210-240/Munnekolala/01	Hali Rasthe			28.23
11	C4/16/210-240/Munnekolala/02	Unnikrishnan.K. S/o Parameshwaran Nayar			44.05
12	C4/16/210-240/Munnekolala/03	Muniyamma W/o Late Nagaraju			34.26
13	C4/16/210-240/Munnekolala/04	Hali Rasthe	100	30564.86	22.60
14	C4/16/210-240/Munnekolala/05	1. K.Ramesh 2. K.Nirmala 3. K.Manojhar 4. K.Anitha 5. K.Geetha			34.15
15	C4/15-16/980-080/Munnekolala/01	1. PapaReddy 2. N.G.Chandra Reddy S/o Late N.C. Guru Murthy Reddy	101	13359.47	707.26
16	C4/15/800-950/Munnekolala/01	Most Reverend Dabarnad Moras Arch bishop of Bangalore			58.27
17	C4/15/800-950/Munnekolala/02		102/1C	13663.10	2590.47
18	C4/15/800-950/Munnekolala/03	Rasthe			259.65
19	C4/15/800-950/Munnekolala/04	1. Ramchandra reddy S/o Kourappa @ Muniswami Reddy 2. Krishna Reddy S/o Kourappa @ Muniswami Reddy 3. Shanthamma W/o Late Shrinivasa Reddy 4. Jayarama Reddy S/o kourappa @ Muniswami Reddy 5. Narayana Reddy S/o kourappa @ Muniswami Reddy	102/2C	404.83	404.69
20	C4/15/730-800/Munnekolala/01	Sarkari Kunte	103	7590.61	454.19
21	C4/15/425-730/Munnekolala/01	Hali Raste			295.04
22	C4/15/425-730/Munnekolala/02	Shamanna Rddy S/o Abhaya Reddy	104/1C	607.24	451.40
23	C4/15/425-730/Munnekolala/03	Rithesh Babu	104/2C	809.66	386.59
24	C4/15/425-730/Munnekolala/04	1. Dilip 2. Naveen	104/3C	3542.28	425.46
25	C4/15/425-730/Munnekolala/05	A.Shrinivasa babu			K-300.46
26	C4/15/425-730/Munnekolala/06	Kalpita Nikhilesh S/o A.Ravindra Babu			125.00
27	C4/15/730-790/Munnekolala/01	Gopala Reddy			149.00
28	C4/15/730-790/Munnekolala/02	Hanuma Reddy S/o Yallappa Reddy			K-70.00
29	C4/15/730-790/Munnekolala/03	Raste			79.00
30	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/01	Hali raste			25.06
31	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/02	1. N.Anantha Kumar S/o Narayana Reddy 2. G.Babu S/o Late Govindappa			17.57
32	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/03	1. Lalitha W/o R. Krishna Reddy 2. Bhagya G W/o R.Jayaram @ Jayanna			103.83
33	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/04	Hali raste			9.93
34	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/05	1. S.Jayamurugan S/o N. Shankarappan 2. S.Subbalakshmi D/o N. Shankarappan	105/1	43924.34	220.79
35	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/06	Subba Lakshmi W/o K.Doreswamy			0.58
36	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/07	Hali Raste			Kharab
37	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/08	Rekha D/o Venkatesh Reddy			5.47
38	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/09	Somashekhar Reddy S/o Ramaiah Reddy			13.09
39	C4/15/330-425/Munnekolala/10	Hali Raste			9.25
40	C4/15/310-330/Munnekolala/01	Hali Raste			Kharab
41	C4/15/310-330/Munnekolala/02	Lokesh			24.70
42	C4/15/310-330/Munnekolala/03	1. P.Kanthabai 2. B.P.Harish S/o Late V.N.Panduranga Rao	112/3	10930.48	32.04
43	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/01	1. P.Kanthabai 2. B.P.Harish S/o Late V.N.Panduranga Rao			39.32
44	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/02	Rudresh			42.06
45	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/03	P.V.Gayathri W/o N.Venkata Reddy			25.09
46	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/04	Shivanandan			6.10
47	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/05	M.Thatti Reddy, Kadapala Kalyani W/o M.Thatti Reddy			35.41
48	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/06	M.Thatti Reddy, Kadapala Kalyani W/o M.Thatti Reddy			23.15
49	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/07	Jampana Palli Jayabharath Reddy, Kadapala karuna			19.71
50	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/08	Vinidas Mangattil			22.87
51	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/09	1. Chaithyavasi Reddy S/o Rama Krishna parama Hamsa 2. Soujanya S/o Ramkrishnappa Paramahamsa	114/1A	1315.70	36.73
52	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/10	1. Chaithyavasi Reddy S/o Rama Krishna parama Hamsa 2. Soujanya S/o Ramkrishnappa Paramahamsa			24.59
53	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/11	Hali Raste			9.61
54	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/12	Prasanna S/o Late C.N. Gopalakrishna			16.65
55	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/13	V.Nagalanga Reddy			29.62

56	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/14	Anil S/o V.Nagalanga Reddy			66.99
57	C4/15/160-310/Munnekolala/15	P.Y.Anijakob W/o Jakob Chiran			109.59
58	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/01	Hali Raste			81.96
59	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/02	V.Pratiyoj Prakash			37.33
60	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/03	P.Shivasai Sri W/o Naresh Kumar			36.05
61	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/04	Hali Raste	116/2A	3339.86	26.64
62	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/05	C.Pratibha D/o Late Chikkannaiah Reddy			41.75
63	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/06	Hali Raste			13.63
64	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/07	Raju			8.34
65	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/08	Raju			30.77
66	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/09	K.Sudhakar Reddy S/o V.Krishna Reddy	116/3A	4048.32	123.81
67	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/10	K.Sudhakar Reddy S/o V.Krishna Reddy			28.48
68	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/11	Leelavathi W/o Shanmugam			20.50
69	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/12	Hali Raste			32.67
70	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/13	Hali Raste			58.04
71	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/14	Thilak Kumar S/o Subbarama Reddy	116/4A	1619.33	42.67
72	C4/15/050-160/Munnekolala/15	Thilak Kumar S/o Subbarama Reddy			10.14
73	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/01	Shayam K.N			14.79
74	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/02	Hali Raste			12.47
75	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/03	M.Narayana S/o M.Muniyappa Reddy	117/3C	4655.57	30.88
76	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/04	Manjula, Murugadas			11.35
77	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/05	Manjula, Murugadas			K-4.35
78	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/06	Hali Raste	117/4A3	7894.23	7.00
79	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/07	N.Ramchandra			10.50
80	C4/14-15/890-050/Munnekolala/08	Devi.S D/o Shamanna Reddy	117/4B3	1012.08	16.82
81	C4/16/080-210/Munnekolala/01	N.G.Chandra Reddy S/o N.C.Gurumurthy	136/1	8096.35	102.76
82	C4/15/950-980/Munnekolala/01	-	ONi	-	126.28
Village : Doddanekundi Hobli: Marathahalli Taluk: Bengaluru East Dist: Bengaluru Urban					
83	C4/18/525-575/doddanekundi/1	Hali Raste	1	13865.52	28.57
84	C4/18/525-575/doddanekundi/2	Akkayamma W/o Late N.K.PillaReddy, Mula Khatedar			K-14.57
85	C4/18/300-435/doddanekundi/1	M/s Jonasha Estate & Project Private Limited	3/2	2884.43	14.00
86	C4/18/300-435/doddanekundi/2	M/s Jonasha Estate & Project Private Limited	3/3	2884.43	327.33
87	C4/18/300-435/doddanekundi/3	M/s Jonasha Estate & Project Private Limited	3/4	2884.43	367.64
88	C4/18/300-435/doddanekundi/4	M/s Jonasha Estate & Project Private Limited	3/5	2884.43	263.16
89	C4/18/300-435/doddanekundi/5	M/s Jonasha Estate & Project Private Limited	3/6	2884.43	242.21
90	C4/18/300-435/doddanekundi/6	M/s Jonasha Estate & Project Private Limited	3/7	2884.43	256.66
91	C4/18/200-235/doddanekundi/1	Nanjamma W/o N.A.Ramkrishna Reddy	6/1E	1619.33	271.97
92	C4/18/175-200/doddanekundi/1	Chagan Lal Kanjipatel S/o Kanjipatel	7	11841.35	60.03
93	C4/18/080-175/doddanekundi/1	Gowramma D/o Veerappa Reddy N.Prakash S/o Late Narayana Reddy	9/1	9311.15	359.08
94	C4/18/080-175/doddanekundi/2	1. Muniyamma W/o Late Govinda Reddy 2. Jayarama Reddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy 3. Lakshmaiah Reddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy 4. Sundara Ramara Reddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy 5. Nanjunda Reddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy 6. Venkata krishnappa Reddy S/o Late Venkata rama Reddy 7. Lakshmaiah Reddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy 8. Jayarama Reddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy 9. Sundara RamaReddy S/o Late Govinda Reddy	9/2	10829.27	145.05
95	C4/18/080-175/doddanekundi/3	N.Balakrishna Reddy S/o Late N.P.Narayana Reddy	9/6	303.62	105.50
96	C4/18/435-500/doddanekundi/1	N.R.Sudhakar	25/1	7691.82	93.72
97	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/1	1. N.K.Vasudev S/o Late Krishna Reddy 2. N.K.Vishwanath Reddy S/o Late Krishna Reddy	86/1A	10323.23	23.32
98	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/2	HaliRaste			23.32
99	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/3	D.Subbamma			622.98
100	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/4	Hali raste			48.60
101	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/5	Raman Prasad Sharma			14.78
102	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/6	Komala W/o Jnanachari			82.09
103	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/7	Manjunath Reddy	86/4	10323.23	46.62
104	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/8	P.S.Ramachandra Rao			9.32
105	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/9	Hali Raste			93.12
106	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/10	Dayananda Reddy			19.70
107	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/11	Dayananda Reddy			65.38
108	C4/17/625-695/doddanekundi/12	Pushpa W/o Ravindra, 2. Komala			38.81
109	C4/17/695-827/doddanekundi/1	1. Dhanabhagya 2. Lakshmiipathi naidu 3. Mamata P.L	87/2	7185.78	3.33
110	C4/17/695-827/doddanekundi/2	1. Punugoti Lakshmi W/o P.A.S. Suresh Babu 2. Susheelamma W/o Late A.Krishna Reddy			24.71
111	C4/17/695-827/doddanekundi/3	V.Lakshmi W/o Late N.Ramanujappa	87/3	6072.49	16.98
Village : B.Narayanapura Hobli: Mahadevapura Taluk: Bengaluru East Dist: Bengaluru Urban					
112	C4/21/085-125/B.Narayanapura/1	Jayamma W/o Kempanna			22.71
113	C4/21/085-125/B.Narayanapura/2	Swamy Ayyappa Seva Samiti Udayanagar (unnikrishna Pillai)	30	8096.65	48.64
114	C4/21/085-125/B.Narayanapura/3	Hali Raste			3.91
115	C4/21/085-125/B.Narayanapura/4	Velambal W/o Mohan			0.99
116	C4/21/200-255/B.Narayanapura/1	Channamma D/o Nanjappa			3.43
117	C4/21/200-255/B.Narayanapura/2	Channamma D/o Nanjappa	32	14472.76	36.54
118	C4/21/200-255/B.Narayanapura/3	Hali Raste			11.45
119	C4/21/300-355/B.Narayanapura/1	Hali Raste			10.27
120	C4/21/300-355/B.Narayanapura/2	Arivalagan S/o Kashivel	34/2	12347.39	11.74
121	C4/21/300-355/B.Narayanapura/3	1. Vatsala W/o A.Mani 2. Priyanka A.M. D/o A.Mani			13.34
122	C4/21/300-355/B.Narayanapura/4	Hali Raste			8.57
Village : Chinnappanahalli Hobli: K.R.Puram Taluk: Bengaluru East Dist: Bengaluru Urban					
123	C4/16/640-740/Chinnappanahalli/1	Venkatesh Reddy			627.73
124	C4/16/640-740/Chinnappanahalli/2	T.Muralidhar S/o H. Thippareddy	23	27427.41	129.02
125	C4/16/385-510/Chinnappanahalli/1	Kharab			31.51
126	C4/16/385-510/Chinnappanahalli/2	Shashikala W/o S. Vishwanath			111.86
127	C4/16/385-510/Chinnappanahalli/3	G.Jayasudha			59.91
128	C4/16/385-510/Chinnappanahalli/4	Hali Raste			31.56
129	C4/16/385-510/Chinnappanahalli/5	1. Konagala Venkatasai Sandeep 2. Vemula Anusha 3. Ravi kindi Venkatalakshmi Narasima Karthik 4. Veemula Harka	38/1	18622.30	58.71
130	C4/16/385-510/Chinnappanahalli/6				

'Animals have endured domestication to imperialism — no species is truly 'wild' today'

Harriet Ritvo is Arthur J. Conner Professor Emeritus of History at MIT. Speaking to Srijana Mitra Das at Times Evoke, she discusses the past — and present — of animals:

Photos: Getty Images & iStock

Why do we need to study the history of animals?

History is as complicated as the present — the things we consider important today have been so in the past as well. Over time, history has been expanding its acknowledgement of the role different people played in the past — this also means acknowledging the role of other animals. That doesn't only mean what we humans have done to them but the reciprocal effects animals have had on us. Studying their history is part of getting a more complete understanding of the past — and a more open-minded view of the present.

What have been some decisive turning points in human-animal relations?

The biggest one which happened between 5,000 and 10,000 years ago was animal domestication — this was intertwined with people settling down, becoming farmers and human populations increasing. This began a systematic transformation of our environment. The domestication of the dog had happened earlier but our livestock, mammals and birds were all domesticated in that period.

That moment had profound social and economic consequences for humans — it also transformed the lives of animals, both physically and psychologically. There began a strong selection process among big animals like cattle for individuals who could be easily controlled physically and were also not inclined to attack humans,



HORSE POWER: Made to labour for us



WILD THING? A million species face human-caused extinction now — even the remote polar bear finds sea ice, its food source, melting with global warming

including in emotional ways. So, while most domestic animals could breed with their wild relatives today, their behaviour is quite different from those who are untamed.

Why did humans domesticate animals purely as pets?

That is very hard to say since the archaeological evidence we have does not show us much about the emotional relationships people developed with their animals. Some ties were about collaborative labour, like with plough animals. Some were relationships involving guarding, like with dogs. I find it hard to imagine though that there wasn't some degree of friendship — hopefully, in both directions — between humans and animals.

In history, pets were first considered a luxury — having a pet was something people of privilege tended to do. If you look at European paintings from, say, the Renaissance period, you often see a dog or a cat sitting with the upper-class person whose portrait is being painted. Having an animal just for pleasure was something people of more modest means started to do around the end of the 19th century.

What were some uses of animals in spreading imperialism?

In settler colonies like North America, animals were part of an assemblage, which includes domestic plants, that expedited the transformation of the environment to make this suitable for European-style farming. This meant these animals competed with indigenous species, including herbivores like deer, and indigenous carnivores like wolves

or mountain lions which were seen as a threat to imported livestock — this encouraged the destruction of those wild animals. In East Africa, livestock introduced from Europe brought diseases with them which transmitted to and harmed local animals. Another way imperialism expressed itself was in the animals used in sports hunting while the incorporation of information about animals indigenous to one part of the world was integral to the totalising European knowledge agenda.

What do you include in what you term your 'anti-imperial bestiary'?

In that particular piece of writing, I discussed the quagga — this was a kind of zebra which went

extinct both in the wild and captivity in the late 19th century. It wasn't hunted much as it wasn't the most spectacular-looking of zebras — it didn't have very dramatic stripes. However, it competed with livestock for feed and was also killed as food, not for European settlers but their African labourers. Quaggas were wild animals which had been numerous early in the 19th century — and suddenly began to disappear. This was similar to the vanishing of the passenger pigeon in North America and the near extinction of the American bison. The quagga was an unspectacular victim of imperial economics. It was also an important signal — the quagga was part of what convinced many people about animals being driven to extinction. They knew this about species like the dodo, confined to a small island and not very numerous. But the idea that species which had been numerous and widespread in terms of their territory could disappear so suddenly made people think differently about the impacts of imperial transformation on environments.

Are there still animals on Earth whom we could call 'wild'?

There are some animals who, from their own perspective, could be called 'wild' in that they choose to live without interacting with people. However, there aren't animals today who are 'wild' as in their lives being unmodified by human activity — even animals in the Arctic and Antarctic are feeling the impacts of climate change. To say an animal is wild on its terms is different from an animal living a life impacted by human beings.



FLOCK TO FORK: Crops need livestock

READERS WRITE

Dear Times Evoke,

I'm 14 years old and I love reading TE because of its amazing pictures and all the knowledge! My father is a paraglider and now, after reading TE on wings (14th September), I can see how humans learnt to fly by observing the cool flight of insects, birds and animals. Thank you for a fabulous page! — **Avni Kaklasaria**, Bengaluru

I greatly like TE's articles. These are so knowledgeable and well-researched. The beautiful page on wings was stunning — it was amazing to read how the wings of huge pterosaurs and tiny bees differ but they both produce thrust and lift. Such articles are truly very meaningful. Keep it up and my best wishes for TE! — **Rekha Mishra**, Delhi

It was very enriching to read about flying creatures and their wings! As TE said, many of these beings are truly nature's farmers. It was also amazing to learn there are so many 'frequent flyers' like flying fish and lemurs. A thousand thanks for this valuable page, TE! — **Mousumi Ghosh**, Kolkata

It was fascinating to learn bird anatomy has remained largely unchanged for millions of years. The TE line, 'A birdwing today is actually a living fossil' left such a lasting impression. Captivating information, TE! — **R. Sreestuti**, Hyderabad

Today's TE truly felt like attending a live lecture by Dr Longrich! I was so surprised to know birds are successors of dinosaurs! Reading about wings made me dig up more about fossils on the internet. I will be eagerly awaiting the next TE. Thank you, TE! — **Anant Jain**, Surat

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Didi talks to Soren, lifts J'khand border blockade after 20 hrs

In Letter To PM, Threatens To Snap DVC Ties

Mohammad Asif, Anil Ashutosh & Dhritiman Ray | TNN

Kulti/Dhanbad/Ranchi: Bengal lifted its border blockade against Jharkhand around 6.30pm Friday, opening the floodgates for stalled traffic that stretched up to 30km at some places during the 20-hour face-off triggered by CM Mamata Banerjee accusing Damodar Valley Corporation of "flooding Bengal to save Jharkhand".



The deadlock involving the two states governed by INDIA bloc allies TMC and JMM was broken by Mamata and her Jharkhand counterpart Hemant Soren having a series of telephonic discussions through the day, sources said.

Mamata wrote to PM Modi, seeking his intervention in stopping flooding in Bengal because of water release by DVC. She said Bengal would "disengage entirely" from the PSU and its projects in the state if the Centre acted unilaterally.

Union jal shakti minister C R Paatil disputed the CM's allegation, saying decisions pertaining to release of water from the Maithon and Panchet dams in Jharkhand dur-

ing heavy rain were always made by a committee that included representatives of Bengal.

Paatil said it was on Bengal's request DVC agreed to cut water release by 50% between Sept 14 and 17. Heavy rainfall on Sept 16-17 made it imperative to scale up water release "to avoid a catastrophic impact on south Bengal due to possible dam failures", Paatil said.

He pointed out that water release was limited to 2.5 lakh cusecs, while the inflow to these dams was 4.2 lakh cusecs. More than 1,000sq km across 11 districts of south Bengal are battling floods, with around five million people affected. Casualties over the past week stand at 26.

"The stalemate has ended. Movement of commercial vehicles into West Bengal has begun through all the interstate border points, including Jamshepur and Dhanbad," Jharkhand home secretary Vandana Dadel told TOI.

After Bengal Police barred trucks and other commercial vehicles from Jharkhand, JMM termed it a move "made in haste and unreasonable".

A group of CPI(M)L workers blocked the Jharkhand-bound road near the Maithon border Friday, complicating the situation. BJP's Kulti MLA Ajay Podder visited Durdhahi checkpoint and asked police to show the govt order to seal the border. He and his supporters were briefly involved in an altercation with the cops.

Gunfight in J&K as holed-up ultras fire at security forces

Jammu: An encounter broke out between security forces and terrorists in J&K's Reasi district Friday evening, reports Sanjay Khajuria. The fire exchange continued intermittently till the time of going to press.

A joint operation was launched around 1pm in Reasi's Shikari area under Chasana PS, based on intelli-

gence inputs about the presence of terrorists there, Jammu ADGP Anand Jain said.

Contact was established after holed-up terrorists fired at the search party, triggering a gunfight. A few rounds were fired from each side, following which security forces cordoned off the area. "Reinforcements were rushed to the site," said a police officer.

Tirupati laddu row rages, Centre seeks report

Suitable Action Will Be Taken, Says Nadda

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Union health minister Jagat Prakash Nadda on Friday said he had spoken to Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu and sought a report on the Tirupati laddu issue.

Nadda said the matter would be examined by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and suitable action taken.

Naidu had earlier said animal fat was used for making Tirupati laddus during the previous Jagan Mohan Reddy government, triggering a massive political row, with YSRCP accusing the CM of indulging in "heinous allegations" for political gains and TDP circulating a lab report to back the claim.

Nadda said, "I got to know about the issue through social media. I spoke to Chandrababu Naidu today and asked him to share the available report so that I can examine it. I will also speak to the state regulators and take their views."

"The report will be examined, and suitable action taken within the legal framework and regulations under the FSSAI. The FSSAI will examine it, give a report and then we will act," he added.

Union food minister Prahlad Joshi has also called for an investigation into the allegation, which has sparked concern among devotees.

