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VOL. C NO. 273

NEW DELHI/METRO
Friday, November 15, 2024

Hindustan Times
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MAYBACH

Mercedes-Maybach S-Class

WELCOME
TO BEYOND

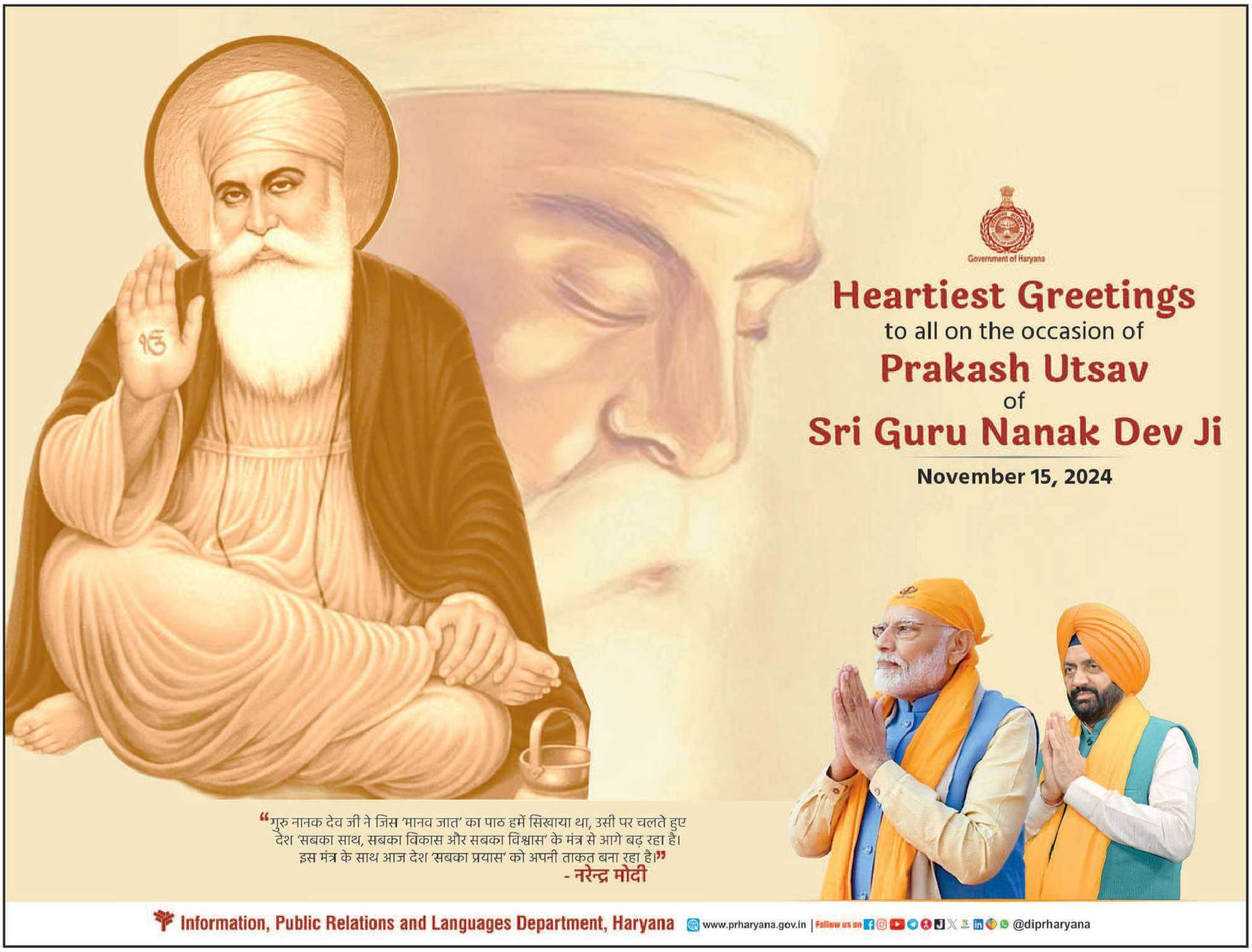
The all-new Mercedes-Maybach S-Class
Night Series.

MAYBACH

Scan the QR code to connect with us on WhatsApp.

T&T Motors: Delhi and Gurugram: Tel: 0-7400025000 (CIN: U34300DL1997PTC089072) | **Global Star**: Green Park, Delhi: Tel: 0-9971300600 (LLP: AAQ-0687) | **Silver Arrows**: Delhi, Noida and Ghaziabad: Tel: 0-9999200500 (CIN: U50200DL2012PTC234354) | **Berkeley Motors**: Karnal: Tel: 0-8607550606, 0-8222880606, Dehradun: Tel: 0-8950933606 (CIN: U50300CH2011PLC033395)

Mercedes-Benz India Pvt. Ltd. (CIN: U34102PN1994PTC083160) Toll Free no.: 0008000501888. Email: cs.ind@cac.mercedes-benz.com, website: mercedes-benz.co.in
Accessories, colors and fitments shown may not be a part of standard specifications. For technical specifications of the model available in India, please refer to the product brochure or contact the nearest Mercedes-Benz Franchise Partner. The Mercedes-Maybach S-Class Night Series meets Bharat Stage VI equivalent emission norms.



NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

The Chief Administrative Officer/Const./RSP/NR 9th Floor, Konnectus Tower, New Delhi for and behalf of the President of Indian invites e-tender under Single Packet System for the under noted work:-

1	Full Name of work	Construction of two Road Over Bridges (ROBs) in Punjab, at Level Crossing (LC) No. 164A at Km 353/35-354/01 between Doraha (DOA) and Sahnewal (SNL) stations on Ambala (UMB) - Ludhiana (LDH) section and LC No. S-4 at km 03/4-5 on Amritsar (ASR) and Bhagtanwala (BGTN) on the Amritsar (ASR) - Khemkaran (KEMK) section, under Road Safety Project Unit (RSPU) of Northern railway.
2	Approx. Cost of work	₹ 1033859936.16 only (One Hundred Three Corer, Thirty Eight Lakh, Fifty Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Thirty Six and sixteen Paise only)
3	Completion period of the work	18 (Eighteen) Months
4	Earnest Money to be deposited	₹ 5319300/- (Fifty Three Lakh Nineteen Thousand Three Hundred Only)
5	Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website	Tender documents will be available on IREPS website i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** from 14.11.2024 to 13.12.2024 upto 11:30 hrs.
6	Last date/Time of upload of tenders	Tender document can be uploaded on IREPS website on upto 13.12.2024, 11:30 hrs
7	Date and time of opening of tender	**Anytime after** 13.12.2024 at 11:30 hrs.

No. 07/W/09/2024/WA/Dy.CE/C/RSP Dated: 14.11.2024 **3545/2024**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

कार्यालय विशेष भूमि अध्याप्ति अधिकारी (संयुक्त-संगठन), बरेली।

संख्याः– 1140/आठ–वि०भू० अ० अ० (सं०सं०) /बरेली–2024 दिनांकः–14/11/2024

सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि बरेली विकास प्राधिकरण, बरेली की ग्रेटर बरेली आवासीय योजना विकसित किये जाने के लिये 07 ग्रामों की अधिग्रहण हेतु प्रस्तावित भूमि से प्रभावित कृषकों / भू–स्वामियों के सम्बन्ध में सामाजिक समाघात अध्ययन रिपोर्ट और सामाजिक समाघात प्रबन्ध योजना की अंतिम रिपोर्ट आम जन के अवलोकनार्थ कार्यालय जिलाधिकारी, बरेली के नजारत अनुभाग में, कार्यालय विशेष भूमि अध्याप्ति अधिकारी (संयुक्त–संगठन), बरेली, कार्यालय उपजिलाधिकारी सदर, तहसीलदार सदर, एवं कार्यालय ग्राम पंचायत मोहनपुर उर्फ रामनगर, अहरोला, नवदिया झादा, वालीपुर अहमदपुर, कचौली, कन्थरी व इटौआ बेनीराम, बरेली पर उपलब्ध है। कोई भी व्यक्ति किसी भी कार्य दिवस में कार्यालय अवधि में उक्त रिपोर्ट का अवलोकन कर सकता है। इसके अतिरिक्त उक्त रिपोर्ट की प्रति जनपद बरेली की वेबसाइट www.bareilly.nic.in पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

विशेष भूमि अध्याप्ति अधिकारी
(संयुक्त संगठन) बरेली।

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Ashmika

General Public is hereby informed that one Girl (depicted in the photo) namely **ASHMIKA D/o** Sanjay John, **R/o:** GC-81, Pul Prahladpur, New Delhi-110044, **Age-** 18 Yrs, 10 Months, has been reported missing since 11.11.2024 at 11.00 AM. from her Residence vide, **DD No. 40A, Dated 11.11.2024,** registered at **Police Station Pul Prahladpur, South-East Distt., New Delhi-110044.** Her physical description is as under:

Sex: Female, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Height:** 5'3", **Built:** Normal, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Black Colour Pant & Light Orange Shirt and White Shoes on her feet.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing girl, please inform to the following.

SHO,
Police Station Pul Prahladpur,
South-East Distt., New Delhi-110044
Ph.: 8750870934

Website: https://cbi.nic.in
DP/15084/SE/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Archana

General Public is hereby informed that one Girl **Namely: Archana Kumari W/o:** Sanjay Kumar, **R/o:** Gali No. 30, Choti Gali Swatanter Nagar, Narela, Delhi **Sex:** Female, **Age:** 25 Years , **Height:** 5'1" **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Strong, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Red Color Sharara and Blue Hawai Chappal in feet has been missing since 08.11.2024 from Gali No. 30, Choti Gali Swatanter Nagar, Narela, Delhi from the Jurisdiction of Police Station Narela, Outer North, Delhi In this regard **DD No. 57A, Dated 10.11.2024** has been registered at **P.S.: Narela, Outer North Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the Missing Girl but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this Missing Girl . Please inform to the following.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/15078/ON/2024

SHO
P.S.: Narela, Outer North Delhi
Mobile: 011-27282350

Have fun with facts on Sundays

Catch the latest column of

HT TWTW
THE WEEK THAT WAS

A quiz on the week's development.



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NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

No. : CEN-2024-05 **Dated : 12.11.2024**

E-Tender Notice

Dy. CE/Const.-I/North Central Railway/Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India. invites the following E-Tenders on Prescribed form for the following works upto 15:00 hrs. on 16.12.2024. The details of the tenders are as under:-

Tender No. CEN-2024-05	**Approx. cost of work (Rs.) : 64838185.00**
Name of work : Mobile flash Butt welding of rail on various loop lines, 3rd line and existing UP/DN lines in the jurisdiction of Dy. CE/C/1/PRYJ and any other location decided by Engineer-in-chargein Prayagraj division.	
Bid Security (Rs.) 474200.00	**Completion period : 24 Months**
Tender Closing Date & Time : 16.12.2024 15:00 hrs	
Date of Opening of tender : 16.12.2024 15:30 hrs	
Type of tendering : Open Tender (Single Packet system)	

Note : (1) The complete information along with tender document of above E-Tenders are available on Website **www.ireps.gov.in up to 15:00 on 16.12.2024** & date of tender opening i.e. **16.12.2024. (2)** Bids other than in the form of E-bids shall not be accepted against above Tenders. For this purpose, venders are required to get themselves registered with **IREPS** website along with Digital Signature Certificates issued by **CCA under IT Act-2000. (3)** The Bid Security shall be deposited either in cash through e-payment gateway or submitted as Bank Guarantee bond from a scheduled commercial bank of India or as mentioned in tender documents. The Bank Guarantee bond shall be as per Annexure-VIA as given in Tender Document and shall be valid for a period of **90 days** beyond the bid validity period. **(4)** Rates entered into Financial Rate page and duly signed digitally shall be considered. Rates and any other financial entity in any other form/letter head if attached by vendor shall be straight way ignored and shall not be considered. **(5)** Joint Venture (JV)/Consortiums/MOUs shall be considered for the tender having cost more than **10 Cr. (6)** Documents being attached should be signed by the tenderer on its body. **(7)** The tenderers shall submit a certificate as given in tender document in standard format for all items without which their tender may not be considered and shall be summarily rejected. **(8)** Each page of the copy of documents/certificates in support of credentials, submitted by the tenderer, shall be self-attested/digitally signed by the tenderer or authorized representative of the tendering firm. Slef-attestion shall include signature, stamp and date (on each page). Only those documents which are declared explicitly by the tenderer as "documents supporting the claim qualifying the laid down eligibility criteria", will be considered for evaluation his/their tender. In case of any wrong information submitted by the tenderer, the contract will be terminated, Bid Security (BS), Performance Guarantee (PG and Security Deposit (SD) of contract will be forfeited and agency will be banned for doing business on entire Indian Railways for five (5) years. **(9)** GST Act & rules issued from time to time by the Government authorities shall be applicable. **(10)** In case of any difficulty helpdesk available on the website of **IREPS** may be approached. **(11)** Tender online can be submitted **up to 15:00 hrs. on 16.12.2024 and will be opened at 15:30 hrs. on 16.12.2024.** **1982/24 (C)**