While lab reports of four ghee suppliers were found to have no anomalies, the samples collected from one dairy had vegetable and animal fats at abnormal levels. "After the lab reports confirmed the presence of fish oil, lard (pig fat), palm oil and beef tallow in four ghee samples, we initiated measures to blacklist the contractor and returned his stocks. Penal and legal proceedings have also been initiated against the contractor," the EO said.

Rao wondered why the previous TTD administration never attempted to conduct quality checks.

Andhra PCC chief Y S Sharmila demanded a CBI inquiry into the issue.

TIRUPATI LADDU

A Lot Goes Into Making Of Lord Balaji's Mahaprasadam

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams prepares and distributes over 3.5 lakh laddus every day. The process of making and distributing the much in demand laddus is elaborate, with layers of checks at every step to ensure purity of the mahaprasadam is maintained. **Sandeep Raghavan** reports

HOW TIRUPATI LADDU GAINED PROMINENCE

'Srivari' or Tirupati laddu: One of the most venerated 'mahaprasadam' offered to devotees visiting the Lord Venkateswara Swamy temple at Tirumala

Aug 2, 1715: Practice of offering laddus to Lord Venkateswara Swamy at Tirumala temple begins

Spiritual prominence of laddu prasadam increased significantly over the centuries, and by the advent of the 21st century, the 'Tirupati laddu' emerged as an iconic mahaprasadam

2009: TTD obtained patent for Tirupati Laddu under the foodstuff category of geographical indication (GI) tag

₹500 crore: Annual revenue earned by TTD only through sale of laddus

GHEE A KEY COMPONENT

16,000kg: Average daily requirement of pure cow ghee for preparation of 3.5 lakh laddus

In recent times, TTD called for tenders for procurement of 35.9 lakh kg ghee for a period of six months

85,000 litre: Capacity of ghee tank set up close to main temple complex

Modern flour mill that can grind up to 15,000kg Bengal gram

What goes into making Tirupati laddu:

Bengal gram, clarified butter (cow ghee), sugar, cashew nuts, raisins, almonds

IN THE KITCHEN

600 odd: Sri Vaishnavite Brahmmins work in the temple kitchen, almost round the clock, to dish out large quantities of laddus

All laddus cooked within the temple kitchen called 'Potu'. TTD opened another boondi potu, next to the main temple complex a few years ago, to cater to additional demand

Most significant given for procurement of raw material used for laddus

PROCUREMENT

TTD procures pure cow ghee with Agmark special grade only. Rates vary between ₹320 to ₹411 per litre

While the previous TTD administration spent anywhere between ₹320-₹410 per kg for ghee, the new administration headed by EO J Syamala Rao decided to shell out ₹475 for top-quality ghee from Karnataka milk federation

LADDU IN NUMBERS

₹250 crore | TTD's annual expense for procuring top-quality ghee

3.5 lakh | Average number of laddus prepared and distributed to devotees at Tirumala every day. TTD also prepares about 7,000 odd Kalyanotsavam laddus daily

12-13 crore

Average number of laddus sold by TTD annually

FOUR TYPES OF LADDUS

Small or free laddu: Weighs about 25gm, offered to devotees after darshan of Lord Venkateswara Swamy

Proktham: Weighs between 160 and 175 gram, sold at ₹50 each to visiting devotees. TTD also provides one such laddu free to every devotee

Kalyanotsavam laddu: The biggest laddu. Weighs about 700 gram and is offered free to select arjitha seva devotees. Also sold to devotees at ₹250 per laddu

Asthana laddu: For internal distribution. Not for sale

'Tirupati laddus were given at Ayodhya event'

Ayodhya: Expressing anguish over reports of alleged presence of animal fat in ghee used to make Tirumala laddus, Ayodhya's Ram Temple chief priest Acharya Satyendra Das on Friday said over three quintals of 'laddu prasadam' from Tirupati were brought to Ayodhya during consecration ceremony of Ram Temple in January this year, reports Arshad Afzaal Khan.

"It is unfortunate that animal fat was mixed in Tirupati laddus. If animal fat was mixed in it, it is unforgivable. Strict action should be taken against such people," Das said. Around one lakh laddus from Tirupati were brought to Ayodhya during the consecration ceremony. These laddus were packed in large boxes and brought by a delegation from Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam. This prasad was distributed among devotees, said Das.

Rahul: Need to protect sanctity of religious sites

New Delhi: Describing reports about defilement of the 'prasad' at Sri Venkateswara temple in Tirupati as "disturbing", leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said Lord Balaji was a revered deity for millions of devotees in India and across the world and the issue would hurt every devotee and needed to be thoroughly looked into.

"Authorities across India have to protect the sanctity of our religious spaces," he said. Party functionary Pawan Khara said, "If the claims of desecration of the Tirupati laddus are right, of course an enquiry must identify the guilty and strictest possible punishment must be meted out but if the claims are wrong or motivated, then millions of devotees of Tirupati will not forgive those playing with their faith."

"Until then, it suits the BJP to allow polarising conspiracy theories to fly thick in the air in election season," Khara added. TNN

Lawyer files plaint with MHA against Jagan, TTD officials and contractor

New Delhi: A Supreme Court lawyer has filed a complaint with the home ministry, as well as with the directors general of police (DGP) of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, against former Andhra CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, TTD officials, and a contractor alleged to have supplied adulterated ghee to the Tirupati Temple.

The advocate said the accused parties are responsible for undermining the religious integrity of the temple through their alleged involvement in the matter. AGENCIES

YSRCP neta seeks judicial probe into row, HC to hear petition on Sept 25

Amaravati: Andhra Pradesh HC has agreed to hear a petition filed by senior YSRCP functionary Y V Subba Reddy on Sept 25 over the Tirupati laddu controversy. Subba Reddy sought to file a lunch motion petition on Friday to unearth the truth

behind the controversy. The court said it will hear the petition on Wednesday. "Let this be investigated by a sitting judge of the high court or let the HC constitute a committee or let it be done by the CBI," said Subba Reddy's counsel P Sudhakar Reddy. PTI

Modi slams Cong, Maha allies for 'insult to Bappa'

Slams Oppn 'Policy Of Appeasement'



PM Modi is felicitated by Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde and deputy CMs Devendra Fadnis and Ajit Pawar in Wardha on Friday

Vaibhav Ganjpure & Akhilesh Singh | TNN

Wardha/New Delhi: Continuing his offensive against Congress for attacking him for attending Ganapati puja at the residence of Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud, PM Narendra Modi on Friday also targeted Shiv Sena (UBT) and Sharad Pawar's NCP for keeping mum on the "insult to Ganpati Bappa".

"A party which has even the slightest respect for our faith and culture can never oppose Ganapati puja. But today's Congress hates Ganpati puja. The land of Maharashtra is witness that under the leadership of Lokmanya Tilak in the freedom struggle, Ganpati Utsav became a celebration of the unity of India. People from every section of society and every class used to join together in Ganesh Utsav. That is why Congress is irritated with Ganpati puja. When I went to the Ganesh puja programme, the ghost of appeasement by Congress arose, Congress started opposing Ganpati puja. Congress is doing anything for appeasement," the PM said, asserting Congress had been commandeered by "urban Naxals".

Modi, addressing a rally in Wardha in Maharashtra to mark the completion of one year of Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana, referred to a Ganesh idol being confiscated by police in Congress-governed Karnataka, blaming it on

the opposition party's "politics of appeasement".

"Congress govt put Ganpati Bappa behind bars. The idol of Ganpati which people were worshipping was imprisoned in a police van. Should the idol have been kept in a police van when he was being worshipped?" he asked.

Modi also took on Congress's Maharashtra allies Sena (UBT) and NCP (SP) for keeping mum and not taking a stand on Ganpati Bappa's insult. "In Maharashtra, we have to be aware of their duplicity. Falsehood and betrayal are the hallmark of Congress and the people of Maharashtra should beware of the party," he said ahead of assembly polls in the state.

"You see the language of Congress people these days, their anti-national agenda of breaking up society and the country while in foreign land, insulting Indian culture and faith. Congress is being torn to pieces by a gang, is being run by urban Naxal people," Modi said. "Congress we are seeing today is not Congress with which great men like Mahatma Gandhi were once associated. The spirit of patriotism has died in today's Congress. The ghost of hatred has entered today's Congress."

Asserting Congress was the most dishonest and corrupt party, Modi also targeted the Nehru-Gandhi family and said, "If there is a most corrupt family in the country, it is the royal family of Congress."

Manipur flags 'intel' on influx of 900 tribal rebels from Myanmar

Prabin.Kalita@timesofindia.com
Guwahati: Manipur CM N Biren Singh's office has forwarded to cops a purported intelligence alert about influx of 900-odd tribal militants from Myanmar — all newly trained in use of drones, projectiles and missiles as part of a mission to launch coordinated attacks on villages in the Imphal valley around Sept 28.

either it didn't happen or our efforts didn't let it happen. Either way, you cannot take it lightly," said the ex-CRPF director general on deputation to Manipur since the ethnic conflict flared up in mid-2023. The Sept 16 alert from the CMO states that tribal militants "are reportedly grouped in units of 30 members each and currently scattered on the periphery, and expected to launch multiple coordinated attacks". The security adviser said districts and border units of Manipur Police & Assam Rifles were on maximum alert. A meeting of strategic operations group took place on

Sept 18. Singh said the planned measures had been communicated to the relevant agencies with a directive that any movement of militants be "nipped in the bud". The districts on high alert are Churachandpur, Tengnoupal, Ukhrul, Kamjong and Pherzawl. Singh said traditional combat operations focus on seizing arms, but there was now "increased scrutiny" of materials used to manufacture rockets, missiles, drone components, and batteries. "DMs have been alerted and asked to check stocks of explosives with licensed owners. All connected roads and villages within a 5km ra-

dus of the hills are also being checked for stockpiles." The security adviser said that of the 2,681 weapons seized by security forces since the conflict started, one-third were in the hills and two-thirds in the valley. "The availability of weapons in society in both the hills and the valley is not because of looting (from state armouries and police stations). They were already available much before (the ethnic conflict began). Single-barrel breech loaders and double-barrel breech loaders were there, some of them licensed and some manufactured illegally."

FCU rule would affect individuals as well as intermediaries: Court

Continued from page 1

The FCU in a sense is an arbiter in its own cause," said Justice Chandurkar, echoing the view of Justice Patel who had on Jan 31, 2024, struck down the rule as unconstitutional for its vagueness and disproportionality. Justice Patel had differed with Justice Neela Gokhale, on the two-judge bench that heard the matter and arrived at a split verdict, thus bringing it before a third judge. Justice Chandurkar said the FCU rule would have a "chilling effect" on individuals as well as intermediaries; the new rule could have led to loss of 'safe harbour' against legal action for social media platforms if FCU-flagged content was not acted upon. The FCU rule is sans safeguards to prevent its abuse, said

The FCU was brought into play in April 2023 via an amendment to rules for intermediaries under the Information Technology Act of 2000

Justice Chandurkar, rejecting the Centre's stand that making the FCU's findings subject to a legal challenge was a safeguard. "Under the right to freedom of speech and expression, there is no further 'right to the truth', nor is it the responsibility of the State to ensure that citizens are entitled only to 'information' that is not fake or false or misleading as identified by the FCU," the HC said. The judge also said there was no rationale to undertake an exercise in determining

whether information related to the business of the Central govt is either fake or false or misleading when in digital form, but not doing the same when such information is in print. Justice Chandurkar in a 99-page opinion accepted all major contentions raised by comedian Kunal Kamra and others who challenged its constitutional validity, citing its "chilling effect" on fundamental rights. The judge said he agreed with arguments put forward by senior counsel Arvind Datar and advocate Shadan Farasat and Gautam Bhatia that the rule violated Article 14 (right to equality), Article 19 (1) (a) (freedom of speech), and Article 19(1)(g) (freedom of trade) of the Constitution. The third judge's ruling renders a majority view against the FCU by 2:1. The judge

ment to strike down the rule will be formally pronounced soon by a two-judge bench assigned the roster, one of the judges being Justice Gokhale. The FCU was brought into play in April 2023 through an amendment to rules for intermediaries under the Information Technology Act of 2000. The Centre introduced it as a mechanism to flag as 'fake, false or misleading' digital content concerning the 'business' or functioning of the Centre. Kamra, followed by others including Editors Guild of India, News Broadcasters & Digital Association and Association of India Magazines challenged the decision, citing its vagueness and overbreadth and the lack of the Centre's legal capacity to split content online to fall in two categories—non-govt-related and govt-related.

Why did Naidu stay silent for 2 months, asks Jagan

Continued from page 1

Breaking his silence on the controversy, Reddy accused the TDP chief of using the "faith of millions of devotees across the world to cover up the failures of his govt in the last 100 days". Reddy said Naidu was levelling accusation on basis of test reports of raw material stocks that were rejected and added that he would write to the CJI and PM Narendra Modi to seek a high-level probe into the allegations.



Protest against former Andhra Pradesh CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy over the alleged use of 'animal fat' in the preparation of laddus of Tirupati Balaji temple, in Bhopal, on Friday

At a high-level meeting at the secretariat to discuss the quality issues, which was attended by senior ministers and bureaucrats, Naidu directed TTD executive officer (EO) J Shyamala Rao to submit a comprehensive report by the evening on the alleged use of impure materials in laddu preparation at Tirupati during the previous regime.

months and is now talking about it after his govt completed 100 days?" Jagan said. However, Naidu said that the contractor that was supplying ghee for making prasadam in July this year had been supplying it for the last five years. He said there were reports of the quality of prasadam deteriorating in the last five years and the supplier was blacklisted after test reports in July confirmed adulteration.

He announced after the meeting that measures to preserve the sanctity of Tirumala would be taken after consultations with TTD's Agama, Vedic and Dharmic councils, which deal with the temple's architecture, rituals and religious issues, respectively. Denying charges against his govt, Reddy said the samples of the "so-called adulterated stock" were taken on July 12 and the test report was received on July 23. "Naidu was at the helm on July 12 and the report was received nearly two months ago. Why did he stay silent for two

He said TTD had been procuring stocks through open tenders called through an online system for several decades. "Online tenders are floated every six months. The successful bidder has to produce a quality certificate from the NABL laboratory along with every container. Even after producing the NABL lab certificate, TTD collects three samples of stock and tests it at its own laboratory. The stock is accepted only after all three samples clear the quality test. This is mandatory and unscrupulously followed," the YSRCP chief clarified. In Tirumala, TTD EO said the temple trust will henceforth adopt a zero-tolerance policy against substandard raw material.

Ponnamma, the adorable Amma of Malayalam cinema, dies

Times News Network

Kochi: Veteran Malayalam actor Kaviyoor Ponnamma (80), who donned the mother's role in most of her films, died at a private hospital in Kochi on Friday evening. She had been under treatment for cancer since May last year and was in a critical condition for the past week.

Hospital authorities said she had stage-4 cancer when diagnosed. "She was admitted on Sept 3 for further tests and treatment, but her situation worsened," its bulletin said. She breathed her last around 5.30pm. Her mortal remains will be kept at Kalamassery municipal town hall from 9am to 12pm Saturday for the public to pay homage. The funeral will be held on her house premises in Aluva around 4pm.



Ponnamma had acted in around 700 movies in her career spanning more than six decades. Born in Kaviyoor, Pathanamthitta, in 1945 to TP Damodaran and Gouri, she started her career as a singer with 'Pratibha Arts' theatre group at age 14. She was a disciple of popular musicians RLP Varma and Vechoor S Hariharan Subramanya Aiyer. Ponnamma, who was married to script-writer late Maniswami, is survived by daughter Bindu.

Collegium is not a search committee: SC reminds govt

Continued from page 1

The SC was dealing with a PIL by Harsh Vibhor Singh for laying down a timeline for the govt to implement collegium recommendations. While seeking the status of pendency of collegium recommended names, a bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra reminded the govt that "Collegium is not a search committee. It has a certain status in the constitutional fabric. In the case of a search committee's recommendation, there is an absolute discretion (with the govt) whether to accept the names or not."

The bench said, "AG, you tell us by next week the status of pending names recommended by the collegium. Ultimately, the idea is not to unearth skeletons in the cupboard but to move forward, so that the business of governance proceeds."

Advocate Prashant Bhushan said those collegium resolutions reiterating names for appointment as HC judges, after rejecting the govt's objections, must be given effect immediately. He said over a dozen reiterated names, including that of senior advocate Saurav Kirpal, by the collegium is not acted upon by the govt for years. "Often the govt sits over initial recommendations for years," Bhushan said, adding that if a name remains pending for six weeks without the govt spelling out objections, then it should be de-

med to have been accepted. Under the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of judges, govt has no option but to appoint collegium reiterated names. The bench said, "Attorney general, we will keep the matter after some time as some of the appointments are in the pipeline. We are expecting the chief justices' appointments to come through soon."

"If you (AG) can prepare a tabular chart specifying the names which have been reiterated by the collegium and explain the difficulties in appointing them. Please specify the names which are reiterated, why they are pending and at which level," the bench said. The AG said, "There is no difficulty in filing such a chart. But there cannot be a petition for every appointment and why it is not being done."

UP jewellery heist accused arrested

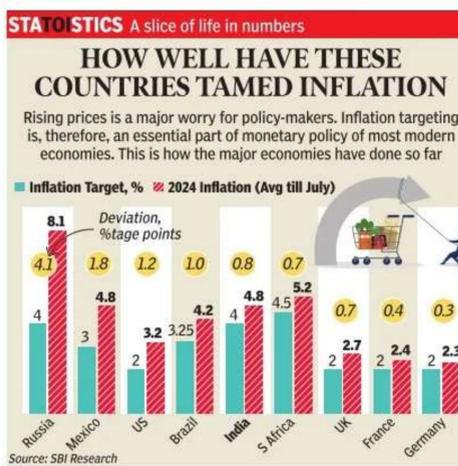
Lucknow: In a joint operation, Uttar Pradesh Police and Special Task Force Friday arrested an accused in a Sultanpur jewellery heist after an encounter. The accused, Ajay Yadav alias DM, was wanted in seven robbery and dacoity cases. Police had announced a Rs 1 lakh reward on him.

With this, 10 of the 15 accused in the heist, that occurred on Aug 28, are behind bars. Ajay suffered gunshot injury in the leg during the encounter. TNN

NOTICE
In the Court of Sub-Judge X, Patna Sadar
Mise Case No. 18/2024
Smt. Veena Devi & Others.....Plaintiffs
Versus
Amitabh Singh & Others.....Defendants
Notice against: (1) Amitabh Singh, S/o- Late Lakhman Singh, (2) Ayush @ Bittu, (3) Abhinav @Kishu both son of Amitabh Singh, at present resident of K54, Diamond District Hal, Old Airport Road, Bangalore-560008.
You are hereby informed that aforesaid plaintiff has filed a M. Case No. 18/2024 (Arising out of TPS No. 88/2019) against you. The next date in this case is fixed on 01.10.2024 at 10.30 AM. You are hereby directed to make proper pair of this case either yourself or through your advocate, failing which my proceed further. Today dt. 12.09.2024, it is issued by my signature and seal.
By order
Sub-Judge X, Patna Sadar

TOI History Meets AI SEPT 21
A VISUALISATION OF HISTORICAL EVENTS
The Mughal rule in India came to an end, with Bahadur Shah Zafar surrendering to the British on this day in 1857

J'khand excise job test toll hits 15
A 28-year-old candidate taking part on the last day of the excise constable physical test at Giridih centre in Jharkhand, died Friday, taking the death toll in the exercise to 15. At least 18 other candidates from various centres across the state were hospitalised after suffering from exhaustion and other ailments. While family members of the deceased, Viranchi Rai, expressed suspicion that he died of negligence, Giridih administration refuted the allegations. The test tracks were cordoned off and apart from the candidates and officials, no one was allowed near it. Chandan Rai, the deceased's cousin, claimed that Viranchi took part in the 10-km run Friday morning and began experiencing shortness of breath after completing 1,800 m, which was contradicted by officials. "The medical facility at the test centre was not adequate. My cousin died because of lack of medical facilities, which is tantamount to negligence," Chandan said. TNN



'Don't say that the entire judiciary is not functioning'

Continued from page 1

But a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Pankaj Mithal took strong exception and said that the statement was contemptuous for which action could be taken against the officer involved in filing the petition. The agency, in its petition, had taken the stand that the accused in post-poll violence cases being investigated by the agency had been released without hearing it. "What ground have you taken? You are bracketing all courts as hostile. Blanket averments have been made that bail is being granted without hearing you. This is casting aspersions that the entire judiciary is hostile," the bench told additional solicitor general S V Raju at the outset of hearing. The ASG said that it was not about hostility inside the court and admitted that the petition was loosely drafted. He, however, insisted that transfer of trial outside West Bengal was needed for free and fair proceedings, leading the bench to say that the agency had to first withdraw the blanket allegation. "If we transfer matters then we are certifying that there is a hostile atmosphere over all the courts in the state and courts are not functioning. Your officers may not like the judicial officer or a particular state but don't say that the entire judiciary is not functioning," the bench said.

'Country won't progress with social inequality'

Continued from page 1

We are called the mother of democracy, which stands on the four pillars of legislature, executive, judiciary and media. Our Constitution specifies the rights and responsibilities of each. The same Constitution allows thinkers to voice their opinions in the national interest without fear." Gadkari said the country wouldn't progress with social inequality triggered by caste or religion. "The fundamental spirit of the Gita, Quran, and the Bible is the same. It is an individual's choice how to offer prayers to his or her God. Just as we have freedom of speech, we have freedom of religion. We must rise above all such differences and must work together to eradicate social inequality." Harking back to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the minister said, "There cannot be a bigger example of a secular personality than Shivaji Maharaj. He never destroyed places of worship of other religions." Gadkari flagged social disparity as a worrisome trend. "The person's ability determines it. Till we eradicate untouchability and differences between higher-low class, we cannot say that we have progressed."

MYSORE RACE CLUB LIMITED
P.B. No. 11, Race Course Road, Mysore - 570 010
Tel: 0821-2521675; Email: secretary@mysoreraceclub.com
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the Fifty-Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Mysore Race Club Limited, Mysuru, will be held at the Registered Office of the Club, Mysuru-570 010, on **Monday, 14th October 2024 at 11.00 a.m.**
By authority of the Committee
K M Chandre Gowda, Chairman
Mysore Race Club Limited

MSME - TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE
Process & Product Development Centre
An Autonomous body under ministry of MSME, Govt. of India Society
EFC-Bangalore Organizes 01 Day Offline Training on
POWER BI DATA VISUALIZATION
Hands-on/Practicals
• Installation of Power BI
• Data Cleaning using Power BI
• Data Visualization
• Creating Measures
• Transform, Clean, Shape and data for further analysis
• Creating different visuals
• Power BI Data Visualization
• Uncover insights with AI
• Turn Insights into Impact
• Govern and protect Data
• Essential Visualisation of Data
COURSE CONTENT:
1. Introduction to Power BI
2. Power BI Desktop and Data Transformation
3. Data Visualization
(Scan QR Code for Registration)
DATE: 22nd September 2024 DURATION: 01 Day (Sunday)
TIME: 10 AM - 05 PM FEES: 3540/- (Incl. of GST)
VENUE: HOTEL ABHIMAANI VASATHI, Dr Rajkumar Rd, Udayam Nagar, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560010
Lunch, Refreshments & Course Soft materials will be provided
Contact: 6363055419 / 8073288128 / 9750747571
CERTIFICATION WILL BE AWARDED

Commissionerate of Health, Medical Services and Medical Education (ME)
GMERS Medical College, Library Department
Second Floor, Sector-12 Gandhinagar-382012.
ADVERTISEMENT FOR 11 MONTHS CONTRACTUAL APPOINTMENT
Walk in Interviews will be held for the posts of **Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor** in various subjects in Govt. Medical Colleges & attached institutions for 11 months contractual appointment on Fix pay basis. Interview will be conducted for the advertised vacant posts only. All eligible candidates have to appear personally along with requisite certificates as per scheduled date for the concerned subject. Interested candidates are advised to check the vacancy & other details on website before appearing in Interview. **Subject wise Walk in Interview will be held on 25.09.2024** other details are available on website: www.gujhealth.gujarat.gov.in or on or before 24.09.2024
INF/1066/24-25
Commissioner (Health)

54th ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING NOTICE 2023-2024
The Annual General Body Meeting for the year 2023-2024 has been convened to be held on **Sunday the 22.09.2024 at 10.00 A.M. at "CHAMARAJU KALYANA MANDIRA" 16th Cross, 3rd Block, Jayanagar (Near South End Circle), Bangalore - 5600011.**
The notices of General Body Meeting have been already sent through certified postage to all the members of the Bank. Members those who have not yet received the said notice shall consider this publication as a notice to the individual member to attend the Annual General Body Meeting.
By the order of the Board
(K.N. KRISHNAIAH SETTY)
GENERAL MANAGER I/c.
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 28.06.2024
Important Information : Member should compulsorily bring their respective **IDENTITY CARD** received by the bank to attend Annual General Body Meeting.

Advertisement NO. 87/2024
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Finance)
in
Yantra India Limited (YIL)
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by **15.00 hours on 15th October, 2024**
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by **15.00 hours on 24th October, 2024**
For details login to website
<https://pesb.gov.in>

Government of India, Ministry of Railways
Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs)
CENTRALISED EMPLOYMENT NOTICE (CEN) No. 06/2024
Recruitment for Various Non-Technical Popular Categories (Under Graduate)
Applications are invited from eligible candidates for various categories of posts given in the table below. The last date of submission of application is 20.10.2024. Applications complete in all respects must be submitted ONLINE ONLY.
Opening date of Application : 21-09-2024
Closing date for submission of Application : 20-10-2024 23:59 PM

Name of the Post	Pay level as per 7th CPC	Initial pay (Rs.)	Medical standard	Age (as on 01.01.2025)*	Total tentative vacancies (All RRBs)
Commercial Cum Ticket Clerk	Level-3	21700	See Annexure A in the detailed CEN	18 - 33 years	2022
Accounts Clerk Cum Typist, Junior Clerk cum Typist & Trains Clerk	Level-2	19900			1423
					Total (All RRBs) : 3445

*This includes a relaxation of 3 years in age beyond the prescribed age limit as a one-time measure due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
For further details, please refer to the detailed Centralized Employment Notice (CEN) No. 06/2024 available on the official websites of all participating Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) listed below.

RRB	Website address	RRB	Website address
Ahmedabad	www.rbmahmedabad.gov.in	Kolkata	www.rbkolkata.gov.in
Ajmer	www.rbmajmer.gov.in	Malda	www.rbmaldagov.in
Bengaluru	www.rbbnc.gov.in	Mumbai	www.rbmumbai.gov.in
Bhopal	www.rbbhopal.gov.in	Muzaffarpur	www.rbmuzaffarpur.gov.in
Bhubaneswar	www.rbbbs.gov.in	Patna	www.rbpatna.gov.in
Bilaspur	www.rbbilaspur.gov.in	Prayagraj	www.rbrald.gov.in
Chandigarh	www.rbbcdg.gov.in	Ranchi	www.rbranchi.gov.in
Chennai	www.rbbchennai.gov.in	Secunderabad	www.rbbsecunderabad.gov.in
Gorakhpur	www.rbbgkp.gov.in	Siliguri	www.rbrsiliguri.gov.in
Guwahati	www.rbbguwahati.gov.in	Thiruvananthapuram	www.rbbthiruvananthapuram.gov.in
Jammu-Srinagar	www.rbbjammu.nic.in	***	***

This notification is purely indicative in nature. Candidates are required to go through the detailed CEN 06/2024 to ascertain their eligibility before applying through ONLINE mode. Any Corrigendum/addendum/Important Notice related to the aforesaid recruitment shall be issued time to time on the above websites of RRBs only.
No. RRB/ADI/Adv./CEN-06/2024
Date : 21.09.2024
Chairpersons
Railway Recruitment Boards
BE AWARE OF TOUTS, BROKERS AND JOB RACKETEERS

Kerala-born Norwegian citizen linked to Hezbollah pager blasts?

Rajeer.KR | TNN

Kozhikode: A man from Wayanad who briefly trained for the clergy before migrating to Norway in search of greener pastures has emerged as an alleged link in the sensational pager explosions in Lebanon on Tuesday that targeted Hezbollah fighters and killed 12 people, including civilians, and injured dozens. Norta Global Ltd, based in Sofia, Bulgaria — allegedly owned by Rinson Jose (37) of Wayanad, now a Norwegian citizen — is being probed by international security agencies following reports linking it to the sale of hundreds of pagers.



Rinson Jose last visited his hometown in Wayanad's Ondayangadi in Nov 2023

Last spoke to family 3 days ago

Central intelligence agencies and Kerala Police special branch collected details on Friday about Rinson from his native village, Ondayangadi, near Mananthavady, Wayanad. Wayanad district police chief Taposh Basumathary said police had done a normal background check. "Now that the identity and details of the family have come out in the media, police have taken steps to ensure they are safe. We are patrolling the area," the cop said.

Family sources said Rinson, son of Moothedath Jose and Gracy, who used to work as tailors, had gone abroad

with his twin brother, who now works in UK. Rinson's sister is a nurse in Ireland. He lives in Norway with his wife and had last come home in Nov 2023 and returned in Jan 2024. "Rinson last spoke to his family here three days ago. They haven't been able to contact him on the phone since. We tried calling Rinson's wife on Friday as well, but no one answered. The news reports about him are unbelievable; he could also have been deceived," Rinson's uncle, Thankachan, told TOI.

Is Norta linked to pager buy?

Hungarian media reported that Norta Global had facilitated the sale of the pagers. The firm's website — which described it as a leading technology company with strong focus on consulting, technology and payment integration, recruitment & outsourcing — has been taken down now. However, Bulgaria's State Agency for National

Security said that Norta Global and its owner had "not carried out any transaction linked to the sale or purchase of the merchandise" or that which "falls under laws on terrorism financing". Reuters had reported on Thursday that Norta's Bulgarian headquarters was registered at an apartment building near Sofia that was also home to nearly 200 other companies, but there was no sign of Norta. Reuters said Rinson declined to comment on the pagers when reached by phone and hung up when asked about the Bulgarian business.

Amund Djuve, CEO of DN Media, where Jose currently works, told Reuters he was aware of the reports and had alerted police and security services. He said that Jose was travelling to the US.

Oslo Police said it had inquired "preliminary enquiries into the information that had come to light". Norway's domestic intelligence agency, PST, said it was aware of the situation and declined to comment further, Reuters reported.

According to Rinson's LinkedIn page, he has been working in the Oslo-based DN Media Group in Norway for nearly five years and was involved in leading digitisation, automation, and growth across multiple brands/publications. Besides mentioning him as an entrepreneur

running NortaLink, an IT service, consultancy, procurement, and recruiting company from 2016 onwards, it identifies him as co-founder of an IT recruiting and business development firm and IT recruitment firm StarCruiter. Rinson had pursued a master's in international social welfare and health policy at Oslo Metropolitan University from 2012 to 2015. The profile also claims he was general secretary of International Students Union of Norway for one year from Sept 2012.

The boy who could do no wrong

In Ondayangadi, residents of the area said they knew Rinson as an upright person, while his shocked family members said they were sure he would not do anything wrong. Rinson's uncle, Thankachan, said Rinson studied at Ondayangadi school, then went to a seminary for a year, and later continued his studies in Wayanad and Bengaluru. He had worked at a call centre in Bengaluru and acquired an MBA from Pondicherry in 2010 before heading to Norway for higher studies. He said he didn't know of Rinson owning a company there. "He was an employee at an organisation... The family is not that well off. Even now, his parents do tailoring work at home," he said.

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Women turnout exceeds that of men in 6 J&K seats in Ph 1

5 In Jammu & Only 1 Seat In Kashmir Witness Higher Female Voting

Bharti Jain | timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Women voters' turnout exceeded that of men in six of the 24 J&K constituencies that went to polls on Wednesday, with Jammu division leading the way with five of its eight constituencies having witnessed higher participation by female electors.

Only one of Kashmir's 16 assembly constituencies covered in Phase 1 — Kokernag (ST) — witnessed higher polling by its women voters as compared to male voters.

Overall, J&K clocked nearly 61.4% polling in the first phase, as per final EVM turnout figures released by the Election Commission on Friday. This is higher than 60% turnout recorded in the



MAKING THE MARK

BJP says democracy being mainstreamed in the state

Akhillesh.Singh | timesgroup.com

New Delhi: BJP on Friday celebrated the jump in poll percentage in the first phase of assembly polls in Jammu

& Kashmir with party leaders terming it as evidence of democracy being mainstreamed in the state once notorious for the abysmally poor turnouts and boycott calls

"It is heartening to see the transformation in the region, where fear has been replaced by hope. The people are embracing democracy with open arms," said Union minister and an MP from Udhampur Jitendra Singh, highlighting the active participation of citizens in the electoral process.

stutency(AC)-wise EVM turnout data for Phase 1, Indirwal AC in Kishtwar dis-

The first phase of polling, last Wednesday, witnessed noteworthy enthusiasm. Kishtwar, Doda, Ramban, and Kulgam, have seen a voter turnout of over 80%, 71%, 70%, and 62% respectively.

J&K witnessed an impressive voter turnout of 61.1% in the first phase and is expected to amplify the perception of a turnaround in the UT after the nullification of special status of J&K

"These remarkable turnouts surpass previous records and signify a new chapter in the region's democratic history," wrote Singh. There was a massive turnout for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally in Srinagar and Katra where he addressed rallies on Thursday a day after the first phase.

trict of Jammu region recorded the highest polling at 82.2%, followed by Kishtwar

AI has started issuing refunds for broken seats

Continued from page 1

Patel shot a video of his harrowing experience and posted it on Instagram. The video went viral, garnering thousands of views. Complaints like these have been mounting, especially for passengers flying AI's old wide-body aircraft that are still some years from a desperately-needed rejig. Reply awaited from AI till the time of going to press. On many international sectors, especially the US, AI is the only non-stop option for flyers who pay lakhs (up to Rs 16 lakh for return first class fare) to fly the se monopoly routes.

The Tatas-owned AI has

been issuing refunds to passengers of some flights in recent months delayed by many hours or even days. Now it has started issuing refunds for broken seats too, as with this latest case.

"I recently endured a 15-hour non-stop flight from Chicago to Delhi, and it was far from pleasant. I had heard negative things about Air India in the past, but I was hoping the recent changes under new management would improve experience. Unfortunately, that wasn't the case... IFE was down the entire flight. First class was in poor condition — unclean, with leftover food and trash still in the cabin and everything looked

worn out or broken. It was a pretty frustrating experience overall. Be aware if you're flying with them," Patel said on Insta. According to Patel, everything was "ripped, ruined". "Meal service was first come first served for the four passengers in first class. I understand regular wear and tear. But this was next level. I did not file any complaint with Air India but through social media they saw this video. They called me and refunded my entire flight (fare)... they did make it right and it's worth noting," Patel said on Insta. Comments were sought from AI on this most recent refund and reply awaited till the time of going to press.

SC's YouTube channel hacked

New Delhi: Supreme Court's YouTube channel was hacked on Friday and showing videos promoting a cryptocurrency developed by US-based company Ripple Labs. A blank video with titled "Brad Garlinghouse: Ripple Responds To The SEC's \$2 Billion Fine! XRP PRICE PREDICTION" is currently live on the channel.

"This is to inform all concerned that YouTube channel of SC has been taken down. The services on YouTube channel will be resumed shortly," a notice posted on apex court website said. In a unanimous decision taken by the recent full court meeting headed by the then CJI UU Lalit, the top court decided to live-stream proceedings of all constitution bench hearings following a path-breaking verdict in 2018. PTI

'Grief comes and goes in waves but look for memories you can cherish'

To help readers cope with their anxieties in these stressful times, TOI has launched *Talk it Out*, a series in which expert counsellors answer your mental health queries. This week's advice is from counselling psychotherapist Aastha Chaudhry

I am from a middle-class family with agricultural roots. I have cleared company secretary exams and am practising now. I got into an arranged marriage six years ago and life was going well. We had two children. However, earlier this year, my wife passed away due to a cardiac arrest. Since the loss, all kinds of negative thoughts come to my mind. But seeing the kids and my parents, I continued to bear the pain and made myself busy with parenting, gym, and office work. I recently got married to a girl on my parents' recommendation. She looks after the children but not as much as my wife used to, which hurts me. Whenever I meet an old relative, it reminds me of what used to be. The pain is immense. Suicidal thoughts are coming into my mind. I'm not able to focus on work as well. Kindly help.



you will become cherishable then. Share this loss and love with someone who'd relate with the pain. Maybe your children would like to share that space with you? Remember that you carry your wife's dreams and love with you, everywhere you go and in every relationship.

I am a class 10 student. Since childhood, I have always been a bright student but these days I feel very low and unmotivated. I always have a fear of failure. My parents tell me to pursue my dream, but whenever I express my desire, they disappoint me. I don't feel confident in myself and am developing trust issues. I'm not even sure about my goals and feel like I'm not capable of doing anything. Please help.

As a school counsellor, I remember witnessing so many students who share this experience with you. As an adult, I remember what being in high school felt like, and calling it complex and petrifying would be reductive. It seems like you've been under immense stress and pressure, and dealing with all of that on your own can be really tough. When society rewards us for our academic accolades, it can be really hard to figure out what we really want. However, you're allowed to not have everything figured out. Try to give yourself permission to explore your true interests, however shifting and temporary, and find something that makes you feel like you belong. I promise you this: none of us "adults" have anything figured out, we just learn to mask our insecurities better. I feel saddened to hear about the dip in confidence and emerging trust issues. Have you tried communicating with your parents how you feel? Is there someone in your life who makes you feel appreciated and shows faith in you? You could also seek support from your school counsellor or a therapist.

I am a class 8 student performing well in academics and extracurriculars. However, I'm worried about my future. I want to pursue a career in an entertainment company, but my parents won't let me make my own decisions, specifically my father. They say I would rather be a teacher like them or a staff nurse, and I'll regret if I don't follow their advice. I'm very good at dancing, singing and rapping. My mother mostly stands by me but sometimes gets carried away by my father's words. Although I am strongly determined to make my dreams come true, the thought of no one being by my side scares me. I have been very mature since childhood and have gone through a lot of mental abuse by my mother. Whenever I made a mistake, she'd get angry and say abusive words. Now, I don't even tear up as I am used to it. Please help.

Firstly, your conviction is commendable, and I can't wait to see you transform into the artist you're meant to be. I'm sorry you don't have enough support at home, and I can imagine how heart-breaking that must be. I'd encourage you to consider speaking with a therapist to help work through all the abuse you have survived and to support you with your very valid anxieties. It seems like you feel really isolated, and that can be so difficult. I assure you that you'll find your community of people who'll never leave your side. I hope that you're able to seek someone, and it could be a teacher/classmate/neighbor/mentor who believes in your ambition. It can be very difficult to manage family expectations while working towards our own goals, and maybe a therapist can help with some strategies. If your school is inclusive, you can also seek their support to help educate your family. In the

meantime, don't give up on what you want. It's clear that you're an artist, and that's an identity you can never lose.

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'Art 370 reserved jobs and land; it's important for us'

Subodh.Ghildiyal | timesofindia.com

Ganderbal (Kashmir): His flowing beard evokes a picture of piety and his humble tone of a decent young man. His cakes and pastries suggest a passion to bake. But his lament runs a dagger deep through the heart.

Aamir Nazir (29) is an engineer from Kashmir University, a 2020 graduate, who is making a living by selling tea and snacks on a highway passing through the 'Ganderbal garage' area. He banks on good local traffic and booming tourism to Sonmarg. "I am still doing something. I was an average student. But even the toppers of my batch are without jobs," he said. And to underline, Aamir is vocal about Article 370.

Special status for J&K, under whose shadow is unfolding the 2024 assembly election, evokes strong emotions. But for youngsters like Aamir, the junked provision is as utilitarian as a livelihood question. "Article 370 reserved jobs and land for us. It's important for my genera-

tion," he reasoned.

Throughout the region, the anger over nullification of Article 370 has triggered the people to rush to voting booths in hordes. But it is also a sentiment that connects with the cry for jobs and incomes echoing from Anantnag to Srinagar to Ganderbal.

Aamir claims he cannot compete with engineering graduates from Delhi and that posts advertised in J&K are attracting those settling in Jammu. He insists it's true.

The fate of Article 370 has appeared sealed over the last five years. But along the highways and in cities and towns of Kashmir, there is no dearth of those who claim that "protection of jobs and land exist in many states like Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand".

There are sharp concerns about the cultural dimensions of existence sans the special status but people are also eagerly hoping that a new govt will help the youth stand on their feet.

Amid discussions over the fate of National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah, Mohd Sultan, who heads



Supporters cheer during PM Modi's roadshow in Katra on Thursday

a 'transport union' in Ganderbal, said, "The job scene is bad. Educated are without work. And, prices are high. Life is very difficult."

Desperate for an elected govt for the last six years and facing routine difficulties, people in villages and towns alike are waiting for the installation of local MLAs whom they can approach with their problems. It will be interesting to see what MLAs, ministers and govt would face post October 8, given the mounting grievances over jobs, electricity, roads, jailed youth, schools etc.

"We want our govt and MLAs. That is the reason why voting will be high," said Sultan, seconded by Abdul Qadar and Mohd Yaseen. It is a view

expressed by Mohd Saleem in Bijbehara and Tahir in Srinagar. High voting in Kashmir has a reason, and it is the desperation for an open door of an elected representative where residents can go and plead with hope, and leave with optimism, true or misplaced. Aamir said he appeared for panchayat assistant exam that was clouded by paper leak allegations and for engineer's post by the Service Selection Board in 2023 which he did not pass.

"I worked as a delivery boy for one and a half years and saved Rs 60,000 to start this shop," Aamir said, carrying a tray of fresh pastries. Call it the swelling pride of a trier, or wrenching regret of a failure.

Over two dozen ex-militants, separatists, former Jamaat members in J&K poll fray

Saleem.pandit | timesofindia.com

Srinagar: At least 25 former militants, separatists, and members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami, and their relatives are running as independent candidates or on party tickets in J&K first assembly elections in a decade. This marks a notable shift towards mainstream political participation, moving away from the separatist boycotts that have dominated polls during three decades of militancy.

The list of candidates includes prominent former separatists such as Zaffar Habib Dar, Syed Saleem Geelani, Javid Hubbi, and Aga Muntazir Mehdi. Zaffar is running as a candidate for J&K Apni Party. He sees participation in the democratic process as the key to resolving the issues in an altered scenario since the abrogation of Article 370 in Aug 2019 and the bifurcation of the region into Union Territories — J&K and Ladakh. "We can solve problems



Ex-Hurriyat member Syed Saleem Geelani joins PDP in presence of party chief Mehbooba Mufti on Sept 1

only through the electoral process. Everyone should participate in the electoral process by casting their vote," Dar said.

JKLF ex-commander Farooq Ahmad Dar are among those running. Dar, also known as Saifullah Farooq, is running on a Samajwadi Party ticket from Habba Kadal constituency. Farooq, who was among the first militants in 1989 and crossed over to POK for arms training, now regrets his decision. "That time everyone picked up the gun. We were misguided by Pakistan agents in Kashmir," Dar said.