@CPRONCR North central railways cproncrly CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

THE COURT OF SPECIAL JUDGE, ANTI-CORRUPTION, CBI WEST LUCKNOW/SPECIAL COURT PMLA

NOTICE UNDER SECOND PROVISO TO SUB-SECTION 8 OF SECTION 8 OF PREVENTION OF MONEY LAUNDERING ACT, 2002

In compliance of Hon'ble High Court Order dtd 01.07.2024 in the matter of Criminal Misc. Writ Petition No. 1834 of 2021 and on request of Directorate of Enforcement, Lucknow Zonal Office, Lucknow; in exercise of the power conferred by second proviso to sub-section 8 of section 8 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (15 of 2003), to consider the claim of the claimants under second proviso to sub-section 8 of section 8 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (15 of 2003) for the purpose of restoration of properties prayed for confiscation by the ED, Lucknow in case of Shinecity Group & Others (Session Case No. 1008/2024, 1321/2024,2249/2024, 1386/2024 and 2352/2024) this proclamation is hereby made for claimants who claim to have a legitimate interest in such properties of Shinecity Group & Others or part thereof, to be submitted alongwith the requisite documents to the concerned court and establish their claim, if any, for restoration of such properties or part thereof within thirty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Place : Lucknow
Date : 14.11.2024

Special Judge
Anti-Corruption, CBI(West)/
Special Court, PMLA

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DIVISION KATHUA

Email: phekathua@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 55 of 2024-25 **Dated: 13.11.2024**

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Kathua, Jammu invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies / Consortiums between bidder/firm and Financier of **"A & ABOVE Class"** registered in JKPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES or any other state Government for **"Augmentation of water supply scheme Kathua Town under AMRUT 2.0 and Operation and Maintenance of scheme for 05 Years".** The bidding process shall be completed online on **www.jktenders.gov.in** in two covers viz. **Cover 1st** consisting of Pre-Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions, Scope of work and Technical Specifications and **Cover 2nd** consisting of Financial Bid on Percentage rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

Sr. No.	Particulars of the work	Estimated Cost (Lacs)	Tender fee (in INR)	Earnest money Deposit in INR	Bid Validity	Time of Completion of work (month)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Augmentation of water supply scheme Kathua Town under AMRUT 2.0 and Operation and Maintenance cost of scheme for 05 Years (Work wise details given Annexure I)	Rs 3828.36	Rs. 10000/-	2 % of Estimated Cost	180 days	(18 months)

Position of funds: Approved Under AMRUT 2.0

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Kathua.

Critical Dates:

i	Publish Date	13.11.2024
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	13.11.2024
iii	Bid submission start date	13.11.2024
iv	Pre-Bid Meeting date	18.11.2024
v	Bid submission end date	27.11.2024
v	Date and time of Bid opening	28.11.2024 at 2.00 PM Onwards

1. Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website **www.jktenders.gov.in**

No. PHEK/C/4859-70 Sd/-
Dt. 13.11.2024 **Executive Engineer**
DIP-J-6936-24 **Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Kathua**

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5:30 PM ONWARDS

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सत्यमेव जयते
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Government of India

Jal-Jangal-Zameen Ka Diya Nara, Sada Rahe Nij Dham Matrubhoomi Par Swa-Raj Ho, Birsa ka Paigam

In last 10 years...

58 lakh houses, 1.5 crore toilets and 91 lakh Ayushman cards give dignified life to Vanbandhus

₹80,000 crore Dharti Aaba Janjati Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan launched benefitting 5 crore people

1.33 lakh ST category students studying in 476 Eklavya Model Residential Schools

12 lakh people engaged in entrepreneurship through 3900 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras

More than 23 lakh people got Land Rights. As against 55 lakh acres in 2014, Land Titles of 191 lakh acres distributed so far

MSP was earlier available only for 12 types of forest produce, now extended to 87

To prevent Sickle Cell Anemia, more that 4.6 crore people screened

Birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda declared as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas

Tribal Valour and Bravery gets Respect, Construction of 11 Tribal Freedom Fighter Museums approved



15 November 2024
Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas

Foundation stone laying, Inauguration and Launch of Schemes worth ₹6600 crore by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**

Time: 11:00 am | Location: Jamui, Bihar

Today marks the beginning of the
150th Birth Anniversary Year
of Dharti Aaba Bhagwan Birsa Munda

#BirsaMunda150
#JanjatiyaGauravDiwas

cbc 43101/13/0011/2425

Watch LIVE Telecast of the programme on DD News @TribalAffairsIn MinistryofTribalAffairs

ADVERTISEMENT

Energy Efficient Uttarakhand



"The Uttarakhand State Solar Policy 2023 is evidence of our dedication to a sustainable and profitable tomorrow. By harnessing the power of solar energy, we strive to not only secure our energy requirements but also encourage economic development and create multiple livelihood prospects, especially for the youth and women. Our vision is to make Uttarakhand a forerunner in clean energy, assuring a brighter, greener future for all."

- Pushkar Singh Dhami,
Chief Minister of Uttarakhand

Pioneering a clean energy future

Under the guidance of PM Narendra Modi and the able leadership of Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami, the state government introduced Uttarakhand State Solar Policy 2023. This policy strives to lessen dependency on fossil fuels, foster renewable energy, and assure energy security and inclusive economic development

Pics: DIPR, Govt of Uttarakhand



>> ***Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand; R Meenakshi Sundaram, secretary energy;*** *and other dignitaries participating at UREDA event*

Ensconced in the Himalayan belt of northern India, Uttarakhand is recognized for its natural magnificence, rich biodiversity, and spiritual value. However, the state encounters substantial perils from global warming and climate change. Acknowledging the pressing necessity to transition to cleaner energy, the Uttarakhand government has introduced the Uttarakhand State Solar Policy 2023. This policy strives to lessen dependence on fossil fuels, foster renewable energy, and assure energy security and inclusive economic development.

Vision

The vision of the Uttarakhand State Solar Policy 2023 is to support the clean energy transition by mainstreaming solar energy. The policy aims to accelerate solar energy deployment via distributed solar systems, ingenious business models, and increased adoption of solar applications across different sectors. By leveraging solar energy, the state strives to improve power system stability, encourage rural incomes, enhance the reliability and quality of electricity supply, and create livelihood prospects, especially for youth and women.

Regulatory Framework

The Uttarakhand State Solar Policy 2023, superseding the Uttarakhand Solar Energy Policy 2013, is developed under the provisions of the Electricity Act of 2003. The policy requires the Uttarakhand State Electricity Regulatory Commission (UERC) and the state government to promote renewable energy, assuring the adoption of cleaner energy forms.

Key Provisions

To achieve the policy targets, several key provisions have been summarised:

Green Tariff

Discoms will create provisions for interested consumers to procure clean electricity from renewable sources at predetermined rates, known as the 'Green Tariff.' The UERC will introduce economically attractive green tariff rates to encourage early adoption of green energy.

Feed-in-Tariff

The UERC will introduce feed-in tariffs for distributed solar power plants set up by residential, agricultural, government, and institutional consumers to compensate for excess generation injected into the grid.

Metering and Peer-to-Peer Trading

The policy promotes virtual and group net metering, allowing consumers with inadequate rooftop areas to adopt solar. Further, peer-to-peer trading using blockchain technologies will be promoted, allowing consumers to sell power to other grid consumers.

Banking

100% energy banking will be permitted during all 12 months, with energy settlement done monthly. The UERC will determine compensation for banked energy based on peak and off-peak hours.

Open Access

The policy ensures that captive/group-captive solar plants will be exempt from transmission and wheeling charges. Discoms are required to process open-access applications within 21 days.

Implementation Mechanisms

The policy introduces several ingenious mechanisms to encourage solar deployment:

Solar Policy Cell and Single Window Portal

A dedicated Solar Policy Cell will be created by UREDA to streamline the approval process through a single window portal, providing statutory clearances and approvals within 60 days.

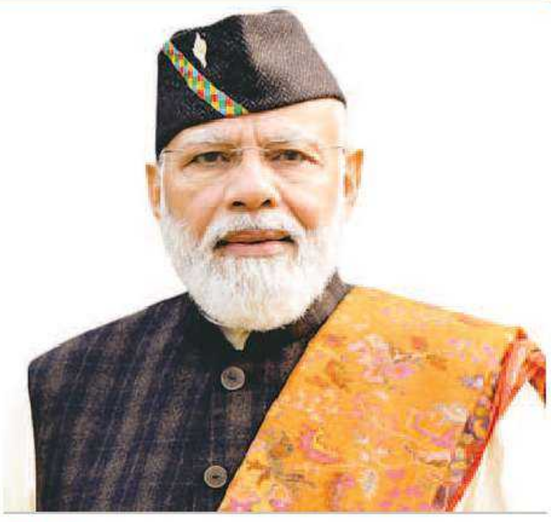
Data Rooms

UREDA will establish data rooms to host information on available land parcels, building details, and rooftop solar potential of government buildings.

OBJECTIVES

The policy summarises several essential objectives to achieve its vision:

- Reach a cumulative capacity of 2500 MW by December 2027 across diversified project portfolios.
- Accelerate solar investment via improved deployment mechanisms, incentives, and business models.
- Provide reliable electricity access to rural consumers in distant places by encouraging solar plus storage solutions.
- Support solar-based livelihood applications and occupation prospects, fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- Incorporate tourism into the energy transition with incentives and innovative business models.
- Promote agro-photovoltaics to boost agricultural income.
- Provide training for skill development, focusing on vulnerable communities to create employment through solar project deployment.



"Since 2014, India has increased its solar installation capacity by 30 times. We want to make every household in India a solar power home. From houses to roads, India has moved on the path of energy-efficient lighting. Through all these efforts, green jobs are being created in very large numbers. India of the 21st century is moving ahead with education, skill, research, and innovation."

-Narendra Modi,
Prime Minister

Payment Security Mechanism

Payment security mechanisms, such as ESCROW accounts or letters of credit, will be created to ensure timely payments to developers selling RE to government departments and Discoms.

Land Banks and Direct Benefits to Local Communities

UREDA will facilitate the setting up of land banks and identify suitable government and private lands for solar power plant installation. The policy mandates that at least 50% of the employment potential during project construction and operation stages be provided to bonafide residents of Uttarakhand, with a preference for displaced communities.

Manufacturing Incentives

The policy promotes solar manufacturing facilities with incentives such as priority land allotment, electricity duty waivers, stamp duty reimbursements, SGST reimbursement, and customs duty exemptions on inputs required for manufacturing solar modules and battery storage.

The Uttarakhand State Solar Policy 2023 is an exhaustive framework to accelerate the state's transition to renewable energy. By harnessing the potential of solar energy, Uttarakhand strives to attain its sustainability goals, improve energy security, and foster inclusive economy.

Initiating renewable energy endeavours

UREDA's mission involves improving energy access, encouraging sustainability, and promoting financial growth via different schemes

The Uttarakhand Renewable Energy Development Agency (UREDA), operating under the Energy & Renewable Energy Department of the Government of Uttarakhand, has been at the vanguard of propelling the state's renewable energy initiatives. UREDA's mission involves improving energy access, encouraging sustainability, and promoting financial growth via different ingenious programmes and schemes.

Mukhyamantri Saur Swarozgar Yojana (MSSY)

The Mukhyamantri Saur Swarozgar Yojana (MSSY) aims to enhance self-employment and entrepreneurship development through solar energy in Uttarakhand. Launched in March 2023, the scheme expanded its capacity options to include not only 20/25 kW solar power plants but also higher capacity installations of 50, 100, and 200 kW. Exclusively available to permanent residents of Uttarakhand, MSSY has set an ambitious target of establishing a total solar power capacity of 250 MW. Beneficiaries can access all benefits permissible under the MSME framework, with potential monthly incomes reaching up to Rs 1 lakh from these solar plants. In a notable example, 19 solar power plants are being set up in Kukreda, a remote block in Uttarkashi district, under the Chief Minister Solar Self-Employment Scheme. Out of approximately 1,077 projects (192.595 MW) allocated under MSSY, projects totalling 67 MW have been allotted in Tehri district. Additionally, 89 projects (16 MW) have been installed, with 44 of these projects allotted in Tehri.



Solar Rooftops on Government Buildings

UREDA is enhancing the use of government structures for renewable energy generation, setting a target capacity of 60 MW for rooftop solar installations. Currently, 9 MW has been installed across 305 government buildings. In the 2024-25 fiscal year, the state government has sanctioned a budget of 100 crore for the first phase of this initiative and received proposals for an additional 24.5 MW capacity across 1,695 buildings. The installation of solar power plants will promote a green economy along with creating employment opportunities.

PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana

The PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana aims to promote the installation of solar power plants in Uttarakhand by providing substantial financial incentives to beneficiaries. In addition to grants from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the Central Government, the State Government offers matching grants, significantly enhancing the financial support for solar energy initiatives. For instance, beneficiaries can receive grants of up to Rs 33,000 per kW for solar power plants ranging from 1 to 2 kW, along with additional support for larger capacities. Since the scheme's inception, 25,888 applications have been submitted, resulting in the commissioning of 8,143 solar power plants with a combined capacity of 31.5 MW. Central grants have been disbursed to 2,618 applicants, while UREDA has issued state grants totaling Rs 7.03 crore to 1,384 beneficiaries, representing a capacity of 5.59 MW.