After a year of militancy, he surrendered to police and spent nearly five years in jail. Farooq, who ran in the 2019 municipal elections on a BJP ticket, is now appealing to voters, emphasising his opposition to Pakistan's interference in Kashmir.

The Jamaat has strategically fielded independent candidates in about 15 constituencies, including Pulwama, Kulgam, Zainapora, and Devsar in south Kashmir, and Beerwah, Langate, Bandipora, Baramulla, Sopore, and Rafiabad in the north. Notable candidates include Talat Majid, Sayaan Ahmad, and Hafiz Mohammad. The Jamaat participated in elections until 1987. It had Hurriyat leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani serve as an MLA for three terms before the assembly was dissolved in 1990 because of militancy.

Former member Sayaan Ahmad reflected on the organisation's long absence from electoral politics. "We never called a poll boycott. We stayed away from elections as

there was rigging in the 1987 assembly elections in which Jamaat-Islami candidates were also contesting," Ahmad said, asserting that participation in elections is now seen as the only way to address the region's long-standing issues.

The former militants and separatists have banded together to form a political group named Tahreek-e-Awam to contest the polls.

According to sources, the decision by these former separatists was influenced by the success of Abdul Rashid Sheikh, better known as Engineer Rashid, who defeated National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah and People's Conference president Sajad Gani Lone in Baramulla during the Lok Sabha polls despite being imprisoned.

Rashid managed to secure more than 4.7 lakh votes, largely attributed to sympathy and Kashmiri sentiment. Members of Tahreek-e-Awam see an opportunity in this wave of sentiment and aim to replicate Rashid's success, sources said.

Talk it Out

WANT SOME ADVICE?

Sharing can help your recovery so write to us at talkitout@timesofindia.com with your question, name and place. But if you wish to stay anonymous, do indicate that in your email.

You can also visit bit.ly/TOITalkitOut or scan this QR code to send in your concern.





SEAN 'DIDDY' COMBS PLACED ON SUICIDE WATCH WHILE AWAITING TRIAL IN SEX CRIMES CASE, SAY REPORTS

LADY GAGA REVEALS WHY SHE NEVER DENIED EARLY RUMOURS SHE WAS A MAN: 'I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE A VICTIM & THOUGHT IT WAS FUNNY'

Israel's 'targeted strike' kills Hezbollah ops chief in Beirut

10 Other Commanders Also Killed; Outfit Was Planning Attack On Israelis: Tel Aviv



An injured man is evacuated from the site of Israeli air strikes in the southern suburbs of Beirut in Lebanon on Friday as a crowd gathers

Beirut/Jerusalem: Israel killed a top Hezbollah commander in an air strike on Beirut's southern suburbs Friday, sharply escalating the year-long conflict between Israel and the Iran-backed group. Israel's military said Hezbollah's operations commander Ibrahim Aqil, who serves on the group's top military body, was killed along with 10 other commanders in a "targeted strike". They "were planning" an attack on northern Israel in which they "intended to infiltrate Israeli communities and murder innocent civilians", military spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said. The strike inflicted another blow on Hezbollah after the group suffered an unprecedented attack in which paggers and walkie-talkies used by its members exploded, killing 37 people and wounding thousands. That attack was widely believed to have been carried out by Israel, which neither confirmed or denied its involvement.

It marks the second time in less than two months that Israel has targeted a leading Hezbollah military commander in Beirut. In July, an Israeli strike killed Fuad Shukur, the group's top military commander. The Israeli military reported warning sirens sounded in northern Israel following the Beirut strike. Israeli media reported heavy rocket fire in northern Israel. Hezbollah said it had fired Katyusha rockets at what it described as the main intelligence headquarters in northern Israel "which is responsible for assassinations". A White House spokesman said he was not aware of any Israeli notification to the US before the Beirut strike. "War is not inevitable, and we're going to continue to do everything we can to try to prevent it," Israeli newspapers reported that due to the current situation, PM Netanyahu had delayed his trip to New York for the UNGA next week by a day and would arrive on Wednesday. **REUTERS & AFP**

\$7m bounty on head, slain commander was wanted for 1983 US marine blast

Beirut: Ibrahim Aqil, the Hezbollah operations commander killed in an Israeli strike on Friday, had a \$7 million bounty on his head for two 1983 Beirut truck bombings that killed more than 300 people at the American embassy and a US Marines barracks. Aqil, who has also used the aliases Tahsin and Abdelqader, was the second member of Hezbollah's top military body, the Jihad Council, to be killed in two months after an Israeli strike in the same area targeted Fuad Shukur in July. Over the past two decades, Israel has slowly killed many of the Jihad Council's members, who are some of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah's closest advisers. Like Shukur, Aqil is a veteran of Hezbollah, which was founded by Iran's Revolutiona-

ry Guards in the early 1980s to battle Israeli forces that had invaded and occupied Lebanon. The US accuses him of a role in the Beirut truck bombings at the American embassy in April 1983, which killed 63 people, and a US Marine barracks six months later that killed 241 people. It further accused him of directing the abduction of American and German hostages in Lebanon and listed him as a specially designated global terrorist in 2019. When Shukur was killed, it was seen as the heaviest blow to its command structure since the 2008 killing of Imad Mughniyah, remembered by Hezbollah as a legendary commander. Aqil, whose bounty was set by the US at an even higher value than that of Shukur's, may prove a similar blow. **REUTERS**

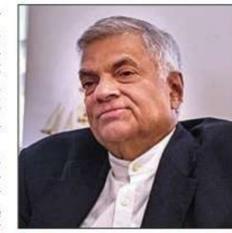


Ibrahim Aqil

'We don't see BRI as a threat to India as far as what we are doing'

As Sri Lanka votes in presidential poll today, interim prez Ranil Wickremesinghe spoke to Padma Rao Sundarji on a range of issues. Excerpts:

Marxist-Leninist Anura Kumara Dissanayake (AKD), represents 'revolution from the bottom', you represent 'continuity', and Sajith Premadasa represents a mix. What makes you stand apart from the two?
 ■ It is not a question of bottom to top, but about who was willing to take on responsibility in 2022... I took over because the others were unwilling to. I represent the ability to confront challenges and overcome them. They represent the willingness to run away.



TOI INTERVIEW

to be changing anything. We must get all ongoing projects off the ground as fast as possible, to create jobs.

Sri Lanka is member of China's BRI. In March 2024, its external debt totalled \$55.4 billion. There have been frequent visits by China's navy in the guise of 'research vessels'. Indian analysts say there are only two reasons: to entrap your country in debt and to establish military presence in the Indian Ocean. How are you going to address these concerns?
 ■ We don't see the BRI as a threat to India as far as what we are doing is concerned. But we have always said even before, that there are security concerns, they should be addressed by us, and that we must discuss with India and decide how to tackle them.

All the groupings you mention include China. Are you not looking to join others that exclude that country?
 ■ These are not military, but commercial and political organisations. In any case, what's the problem? I mean are we to leave the UN because China is in it? Why, even India is there in BRICS along with China, in fact they started it, not us!

The Tamils of north and east Sri Lanka are miffed with you because you promised them a committee, new statutes... but have not delivered. A faction has even floated its own independent Tamil candidate in the presidential poll, for the first time in the history of Sri Lanka
 ■ Their floating a Tamil candidate has more to do with their Tamil parties and not with me.

NHRC has rolled forward a repeated resolution on 'accountability' for alleged genocide by the Lankan armed forces at the end of the civil war in 2009 and on thousands of 'disappearances' in Sri Lanka. How are you addressing those concerns?
 ■ We have a Truth and Reconciliation Commission law, which will be enacted. We have implemented other mechanisms too. But we have said accountability comes within the framework of Lanka's jurisdictions, and Lankan judges. We have no problems if others want to come in as observers. But the final decision has to be made by our judges.

Will you go into retirement?
 ■ No politician ever retires. As long as people want me, I will continue in one form or another. (Q&A by Padma Rao Sundarji)

There are many projects and investments by India in Sri Lanka. Analysts say a land bridge is a 'done deal'. Are all these really projects Sri Lanka needs?
 ■ On the land bridge, there are certainly ecological concerns. But India is doing a feasibility study. Until that is done, there won't be much output from Sri Lanka. Still, Sri Lanka and India have to work together on economic issues. The Vision Statement put out by myself and PM Narendra Modi contains references to that. One of the areas we have identified is renewable energy. And since India is willing to buy Sri Lanka's renewable energy, it is natural that some of India's entrepreneurs will want to invest in Sri Lanka.

Earlier this week, AKD said a \$442m wind power project by Adani Green Energy in Mannar and Pooneeryn in northern Sri Lanka will be cancelled if he is elected president. Are you also taking a second look at it?
 ■ There is an ongoing court case against that project. So we will have to study it at the time the audit is given. Other than that, I don't see any need

The BRI stands discredited in many countries. In light of the economic crisis in Sri Lanka, can you pull out?
 ■ We don't see a problem with BRI and it won't create a problem for India either.

Apart from BRICS, does any other Indo-Pacific grouping interest Sri Lanka?
 ■ We are in BIMSTEC and we have applied to join the Regio-

Woman whose firm was linked to exploding paggers 'receives threats, put under Hungary's protection'

Rome: The woman whose company was linked to thousands of paggers that exploded in Lebanon and Syria this week is under the protection of the Hungarian secret services, her mother told AP on Friday. Cristiana Barsony-Arcidiano has not appeared publicly since the deadly simultaneous attack that targeted Hezbollah on Tuesday and that has been widely blamed on Israel. She is listed as the CEO of Budapest-based BAC Consulting, which the Taiwanese trademark holder of the paggers said

Israel probes soldiers throwing bodies off roof
 The Israeli military said on Friday it had opened an investigation after videos showed soldiers pushing what appear to be dead bodies off a roof in the occupied West Bank during a raid against Palestinian militants. The videos, which began circulating online Thursday, showed three soldiers on the roof of a building in the town of Qabatiya, dragging, pushing, throwing and in one case kicking what appear to be dead men off the edge. The Israeli military said the incident was serious and was not in keeping with its values. **REUTERS**

was responsible for the manufacture of the devices. Her mother, Beatrix Barsony-Arcidiano, told the AP that her daughter had received unspecified threats and "is currently in a safe place protected by the Hungarian secret services". Hungary's national security authorities did not respond to a request for comment. Two days of attacks this

week, first targeting paggers and then walkie-talkies, have killed at least 37 people and wounded more than 3,000. Cristiana Barsony-Arcidiano's company came under scrutiny after Gold Apollo, a Taiwanese firm, said it had authorised BAC Consulting to use its name on the paggers, but that the Hungarian firm was responsible for manufacturing. On Wednesday, a Hungarian govt said the paggers delivered to Hezbollah were never in Hungary, and that BAC Consulting merely acted as an intermediary. **AP**

Study: At 2m Indians lead pool of educated immigrants in US

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

A recent analysis done by the Migration Policy Institute (MPI), a US-based thinktank, revealed that nearly 48% of 'recent' immigrants—those arriving in the US between 2018 and 2022—held a college degree. Thirty-five percent of all immigrant adults (14.1 million people) had a bachelor's degree or higher as of 2022, roughly similar to the 36% of all US-born adults (67.8 million) who graduated college, cites this study by Jeanne Batalova, a senior policy analyst. India led the global pool of educated immigrants, constituting 2 million degree holders, or 14% of the total educated immigrant population. China (including Hong Kong) followed with 1.1 million educated immigrants, making up 7.9% of the total college-educated immigrant population as of 2022. The Philippines and Mexico followed with 7% and 6%, respectively. The analysis relied on data from the US Census Bureau (2022 ACS). Some college-educated immigrants come to the US on

Country	Numbers (as of 2022)	Percentage to total
India	2,038,176	14.4
China (incl HK)	1,118,166	7.9
Philippines	976,626	6.9
Mexico	891,702	6.3
South Korea	552,006	3.9

Total of educated immigrants: 14,154,000 (aged 25 and older)

temporary visas for high-skilled workers and researchers, or as family members of US residents, or as humanitarian migrants, or via other paths. Others obtain their education once they are in the US. The analysis does not reflect the numbers of college-educated immigrants as of 2022 as against the stock in each of the previous years. However, it analyses the number of college-educated immigrants arriving between 2018-2022, this inflow was 1.7 million. Nearly 20% of this inflow was from India. College-educated immigrants are likely to be proficient in English, with 74% reporting speaking only English or speaking English 've-

ry well' in 2022. Highly skilled immigrants are more likely to have advanced degrees than their US-born counterparts. In 2022, 15% of immigrant college graduates held professional or doctoral degrees, compared to 11% of their US-born counterparts. Both groups were roughly equally likely to have a master's degree (30% for the foreign born and 28% for the US born). The top five occupational groups for immigrant college graduates were management (16%), computer and mathematical occupations (13%), health practitioners and technicians (11%), business and financial operations (10%), and education and related occupations (9%).

Pak blasphemy case: Police 'encounter' leaves accused dead

Omer Farooq Khan | TN

Islamabad: Police in Pakistan's southern Sindh province shot dead a man accused of blasphemy in an alleged encounter on Thursday, drawing condemnation from the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. The incident took place in Mirpur Khas a day after violent protests were held by certain religious groups against Dr Shah Nawaz Kanbar, a resident of Umarot district, for posting blasphemous content on social media. During the protest, demonstrators set a police mobile van on fire. The situation calmed only after police assured protesters that a case would be registered against the Kanbar. Kanbar went into hiding on Tuesday. Kanbar is the second blasphemy suspect in Pakistan to be shot dead by police in the span of a week. "Dr Shah Nawaz Kanbar was killed mistakenly in a shootout with cops who did not know it was him," claimed local police chief Niaz Khoso. After the "encounter", the body was handed over to the family, who brought it to his native village for burial. But there a mob managed to grab the corpse and set it on fire. Earlier, on Sept 11, a police constable had gunned down blasphemy suspect Abdul Ali, a hotel owner, inside a police station in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan province. The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, which expressed "grave concern" over the alleged "extrajudicial killing of two people accused of blasphemy," strongly condemned the deaths.

Trump ratchets up anti-immigrant rhetoric

Says Will Visit Cities Where He Claims 'Haitians Eat Pets' & 'Venezuelan Gangs' Rule

Chidanand Rajhatta | TN

Washington: Best known as the fictional setting for "The Simpsons" cartoon series even though there are 67 real American towns with the same name, Springfield, Ohio, is bracing for a proposed Donald Trump visit even as he ratchets up his campaign against recent immigrants, saying Democrats are enlisting them to vote in the upcoming presidential elections. So fearful of his visit is the town—already a tinderbox of bomb threats after he spread the canard about immigrants there eating pet dogs and cats—that even its Republican mayor Rob Rue is pleading with him not to come. Ohio's Republican governor, Mike DeWine, has also debunked the story amid growing disquiet in the GOP establishment over Trump and his running mate, JD Vance, taking extreme positions endangering the Republican majority in Congress, which also goes to polls on Nov 5. But with his opponent Ka-



Trump claims Dems are enlisting illegal immigrants to vote for them

mala Harris edging ahead in most polls, Trump is in no mood to retort his campaign now centring on the purported immigrant invasion of America which, he argues, will skew the results of the Nov elections. On Saturday, the former president posted a manipulated video on social media showing Kamala Harris welcoming immigrants streaming across the border and asking them to vote for her. The MAGA (Make America Great Again) supreme has not announced a date for his Springfield visit (he has also said he will go to Aurora, Colorado, where he has falsely said Venezuelan gangs have taken over the city). Despite very little evidence and very few instances of illegal immigrants

included citizens from Japan, Germany, and Italy. Many poll analysts and think tanks have said non-citizen voting is not a big issue and does not alter election results. Trump's grandstanding is ostensibly aimed at casting doubts on the authenticity of the 2024 elections, where the presidential outcome aside (which is decided by the electoral college), he is again expected to suffer an embarrassing loss in terms of popular vote—he lost by nearly three million votes in 2016, and seven million in 2020. About one in 10 US voters (totalling around 24 million) is a foreign-born immigrant who has become a naturalised citizen, and is therefore eligible to vote. Some MAGA radicals have argued that only US-born citizens should be eligible to vote. Incidentally, "The Simpsons" series features a fictional Indian immigrant named Apu Nahasapeemapetilon. He is a naturalised US citizen who runs a corner store in Springfield, and he also has a PhD in computer science.

Incidentally, "The Simpsons" series features a fictional Indian immigrant named Apu Nahasapeemapetilon. He is a naturalised US citizen who runs a corner store in Springfield, and he also has a PhD in computer science.

Kamala basks in star power, but can it power her to White House?

Chidanand Rajhatta | TN

Washington: If star-power and celebrity endorsement could swing the US prez elections, Kamala Harris may well have it in the bag. Meryl Streep, Julia Roberts and Jennifer Lopez were among the celebrities who pitched for the Democratic candidate in an emotional online event hosted by Oprah Winfrey centering on women's reproductive rights, a lightning rod for female voters in America. Members in the live audience dabbed tears on Thursday as Winfrey introduced the mother of a Georgia woman who died after waiting for medical attention in a state that has banned most abortions. They also gave a standing ovation to a 22-year-old Kentucky woman who said she had been raped and impregnated by her stepfather, and that Trump's support for overturning constitutionally protected abortion rights took away women's freedom. The 90-minute event brought together over 100 online groups, including White Dudes for



HOLLYWOOD'S FAVE: Harris held a star-studded event hosted by talk show legend Oprah Winfrey on Thursday. Hollywood stars Jennifer Lopez, Meryl Streep & Julia Roberts beamed in remotely to lavish praise

ridiculed the Oprah-Harris event and the Democratic Party as "elitist", but still boasted of a new endorsement—from singer Lady Gaga's father. Trump has become increasingly resentful of celebrity support for Harris, petulantly tweeting "I HATE TAYLOR SWIFT" after the singer endorsed her last week. In a recent video clip posted on X, the actress Jane Fonda, who is now 86, was seen canvassing door-to-door for Harris in Michigan. The Democratic switch from Biden to Harris was triggered by another Hollywood celebrity—George Clooney. None of this is guaranteed to power Harris to the White House although there has been a massive uptick in voter registration among young people after Swift's endorsement. Harris herself has repeatedly urged supporters to take nothing for granted and said she, her side is the "underdog" in the race. Winfrey echoed the sentiment at the event, saying, "We love having you here, but the rah-rah moment is going to end, and then we need to get to work."

In N Carolina, GOP gov candidate hit by 'Black Nazi' claims
Washington: The Republican candidate for governor of North Carolina rebuffed calls Thursday to drop out of the race following a report that he called himself a "Black Nazi" and made other incendiary comments on a porn website message board. A number of Republican officials are reportedly pushing Mark Robinson to drop out, fearing his candidacy could impact the Nov elections. Robinson denounced the report by the CNN cable television network as "salacious tabloid lies". According to CNN, Robinson was active more than a decade ago on the message board of a porn site called "Nude Africa," calling himself a "perv" and a "Black Nazi" and making lewd comments. Robinson, an African American, also attacked civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr, calling him a "commie b****d," CNN said. He also allegedly said on the message board that slavery is "not bad... I would certainly buy a few." Robinson has been dogged by his controversial past comments such as calling the Holocaust "hogwash". **AFP**

DAILY PLANET

Nintendo sues 'Pokémon with guns' video game over copyright
Japan's Nintendo said Thursday it has filed a lawsuit accusing the developer of a video game jokingly dubbed "Pokémon with guns" of patent infringement. Nintendo and The Pokémon Company are suing Pocket-

pair, the Japan-based studio behind the "Palworld" game that became a viral hit when its prototype was released in Jan. "Palworld"—which sold more than 5 million copies in just three days—features weapon-wielding player avatars and monsters that look similar to the creatures of Nintendo's wildly popular "Pokémon" franchise giving it the nickname "Pokémon with guns".

X goes offline in Brazil after brief return: Elon Musk's X platform went back offline in Brazil Thursday, a day after it resumed service in contravention of a judicial ban, internet providers said. Brazil's SC had earlier in the day ordered X to suspend access to the platform. X was banned last month. X said the return of its service was "inadvertent and temporary".



A thought for today

There are some subjects that can only be tackled in fiction

JOHN LE CARRE

Spooks' People Skills

Tech has supercharged spying. But humint is still key

Booby-trapped devices are nothing new. But even seasoned espionage agencies are shaken and stirred by the weaponisation of supply chains in Lebanon's exploding pager and walkie-talkie attacks. Vulnerability of supply chains – compromising hardware or software at source – has long been flagged in threat assessments, especially when supply chains include rival nations. A terrible successful first, Lebanon attacks were but a demonstration of the extent of harm and synchronicity that can be inbuilt into devices.

It is barely disputed the attack has Mossad's stamp. Satcom, cybertech and advanced surveillance networks have taken the art and science of espionage to levels almost indecipherable for those not fed on a diet of spy thrillers. Even the literature on the genre, of deception and manipulation, infiltration and ciphers, of dead drops and dead men, cyberspies and APTs (advanced persistent threats), has evolved with the changing nature of the world's second oldest profession.

Spying remains mostly boring work, poring over tonnes of info, far removed from the glamour or romance of very early spy tales. If Maugham's Richard Ashenden (1928) was the first secret agent with a touch of reality – the short stories based on Maugham's own experience with British intelligence – real-life accounts of a Kim Philby or Aldrich Ames, of unlikely spy Virginia Hall or legendary Soviet secret agent Richard Sorge, were about ordinary men and women trained for extraordinary circumstances.