Solar Water Heater Program

UREDA provides a 50% state subsidy for domestic installations and a 30% subsidy for commercial solar water heater systems. With a target of 1.7 lakh liters per day (LPD) and a budget provision of ₹1.5 crore for 2024-25, the program has disbursed subsidies amounting to one crore for installations approx 1.29 lakh LPD.

Micro, Mini & Small Hydropower Projects

UREDA is backing hydropower projects to assure village electrification and grid strengthening. Presently, 41 hydro projects with a cumulative capacity of 14.65 MW are operational across state, furnishing renewable energy to different rural locales. A total of six hydro projects in all the four shrines have been established to ensure regular power supply to all Char Dhams and uphill regions.

Solar Streetlight/High Mast Light

This community-centric program concentrates on installing solar street and high mast lights in rural areas, improving safety.

National Biogas Program

In collaboration with the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, the Government of India, UREDA is implementing the National Biogas Program to meet rural energy needs. The program offers financial assistance of ₹17,000 for 1 cubic meter biogas plants and ₹22,000 for 2-4 cubic meter plants, promoting sustainable energy solutions in rural areas.

Energy Conservation Program

UREDA's energy conservation efforts include developing model villages to raise public awareness about energy savings. Initiatives such as replacing conventional bulbs, tube lights, and fans with energy-efficient devices in government schools, health centers, and other public buildings are underway.



Leading the charge in energy sector excellence

Uttarakhand Power Corporation Limited (UPCL) is a supreme entity in the energy sector, serving over 2.9 million electricity consumers across Uttarakhand. With an expansive infrastructure that contains more than 375 substations, over 45,000 KM of 11 KV lines, and upwards of 70,000 KM of low-tension lines, UPCL is dedicated to delivering reliable electricity to all parts of the state.

UPCL's mission is to empower the socio-economic growth of Uttarakhand by enforcing a cutting-edge distribution network and maximizing consumer satisfaction through IT-enabled solutions. Significant accomplishments include a record revenue collection of Rs. 9,880 Crore in FY 2023-24, a substantial decrease in AT&C losses to 14.85%, and securing the 1st position among Himalayan states in the latest Consumer Service Rating of Discom (CSRD) by the REC.

The corporation has adopted technological advances, such as the "Consumer Self-Service" mobile application and the Field Activity Management (FAM) mobile application, to enhance service delivery and operational efficiency. In FY 2023-24, UPCL ensured an impressive average power supply of 23:41 hours per day in urban areas and 23:28 hours per day in rural areas.

UPCL's dedication to quality and governance is evidenced by its various certifications and awards, including NABL certification for its test laboratories and ISO 9001:2015 certification for its corporate office. These efforts highlight UPCL's dedication to providing reliable electricity and driving Uttarakhand's socio-economic growth.



>> ***Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand,*** *inaugurates RMU works at Uttarkashi*

CM Dhami inaugurates RMU works in Uttarkashi

In a significant move towards enhancing power generation capabilities in Uttarakhand, Cm Pushkar Singh Dhami inaugurated the Renovation, Modernization, and Upgradation (RMU) works at the Tiloth Power House, operated by Uttarakhand Jal Vidyut Nigam Limited (UJVNL). This initiative aims to rejuvenate aging power infrastructure and boost electricity output.

The RMU project targets power houses with outdated equipment and diminishing generation capacity. At the Tiloth Power House, extensive repairs and renovations of the existing machinery have been undertaken. This initiative has successfully increased the installed capacity from 90 MW to 94.5 MW, leading to a remarkable surge in annual electricity generation.

Prior to the RMU, the Tiloth Power House produced approximately 397 million units of electricity per year. Post-upgrade, this figure is expected to soar to around 483 million units, reflecting an impressive increase of nearly 22%. Additionally, the availability of machinery has improved from 73.67% to 77.5%, ensuring more reliable power supply. Financially, the RMU project is projected to significantly enhance revenue. Previously generating around Rs 57 crore annually, the Tiloth Power House is now expected to yield approximately Rs 97 crore—a potential increase of Rs 40 crore. This uptick in production and revenue is set to not only bolster the financial health of UJVNL but also contribute positively to the state's economy.

CM Dhami emphasised the importance of such initiatives in strengthening the state's power supply system, asserting that the advancements in infrastructure will ultimately benefit both the corporation and the residents of Uttarakhand. The successful implementation of RMU works at Tiloth Power House marks a significant step forward.



>> ***Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM, Uttarakhand; R Meenakshi Sundaram, secretary energy;*** *and other dignitaries inaugurating power projects*

Transforming Uttarakhand's power supply

The Ministry of Power, Government of India, has established the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) to revolutionize electricity distribution across India. For Uttarakhand, the Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC) is the nodal agency for enforcing this transformative scheme.

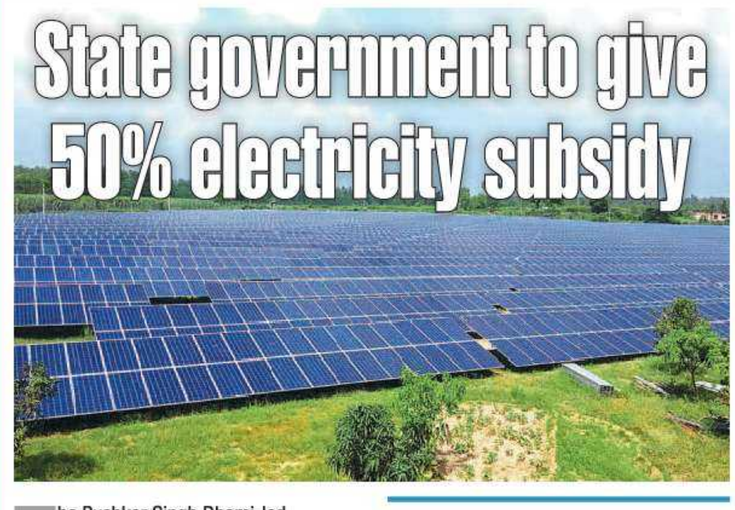
The RDSS seeks to improve the power supply experience for consumers in Uttarakhand with pivotal objectives, including improving quality and reliability, reducing Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses to 12-15% by 2024-25, and eliminating the gap between Average Cost of Supply (ACS) and Average Revenue Realized (ARR) by the same year.

A critical component of the RDSS is the introduction of prepaid smart metering, which will improve operational efficiency via Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). This technology will automate energy flow measurement and enhance energy accounting.

Uttarakhand's distribution infrastructure will experience extensive upgrades, such as replacing old conductors, installing additional high-tension lines, and deploying Arial Bunched Cables (ABC) and High Voltage Distribution Systems (HVDS) in high-loss areas.

The scheme also focuses on skill development and capacity building, including training personnel and running consumer awareness programs. With a sanctioned cost of Rs 2,526.17 crore for loss reduction and prepaid smart metering components, the RDSS aims to create a sustainable and efficient power supply system in Uttarakhand.

State government to give 50% electricity subsidy



The Pushkar Singh Dhami-led government in Uttarakhand has prompted a project to furnish a 50% subsidy to consumers using less than 100 units of electricity per month. This scheme is anticipated to cost the state government Rs. 130 crore annually, and aims to benefit over 11 lakh power consumers.

Energy Secretary R Meenakshi Sundaram explained that the estimated expenditure is based on previous electricity bills, with Rs. 260 crore worth of electricity consumed by those using less than 100 units last year. Under the scheme, consumers using more than 100 units will have to pay the full amount.

The subsidy will also extend to consumers in the hilly areas of Uttarakhand, providing ease to users with a power load of up to 1 KW

The subsidy will also extend to consumers in the hilly areas of Uttarakhand, providing ease to users with a power load of up to 1 KW. This initiative, announced by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on his birthday, reflects the government's adherence to lessening the economic burden on low-consumption electricity users in the state.

NEW DELHI/METRO
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Hindustar

'Socioeconomic equality is the key, not caste divisions'





Union minister Nitin Gadkari speaks at the HT Leadership Summit.

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari has expressed concerns about the Opposition's demand for a caste census, pointing out that backwardness has become an issue for political exploitation.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) parliamentarian from Nagpur also believes that his party and the Mahayuti alliance of which it is a part will reverse the trend of the Lok Sabha elections in Maharashtra — the alliance won only 17 of the 48 seats with the rival INDIA bloc winning 30.

He added that this will be on account of the work done by the Narendra Modi-led Union government and the Mahayuti state government, and because the BJP has managed to address the perception problem that dogged it during the Lok Sabha elections.

Gadkari, speaking in an online session of the 22nd Hindustan Times Leadership Summit, acknowledged that during the national elections this summer, the Opposition succeeded in spreading the perception that the BJP was aiming to change the Constitution and take away the benefits of reservation to the backward and scheduled classes, but that now, the people of Maharashtra know it is not out to do so.

The caste census is not the way to create an equitable society, he said.

"My personal view is no one can become great based on their caste, religion, language and sex but with their qualities. Untouchability and casteism in society must be ended and socio-economic equality must be established," he said. But "backwardness has become a political interest, everyone wants to prove that he is backward", he added at a session by HT's national political editor Sunetra Choudhury.

The Union government has been non-committal on the inclusion of caste in the upcoming census.

The Opposition has been pushing for this, but Union home minister Amit Shah has said that a decision on this will require more consultation and has not yet been taken. In Maharashtra, the dominant Marathas, comprising roughly 20% of the electorate have been demanding other backward classes (OBC) status.

Gadkari said that the BJP and its allies are on course to winning the polls . "Our strength has increased in Maharashtra. Three

continued on →15

WATCH: Full interview with Nitin Gadkari at the 22nd HTLS

After Haryana, Maha will crush Cong dream: Modi

HT Correspondents
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MUMBAI/PANVEL: The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) stalled development projects in Maharashtra and hence the Congress's dream of coming to power in the state will be crushed just like in Haryana, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday, alleging that the Opposition was an enemy of the poor and would cause droughts if it came to power in the upcoming assembly polls.

Modi addressed three rallies on Thursday — in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, Panvel and Mumbai — ahead of the November 20 polls in Maharashtra, where the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led Mahayuti is looking to retain power.

He said the battle in Maharashtra was between people who praise Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj and those who hail Aurangzeb and blamed former chief minister Uddhav Thackeray for handing over the "remote control" of his party to the Congress.

"The Congress and MVA have been dreaming about coming back to the power, but those dreams will be shattered like in Haryana. I have been touring Maharashtra and Jharkhand and

continued on →15

Rahul raises poll pitch on quota and caste-based survey in Maha



NANDURBAR: The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) will protect the rights of tribal people, Dalits and other backward classes (OBCs) and ensure they get opportunities in proportion to their population by conducting a caste-based survey and removing the 50% cap on reservation, Congress lawmaker Rahul Gandhi said on Thursday.

Addressing a rally in Nandurbar, north Maharashtra, Gandhi hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying "he has never read the Constitution." →P8

DOMINICA TO GIVE HIGHEST NATIONAL HONOUR TO MODI

NEW DELHI: The Commonwealth of Dominica has announced it will award its highest national honour to Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he visits Guyana for the India-CARICOM Summit next week. The Dominica Award of Honour is being bestowed on Modi in recognition of his contributions to Dominica during the Covid-19 pandemic and his dedication to strengthening the partnership between the two countries, a statement said. →P9

MORE VIOLENCE AS RAJ CANDIDATE WHO HIT SDM HELD

JAIPUR: Independent assembly bypoll candidate Naresh Meena was arrested on Thursday, a day after his supporters torched vehicles and threw stones at a police team sent to arrest him for slapping a sub-divisional magistrate (SDM), triggering fresh violence in Tonk district of Rajasthan. Meena, who contested the bypoll from Deoil-Uniara seat, slapped SDM Amit Chaudhary when the official went to speak to a group of people in Samrawata village who were boycotting the poll. →P8

AAP CANDIDATE MAHESH KHICHI ELECTED AS NEXT MAYOR OF DELHI

Paras Singh
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NEW DELHI: Mahesh Kumar Khichi, the AAP councillor from the Dev Nagar ward in Karol Bagh, won the mayoral elections on Thursday, narrowly beating BJP's Kishan Lal by three votes in a four-and-a-half-hour event that clocked significant cross-voting by AAP members. The Congress, meanwhile, boycotted the election process.



Khichi will be mayor for less than five months. →P6

{ ADMINISTRATION SHAPES UP }

Trump names Tulsi for intel director job

Prashant Jha
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WASHINGTON: Tulsi Gabbard will be America's new intelligence czar from January 20, 2025.

President-elect Donald Trump picked Gabbard — a former Democratic Congresswoman, a recent convert to Republican ranks, a staunch critic of America's foreign wars and someone who has openly expressed an understanding of the Russian position on the Ukraine war — as the director of national intelligence, which oversees all US intelligence agencies.