But here's the thing. Successful attacks make news, while the novels, stories and reels deal mostly with thwarting plans and attacks. The Lebanon attack, long in the making, came just two weeks before the first anniversary of the Oct 7 Hamas attack – that Israeli intelligence spectacularly missed. All the spook-gadgetry in the world can come to naught if humint can't make sense of the chatter.

Don't Judge

Courts should refuse to hear pleas against creative freedom

Bombay HC was spot on saying creative freedom can't be held hostage to law and order problems. Hearing a case against denial of film certification to *Emergency*, it directed the Censor Board to make a decision by Sep 25. But while this HC got it right, many HCs and other courts have ruled otherwise. This inconsistency doesn't help the cause of freedom of expression. MP HC had issued a notice to the Censor Board on the same movie, for example.

The bigger point is whether courts should be venturing into this domain at all. As SC itself observed in the *Adipurush* case, "everyone is touchy about everything now." By entertaining petitions over "hurt sensibilities" and becoming arbiters of what is kosher, courts end up granting censorship calls legitimacy they shouldn't have. As it is, India has an inglorious record on censorship of films and books over decades. For the longest time, creative output

hasn't had a judicial eye on it in other democracies. Literature classics like *Lady Chatterley's Lover* or *Lolita* were proscribed in some Western countries. But those days are over. They should be over in India, too. For movies, India has a regulator. GOI should reconstitute the censor board appellate tribunal – abolished in 2021 – to hear appeals. Courts should refuse to hear such petitions. They have better things to do – the case backlog is over 50mn.

Why AI Can Harm Us How We Can Stop It

Harari dips into ancient history to analyse the newest threat

Humans are at once the smartest and the most stupid animals on earth, says Yuval Noah Harari in *Nexus: A Brief History of Information Networks from the Stone Age to AI*. We produce nuclear missiles and algorithms that have the power to destroy us. Why? Because our information networks are predisposed to using power unwisely. Networks bind members, through fiction, fantasy and mass delusion. Nazism and Stalinism were exceptionally powerful but ignorant networks, the book argues.

Tech entrepreneurs often espouse a rosy view of information, suggesting that AI is the key to our pressing challenges. But despite the fact that your smartphone now contains more information than the library of Alexandria, humans have never been closer to annihilating themselves.

Meanwhile, the populist view of information claims there is no truth. Power is the only reality. While this sceptical view has roots in the radical left, it is now echoed by right-wing figures like Trump and Bolsonaro.

The book seeks a middle ground between these two extremes. It explores the nature of information flows in the ancient past and present-day states, from the church and its schisms to rival political systems, and the roles of mythology and bureaucracy.

We have dramatically increased connectivity, between the Stone Age and the Silicon Age – global networks link billions of people through common stories. Stories are an information technology, as are bureaucratic lists and documents. Bureaucracy may oversimplify complex reality, but there's no better way to manage large-scale human networks.

The problem is when networks don't self-correct. A dictatorship, for instance, is a centralised information network that lacks strong self-correcting

mechanisms, while a democracy is a distributed information network that has them. Mass media enables mass democracy, but the 20th century also saw totalitarian regimes that aimed to control every aspect of people's lives and concentrate power with no checks.

Harari says, with AI, we are creating an "alien inorganic intelligence", argues that this is an entirely new realm, and we only have a small window of time to shape our future.

Will AI favour democratic or totalitarian regimes, will it tend towards truth or order? The book argues that AI is like nothing that's come before, and a new Silicon Curtain may divide humans from unfathomable algorithmic overlords. It could as easily cause catastrophic harm. It can process

information and generate new ideas – it is not a tool, but an agent. Algorithms already make crucial decisions for us and know us better than we know ourselves. They can hack the human operating system, manipulate us with stories. They can surveil us intimately, even getting under our skin and reading our bodily signals. This non-human intelligence has enormous power, but it can also be wrong, misaligned with larger goals. An inter-computer reality could dominate human intersubjective reality.

The book suggests ways to mould tech in a democratic direction, baking in principles of benevolence, decentralisation and mutual openness. Bots that swamp and shape public discourse should be banned, to keep democracies safe. Today, US and China are AI superpowers, and their digital spheres are taking distinct shapes, dividing the world into separate information cocoons. Does international regulation of AI stand a chance?

Creating wiser information networks calls for building human institutions with strong self-correcting mechanisms. This is mundane work, but it matters the most.

mindfield

SHORT TAKES ON BIG IDEAS



Dilemma For Netanyahu, Nasrallah

As Israel-Hezbollah conflict broadens... Can Israelis live through another war after 11 months of Gaza attacks? Can Hezbollah gamble with the future of Lebanon, its own and its chief's fate?

Attila Somfalvi



Columnist based in Tel Aviv

Israel's escalation strategy in this war – on Friday evening, Indian time, Israeli air force carried out strikes in Beirut – is not about the sheer quantity of explosives dropped on Lebanon, but rather about the precision of intelligence and the willingness to carry out pinpoint, lethal operations. This was evident in the elimination of Hezbollah's chief of staff Shukur, in the assassination of Hamas leader Haniyeh in Tehran, and in the destruction of pagers, communication devices, and the targeting of other Hezbollah officials hiding in Beirut's Dahiya district.

In the early months of the war, Israel avoided striking high-ranking Hezbollah leaders, but in recent weeks, that restraint has become irrelevant. Even as these words are being written, officials in the Tel Aviv war room are awaiting updated intelligence on another Israeli airstrike in Dahiya – this time, it appears, aimed at taking out Nasrallah's head of operations.

Israel's focus has shifted. Rather than indiscriminate bombardment, the emphasis is now on decapitating the leadership of Hezbollah, a shift that signals the changing dynamics of the conflict. And as long as the intelligence remains sharp, these strikes will continue to undermine Hezbollah's operational capabilities.

This conflict between Israel and Hezbollah has evolved into one of the most bizarre hostilities on the planet today. For the past 11 months, the two sides have been pummeling each other with every possible means – launching missiles, dropping bombs, deploying drones, engaging in intelligence operations that seem straight out of a

James Bond film (mostly Israel).

Every few days or weeks, almost as if following a scripted plot, someone declares a "red line" has been crossed, threatening an unprecedented, earth-shattering retaliation that will be remembered for generations. Then, after a few days of heightened tension, the "revenge" is carried out. The parties accept the outcome and return to battering one another exactly as they did before the supposed red line was crossed. From all the evidence accumulated over these 11 months of skirmishing, it's clear that neither Hezbollah nor Israel truly wants to escalate into a full-scale war.

This war of attrition, which has

half, Israel has begun to shift course – both in rhetoric and action. While the war in Gaza nears its conclusion, with or without an official declaration, the threats of a northern war have grown increasingly tangible.

This week, Israel revealed – without explicitly admitting it – some of its most extraordinary capabilities, simultaneously neutralising thousands of pagers and communication devices used by Hezbollah operatives. Though Israeli officials declined to comment on this remarkable operation, they see it as having restored Israel's intelligence services to their rightful place among the world's best. Hezbollah's secretary-general Hassan

forces are lurking. That reality is simply untenable. UN Security Council Resolution 1701, passed after the 2006 Lebanon War, has eroded over time, allowing Hezbollah's terrorist forces to establish themselves along Israel's northern border, just metres from the comfortable homes of Israeli citizens. For many years, this arrangement was a modus vivendi that Israelis could live with. After Oct 7, however, this will no longer be tolerated.

Thus, Israel must achieve a decisive outcome – whether through diplomatic channels or by unleashing its formidable firepower. Yet, unlike Gaza, Hezbollah presents an entirely different challenge: more painful, more threatening, more heavily armed, more determined, and far more supported by Iran.

While Lebanon would burn, and Israel could potentially send the country back centuries in time, the cost to Israel would also be steep. Hezbollah has amassed more than 100,000 missiles and rockets over the years, along with drones and advanced weaponry, capable of wreaking havoc on Israeli cities – despite Israel's exceptional air defence systems.

Are we on the brink of a broader war? It remains unclear. Both Israel and Hezbollah know that neither would emerge from such a conflict unscathed. The costs would be immense. Yet Israel understands that the current threatening reality cannot continue. No sane nation would tolerate threats of this nature on its borders, and no sovereign state can exist with terrorists and missiles looming at its fence.

The question now is whether Hassan Nasrallah will take the hint from Israel's intelligence operations this week or gamble with Lebanon, his organisation, and perhaps even himself. For Israel, the question is whether its people, after 11 months of war, have the resilience to face a prolonged and unpredictable battle with an enemy that has been preparing for this very moment for decades.



displaced tens of thousands of Israelis from their homes in the north and emptied villages in southern Lebanon, seemed until recently to be an acceptable status quo for both sides.

Both recognise that their clash is inevitable, but neither side desires it. Each side, for its domestic audience, has spun a narrative: Hezbollah clings to its resistance as long as Israel operates in Gaza, while Israel broadcasts its focus on Gaza, signalling that it would prefer not to open a second front in the north.

However, this charade appears to be reaching its limit. In the past week and a

Nasrallah was forced to deliver a lengthy, dramatic speech filled with threats and curses, once again accusing Israel of crossing red lines.

Just days ago, Israel's war cabinet defined a new objective, one that had not been part of the initial goals of 'Operation Iron Swords': to return tens of thousands of Israelis to their homes in the north. To achieve this, Israel knows it must push Hezbollah back from the border.

No Israeli will return home after Oct 7 knowing that mere metres from their doorstep, Hezbollah's elite Radwan

Can Sri Lanka Really Afford A Regime Change?

The island nation votes today. Wickremesinghe stabilised the country after 2022's turmoil. But Lankans almost always vote out incumbents. Doing so this time, though, is inviting trouble

Padma Rao Sundarji



Columnist based in Sri Lanka

From grey to pink, orange to silver: Sri Lanka's skies shift hues all day. Over the past 15 years, its citizens, too, have repeatedly sought new political alternatives. So, will the presidential election today see yet another 'vote for change'?

In 2009, former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, revered for ending the 30-year-long separatist war in which 120,000 people were killed, sailed home to a second term. There followed a period of rapid development and reconstruction. But corruption and nepotism mounted, China laid its first debt-traps and the Rajapaksa family fell from grace.

In 2015, despite all else, there was relative prosperity. But the 'people's voice' – a term heard frequently in Sri Lanka right now – rose again and elected as president Maithripala Sirisena who promised 'good governance'. Barely two years later, his star waned. Sirisena had not undertaken constitutional reforms, there was a shortage of cash. MPs received additional perks, while unemployment, taxes and prices shot up. When 269 people were killed and 500 injured in ISIS terror attacks on Easter Day 2019, it proved the last straw.

The 'people's voice' dumped Sirisena and brought back the terrorist-vanquishing Rajapaksas. This time, Gotabaya Rajapaksa, Mahinda's younger brother (defence secretary at the time of LTTE's defeat), was elected president. Mahinda became PM and various Rajapaksas settled into other exalted posts.

By 2022, that second honeymoon had ended. Sri Lanka's economy collapsed completely. External loans had mounted, there was no foreign exchange to pay them off. The terror attacks and then the pandemic had dealt a blow to tourism, a revenue-earning mainstay. Gotabaya's total ban on chemical fertilisers destroyed Sri Lanka's export of tea, the Ukraine war caused a shortage of grain. There was no cooking gas and no petrol, even as ships laden with both, waited in the harbour to be paid first.

Protests spilled onto the streets and gov't responded with brute force. Anger turned into looting and arson,

Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned and Ranil Wickremesinghe was named interim PM. Gotabaya, too, stepped down and fled the country. Sri Lanka was rendered headless.

At the time, opposition leader Sajith Premadasa and Leninist-Marxist MP, Anura Kumara Dissanayake – who are both contesting today's presidential poll – had led thunderous demonstrations against the Rajapaksas. And yet, both declined the unenviable job at the helm of a broke and furious nation. It was left to Wickremesinghe, then 73, to take over as interim president.

Two years later, lavish weddings are in full swing, families are shooting the ocean breeze on the Galle Face



Green, tall hotel towers are ablaze with fairy lights, there is full occupancy. To anyone who witnessed the desperate scenes of grandmothers hauling gas cylinders forward, inch by inch, to keep their place in snaking queues during the 2022 crisis, Sri Lanka seems to have turned the corner.

And it is Wickremesinghe, an erstwhile foreign minister, opposition leader, and prime minister multiple times, who is behind that gradual revival. In the last two

years, the experienced politician has persuaded international donors to restructure external debt and ease pressure on Sri Lanka's coffers. He has cut public spending, raised taxes and controlled lending rates and inflation.

And yet, Sri Lanka's affluent chatterati – many of whom reside abroad – love to deride him as 'The Establishment'. In fashionable cafes at the Dutch Hospital shopping centre, they swear allegiance to either Dissanayake – known as 'AKD' – or the LSE graduate Premadasa before anyone who cares to listen. As for Namal Rajapaksa, 38, Mahinda's son who is also contesting with vigour, they have nothing but scorn. 'Woke' Sri Lankans also champion the 'Tamil Cause' vociferously but draw a blank when asked the name (Pakkiaselvam Ariyanethiran) of the first Tamil in their country's history to contest a presidential poll (this time).

Opinion polls have registered an upswing for Ranil Wickremesinghe, but still place AKD and Sajith Premadasa in the lead. "AKD represents the revolution, Premadasa the change and Wickremesinghe stands for stability," says leading activist Jehan Perera. "Remember: there's still a substantial percentage of undecided voters."

India played a leading role in helping ease Sri Lanka's crisis and many Sri Lankans acknowledge that help. South Block seems confident and unconcerned about who will win. But other than AKD playing to the gallery about how he will cancel a 'corrupt' wind power project awarded to Adani group, neither he nor Premadasa has clearly spelled out how they intend to address India's trade interests in Sri Lanka, and its security concerns over Chinese naval forays into Sri Lankan waters.

So, will Sri Lankans settle for the continuity that Wickremesinghe represents? Or bring in untested candidates at this very crucial time in the country's history, merely because they promise 'change'?

Ranil Wickremesinghe's election symbol is, aptly, a blue cooking gas cylinder. In response to a question by a local newspaper on what's at stake in today's poll, the seasoned politician sounded clear:

"The future of Sri Lanka, nothing else," he said. The writer is a foreign correspondent and author of Sri Lanka: The New Country

Calvin & Hobbes



Are Homo Sapiens Worth Saving?

Sonal Srivastava

Vietnamese Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh said in a statement on Climate Change for the United Nations that all civilisations are impermanent and must come to an end one day. "But if we continue on our current course, there's no doubt that our civilisation will be destroyed sooner than we think. The Earth may need millions of years to heal, to retrieve her balance and restore her beauty. She will be able to recover, but humans and many other species will disappear until the Earth can generate conditions to bring us forth again in new forms."

According to the World Economic Forum, billions of animals are slaughtered for food every year. One of the reasons for increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is the rearing of livestock for human consumption. Add to that deforestation, wars, massive

and whaling activities in the oceans, and other human activities that impact millions of different species and expedite the extinction of some.

The seeds of the Sixth Extinction may have been sown by modern Western philosopher René Descartes' argument that animals lack self-awareness, or emotions. His proposition – Cogito ergo sum, I think therefore I am – may have established humans' perceived superiority over other species and may have even unintentionally contributed to rationalising mechanised meat production as the Industrial Revolution powered the world.

Details of the sixth extinction may be disturbing. In the realm of environmental ethics and philosophy, there are discussions on how human actions impact other species and ecosystems

and how different species might be praying for human extinction. This brings us to the question of whether humans are worth saving. What is the point of saving a person who causes suffering by eating the flesh of other animals or destroys their habitat to serve his ends?

Movements such as the Voluntary Human Extinction Movement, VHEMT, has been advocating voluntary extinction of humanity by choosing not to reproduce, furthering the proposition that the cessation of human existence would prevent the degradation of the Earth's ecosystems.

Imagine grey wolves, Arctic foxes, hippopotamuses, rhinoceroses, cheetahs, tigers and lions roaming without a worry in urban concrete jungles in cities such as New York, London, Paris, New Delhi, Tokyo and Beijing.

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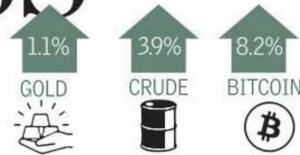


THE SPEAKING TREE

Sensex, Nifty Rally On US Fed Rate Cut, MSCI Weight Rejig

Indian markets rally gained further momentum after the US Fed's 50 bps rate cut in the week. A rejig in the country's weightage in a key MSCI index, which topped China's for the first time, also bode well for Dalal Street

Sensex 2%



136% Bajaj Housing Finance, which had a record-breaking IPO last week, more than doubled investors' money on listing

Source: Refinitiv, ETG, Reuters

Nike replaces CEO with veteran exec Hill in revival bid

Nike ousted beleaguered CEO John Donahoe, bringing longtime executive Elliott Hill out of retirement in a bid to return the struggling athletic brand to its glory days. Hill, 60, originally joined Nike in 1988 and served as president of consumer and marketplace before he retired in 2020. He will take over on Oct 14. Donahoe, 64, will retire and remain an adviser through Jan. Nike shares jumped 7% in New York trading on Friday morning, while chief rivals Adidas and Puma fell in Germany. BLOOMBERG

IT companies resume campus recruitment after a hiatus

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Bengaluru: IT firms have resumed their campus drives sooner than expected, following a nearly year-long hiatus. The hiring freeze that lasted for nearly four quarters has finally thawed, and firms are once again seeking fresh talent from engineering colleges. The return of on-campus hiring suggests a positive trend, with certain pockets of the IT business showing signs of revival. Companies such as IBM, Infosys, TCS, and L&T-Mindtree have already visited campuses for the initial phase

of placements, which began in July. IT firms are tapping into these colleges for skilled programmers and digital specialists who command salaries in the range of Rs 6 to 9 lakh, rather than entry-level roles whose salaries are much lower. Wipro said it's returning to campuses after four quarters. It plans to hire 10,000 to 12,000 freshers in the current financial year. Wipro HR head Saurabh Govil said 3,000 freshers were onboarded in the June quarter, and it would finish the backlog of the previous years in the next few quarters. "After a break

CAMPUS HIRING HEATS UP

IT cos are resuming campus hiring after a year-long freeze. Cos like IBM, Infosys, TCS, and L&T-Mindtree have already started hiring. TCS | Hiring 40k freshers. Infosys | Planning to hire 15k to 20k graduates. Wipro | Plans to onboard 10k to 12k freshers this FY. Cos are targeting skilled programmers and digital specialists with salaries ranging from ₹6-9L. Focus areas: Cloud, Analytics, Data, AI.

of one year, we will return to the campuses with which we have a partnership. Additionally, we will look at off-campus hiring to onboard the same number for next year as well," Govil said. While TCS has said it will hire 40,000 freshers, Infosys has planned to hire 15,000 to 20,000 fresh graduates from colleges and through off-campus drives. This is a welcome change after Infosys hired a mere 11,900 campus recruits in the 2023-24 financial year, a 76% drop compared to the 50,000 freshers it hired in the year-ago period. The employment outlook for recent engineering graduates is showing signs of improvement. Beyond bulk hiring of engineers, IT firms are keen to onboard digital talent and domain specialists in the areas of cloud, analytics, data, and AI. Additionally, the selection process has become more rigorous compared to previous years. Shailendra Vidhate, training and placement officer at the engineering college of the NMIMS group, said the cut-

off to sit for the placement season has gone up to 70% from 60% last year. Ashok Mittal, chancellor of Lovely Professional University, said that there's a slight uptick in the number of people recruited this time around—about 1,350 so far this year compared to 600 people during the same period last year. Companies are increasingly looking beyond traditional coding tests when evaluating potential hires who are close to completing their college education. Instead, they are examining candidates' social media profiles and consid-

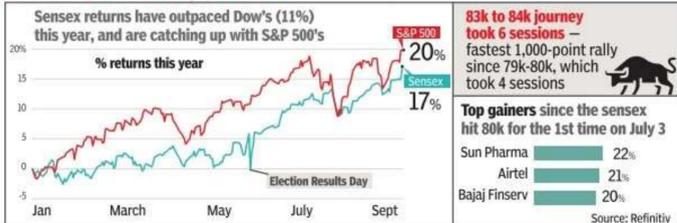
ering certifications they have earned. This shift in hiring practices reflects a desire to gain a more comprehensive understanding of each applicant's skills and background. Pareekh Jain, the lead analyst and CEO at Pareekh Consulting, said that the decision to visit campuses is influenced by the anticipated demand for talent in the future. "Earlier they used to recruit at the basic level and people who showed promise were put in different grades. Now they are recruiting at a better grade itself to attract the talent," Jain said.

Sensex crosses 84k for first time on FPI flow, Fed rate cut

Nifty Mirrors Trend With 1.5% Rise, Ends At Record 25,791 Pts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

SURGES OVER 12,000 PTS IN UNDER 9 MONTHS



Mumbai: The sensex crossed the 84,000 mark for the first time on Friday as foreign institutional buying, following a global rally triggered by the US Fed's aggressive rate cut, drove key indices to record-highs. The momentum—combined with India's increased weightage in global indices as well as volatility from F&O expiry—boosted trading activity. The sensex touched an intraday high of 84,694, before ending at a record 84,544—up 1.6% from Thursday's close. Nifty mirrored this trend, rising 1.5% to end at a record 25,791, with an intraday peak of 25,849. The market has scaled new highs with regularity as investors, including retail, have flocked to stocks chasing high returns.