Tulsi Gabbard

Gabbard will be the first practising Hindu, the first person with roots in American Samoa, and the first person from Hawaii at the pinnacle of what's often called America's "deep state". →P17

SUMMONS TO WIKI USERS WHO EDITED ANI PAGE

NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Thursday issued summons to users accused of adding "defamatory" statements about news agency ANI on its Wikipedia page.

A bench of justice Subramonium Prasad passed the order, taking note of a division bench's November 11 order allowing the platform to serve summons to the users without disclosing their identity publicly. →P2

{ HINDUSTAN TIMES LEADERSHIP SUMMIT } DAY ONE SESSIONS

'Olympiad golds have changed how the chess world sees India'

NEW DELHI: It's been an incredible year for Indian chess, and it may to get even better over the next fortnight.

The Indian open and women's teams won their first-ever Olympiad gold medals, there are two Indian players ranked in the top five, and one of them — D Gukesh — is the favourite to win the World Championship match later this month.

India's Olympiad glory has been in the making over the last decade. Two key players who made history in the campaign, Vidit Gujrathi and Harika Dronavalli, encapsulated the rise of Indian chess at the 22nd Hindustan Times Leadership Summit.



Vidit Gujrathi, Harika Dronavalli at the 22nd HTLS.

"So many people — even on the streets of London — came up and asked me for a picture... It made me realise the significance of this Olympiad win," he said.

For Harika, it's been a particularly long wait. "It took a long time for it (Olympiad gold) to fully sink in. It has been a dream come true, especially since this was my 10th Olympiad...," she said. →BOOK II

AI WILL HAVE A NET-ZERO EFFECT ON JOBS: FLEX CEO

NEW DELHI: Artificial intelligence (AI) is an assistant to humans and the productivity boosts it will bring will probably not reduce jobs as a whole but redistribute them, said Revathi Advaithi, the chief executive of Flex.

In a virtual session at the 22nd Hindustan Times Leadership Summit, Advaithi laid out her assessment of the future of tech — a future in which she sees a key role for India as an upcoming semiconductor player.



→P12

Hindustan Times

NEW DELHI
FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 15, 2024

NUMBER THEORY

Why Maha's agrarian politics is complicated and different

By Abhishek Jha and Roshan Kishore

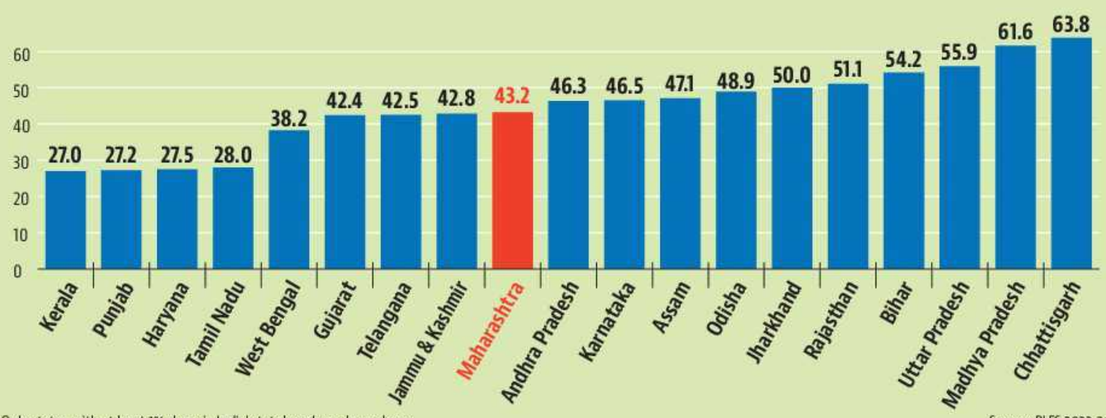
Maharashtra, in many ways, emerged as the epitome of India's post-reform agrarian distress with its farmers' suicides setting a compelling narrative. How much of a role will agriculture play in the Maharashtra elections? Does agriculture really matter in what is one of India's richest states?

An HT analysis of relevant statistics shows that agriculture in Maharashtra is very different from large parts of the country but it could still play a big role in shaping the electoral outcome.

1 Agriculture is a big source of jobs in Maharashtra

The share of agriculture and allied activities in Maharashtra's GSVA (gross state value added, the aggregate of goods and services produced in a state) was just 10.4% in 2023-24. This is lower than the 14.5% share of this sector at the all-India level. But Maharashtra's employment share of agriculture and allied activities (43.2%) is relatively closer to the all-India number of 46.1%. This means just under half of Maharashtra voters are dependent on farming for their livelihoods. In terms of agriculture's share of employment among major states in India, Maharashtra is almost in the middle of the pack.

Share of state's total workers in agriculture, forestry, and fishing (%)



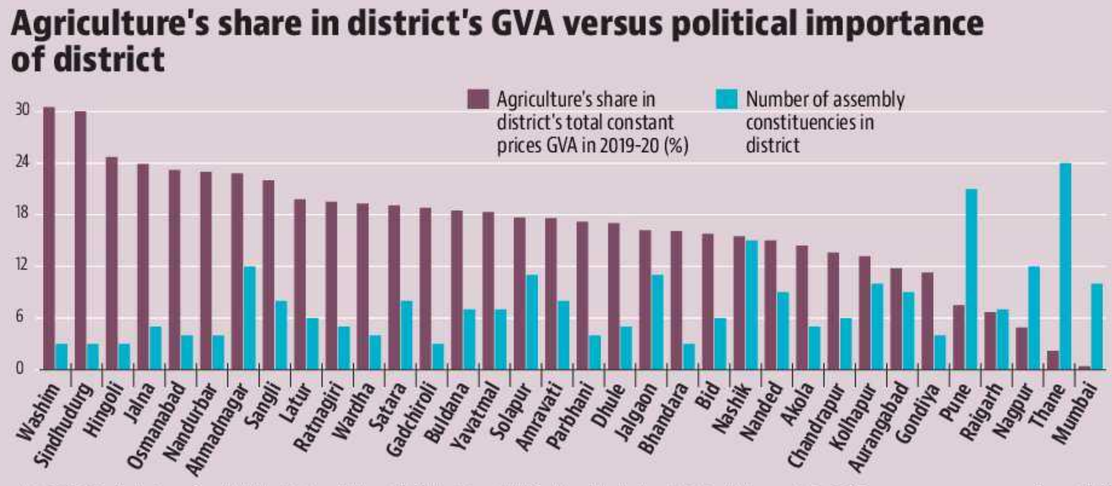
Note: Only states with at least 1% share in India's total workers shown here

Source: PLFS 2023-24

2 But agriculture's importance in the economy shows a great variation across the state

Intuitively, this makes eminent sense. A district-wise break-up of economic output by three broad sectors – agriculture, industry and services – shows that agriculture has a larger share than the state average in 29 of 35 districts (there is no data for Mumbai Suburban district in the data compiled by Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, but agriculture's share in the district is likely to be negligible). In eight districts, agriculture's share in GSVA is more than 20%. These districts account for 42 out of the 288 assembly constituencies in the state. In another six districts with 100 ACs, the share of agriculture in economic output is less than 10%, which means its political salience could be relatively muted . Because there are no district-wise estimates of sector-wise employment, this is the best proxy of agriculture's importance across the state.

Agriculture's share in district's GVA versus political importance of district



Note: 2019-20 is the last year for which this data is available on CMIE; No data available for Mumbai suburban district, which accounts for 26 ACs

Source: CMIE

3 Maharashtra's agriculture production basket is very different from most major states

The most important thing which distinguishes Maharashtra from most major Indian states is the lack of importance of cereals in its agricultural output. According to the Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) database, cereals have a share of just about 11% in Maharashtra's value of output in 2022-23, the latest period for which data is available. This number was 29% for India once Maharashtra is excluded. If one were to look at Maharashtra's share in the amount of grain procured by the government, it is a negligible 2.2% for rice and zero for wheat.

While Maharashtra and India are almost at par in the share of fruits and vegetables in value of output, the state is significantly ahead in share of value of output of other crops such as fibres, oilseeds and pulses. To be sure, there are other important details beyond this broad classification of crops. For example, Maharashtra is the largest producer of onions in the country and among the biggest producers of cotton. Maharashtra's dominance in commodities like onions also means that farm incomes suffer significantly become of the government's aggressive supply side interventions in open markets. It is worth noting that the government has not taken any such step despite retail inflation for onions being above 20% for the last 15 months. Prices and associated farm incomes for other crops such as cotton or soybean, to be sure, could depend more on global market conditions than domestic concerns such as inflation. For example, the government has been procuring soybean and has also put an import duty on edible oil imports given the crop's political importance in states such as Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

Importance of different crops in total agricultural output

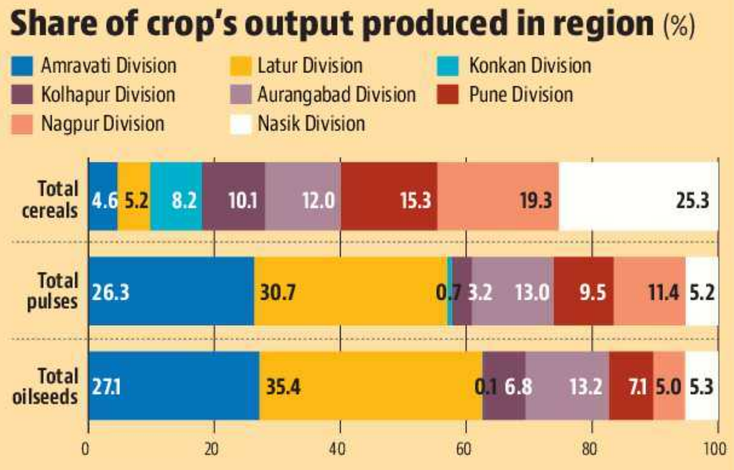


Source: CMIE

4 And even within the state, there is a great variation in agricultural output

For example, the production of pulses and oilseeds is concentrated in the Latur and Amravati divisions. They produce around 60% of the state's output (in quantity terms) of both pulses and oilseeds. However, these two regions account for just around 10% of the state's cereal output. Similarly, Nasik, Pune, and Nagpur divisions produce around 60% of the state's cereal output, but have just a 26% and 17% share in the output of pulses and oilseeds. Aurangabad division is more diversified in this respect while Konkan is not. The former has a 12%-13% share in cereals, pulses and oilseeds each, while the latter has an 8% share in Maharashtra's cereal output, but less than 1% share in both pulses and oilseeds. These regional variations mean that farmer sentiment in the state could show a regional variation depending on which crop has done better on the production-price balance and which has not.

Share of crop's output produced in region (%)



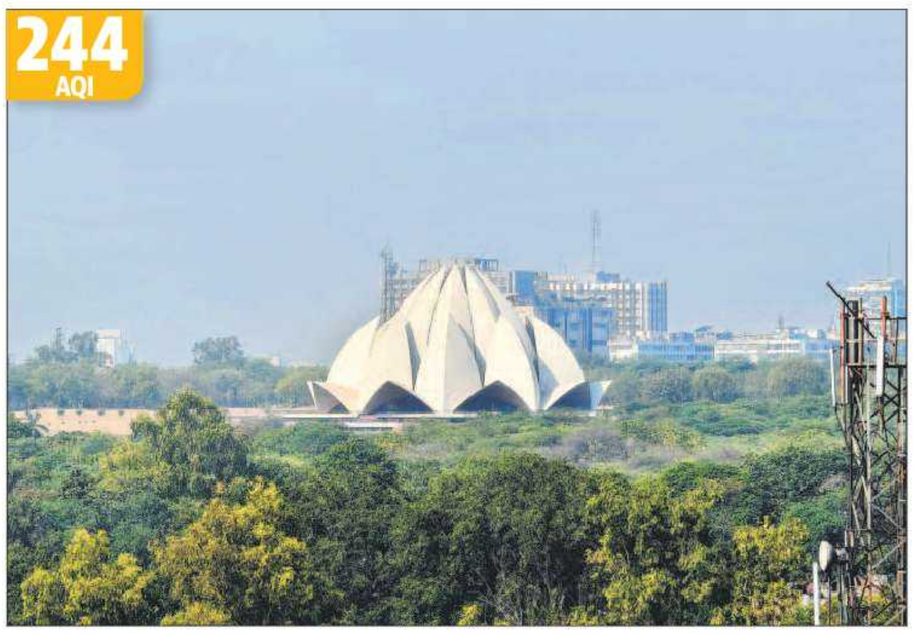
Source: Third advance estimates of principal kharif crops during 2022-23, Department of Agriculture, Maharashtra

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Friday, November 15, 2024

Hindustan Times
FIRST VOICE. LAST WORD.
VOICE OF THE NATION @100 SINCE 1924

Delhi's iconic Lotus Temple: Gone with the pollution





Two photos clicked at 8.30am, one on May 28 and the other on November 14, illustrate how the air quality in the city deteriorates, converting it into a gas chamber. VISHAL SHANKER MATHUR/HT

CHOKE IS ON DELHI AGAIN

Saurya Sengupta
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NEW DELHI: Delhi's pollution was firmly in the "severe" zone of the air quality index (AQI) for a second straight day on Thursday, as calm winds amplified the effects of local pollutants and stubble-fire smoke sheathed the Capital in a dome of filthy grey, hurling residents into an unmitigated public health disaster and underscoring the incompetence of agencies and officials who, once again, failed to fend off a nightmare that haunts the city every year.

The Capital recorded a 24-hour AQI of 424 at 4pm, worse than the reading of 418 at the same time on Wednesday, showed data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Agencies and governments expressly responsible for quelling the crisis either shrugged their shoulders at the rapidly worsening crisis or chose to pass the blame to everyone but themselves.

"This is an air emergency. Like previous years, we seemed to have learned no lessons and people who suffer every year continue to suffer," said Bhavreen Kandhari, an environmental activist part of the citizens' group Warrior Moms.

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), the central agency whose sole task is to control pollution in the National Capital Region (NCR), belatedly imposed curbs under Stage 3 of its response plan on Thursday evening, a day after the air quality first hit "severe".

The agency had met on Wednesday evening as the AQI surged into the upper margins of the "severe" category towards record levels, but, inexplicably, refrained from taking any control measures.

CAQM's own charter says: "Actions under Stages 2, 3 and 4 of the Grap (Graded Response Action Plan) shall be invoked in advance of the AQI reaching to the projected levels of that stage." And yet, the body was again behind the curve on pollution control.

The 12-member panel took few preventive or mitigatory

continued on →15

AIR WE BREATHE

Primary schools shut, Grap 3 enforced as CAQM acts at last

Jasjeev Gandhiok
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NEW DELHI: After two suffocating days of "severe" air quality and more than two weeks of persistently "very poor" air, members of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) finally initiated Stage-3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap) across the National Capital Region (NCR) on Thursday.

The decision comes as residents grapple with dangerously polluted air, with health experts and citizens decrying the delayed enforcement of stricter anti-pollution measures.

Stage 3 of Grap, which comes into effect at 8am on Friday, imposes 11 new restrictions targeting two primary sources of urban pollution: emissions from older vehicles, as well as dust generation from construction and demolition activities (C&D).

CAQM's subcommittee, responsible for activating Grap, convened to implement measures only after Delhi's air quality remained in the "severe" range for 48 hours and amid growing public frustration.

Grap 3 also offers the choice for NCR governments to consider suspending in-person classes for children in primary school and taking them online instead.

The measures are coming into effect after widespread uproar from citizens who continued to suffer from a relentless onslaught of pollution that engulfed the city in an apocalyptic smoky haze, leaving people with two choices – either remain captive inside their homes or offices with doors and windows shut or step out and bear the toxic air.

→P4

Afspa back in parts of restive Manipur areas

Prawesh Lama and Thomas Ngangom
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NEW DELHI/IMPHAL: The Union government on Thursday reimposed the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, or Afspa, in areas under the jurisdiction of six police stations across five Manipur districts, more than a year after it was removed from these places, amid a fresh wave of violence in the state.

In an official notification, the ministry of home affairs (MHA) declared the regions falling under Sekmai and Lamsang police stations in Imphal West district; Lamlai in Imphal East; Jiribam in Jiribam; Leimakhong in Kangpokpi; and Moirang in Bishnupur as "disturbed area".

In April 2022, MHA removed Afspa from Sekmai, Lamsang, Lamlai and Jiribam police stations and in March 2023, from Leimakhong and Moirang citing an "improved law and order situation".

"The areas falling under the jurisdiction of.... six police stations in Manipur are declared as 'disturbed area'. The Central Government is of the opinion that imposition of AFSPA,1958 in the... 6 Police Stations of 5 districts in Manipur is warranted to carry out well-coordinated operations by the security forces to maintain the security situation and contain the activities of

continued on →15

CENTRE REMOVED AFSPA FROM THESE PLACES IN APRIL '22, MARCH '23 CITING AN 'IMPROVEMENT' IN THE LAW AND ORDER SITUATION

India to pursue Dalla's extradition with Canada

Rezaul H Laskar
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NEW DELHI: India said on Thursday that it will renew a request made to Canada in 2023 for the extradition of designated terrorist Arsh Singh Gill alias Arsh Dalla following reports of his arrest in that country.

Dalla is among more than two dozen criminals and terrorists for whom India has submitted extradition requests to Canada.

"...Our agencies will be following up on an extradition request. Given Arsh Dalla's criminal record in India..., it is expected that he will be extradited or deported to face justice in India," external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

Dalla, a proclaimed offender or fugitive, is the de-facto chief of the Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF).

→P10



PAGE ONE PLUS

{ WORLD } SCIENTISTS CLAIM

Largest coral found near Solomon Islands



Scientists said they have found the world's largest coral near the Pacific's Solomon Islands, announcing Thursday a major discovery "pulsing with life and colour". The coral is so immense that researchers sailing the crystal waters of the Solomon archipelago initially thought they had stumbled across a hulking shipwreck. The standalone structure had been growing for some 300 years, the researchers said, formed from a "complex network" of tiny coral polyps. It was spotted by a National Geographic team embarking on a scientific expedition in the region. →P17

{ WORLD } SATIRICAL NEWS SITE

Infowars bought at auction by The Onion



Satirical news site The Onion won the bidding for Alex Jones' Infowars at a bankruptcy auction, backed by families of Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victims whom Jones owes more than $1 billion in defamation judgments for calling the massacre a hoax, the families announced, on Thursday. "The dissolution of Alex Jones' assets and the death of Infowars is the justice we have long awaited and fought for," Robbie Parker, whose daughter Emilie was killed in shooting, said. →P17

{ MY INDIA } IN BIHAR

PM Modi to launch crucial tribal welfare projects today



Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch projects worth more than ₹6,640 crore on the birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda on Friday. Modi will also be launching several other initiatives for the tribal community during his visit to Jamui in Bihar, to commemorate Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, marking the beginning of the 150th birth anniversary year celebrations of Birsa Munda. These projects will focus on infrastructure, health care, education, and livelihood generation in tribal regions. →P9

{ MY DELHI } DECOMPOSED STATE

Woman's body found in Yamuna, say cops



The decomposed body of a woman was found stuffed in a sack in the Yamuna in the Kalindi Kunj area, southeast Delhi, police said on Thursday, adding that it appeared to be a case of murder and the body seems to be three to four weeks old. A murder case has been registered, they said. The body was stuffed in a sack with hands and feet tied with a red rope. A stone was tied to the sack to prevent the body from floating to the surface, they added. "The woman appeared to be 25 to 30 years old," an officer said. PTI

{ WORLD } IN PAKISTAN

7 killed after bomb accidentally explodes



A powerful car bomb accidentally detonated at the house of a Pakistani Taliban militant in northwestern Pakistan on Thursday, killing at least two children and five suspected militants, police said. The explosion took place before dawn in the city of Mir Ali in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province when a man identified a local commander of the militants, Rasool Jan, was fitting a bomb in a car at his house, police official Irfan Khan said. He said other militants from the Pakistani Taliban group quickly arrived at the scene and removed the bodies of the insurgents who died. AGENCIES

Court summons Wiki users who edited ANI page

Shruti Kakkar
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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Thursday issued summons to users accused of adding "defamatory" statements about news agency Asia News International (ANI) on its Wikipedia page.

A bench of justice Subramonium Prasad passed the order taking note of a division bench's November 11 order allowing the platform to serve summons to the users without disclosing their identity publicly.

"Let summons be issued to defendants 2-4. The summons can be served through all permissible modes... including email addresses to be supplied by the defendant 1 [Wikipedia], the court said in the order while fixing December 16 as the next date of hearing.

The summons were in the context of descriptions of the news agency ANI.

The characterisation contained references to criticism of the news agency for allegedly acting as a propaganda arm of the government.

Wikipedia and ANI have been embroiled in two separate cases before different benches of the high court. While one is a defamation suit, the other pertained to Wikipedia's appeal filed before a division bench against an August 20 order directing it to disclose the details of the users who made the edits.

On Monday, the division bench closed Wikipedia's appeal against August 20 order, after the platform and ANI entered into a consent order regarding Wikipedia serving summons to the users and resolved the matter.

The consent order before the division bench was passed after the court reprimanded Wikipedia for its apparent reluctance in disclosing the details and criticised it for its approach towards the disclosure order, warning that it would lose its safe harbour protection, which intermediaries get.

Section 79 of the Information Technology Act contains a safe harbour clause that provides legal immunity to platforms against content shared by their users. It states that an intermediary shall not be liable for any third-party information, data or communication link made available or hosted by them.

The defamation fight has snowballed into a larger judicial tussle over the liability and duties of intermediaries -- online providers of a service -- when the content posted by their users is caught in a legal tangle.

ANI and Wikipedia could not be reached for a comment.

{ A SHIFT IN CRYPTO MARKETS }

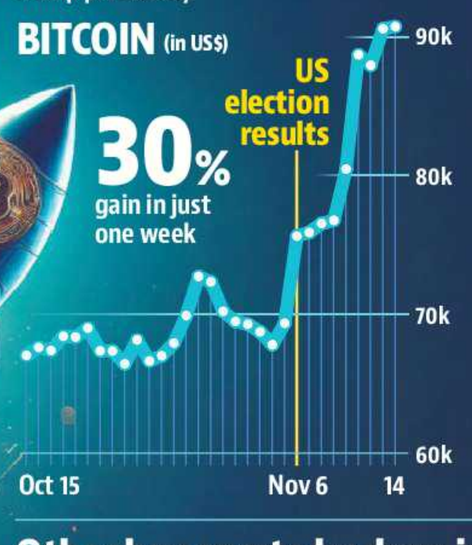
Cryptomania returns with Trump presidency

The November 5 US election has triggered a seismic shift in cryptocurrency markets. The total crypto market capitalisation has surged past record $3 trillion, analysts have noted



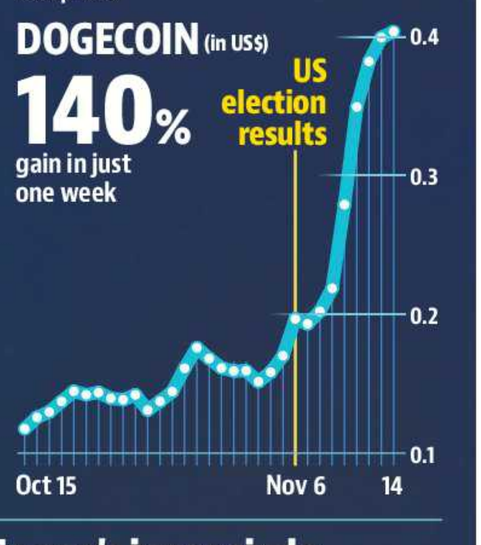
Larger crypto gains

Bitcoin's trajectory tells the story: After holding steady around $69,000 in late October, the leading cryptocurrency shot up to $90,584 by November 13 — a 30% gain in just one week. This surge reflects growing optimism about friendlier U.S. crypto regulations under a potential second Trump presidency.



Memecoin up too

But some of the most remarkable gains came from Dogecoin, the meme-inspired cryptocurrency championed by Elon Musk. Dogecoin has skyrocketed 140% since the election, climbing from $0.17 to $0.40. Though to be sure, the surge in Doge being higher is explained by how cheap it is.



Other key crypto backers in Trump's inner circle

Donald Trump Jr: Actively involved in launching World Liberty Financial, a crypto investment identified almost entirely with the Trump family

Peter Thiel: A tech entrepreneur and venture capitalist known for early investments in Bitcoin and other blockchain technologies.

David Sacks: Also a venture capitalist who has expressed support for Bitcoin and could play a role in shaping crypto policy within Trump's administration.

Why Trump has supercharged crypto

Trump's own change of heart: He has recently embraced crypto, stating ambitions to make US a global hub for digital currencies, a big significant shift from past views where he labelled them a "scam".

Regulatory changes: There are expectations that Trump's administration will adopt a more lenient regulatory framework. Trump has promised to sack Gary Gensler, the SEC chairman known for his strict oversight of crypto.

UGC may allow 3-yr undergrad degrees to be finished early

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NEW DELHI: The University Grants Commission (UGC) will soon allow students to complete three-year degree courses in two-and-a-half years, and four-year ones in three years, the body's chairman said on Thursday. UGC will also give students the option to extend their three-year degree by a year and make provisions for several entry and exit points throughout the course.

UGC chairman M Jagadesh Kumar explained that students who can complete their degrees faster than others will be allowed to do so.

Kumar said, "We are planning to implement this from the next academic session and the guidelines should be out soon."

"In the coming years, students who are capable can complete the degree programmes in a shorter duration. We anticipate that they can gain six months to one year," Kumar said at the southern zone conference for autonomous colleges in Chennai

The new structure will, inversely, also accommodate students who wish to take longer to complete their studies, he said. These students will be able to take breaks during their courses. The plan is based on recommendations by a committee led by IIT Madras director V Kamakoti.

Kumar said detailed guidelines around the new structure will be issued soon.