Foreign institutional investors made net purchases of Rs 14,064 crore, while domestic institutions sold stocks worth Rs 4,427 crore. The influx of foreign capital also supported the rupee, which closed at 83.56 against the dollar, up from 83.66. Ear-

lier in the session, the rupee had reached a two-month high of 83.49, recording a nearly 0.4% weekly gain to mark its strongest rise so far this year. Lower interest rates in the US have made emerging markets like India more attractive to foreign investors, leading to increased portfolio inflows. After a moderation in Aug, foreign investments have surged in Sept, with inflows on track to reach a six-month high. All major sectoral indices ended the day in the green, with auto, energy, banking, FMCG, and metals leading the way—each gaining between 1.3%. Broader markets parti-

culated in the rally as well, with the Nifty Midcap 100 index closing 1.4% higher and the Nifty Smallcap 100 gaining nearly 1%. Among stocks, Mahindra & Mahindra, JSW Steel, ICICI Bank, L&T, Bharti Airtel, and Nestle saw significant upward movement. Vinod Nair of Geojit Financial Services said, "The Indian market has joined the rally following the 50 basis points Fed rate cut and super accommodative monetary policy. This is expected to bring positivity to the economy and foreign inflows in the short-to-medium term as the global economy remains robust." He noted that interest

rate-sensitive sectors like auto and finance were experiencing notable traction. In Asia, the S&P Asia Index rose 2.4% on Friday, with Japan's Nikkei 225 up 1.5% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng gaining 1.4%. Domestic institutional and retail investors have remained bullish, with domestic institutional investors purchasing shares worth Rs 3.2 lakh crore since the beginning of 2024. Mutual funds have continued to be net buyers, bolstered by record-high contributions through SIPs, which have touched records for 14 consecutive months, reflecting retail investors' confidence.

Samsung threatens pay cut, termination

Says Strike Has Hit Production, Union Says Will Continue Protest Till Demands Are Met

Vaitheeswaran.B @timesofindia.com

Chennai: Samsung Electronics India on Friday warned employees of pay cuts and termination of service if they did not end their strike and report for duty within four days. The Chennai factory's operations have been "severely hindered" by the strike, the company said. The company has sought an explanation in writing from employees on why an eight-day pay cut should not be imposed on them and why they cannot be sacked within seven days if they did not report to duty within four days. It said the strike is in violation of the Industrial Disputes Act and the company's standing orders. Samsung also warned of legal action against those who prevent workers who wished to from working. Employees and labour representatives TOI spoke to confirmed the company had sent such notices. Hundreds of workers at the Samsung consumer elec-

NO WORK NO PAY

Samsung Electronics has threatened employees on strike with pay cuts and termination in a notice. It decided to stop payments of employees under 'No work, no pay'. The company has asked protesting workers to report to duty within four days. Employees have decided to continue the strike and call for govt intervention. Hundreds of workers of Samsung plant near Chennai have been on strike since Sept 9.

tronics plant at Sunguvarcham near Chennai have been on strike since Sept 9, demanding wage revision and better working conditions. This has impacted production at the facility, which contributes a third of Samsung's \$12 billion annual revenue in the country. E Muthukumar, president of the union, said, "Samsung maintained there was no impact on the production, but the notices are contradictory to it. It is up to the courts to decide whether the strike is illegal. The employees will continue to strike." Samsung, in a statement, said, "We have informed our policy to our workers based on relevant laws and regulations, and urged them to return to work immediately. The safety and well-being of our workers is a priority. We remain committed to resolving this issue." The issue escalated on Thursday as the company sued protesting workers, while the workers' union is considering legal action against the company in the Madras high court.



JSW MG cuts Comet mini's price to ₹5 lakh

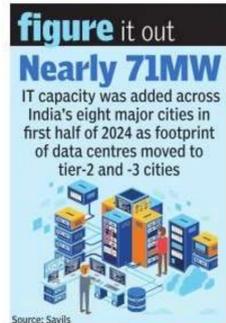
New Delhi: The price war is escalating in electric vehicles market, with JSW MG Motor setting an aggressive Rs 5 lakh (ex-showroom-Delhi) entry threshold for the zero-emission mobility segment. Led by its battery rental model where customers only pay for the vehicle with running cost being charged on a per km battery usage basis, the Comet mini electric is now available for an entry price of Rs 5 lakh, which is Rs 2 lakh lower than its current price. MG said that those opting for the Comet's new pricing will need to pay Rs 2.5 per km of running as rental for the battery. This is the second time the model has seen a price cut as it had seen a reduction by Rs 1 lakh earlier. TNN

HDFC Bk unit HDB Fin gets board nod for IPO

Mumbai: HDB Financial Services, a subsidiary of HDFC Bank, has received in-principle approval from the bank's board for a Rs 2,500-crore IPO. TNN

NHAI bids out corridor to raise ₹6,661 crore

New Delhi: The NHAI on Friday bid out the completed 251km Hyderabad-Nagpur corridor in Telangana to raise Rs 6,661 crore under its asset monetisation programme. TNN



'Russian roulette' in mkts, RBI flags volatility risks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI has warned of a 'Russian roulette' scenario as market expectations regarding central banks are reset. The regulator noted significant volatility risks, given that markets experience wild swings with each new data release, in its State of the Economy report. The US jobs data in Aug had caused a market downturn, only for it to rebound later. Subsequently, a manufacturing report in Sept triggered another selloff in US stocks, which then spread to Asian and European markets. In India, while IPO activity remains strong, there are concerns about promoters selling off holdings at high prices, especially in the SME segment. "As markets recalibrate their expectations of central banks pivoting from divergence to convergence, a Rus-

STATE OF ECO

sian roulette seems to be playing out. Every incoming data dispels the gathering gloom feeling of a soft landing and sparks fears of a thudding end to disinflationary monetary policy pathways," the report, authored by RBI staff and led by deputy governor Michael Patra, said. Despite these fluctuations, the report observes that markets have shown resilience, recovering quickly without significant exchange rate movements or liquidity issues. Interestingly, on the day the report was released, markets rose again following a US Federal Reserve rate cut. The report notes that investors will focus on a select group of emerging economies that benefit from favourable global trade trends, a strong US dollar, economic reforms, and political changes. Additionally, RBI staff

has taken a firmer stance on food inflation, pointing out that while headline inflation has moderated, food price volatility remains a risk. The report anticipates higher inflation numbers this month due to an unfavourable base effect. While chief economic adviser V Anantha Nageswaran has suggested excluding food prices from inflation targets, RBI maintains that they are crucial to understanding Indian prices. The report projects GDP growth for FY24 at 7.3%—up from the 7.2% forecast in Aug. "The in-house dynamic stochastic general equilibrium model projects GDP growth at 7.3% (YoY) and headline CPI inflation at 4.6% (YoY) during 2024-25," it states. Other macro data indicates that household consumption is expected to grow faster in Q2 as inflation eases, supported by a revival in rural demand.

Co boards should have tech experts, says Deloitte

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Deepa Seshadri, a cybersecurity partner at Deloitte India, said that the dialogue about the makeup of corporate boards should prioritise the competencies held by individual board members. This perspective arises when discussions often revolve around gender representation. Seshadri emphasised the importance of having at least one board member with expertise in technology. Just as businesses do not entrust the responsibility of reviewing financial statements and profit and loss (P&L) accounts to external parties, cybersecurity should not be outsourced to third-party providers. "If we do not outsource looking at the P&L, why should cybersecurity be given to a third party to take care of?", she said. Seshadri was speaking at the Institute of Directors' conference on strategic leadership and governance in the corporate sphere held in Bengaluru on Friday. A 2023 Deloitte study on cybersecurity revealed that 48% of the surveyed companies had their board involved in cybersecurity discussions once a quarter. Seshadri, however, observed an increase in the board's involvement in cybersecurity issues over time. In the past, it was limited to reviewing and implementing auditors' observations and suggestions. However, she noted that the board members have now started asking questions about cyber security. Former Rajya Sabha MP M V Rajeev Gowda discussed the importance of governance and public policy during the conference. In his inaugural address, D V Prasad, the honorary chairman of the Institute of Directors, emphasised the crucial role that effective governance plays in ensuring accountability within various institutions and organisations.

Anna's father not pursuing legal action against EY

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: After the union labour ministry initiated a probe into the tragic death of EY India employee Anna Sebastian Perayil, her father, Sibi Joseph clarified that the family is not pursuing legal action against EY. "She cleared her CA in February this year and in March joined the firm. We used to speak to her every day and her major grieve was extreme work pressure. She was engaged in an audit of Bajaj Auto. Most of the days she used to work till 12.30 in the night and used to get back to her paying accommodation by 1.30 AM," Joseph told news agency IANS. The family asserted that Anna was under work stress and had not maintained a proper diet due to her demanding work schedule. On Thursday, Shobha Karandlaje, Union minister of state for MSME and labour &

employment, expressed her sadness at the death and said on microblogging platform X that a thorough investigation into the allegations "of an unsafe and exploitative work environment is underway." The uproar was triggered by a lengthy letter written by Anna's mother, Anita Augustine, to EY chairman Rajiv Memani that went viral on social media on Wednesday. Augustine voiced her concerns regarding the excessive workload placed on her daughter, a newcomer to the company, and indicated that Anna ultimately succumbed to work-related stress. Anna had joined the company in March, after completing CA, and passed away on July 20. Memani took to LinkedIn to express his regret for being unable to attend Anna's funeral, describing it as uncharacteristic of the firm's culture. "I truly regret the fact that we missed being present

at Anna's funeral. This is completely alien to our culture. It has never happened before; it will never happen again." Memani, however, said that Anna's death was not a result of work pressure and that all EY employees are assigned equal workloads. Former HCL CEO Vineet Nayyar took to LinkedIn to say that across industries, young employees are overworked under the guise of "training" or "preparation for the real world." Although hard work is essential, extreme hours should not become standard. The World Health Organization links long working hours to a 35% increased risk of stroke and a 17% higher risk of heart disease. Nayyar said this prevalent pattern sees young professionals working tirelessly for weeks or months without a break, fostering a toxic culture where exhaustion is celebrated and well-being is ignored.

Physics Wallah raises \$210mn, sees valuation jump 3x to \$2.8bn in 2 yrs

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Bengaluru: Even as some edtech majors are going through a boom and bust cycle, edtech unicorn Physics Wallah has secured \$210 million in a funding round led by India-focused hedge fund Hornbill Capital. The funding round has valued the company at \$2.8 billion, a nearly 3x jump from its previous valuation of \$1.1 billion in 2022. Physics Wallah's funding round, which saw participation by Lightspeed Venture Partners, GSV, and WestBridge Capital, comes amid a challenging period for the edtech industry, with companies like Byju's facing insolvency proceedings and others ex-

Amid Edtech Gloom The funding comes amid a tough period for edtech industry, with Byju's facing insolvency & others exploring ways to revive biz

ploring offline strategies to revive their businesses. The funds will be deployed to scale operations, with a focus on consolidation in the education market. Even after the fund-raise, founders Alakh Pandey and Prateek Maheshwari have retained an 85% equity share in the company. Maheshwari expressed confidence in the company's growth, said, "This comes on the back of strong sustainable year-on-year growth—FY25

is going to be the year of largest absolute edtech profitability for the PW Group. There are no good or bad markets but only good or bad stories—and ours is a great impact story." Physics Wallah has grown from a YouTube channel launched in 2014 to a company with over 55 lakh paid students. It was founded in 2020. The company is creating a hybrid education ecosystem by setting up offline and hybrid centres in 105 cities across India, offering Gurukulam schools, test preparation, skilling, higher education, and study abroad programmes on its platform. To support its growth and new initiatives, Physics Wallah plans to hire an additional 1,000 employees across

marketing, sales, technology, and business development domains. The company's workforce currently stands at around 1,500. In addition to investing in its existing business, Physics Wallah is also looking to make new acquisitions, particularly in the South Indian market and content-rich publication houses. However, the company's offline expansion has led to a significant increase in employee costs and provisioning towards certain non-cash expenses in the 2023-24 financial year. These expenses, including one-time costs and non-cash expenses, amounted to Rs 777 crore, compared to Rs 103 crore in the previous year.

Quick dash: iPhone 16 delivered from store to door in 10 minutes

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Bengaluru: As many enthusiasts queued up at the Apple BKC store in Mumbai and the Saket store in Delhi, quick commerce platforms like Blinkit and BigBasket have stepped up their game to deliver the iPhone 16 in 10 minutes in select cities. Blinkit founder and CEO Albinder Dhindsa said the company had sold 300 iPhones by approximately 10:30 AM, after commencing sales at 8 AM. "Get the all-new iPhone 16 delivered in 10 minutes! We've partnered with @UnicornAPR for the third year in a row, bringing the latest iPhone to Blinkit customers in Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru (for now) — on launch day!" Dhindsa wrote on X.



DELIVERED AT DOORSTEP

BigBasket founder and CEO Hari Menon shared with TOI that the Bengaluru-based startup is expected to sell about 600 iPhone 16 throughout the day, in addition to 120 units of AirPods and Apple watches. Zepto's spokesperson said around 500 iPhone 16s have been sold on its platform so far. "And we have close to 1,000 in stock." The company anticipates selling around 700 by the end of the day. Zepto delivered Apple products in Delhi-NCR, Mum-

bai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Chennai, while BigBasket is selling in Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, Bengaluru, and Mumbai. BigBasket sells electronics through Tata-owned consumer electronics chain Croma in these select cities. The company has similar partnerships with Tata Cliq for luxury and apparel categories and plans to introduce a pharma delivery through Tata IMC. It also collaborated with Tanishq for gold coins during the festive season. The quick delivery of electronics has captured consumers' interest in recent times. Zomato-owned Blinkit delivered Samsung Galaxy S24 phones in January, Sony PlayStation 5 consoles in April, and Flipkart Minutes delivered laptops in Aug.

SNAP SHOTS

Below-par start by Aditi in US

Aditi Ashok had a disappointing start at the Kroger Queen City Championship, finishing with a two-over 74 to be tied 103rd. With the projected cut set at one-under, the world No 66 Indian will need a strong second round to remain in contention.

Sharma in danger of missing cut: Shubhankar Sharma was lying T-114th with a 3-over 75 at the BMW PGA Championship. Matthew Baldwin produced a flawless seven-under-par round of 65 to lead the championship by one shot.

Ridhima and Tvesa tied 17th: Ridhima Dilawari and Tvesa Malik were tied 17th at 2-under 70 each at the end of the first round of the La Sella Open on the Ladies European Tour in Denia, Spain. The other two Indians, Pranavi Urs (even par 72) and Seher Atwal (73), were placed T-31 and T-63 respectively.

Shlok HC, RWFSIA in final: Shlok HC and RWFSIA won their respective semifinals to set up a final clash in the DS Murthy memorial hockey tournament. Mohammed Fahad struck a hat-trick to guide Shlok to a 4-3 win over Rising Star HC, while RWFSIA defeated 5C' SC via shootout.

Results (semis): Shlok HC 4 (Mohammed Fahad 7, 13, 17, Vinod Kumar 29) vs Rising Star HC 3 (Poobanna 42, 53, Royan Rodrigues 45); Semifinal: RWFSIA 2 (Kishu JP 3, Teja 7) vs 5C' SC 2 (Deepak Yadav 13, Sejan 59) via shootout (3-2). **Today's matches (finals):** Phase 1: Adhiyamaan CoE vs Bengaluru Blues HC 'B' (12pm); Phase 2: Wild Boar vs Bengaluru Blues HC 'A' (1.30pm); Phase 3: Shlok HC vs RWFSIA (3pm).

Manipur vs K'taka in title clash: Manipur will take on hosts Karnataka in the final of the Sub Junior Boys (Tier I) National Football Championship in Bengaluru on Sunday. In Friday's second semifinal, Manipur defeated Goa 4-0. Keisham Bikash Singh starred for the winners scoring a hat-trick. **Result (semifinal):** Manipur 4 (Keisham Bikash Singh 5, 22, 90+4; M Araf12) vs Goa 0.

Vantika saves the day for India

Scores Crucial Win After Vaishali's Loss On Top Board, Helps Team Holds USA

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The top seeded India women slipped again. Though Vantika Agrawal's face-saving win against Irina Krush of USA in a topsy-turvy game helped India hold seventh seeds USA to a 2-2 draw, they have to win the last two rounds to keep the aspirations of gold medal alive. That appears to be a huge task at the moment considering Team India's slipping form in the last two rounds after having taken sole lead.

The men are in a comparatively better position because even a win or draw could clinch the issue for them.

On a day of grudge matchups for India — the women had lost to USA in the last Olympiad and men were held by Uzbekistan in the penultimate round — Vaishali lost on the top board and the men were about to make it 2-2 with Arjun's game still unfinished at the time of going to press.

Though R Praggnanandhaa is playing below-par by his high standards, he can take credit for India's satisfactory show against the defending champions and fourth seeds. Pragg, playing with black pieces, came up with effective answers against Javokhir Sindarov's prepared line in the Paulsen attack on



ALL CONCENTRATION: Vantika Agrawal sizes up the board during the game against Alice Lee in the ninth round of Chess Olympiad

the second board for a much-valued draw after 36 moves. However, when pushed to the top board after resting off-colour Harika, Pragg's sister GM R Vaishali (2498) failed to rise to the occasion and lost to Gulrukhbegim Tokhirjonova (Elo 2380) in the women's section. After Divya Deshmukh and Tania Sachdev's drawn games, followed by Vaishali's defeat, Vantika Agrawal held her nerve for an invaluable win with black pieces against Alice Lee and levelled the tie.

Men locked in tense tussle

In the men's clash, D Guke-Sh-Nodirbek Abdusattorov and Jakhongir Vakhidov-Vidit Gurathi match-ups ended in a draw. "Do we sense the evil hand of Big Vlad," Anand asked jokingly about Sindarov's position against Pragg. Big Vlad — Russia's Vladimir Kramnik — is captaining Uzbekistan. Russia as a team is

"I expected them to try to get a risk-free game. But I did not expect them to force a draw. It seemed like a defensive strategy to use white for a draw."
— Vidit Gujrathi | TEAM INDIA

banned due to the country's invasion of Ukraine. Kramnik was quite active in the match against India. The brain behind the decision to rest Nodirbek Yakubov (Elo 2666) from the second board seemed to be his. For, Yakubov's replacement, Jakhongir Vakhidov (2571), is deemed as a weaker player and Indians were taken by surprise. The stunner of the day was provided by Vladimir Fedoseev of Slovenia who defeated Norway's world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen with black. The last position was crazy (rook, pawn vs rook and two pawns) with all black pieces on white's half of the board and vice-versa.

Women lose tempo as Harika struggles

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Greatest strength can also be the greatest short-coming and vice-versa. Indian women's team is finding that out in a hard way as far as D Harika's performance at the ongoing Chess Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary is concerned. Harika, 33, has scored only three points in seven games, having suffered three defeats. Besides, she was winless in the last four rounds. Still, it was a bit of a surprise that she was missing the ninth round clash against the USA on Friday.

Harika is not even among the top15 performers (in terms of rating performance) on the top board in the tournament. While the girls on the top board from Poland, China, Armenia and Switzerland have come up with an Elo performance of 2500-plus, Harika is at 2364.

Harika's teammates, far less experienced players Divya Deshmukh (7/8) and Vantika Agrawal (5/6), have punched above their weight on their debut with the 'A' team. In the process, they have remained undefeated.

The youth is generally fearless, the veterans are not. It cannot be good for the morale of the team and the youngsters that the top two players of the team (the second being R Vaishali) are not performing up to the mark. Harika, time and again, has displayed her vulnerability in tense situations - multiple failures to win knockout World Cup despite being in better positions in many of the games is a case in point.

Harika is seen as a stable player and an asset on the top board. After all, she is among the only three Indian women having a GM title. However, there was always a question mark about her ability to come up with an impressive show in the Swiss League tournaments — the Olympiad is played in this format.

In the absence of women-only Swiss League tournaments, Harika played the Sharjah Masters but quit after six of nine rounds after losing three and drawing three games against men. Harika was advised to rest before the last round of the last Olympiad. India lost to the USA and the gold slipped away from them.



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Dubois, Joshua primed for Wembley showdown

London: Britain's Anthony Joshua and Daniel Dubois left the hype to their promoters as they met in a low-key press conference ahead of Saturday's IBF world heavyweight title fight at Wembley Stadium.

The job of selling the fight was already done, with a British post-World War 2 record crowd of 96,000 expected to attend. Convincing fight fans that Joshua would command comparisons with Muhammad Ali, Lennox Lewis, Evander Holyfield and Vitali Klitschko if he were to become a three-times heavyweight champion might be a taller order.

Neither boxer is prone to trash talk, with Dubois no great conversa-



READY TO RUMBLE: Anthony Joshua (left) and Daniel Dubois face off during a press conference in London

tionalist either, and both big men kept things simple in the Great Hall of central London's historic Guildhall

on Thursday. "I need to retain it and hold onto it. So yes, it's a great thing to have, but now I need to legitimize myself by winning this fight. So now I'm ready to go to war. I'm ready for a fight," said Dubois, who has won 21 of his 23 pro bouts. "It's a resurrection story of my career," added the 27-year-old, who won the interim belt in June and is technically the defending IBF champion after Ukraine's Oleksandr Usyk shed the title.

Usyk, who fights Britain's Tyson Fury in a Dec. 21 rematch in Saudi Arabia for the WBC, WBA and WBO belts, has beaten Joshua twice and Dubois once. "I'm in supreme condition, both physically and also men-

tally. So yeah, it's good to be back. And I've been watching some of the old fights as well, just adding some fuel to the fire," said Joshua, with 28 wins from 31 fights. "Ready to rumble - reminding myself what I can do, what I'm capable of," added the 34-year-old, who lost to Usyk at the Tottenham Hotspur stadium in September 2021 and then in Jeddah in August 2022.

Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn had told Sky Sports television a day earlier that his man wanted to win "more than any fight he has ever been involved with." "He will always talk about performance matters, not legacy and not the belts. I'm not buying that this time," he added. REUTERS

Olympiad trophy goes missing, AICF files plaint

Chennai: An "embarrassed" All India Chess Federation (AICF) has filed a police complaint after a Chess Olympiad trophy its team won in the last edition of the tournament at home went missing from its office, forcing the sports body to arrange for a replica of the prized possession and tender an apology. It is a rolling trophy, and the incident came at a time when the Indian men's team is closing in on the gold medal in the ongoing 45th edition of the Olympiad at Budapest. AICF sources confirmed that the Gaprindashvili Trophy, given to the team with the best overall performance across open and women's divisions, has gone missing.

India was the last holder of the trophy, having won it here in 2022. AICF vice-presi-

dent Anil Kumar Raizada said that the trophy has been missing for over a month and it came, after the International Chess Federation (FIDE) had asked for the trophy to be brought to Budapest.

"After we had received a request from FIDE for the trophy to be brought, we have been unable to trace it for over 30 days. As a result, we have filed an official police complaint, and an investigation will follow," he said. A senior AICF official said that a "contingency plan is in place" and that "a replacement trophy" has already been ordered for the current edition.

"Yes, we tried to look for it all around following FIDE's request. However, we have been unable to locate it so far," the official said. PTI

Malvika's run ends

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Nagpur: Malvika Bansod's remarkable journey in the China Open Super 1000 badminton tournament ended in the quarterfinals. The promising Nagpur shuttler went down against two-time world champion Akane Yamaguchi on Friday.

Despite Malvika's positive start against Japan's fourth-seeded opponent, the 43rd-ranked Indian struggled to maintain her momentum after the world No.5 Japanese reeled off six consecutive points midway through the first game. Malvika ultimately lost the first game 10-21. Undeterred, Malvika exhibited tremendous grit and determination in the second game, engaging in a fierce battle that saw her making a late comeback with four straight points and bringing the scores close at 15-19. However, the seasoned Yamaguchi demonstrated her tactical acumen, varying her strokes to turn the tide in her favour and clinching the game 21-16.

Yamaguchi sealed the victory in a mere 35 minutes, bringing the Indian challenge in this season-ending tournament to a close. Despite the loss, Malvika's debut at the BWF Super 1000 tournament was a memorable one.

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Norris sets the pace

McLaren's Lando Norris set the pace in a floodlit second practice session at the Singapore Grand Prix on Friday with Ferrari's Charles Leclerc close behind but Red Bull's

FORMULA ONE

championship leader Max Verstappen only 15th. Norris lapped with a best time of one minute 30.727 seconds, 0.058 faster than Leclerc in a reversal of the first daylight session, and 0.629 clear of last year's winner for Ferrari Carlos Sainz. In a less serious in-

cident, Argentine rookie Franco Colapinto pulled up at the Alpine pits instead of Williams and was waved onwards. He was 16th fastest with Alex Albon ninth. Yuki Tsunoda was fourth fastest.

VERSTAPPEN PUNISHED

Meanwhile, Verstappen was punished for swearing in a press conference by governing body the FIA. The Red Bull driver is now obliged "to accomplish some work of public interest" after the Dutch driver used the F-word in drivers' presser. AGENCIES

Punjab FC hand Odisha second successive defeat

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Luka Majcen was not there on the field on Friday.

But it was the Slovenian's inspirational presence off the field that was more than enough for Punjab FC to notch up their second win on the trot at the cost of Odisha FC, who suffered their second successive defeat of this Indian Super League season.

In the absence of their pivotal captain-forward through a fractured jaw, young Ke-

ISL REPORT

shav forwards Nihal Sudhesh (28') and Leon Augustine (89') rose to the occasion to score two clinical goals worthy of centre forwards as the home side won 2-1 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi. An unfortunate own goal by PFC goalkeeper Ravi Kumar, following a shot by Hugo Boumous, reduced the deficit six minutes into the second-half added time for the visitors but that was too late.

Right from the start, Punjab looked like a close-knit unit which made up for the

big loss of Majcen so early into the season. Odisha, despite enjoying a larger share of possession in the first half, failed to register a shot on target before the change of ends.

Sudeesh then put PFC ahead in the 28th minute following a Filip Mrzljak assist when his right-footed shot from the left of the box beat a fully-stretched Amrinder Singh to his left.

Looking to inject life into their attacking third, OFC coach Sergio Lobera made triple changes at the break, bringing in Rahim Ali, Jerry Mawimhingthanga and Ahmed Jahouh in place of Isak Vanlalruatela, Raynier Fernandes and Diego Mauricio. However, that didn't improve their performance.

Odisha's best chance for an equaliser was wasted by Mourtada Fall ten minutes from time as the centre-back's free header missed the right post by inches.

Result: Punjab FC 2 (Sudhesh 28, Augustine 89) vs Odisha FC (Kumar 90+6-og). **Today's matches:** Jamshedpur vs Mumbai City (5 pm), Mohd Sporting vs FC Goa (7.30 pm) (Live, Sports18)

Excellent Lass takes feature race

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: Rajesh Narredru-trained Excellent Lass, ridden by Suraj Narredru, won the Mysore 1000 Guineas, the first classic of the races here on Friday. **Sidapur Plate 1400M:** Sky Storm 1, Pettes Love 2, One Diamond 3, Fifty Grand 4. Not Run: Ramp The Bounty, Link, 1/2L, 4-1/4L. T: 1.25.73. Tote: Rs 35 (W), 14, 12, 14 (P).

MYSORE RESULTS

FC: Rs 71. Q: Rs 62. Stp: Rs 31. Thp: Rs 34. Trinalla: Rs 309. Exacta: Rs 3,681.

Panchgani Plate (Div-II) 1200M: due to false start, race has been declared null and void. **Psychic Strength Plate 1400M:** Natural One 1, Coyote Girl 2, Free Spirited 3, NRI Touch 4. Not Run: Magic Circle & 1 Can, 1/2L, 1-1/4L, Lnk. T: 1.25.88. Tote: Rs 16 (W), 11, 17, 15

(P). FC: Rs 42. Q: Rs 60. Stp: Rs 34. Thp: Rs 32. Trinalla: Rs 198. Exacta: Rs 380.

Dr MAM Ramaswamy Trophy 1600M: Galahad 1, Aabushan 2, Mystic Bond 3, Splendid 4. Snd. 1-3/4L, 3/4L. T: 1.35.25. Tote: Rs 16 (W), 12, 14, 35 (P). FC: Rs 85. Q: Rs 60. Stp: Rs 44. Thp: Rs 87. Trinalla: Rs 1,294. Exacta: Rs 4,034. **Mysore 1000 Guineas 1600M:** Excellent Lass 1, Finley 2, Sherouk 3, Chotipari 4. 6-1/2L, 4-1/4L, 6-1/4L. T: 1.35.49. Tote: Rs 10 (W), 11, 11 (P). FC: Rs 24. Q: Rs 17. Stp: Rs 17. Thp: Rs 33. Trinalla: Rs 65. Exacta: Rs 75.

Original Vel Sporting Trophy 1200M: Se-offor Bullet 1, Court Jester 2, Emerald Queen 3, Moonlight Queen 4. 3/4L, 2-3/4L, 2-1/4L. T: 1.22.22. Tote: Rs 26 (W), 13, 15, 16 (P). FC: Rs 74. Q: Rs 45. Stp: Rs 34. Thp: Rs 47. Trinalla: Rs 326. Exacta: Rs 4,498.

Panchgani Plate (Div-I) 1200M: Due to heavy rain, race cancelled. **Jackpot:** Rs 108. **Treble:** Rs 22.

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GARCIA RED CARD HURTS BARCELONA

Young Stars Yamal, Wirtz Shine But With Mixed Results In Champions League

Paris: Shortly after lighting up the European Championship, two of the world's most exciting young players shone on club soccer's biggest stage. With mixed fortunes, however. Teenager Lamine Yamal's goal couldn't prevent 10-man Barcelona from falling to a 2-1 defeat at Monaco on Thursday in the Champions League — ending the Spanish club's perfect start to the season.

Meanwhile, it took Florian Wirtz less than five minutes to score his first Champions League goal on his debut in Europe's elite club competition.

Wirtz also netted another as Bayer Leverkusen romped to a 4-0 win at Feyenoord.

Leverkusen lost in the Europa League final in May, their only defeat in a remarkable season that saw them win the Bundesliga and German Cup.

Teenage superstar

Lamal's goal was yet another record for the precocious 17-year-old. His first Champions League goal saw him become the second youngest goalscorer in the competition, behind teammate Ansu Fati, who was 29 days younger when he netted his first goal in December 2019. Yamal's 28th-minute equalizer cancelled out Maghnes Akliouche's opener. And it was yet another impressive goal as Yamal cut inside from the left before placing the ball between two defenders and into the bottom right corner.

Barcelona had faced an uphill struggle after defender Eric Garcia was sent off with less than 11 minutes played and 18-year-old forward George Ilenikhena scored with a fine finish for Monaco in the 71st.



Atletico Madrid's Antoine Griezmann (R) celebrates with Marcos Llorente after scoring against Leipzig

Wonderful Wirtz Wirtz has had a great start to the season, with three goals in as many Bundesliga games. And the 21-year-old continued that streak on Thursday in Rotterdam. Robert Andrich intercepted a poor Feyenoord pass and slipped the ball

through to Wirtz, who surged forward before firing into the bottom right corner. Leverkusen doubled their lead on the half-hour mark as Victor Boniface's clever pass from the edge of the penalty area released Jeremie Frimpong on the right and his cross was

slotted in by Alejandro Grimaldo at the far post. Another Frimpong cross was volleyed in by Wirtz six minutes later. Leverkusen hardly needed any help but it was given it on the stroke of halftime when a howler by Feyenoord's German goalkeeper Timon Wellenreuther saw him turn the ball over the line following Edmond Tapsoba's header.

Golden oldie Griezmann For all the talk of youngsters, it was a veteran who shone for Atletico. The 33-year-old Antoine Griezmann scored for the 11th straight season in the Champions League and also put in the cross for Jose Maria Gimenez's last-gasp headed winner. Benjamin Sesko had given Leipzig the lead in the fourth minute.

Raya to the rescue

David Raya came to Arsenal's rescue with a double save at a penalty in the 51st minute after Thomas Partey tripped Ederson. Mateo Retegui's spot kick was saved by the Spain international but the ball came back out to the striker, whose header was clawed off the line by a scrambling Raya. AP

THOUSANDS BID FAREWELL TO SCHILLACI

Palermo: Thousands of people turned up for the funeral of Italian World Cup hero Salvatore 'Toto' Schillaci on Friday.

Schillaci died on Wednesday at the age of 59 following a battle with colon cancer. The Italy striker was top scorer at the 1990 World Cup. The funeral took place at the main cathedral in Palermo.

Any push for a more favourable schedule must come from players: Pep Manchester: The push for a more favourable match schedule must come from the players, Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola said on Friday.

"I'm pretty sure that if something is going to change, it must come from the players," he said. "They are the only ones who can change something about the organisation, to take a voice. "The business can be without managers, sporting directors, media, owners."

'Success has become an addiction at Manchester City'

But At Man United, It's Not A Quick Fix: Shaun Wright-Phillips

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New Delhi: Shaun Wright-Phillips has a favourite adage for life: If you fall from the bike, you get up and ride again. Honest in observations, chipping in with wisecracks, the former winger took time out from his Manchester City Trophy tour to talk to TOI. Excerpts...

Manchester City during your time and the Man City of today. Tell us about the turnaround.

It happened gradually. Man City, in my first spell was a sleeping giant. It just didn't have the same backing as the other top clubs. When I rejoined in 2008, the take-over had happened. The new owner and his team have done a magnificent job. I think the biggest point is they didn't just win that first trophy and kind of sit back. It became an addiction.

How was the atmosphere in the blue side of Manchester when you were playing, and the club wasn't winning enough?

Quite like a roller-coaster ride. Sometimes we'd blow teams out and other times we'd play well and lose. But to beat Alex Ferguson's Man United was difficult. United had that power. When you have the likes of Paul Scholes, David Beckham, Andy Cole, Roy Keane, Wayne Rooney, Michael Owen, you generate formidable power. We couldn't financially get there. And now?

Now we're at par. But now United spend more money than us and it's just not working. We're here to stay. To win four Premier Leagues in a row, it is a summit that no one has ever scaled. In so many ways, United have kind of lost their way. I think if you look at Old Trafford, that was a place everybody was scared to go to. Now, not so much. And then things like the leaky roof, that's not Old Trafford. It was called a theatre of dreams for a reason. They need to get back there, but it isn't a quick fix.

Can Pep Guardiola be the new Ferguson?

No, I don't think he can. I think Alex Ferguson was a phenomenal manager and a lovely human being, and made football seem completely different during his time. He made that team. He didn't start well but



File photo of Shaun Wright-Phillips riding a tackle from United's Ryan Giggs in 2009

look where he ended up. Then Arsenal Wenger comes and changes football completely again, with counter-attacking fast breaks. I remember playing at Highbury and it would take Arsenal three passes to put the ball in the back of the net. And now you've got Pep, who is completely different in his own right. He has influenced football, not just the Premier League, down to the grassroots. Now everybody wants to play

out from the back. You go and watch Sunday league football. Goalkeepers are engaging in passes that didn't exist before. They've all changed and brought something unbelievable to the world of football.

Currently, the fight for the European supremacy is between Man City and Real Madrid. Why do Real win more trophies?

Real Madrid, for me, isn't the Real that I've seen, say, last seven or eight years ago. (Now) It's a com-

pletely different way of playing. Carlo Ancelotti knows how to win football matches. And if you watch them against us in the Champions League last year, Real had individual moments of brilliance. They just keep the ball away from their goal and score when they have a chance. That's how they play — they can be free in the blink of an eye. That is Real Madrid for you. And that's why they win trophies. They don't need to play well to win. They just need a split second of magic, and they have magic all over the pitch.

Man City captain Rodri has spoken strongly about the congested schedule. Do you share his concerns?

It's hard on them. Not just physically, mentally as well. I think that people forget. There is no respite. And you want top players like Rodri and Kevin de Bruyne to play as long as possible. You don't want to lose players. I think this punishing schedule can shorten that. It will take its toll. In football you get wear and tear. So, when people like Kevin and Rodri talk about it, they're not saying it for no reason. They're saying it because they're feeling it. I can agree with a lot of what the players are saying.



ALISSON DOUBTFUL FOR LIVERPOOL'S CLASH WITH BOURNEMOUTH DUE TO MUSCLE INJURY

ADITI ASHOK HAS DISAPPOINTING START AT THE KROGER QUEEN CITY CHAMPIONSHIP



DAY OF DOMINANCE

Bumrah & Co. Prove Too Hot To Handle For Bangladesh Batters As Visitors Fold For 149 In 1st Innings; India End Day Two 308 Ahead & Firmly In Control

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Chennai: Midway through the second session at the MA Chidambaram Stadium, a young crop of Bangladeshi journalists got busy in a discussion about the nearest tourist spots around Chennai. Much like the captain of the Bangladesh team, Najmul Hossain Shanto, this group of scribes had thought, leading into the Test, that Bangladesh could stretch India to five days. By the end of Friday's action in Chennai, it was crystal clear that post lunch on Sunday, they are in for a mini-vacation before the Kanpur Test.

The hint of fight that the Bangladeshi pacers showed on Thursday slowly dissipated into an abject capitulation of the batting unit against an Indian attack which didn't give an inch. The class of Jasprit Bumrah (4/50) has been way too much to handle for even the best batters in world cricket in recent times, and the brittle Bangladeshi batting lineup merely added a footnote to the long list.

After being bowled out for 149 in their first innings, Bangladesh conceded a lead of 227, which left fans in Chennai with tickets for Saturday's play ecstatic. The party mood was sullied just a bit late in the day by the back-to-back failures of Rohit Sharma (5) and Virat Kohli (17).

Kohli, though, had got an inside edge as he missed a flick off off-spinner Mehidy Hasan Miraz to be adjudged leg-before, but strangely he didn't ask for a referral.

At stumps, entertainers Rishabh Pant (batting 12) and Shubman Gill (batting 33) were at the crease, the lead already going to 308 with seven wickets still in play. While the first half of the morning session didn't go as planned for India, with Ravindra Jadeja (86) missing out on a deserved century, the rest of the day was a master-versus-visitor mismatch.

That Bumrah (4/50) would be dangerous was a foregone conclusion. What made it a difficult watch for those who were looking forward to some competition was the lack of application of the Bangladeshi batters. The procession started in the first

401 Jasprit Bumrah is the 6th Indian bowler to cross 400 international wickets (401) after Kapil Dev (687), Zaheer Khan (597), Javagal Srinath (551), Mohammed Shami (448) and Ishant Sharma (434).

session itself when left-hander Shadman Islam shouldered arms to Bumrah bowling around the wicket and was bowled. The bounce and the movement that Bumrah generated from good length accounted for Mushfiqur Rahim, who edged one to slip, while the tail was merely cannon fodder.

Akash Deep leaves an impression

While Bumrah was doing what he usually does, it was Bengal pacer Akash Deep's spell that left a mark. It's true that left-handers Zakir Hasan and Mominul Haque aren't exactly big-league material, but Akash Deep hit the right length from the word go. The 27-year-old — who is very much in the reckoning for a berth in the Test squad for the Australia series — got the ball to cut back enough and to dismiss Mominul and Zakir as Bangladesh were reduced to 22-3 before lunch.

Bangladesh pacer Taskin Ahmed acknowledged that the batting left a lot to be desired. But he felt that the SG ball, too, played its part in the Bangladesh capitulation. "The Indian players are used to playing with the SG ball. It does quite a bit in the first 10 overs and we probably were unable to adapt. A better performance was expected from our batters," he said.

With the back of the Bangladesh batting well and truly broken in the first session itself, it was on Litton Das and Shakib Al Hasan to stage a comeback. Both have the experience of playing in India and for a while, the duo seemed to give them a bit of hope. But it's their tendency to sweep a little too much against spinners which brought about their downfall.



RELENTLESS: Jasprit Bumrah (right) and Akash Deep (left) celebrate the fall of a Bangladeshi wicket with teammates on Friday

INDIA VS BANGLADESH FIRST TEST, DAY TWO

SCOREBOARD

India (1st innings): Yashasvi Jaiswal c Shadman Islam b Nahid Rana 56, Rohit Sharma c Najmul Hossain Shanto b Hasan Mahmud 6, Shubman Gill c Litton Das b Hasan Mahmud 0, Virat Kohli c Litton Das b Hasan Mahmud 6, Rishabh Pant c Litton Das b Hasan Mahmud 39, KL Rahul c Zakir Hasan b Mehidy Hasan Miraz 16, Ravindra Jadeja c Litton Das b Taskin Ahmed 86, Ravichandran Ashwin c Najmul Hossain Shanto b Taskin Ahmed 113, Akash Deep c Najmul Hossain Shanto b Taskin Ahmed 17, Jasprit Bumrah c Zakir Hasan b Hasan Mahmud 7, Mohammed Siraj not out 0; **Extras (b18, lb7, nb4, w1): 30; Total (91.2 ov; RR: 4.11): 376; Fall of wickets:** 1-14, 2-28, 3-34, 4-96, 5-144, 6-144, 7-343, 8-367, 9-374; **Bowling:** Taskin Ahmed 21-4-55-3, Hasan Mahmud 22-2-4-83-5, Nahid Rana 18-2-82-1, Mehidy Hasan Miraz 21-2-77-1, Shakib Al Hasan 8-0-50-0, Mominul Haque 1-0-4-0

Bangladesh (1st innings): Shadman Islam b Bumrah 2, Zakir Hasan b Akash Deep 3, Najmul Hossain Shanto c Kohli b Mohammed Siraj 20, Mominul Haque b Akash Deep 0, Mushfiqur Rahim c Rahul b Bumrah 8, Shakib Al Hasan c Pant b Jadeja 32, Litton Das c sub (Jurel) b Jadeja 22, Mehidy Hasan Miraz not out 27, Hasan Mahmud c Kohli b Bumrah 9, Taskin Ahmed b Bumrah 11, Nahid Rana b Mohammed Siraj 11; **Extras (lb2, nb2): 4; Total (47.1 ov; RR: 3.15): 149; Fall of wickets:** 1-2, 2-22, 3-22, 4-36, 5-40, 6-91, 7-92, 8-112, 9-130; **Bowling:** Jasprit Bumrah 11-1-50-4, Mohammed Siraj 10.1-1-30-2, Akash Deep 5-0-19-2, Ravichandran Ashwin 13-4-29-0, Ravindra Jadeja 8-2-19-2

Ton missed, versatile Jadeja eyes next target: 300 Test wickets

He's Found Ways To Maximise His Potential. Wish I Could Be Him: Spin Partner Ashwin

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Chennai: Amid the euphoria of Ravichandran Ashwin's century, a performance that went slightly under the radar was that of Ravindra Jadeja's. Had the 35-year-old completed his fifth Test century on Friday morning, the spotlight would have been on him, but the new ball and morning dampness got the better of his defence as he fell 14 short of the milestone.

But Jadeja has an ability to take small disappointments in his stride. "Yes, I got out today, but that's part and parcel of the game," Jadeja said with a smile after dismissing the two Bangladesh batters Litton Das and Shakib Al Hasan who looked set in the middle.

The Chennai Super Kings player, who calls the MA Chidambaram Stadium his home, is four short of the 300-wicket mark, a significant milestone for any bowler. "Yes, it's a good opportunity for me to get there tomorrow," Jadeja said.