However, the proposal raised concerns among some academics.

Mithuraaj Dhusiya, professor at Delhi University and member of the Delhi University standing committee, criticised the move, arguing that the move could lead to core course content being slashed.

UGC WILL ALSO GIVE STUDENTS THE OPTION TO EXTEND THEIR 3-YEAR DEGREE BY A YEAR, SAID THE PANEL'S CHIEF M JAGADESH KUMAR

"The core content has already gone down and UGC is just playing with the idea of four years, three years, 2.5 years," Dhusiya said.

To be sure, the 2020 National Education Policy asked universities to have a four year UG course that students could opt for if they want to conduct research in the fourth year. A student would get the "honours" degree tag only if they opt for the 4th year.

DU professor Abha Dev Habib said, "The sequence and depth of courses in a degree program are designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of their field, and compressing these programs can undermine this academic rigor. If the aim is to offer an honours degree in three years, one might question the necessity of a four-year programme in the first place, as it suggests that much of the content in the fourth year is not essential.

"Further, this may inadvertently contribute to a crisis of employability. Students may be pushed into the job market without the necessary academic preparation, with their degrees potentially becoming devalued. By reducing the time allotted for degree completion and cutting the number of credits for individual courses, the UGC risks compromising the academic depth and quality of education," she said.

As HT marks 100 years, a look at centenarians whose lives have stood witness to India's transformation

Army to politics: Snippets from a storied journey

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HYDERABAD: M Krishna Murthy often remembers Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan.

When Murthy was a toddler, the Nizam still ruled Hyderabad and India was 13 years away from Independence. India's largest trade fair, the "Numaish Masnuāt-e-Mulki", or an exhibition of all things local, was held at the city's famed public gardens built by the Nizam, who was, by some accounts, among the world's richest men. Hyderabad's roads were washed and watered every morning and the streets leading to the Nizam's many palaces were lit up.

"The Nizam was an enigma," said Murthy. "Some say he was generous, others say he was miserly. But it was just a matter of pride to be his subject."

Having spent much of his life between Charkhandil and Bazaarghat, neighbourhoods in the old city, Murthy's most distinct memory is of the Nizam's two-time Prime Minister, Maharaja Sir Kishen Pershad.

"Kishen Pershad ji used to stand in his silver Rolls-Royce Phantom and throw newly minted coins as we lined the streets. We used to call out to him as 'Shad' (happy, his pen name) or utter Allah's name and he would throw fistfuls of coins at us. I still have the two paise and three paise," Murthy said.

And even after 100-odd years have passed since he stood on those manicured streets, Murthy doesn't look back at that display of opulence with disdain. "Hyderabad never lacked in anything. There was always plenty and the Nizam's ministers used to give us all inaam every Diwali and Eid," he said.

Tryst with the army

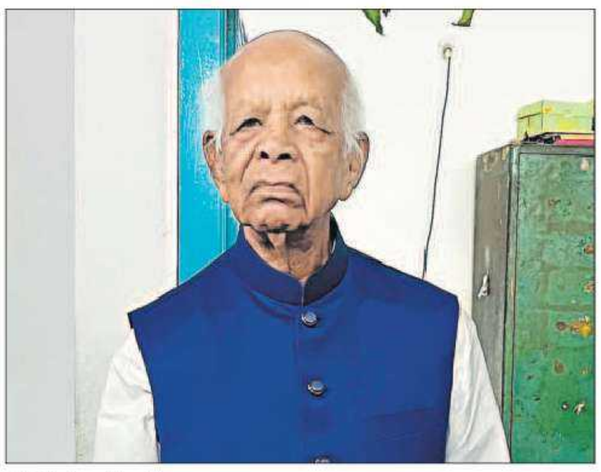
Till a few years ago, Murthy travelled across the city on public transport to meet his friends and relatives. Now, age has prevailed. But, crucially, the city has lost "that magnetism", said the 101-year-old.

The city's old landmarks, the tombs and 'baradaris' of Sufi saints and 'kamans', or gated archways that led up to the palaces are gone from the skyline. The sunshine now bounces off tall towers of glass and metal. "Hyderabad then was about vineyards, gardens, mosques, and palaces," he said.

Murthy, born on June 15 ,1924, spent his life in Hyderabad, growing up in a confluence of tongues and traditions. A polyglot, Murthy is fluent in Telugu, Urdu, Hindi, English "and some pedestrian Marathi", which he picked up during his time in Pune, where he joined the Indian Army.

He served between 1941 and 1951, watching keenly from within the system as the country transitioned from British subservience to freedom. But he also watched keenly from afar as his home, once part of a princely state, blended into independent India in 1948.

Murthy was part of the Remount Veterinary Corps (RVC), an administrative and operational branch of the Indian Army, one of its oldest formations.



M Krishna Murthy HT PHOTO

From Pune, work took him to Ambala, and then to Meerut. where he looked up at the skies with promise as the Tricolour was hoisted on August 15, 1947.

"Being in the Army, we weren't part of the politics or the nationwide protests. But I remember the day we got our Independence. As a 20-something-year-old, I did not realise the value of it, but looking back, I know I have lived to see something truly historic," Murthy said.

Murthy lives with his two daughters and son in Yousufguda in central Hyderabad. He lost his wife, Savitri Devi, in 2019, when she was nearing 90.

A compliment from the Field Marshall

He bats away the encumbrances of age with ease as he sits on the floor on his mattress and entertains visitors. The sharp eyesight and keen intellect have remained loyal to him, even if his hearing hasn't.

Murthy exercises for nearly an hour in the morning and credits the army's discipline for his sanguine state and harmony.

"I used to be very good at football. It was one of the reasons I was picked to be part of the army," he said.

But the other reason he chose to be part of the army was his difficult relationship with his first employer, an electrical store owner.

His day job included running errands for the owner, a "foul-mouthed man who made people work many hours extra, but didn't even pay us properly".

Murthy then, buoyed by his sporting prowess, served in the armed forces for a decade. His fondest memory was receiving a compliment from Field Marshal KM Cariappa for his handwriting.

"It was around 1946. We were in the Meerut Cantonment. We had a roster for all duties and on that day, it was my turn to list every officer's duties on the blackboard. General Cariappa passed by the board and asked the junior cadet to summon the person who had made the list. When I bolted from my run on the ground and saluted the General, he appreciated my handwriting and allotted me the duty to write on the blackboard until I was transferred out of Meerut."

Murthy keeps an eye on national politics and followed this year's general elections held earlier with child-like enthusiasm.

But, he said, politics has changed. Having lived through his entire prime ministership, Murthy has a soft corner for Jawaharlal Nehru, the country's first premier.

"I've only ever liked two prime ministers — Kishen Pershad and Pandit Nehru. They knew what was good for the country."

Chance encounter

Around 1950, Murthy recalled meeting BR Ambedkar who was in the city to resolve a political impasse between Congress leaders. Murthy was among the officers who were part of Ambedkar's security detail.

"Three of us accompanied Ambedkar everywhere he went in Hyderabad. I always wanted to sit inside the venue and listen to him address Congressmen, but we were asked to stay outside and stand guard," he said.

Murthy returned to Hyderabad in 1952 as the army worked to thin out the swelling Veterinary Corps.

There, he began the next chapter of his life — as a male nurse and compounder at Pradeep Clinic in Gunfoundry. "It was a quiet, routine life — work at the clinic and nursing home, and heading back home by 6pm."

By then, Hyderabad was already changing. "Hyderabad changed a great deal after I returned from the Army. I was not happy with the administration."

He asked Marri Chenna Reddy, a Congress leader, for a ticket from Bazaarghat, and was promptly declined.

"I went to the Election Commission and asked for a symbol for an independent candidate. They allotted me a cycle" he said. Decades later, one Mulayam Singh Yadav would pick the same symbol for his fledgling outfit — the Samajwadi Party.

What began for Murthy was an ambitious project — to unseat the sitting Congress legislator as an Independent. Around him were a ragtag group of school and college students, who drove the shoe-and-leather movement to elevate him to the state assembly.

The students pooled in ₹100 - the fee the Election Commission charged at the time. "They regarded me as a soldier who fought for the country," he said.

"I walked on foot to campaign and the boys used to beat the drums and ask people to vote for me. I had no pamphlets or other election material."

The drumbeats ended abruptly. "I got very few votes and lost my deposit," he said.

His political sojourn ended with that bruising attempt and he returned to the quiet, perfunctory cycle in the clinic.

And he didn't get off that cycle, till he retired in 1985.

Airport gears up for wider low-visibility ops

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NEW DELHI: Following flight delays due to fog-induced low visibility at the Delhi airport on Wednesday, officials said that at least three of the four runways have been equipped with CAT III instrument landing system (ILS) to reduce disruptions.

"The airport has put in place strategic measures to improve resilience and reduce disruptions during low visibility which includes equipping advanced CAT III ILS in the three runways," said one of at least two officials who confirmed the development.

The Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has four operational runways, the oldest being 27-09, along with 28-10, southernmost runway 29L-11R, and 29R-11L. The 29L-11R was inaugurated by former civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia last year.

An ILS helps pilots land during poor visibility and is an important navigation system during extreme weather conditions, such as zero visibility. The systems have been installed at three runways, barring 27-09, where there are hurdles to its installation, officials said.

THREE OF THE 4 RUNWAYS HAVE BEEN EQUIPPED WITH CAT III INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEM

"The airport has implemented several strategic measures to enhance its resilience and minimise disruptions during low visibility periods... CAT III ILS and approach-lighting systems (ALS) have been installed at the three runways...enabling precision landing in low visibility conditions," a spokesperson of the Delhi International Airport Ltd , which operates the IGI Airport said.

An ILS is a critical safety feature during low visibility that helps pilots align their aircraft with a runway's centreline during the final approach.

"The airport operator also conducts several meetings with airlines, AAI (Airports Authority of India) and other stakeholders to discuss the airport's preparedness for the season and any changes or additions, if any," the official said.

An airport official said, "The season's first instance (of low visibility) was seen on Wednesday night when the visibility dropped below 100m, making the air traffic control activate 'low visibility procedures'."

"CAT III was in use when the visibility in Delhi dropped below 100m on Wednesday night. Due to the CAT III, few flights were delayed marginally and no cancellation was seen," a second airport official said.

Aviation safety expert Captain Mohan Ranganathan said, "CAT III compliance of three runways will help in reducing delays for arrivals and departures. Only when RVR is below 50m will it affect operations."

"Configuring all three active runways to CAT III B and C at Delhi is a progressive step, but that will not solve the airport terminal congestion problem, check-ins will continue to take time. DIAL must start on its approved master plan, Terminal 4, which is much needed as total passenger throughput has breached 55 million, the saturation limit," Mark D Martin, CEO of Martin Consulting, said.

HC seeks police stand on 2020 riots case diary

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court on Thursday refused to immediately direct the Delhi Police to preserve and reconstruct the case diary pertaining to the Jafrabad violence that had erupted during the February 2020 Delhi riots which had resulted in one death.

A bench of justice Jasmeet Singh, however, sought police's response in activist Devangana Kalita's petition, challenging the city court's November 6 order, and fixed November 25 as the next date of hearing.

On November 6, a city court refused to delve into the allegations of tampering and antedating levied by Kalita and student activist Natasha Narwal against the Delhi Police in the statement of the witnesses, which formed a part of the case diary.

Kalita was booked on charges of creating unrest in Jafrabad. The Delhi high court had granted bail to Kalita in the case in September 2020 as well as in the larger conspiracy case in 2021.



Amanatullah Khan after his release on Thursday. HT PHOTO

AAP's Okhla MLA gets bail in money laundering case

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NEW DELHI: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator Amanatullah Khan — arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with alleged irregularities in the Delhi Waqf Board (DWB) — walked out of jail on Thursday, hours after a Delhi court refused to take cognisance of a supplementary charge sheet filed by the federal probe agency, and ordered his release on bail.

Welcoming Khan on his release, senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia claimed that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was falsely implicating the Okhla MLA. "Despite their lies and manipulation, truth has prevailed with Amanatullah Khan's bail," Sisodia said. AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal said all members of his party are honest, and without naming the BJP, alleged that any wrongdoers would have joined "their party".

The BJP, meanwhile, said that Khan has only been granted bail and has not been acquitted of money laundering charges yet.

Earlier on Thursday, a court of special judge Jitendra Singh ordered Khan's release, noting that ED had sufficient grounds to proceed against him, but failed to place on record sanction from the competent authority/government to prosecute him. It said that keeping Khan in custody in the absence of sanction would tantamount to illegal custody and there was no legal ground to justify his "further detention".

The city court also refused to summon Khan's wife Maryam Siddiqui, who has been named as an accused in ED's supplementary charge sheet.

ED later approached the Delhi high court, seeking an urgent hearing of its petition challenging the order. The HC said the matter will be listed on Monday.

Khan walked out of jail at around 7pm.

ED's probe against Khan stems from a 2016 CBI case, accusing him of illegally appointing various people to DWB against non-sanctioned and non-existent posts, which allegedly caused financial loss to the Delhi government and illegal gains to himself. He is also alleged to have illegally leased out properties of DWB.