India have won the last 17 Test series at home and it's the Ashwin-Jadeja combo that has played a massive role in the success. While they have won numerous Test matches with the ball, this Chennai Test will probably be remembered for their 199-run batting partnership that destroyed Bang-



EXCEPTIONAL: Ravindra Jadeja walks back after being dismissed for 86 on the second morning

ladesh in one-and-a-half sessions. "Jaddu is one cricketer who has evolved so nicely. I always envy him, I have made that amply clear. He is so gifted and talented and has found ways to maximize his potential. I wish I could be him but I am glad I am myself," Ashwin said after the day's play.

When they bowl together, Ashwin is the one who experiments while Jadeja's strength is to keep repeating the same thing for hours. "He keeps it really simple and can repeat it day in, day out. He is just an exceptional cricket-

er," the 516-wicket man said.

The secret of the Ashwin-Jadeja combo is the fact that they both enjoy each other's success, with the bat and with the ball. Ashwin had said on Thursday how Jadeja helped him as he moved towards his century, but Jadeja feels "Ashwin doesn't need any advice".

"I was just talking to him that we are not going to make errors because the wicket was good and we were batting well. Well played to him, a brilliant knock at his home ground," Jadeja said.

Both are towards the back-end of their careers and have gone through different phases. As Jadeja became India's No. 1 spinner abroad, Ashwin had to come to terms with the fact that it's the left-hander's batting that gave him the advantage.

Ashwin, though, has more Test centuries than Jadeja, but a much-older Chennai man acknowledged that he has learnt a lot from his colleague's batting.

"Watching him bat over the last couple of years has given me insight on how I can be better. Both of us have grown together, and have done some special things. We really value one another at this stage and both of us are enjoying each other's success more than ever before," Ashwin said.

For the duo, the MA Chidambaram Stadium pitch over the weekend will be a perfect stage to make their Chennai fans happy, probably for one last time in Test cricket.

1094 Yashasvi Jaiswal's run-aggregate at 64.35, including 3 hundreds and 5 fifties in 18 Test innings, is the most by an Indian player at this stage of his career and the fourth highest by a batter in his first 10 Tests, behind Don Bradman (1446), Everton Weekes (1125) and George Headley (1102).

5/83 Hasan Mahmud's figures in India's first innings, his second five-wicket haul in successive Test innings. He took 5/43 in the second innings of Bangladesh's previous Test against Pakistan in Rawalpindi in August. Australia's James Pattinson was the last visiting pacer to record a five-wicket haul at Chepauk: 5/96 in 2013.

'I want to play cricket with a smile on my face'

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Chennai: Ravichandran Ashwin may be at the fag end of his glorious Test career but the veteran allrounder is still operating at the top of his game.

The 38-year-old has become a bigger force than the one he was a few years ago, not only with his off-spinning guile but his much-improved batsmanship. His fighting yet aggressive ton in the first innings of the opening Test against Bangladesh was further proof that Ashwin is among the top echelon of players in the longest format.

So how does he continue to remain at the elite level and excel on the international stage? Ashwin, speaking after the conclusion of the second day's play at the MA Chidambaram Stadium on Friday, came up with a crisp but useful response.

"I used to be critical (about myself). I had put a lot of pressure on myself and people had put pressure on me. I used to be happy



RAVICHANDRAN ASHWIN

about it. But it is not like that anymore," said Ashwin, whose 113 placed India on top and delighted the home crowd.

"The most important thing for me is to enjoy my cricket. I want to play cricket with a smile on my face. Four or five years ago, I had promised myself that I will not respond to anyone. I had promised myself that I will play for my happiness. I have been maintain-

ing that promise till now," added Ashwin, one of the driving forces behind India's near-invincible home record in Tests over the last 10 years or so.

Ashwin has "embraced" the tough challenges that have come his way. When he walked out to bat on the opening day, India were in the doldrums against a Bangladesh side brimming with confidence. He took the task head-on

and ensured the visitors had no avenue to mount more pressure. "As a cricketer, the pride is in the performance. You want to win and you play the game for that. I do enjoy pressure, there is no doubt about it," said Ashwin.

"That is one of the reasons I love playing this sport. It gives you opportunities to respond when you are pushed to a corner. For me, it is about being in the present and using the experience from the past to negotiate hard situations," he said.

Ashwin, a keen learner, is constantly striving for "progress" and pursuing excellence even though age is not on his side. He is doing all of it for the sake of "happiness".

"You want to be good and you want to excel. You feel happy at the end of the day (when you perform). Every time I do well, I am in a good, happy state of mind. That is why you get on this journey. You want to excel on the global stage. People are watching you and you feel happy about it."

HEAD'S CAREER-BEST 154 FASHIONS AUSTRALIA'S CHASE OF 316

Nottingham: Travis Head's superb career-best 154 not out saw depleted world champions Australia to a seven-wicket win over England in the first ODI at Trent Bridge. Australia, set 316 for victory, finished on 317-3 with six overs to spare as they won 1-0 up in a five-match series to make it 13 ODI wins in a row.

Earlier, Marnus Labuschagne was the unlikely hero with the ball as Australia fought back after losing the toss. England, on 201-2 off 30

overs, were set for a colossal total as Ben Duckett eyed a hundred on his home ground. But the left-hander departed for 95 when caught and bowled by part-time leg-spinner Labuschagne, who also removed Harry Brook — out for 39 in his first innings as England captain — in similar fashion soon afterwards.

Labuschagne returned ODI-best figures of 3/39 as England lost their last six wickets for 59 runs. Head came through to completing a sixth century in 66 ODIs and also surpassed his previous highest score of 152, against England in Melbourne two years ago. He faced 129 balls, including 20 fours and five sixes. **Brief scores:** Australia 317/3 (Head 154*, Labuschagne 77*) beat England 315 (Duckett 95, Labuschagne 3-39, Zampa 3-49) by 7 wickets. AFP



Karunaratne, Chandimal help Sri Lanka stretch lead to 202

Galle: Dinesh Chandimal and Dimuth Karunaratne forged a 147-run partnership to propel hosts Sri Lanka to a lead of 202 on Day Three of the first Test against New Zealand on Friday. Sri Lanka were 237-4 at stumps here on Friday with Angelo Mathews and Dhananjaya de Silva, both batting on 34, to resume in the morning.

Karunaratne (83) was on song, punishing loose deliveries and forcing New Zealand to spread the field to protect the boundaries. Chandimal (61) was more conservative.

"When you play in Galle there is a way I play, and I back that style," Karunaratne said. "Rather than trying to defend, the best way forward is sweeps and reverse sweeps. In the fourth innings, 300 or 350 is a tough target. That's what we want to get to feel safe."

Ajaz Patel broke the deadlock after tea with a ball that spun sharply from outside the rough, catching off-



Dimuth Karunaratne bats as Tom Blundell looks on in Galle

guard the left-handed Karunaratne when the ball snuck past his attempted sweep. Chandimal was sent back in the next over by rookie William O'Rourke, who tempted him into a flick that went straight into the hands of Tom Latham at leg gully.

The 23-year-old O'Rourke had started strongly by dismissing Pathum Nissanka in his second over

when the batsman edged a bouncer to a diving Tim Southey at second slip. His third wicket of the day came courtesy of Kamindu Mendis, who made a century in the first innings but could only manage 13 in the second.

Brief scores: SL 237/4 (Karunaratne 83, Chandimal 61, Dhananjaya 34*, Mathews 34*, O'Rourke 3-37) and 305 lead NZ 340 (Latham 70, Mitchell 57, Jayasuriya 4-136) by 202 runs. AFP

Easwaran ton props up Ind B but Arshdeep's 3/30 keeps Ind D on top

Anantapur: Sanju Samson completed his 11th first-class hundred before Arshdeep Singh showed his wares with the semi-new ball as India D held sway over India B on the second day. India D scored 349 in 87.3 overs in their first innings while India B were not very comfortably placed at 210/6 when stumps were drawn despite skipper Abhimanyu Easwaran's (116) second hundred of the tournament. The hundred happens to be Easwaran's 25th in first-class cricket. Suryakumar Yadav, the India T20 captain, who missed the first couple of rounds due to finger injury, didn't last long, managing only five before he was dismissed by the opposition team's best bowler Arshdeep (3/30 in 12 overs).

Samson, who smashed his way to an unbeaten 89 on the opening day, knocked off the required 11 runs as his 106 off 101 deliveries comprised 12 boundaries and three huge sixes. Starting the day at 306/5, India D didn't last long despite Samson's ton as the last five wickets fell with the addition of 43 runs, with the bulk of the damage being done by Delhi speedster Navdeep Saini. Saini (5/74 in 18.3 overs), who wasn't initially picked in any of the squads, is showing renewed purpose as he grabbed his sixth five-for in first-class cricket and his first in quite some time. With 11 scalps in three games so far, Saini seemed to have once again made his way back into the notebook of the selectors.

When India B batted, Easwaran who looked a cut above the rest in his 170-ball knock that had 13 fours and a six. With India B at 88/2, Arshdeep came back for his second spell with an older SG ball and dismissed Musheer Khan (5) and Suryakumar. **Brief scores:** India B 210/6 (Easwaran 116, Arshdeep 3-30) trail India D 349 (Samson 106, Saini 5-74) by 139 runs.

DULEEP TROPHY

Avesh, Aaqib give Ind A upper hand vs Ind C as Ishan, Patidar miss out

Anantapur: Pacer Avesh Khan sparked with a gritty unbeaten half-century before taking the prized-scalp of Ishan Kishan as India A mounted a strong challenge against India C on Day Two of the Duleep Trophy final-round match here on Friday. The 27-year-old Avesh hammered five fours and four sixes in an unbeaten 68-ball 51 while batting at No. 9, propelling India A to 297.

In response, India C faced a top-order collapse as youngster Aaqib Khan (3/43) tore through their lineup. Aaqib, the 20-year-old pacer from Uttar Pradesh, was particularly impressive as he dismissed Rituraj Gaikwad and Rajat Patidar off successive deliveries.

At stumps, India C were 216/7, trailing by 81 runs and struggling to take a first-innings lead in the four-day encounter. Only Abhishek Porel, with a gritty 82, impressed. India C currently lead the points table with 9 points, followed by India B (7) and India A (6), with the top team after this round set to claim the Duleep Trophy title.

Meanwhile, Shashwat Rawat's resolute knock came to an end for 124 (250 balls) this morning after he managed to add just two runs to his overnight total. A crucial 42-run partnership between Avesh and Prasad Krishna (34 off 39) then took India A forward as the tailenders kept adding vital runs. Avesh then went on to complete his second first-class half-century, boosting the team's total. India C crumbled under the fiery pace of Aaqib, who rattled the top order with crucial wickets. **Brief scores:** India C 216/7 (Porel 82, Aaqib 3-43) trail India A 297 (Rawat 124, Avesh 51*, Vyshak 4-51) by 81 runs. PTI

CHAHAL SHINES WITH SUCCESSIVE 5-WICKET HAULS FOR NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Northampton (England): Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal worked his magic to grab five wickets in his second successive match as Northamptonshire resisted a Leicestershire fight-back to secure a nine-wicket win in the English county championship. Following up on his 4/82 in the first innings, Chahal claimed 5/134 — a nine-wicket match haul — as Northants bowled out



YUZVENDRA CHAHAL

Leicestershire for 316 to set an easy target of 137 in the Division Two county championship here on Thursday.

Northants romped home in 30.3 overs, losing just the wicket of Gus Miller (11). Skipper Luke Procter (68 not out) and George Bartlett (54 not out) sealed the chase.

Leicestershire, after resuming the final day on 69/4, recovered through Scott Currie and Tom Scriven (48), with Currie dismissing a century (120) before being recharged by Chahal for his fifth wicket. In his previous match, Chahal claimed 5/45 and 4/45 in Northants' 133-run win over Derbyshire. PTI

ENG VS AUS 1st ODI

SL VS NZ FIRST TEST DAY 3

Heyball Is A Blend Of Snooker And Pool With Millions At Stake; The Timed Format Event Is Also Eyeing Olympic Recognition

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Bengaluru: Top snooker pros worldwide endorsed 6-red snooker, the shorter version of the game, a little over a decade-and-a-half ago. Most hoped the format would revive the popularity of snooker in the same way T20 has done to cricket. Although the shorter version created a buzz in the initial years, it didn't quite take the world by storm.

However, the newest discipline in cue sports – Heyball – has generated tremendous excitement globally. Earlier known as the Chinese 8-ball pool, the rebranded sport has attracted some of the top snooker pros from the United Kingdom. The money that has been pumped into the sport is stunning. And with the kind of prize money at stake, it won't be long before players begin gravitating towards Heyball.

Heyball is a blend of snooker and pool. It is played on a smaller-sized snooker table – 9 x 4.5 feet – with napped cloth and snooker/billiards-style pockets with a pool ball set. With the balls bigger and the pockets fairly smaller, it is a little more challenging sport than pool. The format is the same as the 8-ball pool – pot either the solids or stripes – followed by the 8-ball (black) to win a rack.

CUE SPORTS

Mark Williams, a three-time professional World snooker champion, is the brand ambassador for the sport that earlier this year came under the umbrella of the World Pool-Billiard Association. Four-time World Snooker champion Mark Selby, and Stuart Bingham, the 2015 World Snooker champion, are the others who have backed Heyball.

The legendary Ronnie O'Sullivan too has been approached and he, along with Stephen Hendry, has been seen with top Chinese 8-ball pool stars in recent times.

"Cue sports as such lacked prize money for people to turn professional and sustain in the sport. I feel Heyball is the answer now where a lot of rewards are being offered," said Pranit Ramchandani, one of India's top exponents of the sport and a cue sports coach as well.

"A Chinese billionaire, the owner of Joy Billiards, a table manufacturer, has decided to take this sport worldwide. He has offered a lot of prize money and began inviting players from all over the world to play in China. Joy Billiards has



IN FOCUS: Vidya Pillai with her coach Pranit Ramchandani

A NEW BALL GAME

"I'm very proud to be an ambassador for Joy and I'm looking forward to playing a lot more Heyball in the future. I enjoyed playing Heyball, and I think the game is going to get bigger and bigger in the next few years and I'm excited to be a part of it. I'm also looking forward to coming to India to meet all my fans in the not-too-distant future."

Mark Williams | THREE-TIME PROFESSIONAL WORLD SNOOKER CHAMPION

"I find Heyball a very interesting and exciting game. It's all cue sports rolled into one. The size of the table and the size of the ball is from the American 9-ball pool, the tactical and gameplay is from UK Pool and then the cloth and pocket size are from Snooker. I think Heyball has the best chance of getting cue sports into the Olympics, and I think that's the end goal for the organisers to try and get it into the 2032 Olympics."

Stuart Bingham | 2015 PROFESSIONAL WORLD SNOOKER CHAMPION

"Heyball is an interesting version of 8-ball pool. To excel in it, a cueist needs to have a combination of some billiards, snooker, and pool skills. However, it is too early to predict whether this Chinese invention will go on to eclipse the other disciplines of cue sports. Huge money is being pumped in by China to popularise and promote Heyball which is good news for the global fraternity."

Pankaj Advani | MULTIPLE TIME WORLD BILLIARDS AND IBSF SNOOKER CHAMPION

"Heyball is an interesting hybrid between snooker and American pool. It is a tactical and precision game. It is quite like chess where one has to think multiple moves ahead and backward from the last black ball. With my snooker background and curiosity for pool, I enjoy Heyball thoroughly."

Natasha Chethan | WORLD WOMEN'S U-21 SNOOKER CHAMPION

planned to pump in nearly \$60 million into the sport in the next five years," said Pranit, who is currently playing the inaugural World Heyball Championships in Slovenia. Pranit, who has partnered with fellow players MC Manoj (Chennai) and Upender Singh Thapa (Dehradun), has the exclusive distributorship rights for Joy Billiards. "I have acquired the first table in India, and it is in my academy here in Bengaluru," said Pranit, who finished top 6 in the 2023 Heyball Asian Tour in Vietnam.

Shivam Arora, who is playing at the Worlds in Slovenia, and Sundee Gulati are the other Indians who play

regularly on the Asian tour. More and more Indian cueists are beginning to take up Heyball in a big way.

In an event in Thailand late last month, there were a record 30 Indians in the fray – a number unheard of in any international cue sports discipline. Pankaj Advani, multiple times World billiards and snooker champion, played the 2023 World Heyball Masters Grand Finals in China with a fair amount of success.

Vidya Pillai, the 2023 IBSF World 6-red snooker champion, too tried her hand at the new discipline while powering Asia 'B' to the title at the inaugural WCBS Team Championship in

Ankara, Turkey. "I tried it casually in Ankara last year and this year as well (in Poland). I love it, it's really quick and it's fun," said Vidya.

Besides being a lucrative proposition for players taking up the sport, Heyball offers equal prize money to men and women. Another interesting feature is that it will be played in the timed format, with a match lasting 100 or 120 minutes, depending upon whether it is a Race to 7 or 9. Also, one can't take more than 45 seconds between shots.

Since it is a timed format, the WPA is leaving no stone unturned in its quest to make Heyball an Olympic sport. It held a meeting with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) during the Paris Olympics to take the sport into the quadrennial extravaganza in Brisbane in 2032.

Whether the WPA succeeds or not, the Indians, because of many years of effort and time and no returns, are likely to take to the lucrative Heyball like ducks to water.

KNOW THE SPORT

• A sport derived from snooker and pool which was earlier known as the Chinese 8-ball pool

• Is played on smaller sized snooker table that has napped cloth but played with a bigger pool ball set (solids and stripes) with snooker/billiards pockets

• Unlike 8-ball pool, you need not call the shot and can fluke any ball and then pot the 8-ball (Black)

• Will be played in the timed format. The match lasts 100 or 120 minutes depending upon whether it is a Race

City likely to host inaugural U-19 Worlds

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: To popularise Heyball in the country, the Billiards and Snooker Federation of India (BSFI) has offered to host the inaugural World Junior (U-19) Heyball Championships later this year.

"The WPA (World Pool-Billiard Association) has agreed in principle to allot the event to India," said BSFI president **S Balasubramaniam**.

"The venue and dates are yet to be confirmed," added Bala, who recently had a virtual meeting with WPA president Ishaun Singh and IBSF secretary-general Michael Alkhoury.

"The sport has taken the world by storm. A lot of money is being pumped into it. It is already part of the World Games next year and efforts are on to make it an Olympic discipline," the BSFI official said. "Looking at it from that point of view, we don't want to miss out on that."

He was hopeful the event, most likely to be held in Bengaluru, will kickstart a revolution. "It should, that is the basic idea. It allows us to push the sport, and if there is money in it, why not? Our players will benefit, everybody benefits from it."

It will be a 32-player field in both sections (boys and girls) with one entry per country, and it will be a four-day affair, he said.

Once the dates are finalised, the BSFI will go ahead with the qualifiers to identify who represents India. The qualifiers will be held at a private facility run by player-coach Pranit Ramchandani here. "We will ask the states to send their top juniors, but we have not decided on the number of players yet," Bala said. To take the sport to the next level in the country, the official said they would conduct the inaugural Nationals next year for both the seniors and juniors.



KSCA Secy's XI have task cut out

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: KSCA Secretary's XI were staring at the exit door after conceding a massive 260-run innings lead against Maharashtra on Day 2 of their Dr (Capt) K Thimmappiah memorial tournament here.

At the KSCA Alur (1), Maharashtra, who started the day at 320/6, finished with 421 in 114.5 overs with Nikhil Naik crafting a 161-

CRICKET

ball 107. For Karnataka, spinners Shikhar Shetty and Shreyas Gopal finished with three wickets apiece. In reply, Secretary's XI batting line-up was derailed by pacer Ramakrishna Ghosh (5/19) and left-arm spinner Hitesh Walunj (4/51), who wreaked havoc. First, the home team lost three wickets for the addition of two runs, and they lost the last five wickets, adding just 12



runs. They were bowled out for 161, with skipper Shreyas Gopal top-scoring with 44.

In the other semis, Madhya Pradesh, who were bowled out for 325, were inching towards the innings honour against Baroda, with the latter struggling at 159/6. Left-arm pacer **Kulwant Khejroliya** caused the maximum damage, returning 5 for 36.

Brief scores: Maharashtra: 421 in 114.5 overs (Nikhil Naik 107, Satyajit Bachhav 37, Ramkrishna Ghosh 39, Abhilash 2-41, Shikhar Shetty 3-91, Shreyas Gopal 3-110) & **4 for no loss in 1 over vs KSCA Secretary's XI: 161 in 54.2 overs** (Vishal Onat 26, Yashvardhan Parantap 26, Shrijith KL 36, Shreyas 44, Ramkrishna Ghosh 5-19, Hitesh Walunj 4-51)

Madhya Pradesh: 325 in 118.1 overs (Harsh Gawli 141, Aryan Pandey 27 n.o., Atit Sheth 2-60, Ninad Rathwa 5-75) vs **Baroda: 159/6 in 55 overs** (Jyotsnii Singh 51, Kedar Devdhar 26, Vishnu Solanki 31, Mitesh Patel 25; Kulwant Khejroliya 5-36).

Oly equipment moves to new homes

Paris: In western Paris, the swimming pool where national hero Leon Marchand won four gold medals at this summer's Olympics in the French capital is being stripped down and prepared for a move. The pool was part of one of the many temporary sports facilities used during the Games, built inside the Paris Defense Arena.

Elsewhere in Paris, workers are pulling down the scaffolding at other temporary stadiums built at historic locations around the city which served as telegraphic backdrops. The BMX park has been dismantled and sent to Cluses in the French Alps where it will be used for a world BMX event. The sand from the beach volleyball court has been sent to a sports centre in Marville in Seine-Saint-Denis. AGENCIES

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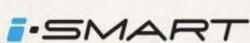
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