Khan was arrested on September 2 by ED. In its October 29, charge sheet, ED alleged that Khan had invested proceeds of crime in two properties with the help of his associates and wife.

On Thursday, the city court said, "Keeping the accused in custody in these circumstances when the cognisance has been declined for the absence of sanction u/s 197(1) of the CrPC, shall tantamount to illegal custody."

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said, "He (Khan) may be out on bail today, but once his trial is completed, he will be back in jail shortly."

{ DU DEFACEMENT } DUSU POLLS

Candidates asked to share clean-up report tomorrow

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NEW DELHI: The Delhi University (DU) management on Thursday asked candidates who contested the DU Student Union (DUSU) elections to file reports on work undertaken to clean up defacement of property by Saturday, officials said.

The move comes a day after the candidates were divided into five groups, following a meeting between the management and candidates pertaining to the counting of votes, which is likely on November 21.

A senior DU official, not wanting to be named, said only four to five candidates turned up for Wednesday's meeting. "If this lack of enthusiasm transpires in the defacement clean-up reports, the university may not proceed with the counting...Only when the university is completely satisfied will the final order for counting be given," he said.

The developments follow multiple hearings and directions from the Delhi high court, which took note of the defacement of public property by candidates in the run-up to the polls. The polling took place on September 27, but results have been withheld on court order due to defacement. On Monday, the high court permitted the counting of votes by November 26, provided the DU administration is satisfied with the clean-up drive.

"The candidates have been divided into groups or clusters, and a group coordinator has been assigned," said Rajni Abbi, DU proctor.

The five groups will ensure the clean-up of North Campus, South Campus, Rajdhani College, Zakir Hussain Delhi College and Aditi Mahavidyalaya, and the coordinator will submit clean-up reports with geotagged photographs by 5pm on Saturday, officials said.

Mitravinda Karnwal, an undergraduate student from Lakshmi Bai College, who contested the elections said,"Our team will conduct a day-long cleaning drive on Friday," Karnwal said. Rishab Choudhary, from Department of Buddhist Studies said that the North Campus has already been cleaned by his 10-person team.

A third DU official said that the university will also pitch in.

DU officials said that they will ensure all defacement is cleared before the results are announced.



Behind the curve, but Grap 3 finally in place

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NEW DELHI: After two suffocating days of "severe" air quality and more than two weeks of persistently "very poor" air, members of the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) finally initiated Stage 3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap) across the National Capital Region (NCR) on Thursday.

The decision comes as residents grapple with dangerously polluted air, with health experts and citizens decrying the delayed enforcement of stricter anti-pollution measures.

Stage 3 of Grap, which comes into effect at 8am on Friday, imposes 11 new restrictions targeting two primary sources of urban pollution: emissions from older vehicles, as well as dust generation from construction and demolition activities (C&D).

CAQM's subcommittee, responsible for activating Grap, convened to implement measures only after Delhi's air quality remained in the "severe" range for 48 hours and amid growing public frustration. State environment minister Gopal Rai late on Thursday called a meeting to discuss Grap-3 provisions.

Grap-3 also offers the choice for NCR governments to consider suspending in-person classes for children in primary school and taking them online instead.

The measures came into effect after uproar from citizens who continued to suffer from a relentless onslaught of pollution that engulfed the city in an apocalyptic smoky haze, leaving people with two choices – either remain captive inside their homes or offices with doors and windows shut or step out and bear the toxic air.

In a shift from its stance just a day prior, CAQM reversed its initial decision to hold off on Stage 3 citing projections that air quality would improve on Thursday.

However, this forecast was not accurate, and by Thursday, air quality had remained dangerously high.

CAQM's sub committee on Grap consists of 12 members. It is headed by NP Shukla, member-technical CAQM as its chairperson and has CAQM member secretary Arvind Nautiyal and CAQM member Sujit Kumar Bajpayee as its members.

Other members of this subcommittee include member secretaries of CPCB and the state pollution control boards of Delhi and NCR. VK Soni from IMD, IITM's Sachin Ghude, Dr TK Joshi from the Maulana Azad Medical College, and director technical of CAQM Ram Kumar Aggarwal are also its members.

The measures rolled out by the CAQM's subcommittee ban all private construction and demolition works across the city along with all activity by stone crushers and miners across the wider swathe of NCR.

In terms of vehicular restriction, it restricts BS-IV or lower light motor vehicles (LMVs, or simply put cars) from plying in Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Gautam Budh Nagar. Further, there are restrictions on the movement of BS-III and lower medium goods vehicles (MGVs) and Light Commercial Vehicles (LCVs) from plying in the Capital.

Stage 3 also asks interstate buses from NCR to be stopped from entering Delhi if they are not CNG, electric or complying with BS-IV diesel or higher.

Major construction and demolition projects like railway projects, metro, airport, ISBTs, national and defence-related projects, health care facilities, linear projects such as roads and flyovers and sanitation projects will continue under this category, according to Grap guidelines.

Delhi's AQI touched "severe" for the first time this season on Wednesday, on a day when the Capital and its surrounding region woke up to the season's first very dense fog with visibility falling to zero.

CAQM, despite the deterioration, opted not to invoke Stage 3 measures on Wednesday. "The subcommittee has noted this steep rise in AQI of Delhi owing to this episodic event, since this morning. However, owing to stronger winds, the pollutant concentration and thereby the AQI, is expected to start showing a declining trend Thursday onwards and the AQI is likely to move back to the 'very poor' category the next day," it said on Wednesday evening, showing it was again behind the curve.



STAGE 1 AQI 201-300
Road sweeping, water sprinkling
Shut all unregistered C&D sites
Strict enforcement of PUC norms

STAGE 2 AQI 301-400
Measures at hot spots
Restrictions on DG set

STAGE 3 (IN FORCE NOW) AQI 401-450
BS-3 petrol, BS-4 diesel vehicles banned in NCR
Pvt construction banned
Restrictions on MGVs with BS-3 standards or below
Restrictions on LCVs with BS-3 standards or below
Restrictions on inter-state buses with BS-3 standards

Stage 4 AQI 450+
Institutes to be shut
Odd-even vehicle policy may be rolled out
Curbs on non-emergency commercial activities

On Thursday, Delhi residents experienced their second consecutive day of 'severe' air quality. VIPIN KUMAR/HT PHOTO

AIR WE BREATHE

CAQM took no learnings from its earlier reactionary ways: Experts

Jasjeev Gandhiok
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NEW DELHI: Environmental advocates and public health experts criticised the apparent delay in implementing Stage 3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap), arguing that the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) did not keep its focus on its primary mission — to act preemptively before air emergencies arise, not after.

On Thursday, Delhi entered its second consecutive day of "severe" air quality, making it 48 hours of exposure to toxic air which not only impacts vulnerable groups, but healthy people.

Experts condemned the delay, particularly highlighting the plight of the elderly and children.

In 2022, officials had announced that Grap measures would be made pre-emptive, rather than reactively – meaning under this approach, stages of response would be introduced at least three days before predicted declines in air quality.

Previously, CAQM's subcommittee would wait until AQI touched certain thresholds. For instance, severe-plus measures could only be introduced if AQI remained in "severe plus" zone for 48 hours.

However, the panel's actions on Thursday suggested a return to the outdated approach.

Bhargav Krishna, coordinator of the Environmental Governance and Policy vertical at the Sustainable Futures Collaborative, questioned the very purpose of the CAQM subcommittee, if it did not meet in advance of AQI deteriorating to such levels.

"We need to look at everything. Our forecasts, which are not accurate, and how they feed into proactive implementation of Grap. We also need to know what means of review CAQM undertakes to ensure continuous improvement in its process," Krishna said.

On Wednesday, CAQM had forecast an improvement in Delhi's AQI, predicting a shift to "very poor" by Thursday. But with air quality remaining in the "severe" category, Stage 3 was eventually triggered late on Thursday.

Sunil Dahiya, founder and lead analyst at the think-tank Envirocatalysts, stressed that a stronger forecasting system needs to form the basis of CAQM's actions.

"Grap is designed as a preemptive system using forecasts based on regional emissions and meteorology. However, the current limitations in accurately predicting pollution levels hinder its effectiveness as a precautionary measure. Enhancing forecast accuracy is essential for timely, proactive action," he said.

CAQM officials cited unexpected meteorological conditions as a factor in the delay. Arvind Nautiyal, CAQM member secretary said Wednesday's deterioration was an "episodic event", with forecasts by both IMD and IITM showing stronger winds on Thursday. "AQI was supposed to show a declining trend on Thursday and was likely to move back to the 'very poor' category. Comprehensively reviewing this scenario, it was accordingly decided to keep a close watch on the situation, before invoking these stringent and restrictive measures under Stage 3," Nautiyal said.

The Supreme Court's Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority, which oversaw air quality control before CAQM's formation in 2021, faced similar criticism over delayed implementation of Grap.

IIT-Delhi's Mukesh Khare also said a delayed implementation helps no one. "Just like previous years, the damage is already done. This delayed decision shows a non-serious attitude from CAQM," he said.

Classes 1 to 5 move online indefinitely

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NEW DELHI: Students of all schools up to Class 5 will move to online classes in view of increasing pollution levels in the Capital, until further notice, the Delhi government announced on Thursday.

Most schools are shut till Sunday — a holiday for Guru Nanak Jayanti on Friday followed by the weekend — and the situation will be reviewed again, government officials said.

"Due to rising pollution levels, all primary schools in Delhi will be shifting to online classes, until further directions," chief minister Atishi posted on X, with the directorate of education passing an order in this regard, directing all government, government-aided and unaided private recognised schools to discontinue in-person classes for students up to Class 5.

The decision, however, came more than 48 hours after children across the city had already been subjected to the worst air quality of the season. Experts have condemned the delay, stressing that the children have been forced to go to school despite the noxious air.

As Delhi continued to suffer from a "severe" air quality index for the second day in a row, clocking 424 on the Central Pollution Control Board's daily bulletin, authorities decided to implement Stage 3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap).

Health concerns

Parents, while welcoming the move as an immediate step to safeguard children's health, said that the government should look at a more permanent solution to the annual pollution conundrum. Many said that toxic air was causing respiratory issues, skin allergies and viral infections.

Aprajita Gautam, president, Delhi Parents' Association, said that they have been receiving complaints from members about illnesses among children. "The government should come up with a solid plan to tackle pollution since this has become a yearly problem in winter months. Even political leaders have children going to school. They should consider the situation as a parent," she said.

Bhavna Pandey, a resident of Dwarka, said that her child was facing problems every time she stepped out. "Walking few steps is causing breathlessness in my daughter's case, and her skin is getting very dry when exposed to outside environment. This is not normal," Pandey said.

The education department in Gurugram, meanwhile, on Thursday revised its school timings to start from 9.30am.

Schools prepared

Many schools HT spoke to in the city said they started taking precautionary measures even before the government issued closure orders on Thursday, mandating the use of masks and restricting outdoor activities.

Richa Sharma Agnihotri, principal of Sanskriti School in Chanakyapuri, said that a precautionary advisory was issued to parents and students. "We have installed air purifiers in all of our classrooms and filters are changed regularly. Students are encouraged to wear N95 masks," she said.

Others said that online classes were not a solution to pollution.

"These were effectively the best months of the year, which we normally used for outdoor picnics, annual days and sports days etc. and it is a pity to see children not enjoying November outdoors anymore," said Divya Bhatia, principal, Amity International School, Saket.

In general, schools advised parents to keep windows closed, seek medical advice in case of persistent health concerns and keep tabs on the news to assess air quality levels.



NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER

Sr. DMM, DRM Office, Bikaner, acting for and on behalf of The Prsident of India invites E-Tender No. 34245409 Closing date 03.12.2024 at 14.25 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **1. Description of work:** Secondary Lashing Chain **2. Quantity:** 3574 Nos. **3. Date and time for submission of tender:** Submission of E-Tender up to 03.12.2024 at 14.25 hrs. **4. Website particular :** www.ireps.gov.in

1312-CR/24

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Catch the latest column of HT TWTW THE WEEK THAT WAS

A quiz on the week's development.



APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that one unidentified dead body of male Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o Unknown, Age: About 65 years, Height: 170 cm, Complexion: Shallow, Built: Normal, Face: Oval, Wearing: Black color Lower and Gray color shirt. ID: Mole on forehead. who was found at Near Karampura Bus Terminal, Patel Road Delhi. In this regard a case FIR/DD No. 28A, dt. **11.11.2024** has been registered at **PS: Moti Nagar, Delhi.**

Any person having any information or clue about the above deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone nos.

Sd/- SHO
Moti Nagar, Delhi
Ph. 8750871125

DP/15053/WD/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a man namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found dead on 12.11.2024 at 20:10 PM Km pole No. 13/20 Down Line, Badli Railway Station, Delhi** In this regard **DD No. 34A, dated 12.11.2024** has been lodged at Police Station, Subzi Mandi Railway Station, Delhi. Identification of unidentified dead body of male is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: 50-55 Years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Wheatish, Injury Mark: Head Crushed, Both hand and legs fractured, Wearing: Coffe Colour Underwaear, White Baniyan & Grey Coloured Kurta Pajama.

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

SHO
Police Station, Subji Mandi Railway Station, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23696525, 8750871303

DP/15092/RLY/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Barkat

General public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Barkat, S/o Md. Zakir, R/o H. No. 11150, Gali Sugar Wali Motia Khan, Sadar Bazar, Delhi** has been missing since 03.10.2024 at about 05:00 PM from his home. In this regard **DD No. 26A, Dated 07.10.2024** has been lodged at Police Station Sadar Bazar, Delhi. The description of missing boy is as under:

Name: Barkat, Age: 20 Years, Height: 5'4", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Face: Long, Wearing: Blue Colour T-Shirt & Jeans and Red Colour Slipper in Feet.

If anyone has any information about this missing boy please inform P.S. Sadar Bazar, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station Sadar Bazar, Delhi
Ph: 011-23512411, 8750870124

DP/13439/N/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified Male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown was found Unconsious on 13.11.2024 at 03:00 AM from FOB-2, Pillar No. 4, PF No. 13 New Delhi Railway Station. Doctor declared him dead on MLC No. 2783/2024. In this regard DD No. 04A, dated 13.11.2024** has been lodged at Police Station **New Delhi Railway Station.** The dead body shifted to LHMC Hospital Mortuary for Identification for 72 hours. Physical Description of unidentified male dead body is as under:

Name: Unknown, Age: About 50-55 Years, Height: 5'2", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Wearing: Grey Colour Shirt and Pant.

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

SHO
Police Station New Delhi Railway Station.
Ph: 011-23744073, 8750871305

DP/15060/RLY/2024

50% of stubble yet to be cleared; fires still rising

Gurpreet Singh Nibber
gurpreet.nibber@hindustantimes.com

CHANDIGARH: Officials in Punjab on Thursday said that nearly half of the state's paddy stubble remains standing in fields, signalling that the peak of farm fires — and the resulting impact on air quality — is yet to come. With farmers facing pressure to clear fields for the upcoming winter crop, experts warn that an increase in stubble fires is imminent.

In the two weeks since Diwali, which was celebrated on October 31, stubble-burning incidents have doubled compared to the fortnight preceding the festival, indicating the mounting scale of emissions that are sweeping across north India. The data presents a stark figure for everyone downwind from the state in north India, and particularly Delhi which is currently relenting under its first spell of "severe" air.

According to official data, Punjab's remote sensing centre has recorded 2,466 cases of stubble burning from September 15 to October 30. In the past 15 days, that number has more than doubled, with an additional 5,160 stubble fires reported.

As of Thursday, the season's total reached 7,626 incidents, with experts warning this number will likely continue to climb.



A farmer burns stubble in November. REUTERS

HT reached out to government officials for a comment but did not receive a response.

The surge in farm fires raises concern for air quality in Delhi and other downwind regions, where pollution levels have consistently spiked during the stubble-burning season.

Till date, 16 million tonne of paddy have arrived across mandis in Punjab, and experts said that another 250,000 tonne are expected in the coming week.

Officials in the state's food and civil supplies department predict that the paddy harvest will conclude within the next seven days.

"Nearly 90% of paddy crop (on the total cultivated land of 3.2 million hectares) has been harvested. In Barnala, Bathinda, Jalandhar, SAS Nagar and SBS Nagar districts, nearly 98% harvest is complete. In Kapurthala and Patiala, the harvest is almost over. But Tarn Taran and Rupnagar are lagging -- as nearly one-third of the crop is yet to be harvested," said an agriculture department official, who asked not to be identified.

The sudden rise in farm fires is driven by the approaching wheat sowing deadline, as farmers hurry to clear fields for rabi crops, experts said.

The optimal wheat sowing period is between November 1 and 15; delays beyond this window could significantly impact crop yields.

"Farmers are worried as chaotic paddy procurement and shortage of key fertiliser di-ammonia phosphate have led to delay in wheat sowing," said Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ughrahan) general secretary Sukhdev Singh Kokri Kalan.

This year's delay in the harvest and the impending push to prepare fields underscores the annual tension between farming practices and regional air quality. The health impact of these fires extends far beyond Punjab's fields, affecting millions across northern India.

SC to hear pollution matter Monday

Abraham Thomas
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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday took stock of worsening pollution in the Capital by asking the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) for Delhi and adjoining areas on why pre-emptive steps were not taken before the air quality slipped to "severe" category.

A bench headed by justice Abhay S Oka, which is hearing the Delhi pollution matter in MC Mehta case, agreed to take up the matter on Monday on an urgent mentioning made by senior advocate Aparajita Singh assisting the court as amicus curiae in the matter.

"Since yesterday the air quality in Delhi is in severe mode. This court had permitted the CAQM to take pre-emptive measures. Nothing has been done so far," Singh said. On Thursday morning, the air quality index (AQI) in the Capital was 473 (in the severe-plus category) as a thick blanket of smog enveloped Delhi. This is the worst AQI recorded in the city this season.

The bench, also comprising justice Augustine George Masih, told Singh that the matter can be taken up on Monday as the court is closed on Friday.

"Why do we want to become the most polluted city in the world before some action can be taken?" Singh asked. She further informed the court that CAQM was told about this matter as they owe an explanation about why they did not act in anticipation and enforce Stage 3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (Grap) measures before allowing AQI to get worse.

In fact, at a meeting on Wednesday evening, when the average AQI was already 418 (severe), CAQM did not choose to implement Stage 3, saying that the forecast suggested the situation would improve. But Delhi woke up to even worse conditions on Thursday.

Earlier this week, the court observed that living in a pollution-free environment is a fundamental right of every citizen under Article 21 of the Constitution, and to defend this right, the court mooted the suggestion for a permanent ban on firecrackers in Delhi. The court has also pulled up Punjab and Haryana for not slapping criminal cases against farmers and prosecuting officials over the burning of paddy stubble.

On steps taken to curb pollution, the Delhi government last month told the court that it identified key pollutants, and 13 hot spots. A clean action plan with regard to these hot spots was prepared by the Delhi government in 2019.

The improvement on the ground, however, has been minimal.





{ MCD ELECTIONS }

AAP's Khichi elected mayor

Dev Nagar councillor to get truncated term of 5 months as MCD's annual mayoral cycle is due to end in April

Paras Singh
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Forty-five-year-old Mahesh Kumar Khichi, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) councillor from the Dev Nagar ward in Karol Bagh, won the mayoral elections on Thursday, narrowly beating out Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP's) Kishan Lal by three votes in a four-and-a-half-hour event that clocked significant cross-voting by AAP members. The Congress, meanwhile, boycotted the election process.

A total of 265 votes were cast, of which two votes were declared invalid. The AAP secured 133 votes and the BJP, 130 votes. In the deputy mayor polls, AAP's Ravinder Bhardwaj, 35, from Aman Vihar was elected unopposed as the BJP withdrew its nomination.

However, Khichi will be mayor for less than five months — MCD councillors are elected every five years, but the councillors themselves elect a mayor from amongst their ranks on an annual basis every April.

After he was declared the victor by presiding officer Satya Sharma, Khichi — who took over as the next mayor of Delhi from incumbent Shelly Oberoi — said he will prioritise cleanliness in his five-month tenure.

"There has been cross voting but a victory is a victory even if I win by a single vote or three votes. Minor disagreements can happen. My priority will be to revitalise the sanitation system of the Capital and serve people. Delhi elections will take place shortly and we will ensure that the AAP wins with a clear majority," he said.

The electoral college for the mayoral election comprises 250 councillors — there is one vacancy — seven Lok Sabha MPs, three Rajya Sabha MPs and 14 nominated MLAs. The AAP has 142 members, the BJP 122, the Congress eight and one is independent. The final tally showed the BJP candidate securing eight additional votes.

AAP edges close contest

Khichi defeated BJP rival by only 3 votes



AAP members celebrate as the house reconvened at 7.40pm for the deputy mayor polls, from which the BJP abstained. SANCHIT KHANNA/HT



8 extra votes for BJP after cross-voting by AAP

Congress boycotted polls

1 Cong councillor switched to AAP during election process

Poll results

MAYOR*

AAP: Mahesh Kumar Khichi, (Dev Nagar) **won**

BJP: Kishan Lal (Shakurpur) lost

* seat reserved for SC candidates in current annual cycle

DEPUTY MAYOR

AAP's Ravinder Bhardwaj, 35, from Aman Vihar won unpposed

BJP's Sadatpur councillor **Neeta Bisht,** 41, withdrew her nomination

According to provisions of the Delhi Municipal Corporation (DMC) Act, the mayor's post in the third election cycle of a house is reserved for a Scheduled Caste candidate. However, the election process has been pending since April, as then chief minister Arvind Kejriwal was arrested in the excise case before he could give his assent for the exercise.

The proceedings

The election process on Thursday was delayed by over an hour and started around 3.10pm with MCD commissioner Ashwani Kumar reading out the notification issued by lieutenant governor VK Saxena, appointing BJP councillor Satya Sharma as the presiding officer for the election.

Immediately, Sharma warned candidates against carrying mobile phones and said those found violating the rules would have their votes invalidated—the ban on mobile phones has been a matter of contention between the BJP and AAP, triggering a delay in the standing committee election. Castigating the AAP for delaying the election of an SC mayor, Sharma said: "Your intentions were not right but I will ensure that honest election is held. Don't try anything wrong or I will have you thrown out."

The opening statements irked the Congress, with its leader Nazia Danish and other councillors storming out of the house and refusing to participate in the mayoral election.

While Sharma appealed to the Congress councillors to be seated, the party's Mustafabad councillor Sabila Begum resigned from the Congress and addressed a letter to DPCC chief Devender Yadav, alleging the walkout would directly benefit the BJP. She then sat with the AAP councillors and took part in the voting process.

At 3.25pm, the secretariat staff explained the process and the voting started immediately. Of three Rajya Sabha MPs scheduled to take part in the polls, Swati Maliwal was the only absentee. All seven BJP Lok Sabha MPs cast their votes.

The voting process ended at 5.10pm and the house went into recess till 5.45pm. The counting process started thereafter, triggering disagreements between the AAP and BJP observers over two votes that were incorrectly stamped.

After the process ended, Khichi was declared winner and the house reassembled at 7.40pm, but the BJP members did not show up.

Khichi, acting as the presiding officer for the deputy mayor polls, said BJP's Sadatpur councillor Neeta Bisht, 41, withdrew her nomination and AAP's Ravinder Bhardwaj won the polls unopposed.

Parties react

The AAP hailed the poll results as a victory for Dalits. Delhi chief minister Atishi said: "The anti-Dalit BJP conspired to delay the mayoral elections. But once again, Baba Saheb's Constitution has won. Thanks to AAP, Delhi got a Dalit mayor. Congratulations to Mahesh Khichi ji on becoming the mayor."

The BJP said that while the AAP won the election, it lost politically and Kejriwal lost the moral ground to remain the party convener as at least eight AAP councillors voted for the BJP and two others "intentionally" invalidated their votes.

"AAP councillors have given Kejriwal his first shock today; the real blow will come from the people of Delhi in February," BJP's Delhi chief Virendra Sachdeva said.

Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav said that the party's councillors walked out due to "horse trading" between the AAP and BJP.

"SC candidate is to be selected for the post of mayor, but both BJP and AAP have worked to attack the rights of scheduled castes and tribes," Yadav said.



LG VK Saxena

LG SAYS KEJRIWAL STOPPED YAMUNA CLEANING EFFORTS; AAP HITS BACK

Press Trust of India
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant governor VK Saxena on Thursday blamed the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal for stonewalling his efforts to clean the Yamuna because they feared that he would get credit for cleaning the river.

The AAP hit back saying that the LG was attempting to take credit for the Delhi government's works and was misleading residents by openly questioning the Supreme Court's orders.

LG Saxena in a post on X said: "In June 2022, I took everyone along and started the work of cleaning the Najafgarh drain in mission mode. The results were encouraging and seeing these results, in January 2023, NGT constituted a high level committee under the chairmanship of the LG and entrusted it with the responsibility of cleaning and revival of Yamuna. After this, five meetings of this committee were held under my chairmanship, in which the work of cleaning the Yamuna was started on a war footing. The results of these efforts also started becoming visible. The 11-km floodplain of Yamuna gradually started becoming clean and free of encroachment and the quality of water also started improving a little."

In response, the AAP in a statement said the LG was falsely claiming credit for projects undertaken by the elected Delhi government. "From the Najafgarh and Shahdara drains to the sewer treatment plant, the AAP asserts that these initiatives were funded and executed by the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and the Flood and Irrigation Control Department under Delhi's Government—not by LG Saab, who lacks the constitutional authority to allocate a single rupee," the party said.

{ WEST DELHI } FAMILY OPPOSITION

Boy stabs sister's husband to death

Hemani Bhandari
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A 26-year-old man was stabbed to death, allegedly by the 16-year-old brother of his wife, in Moti Nagar, west Delhi, on Wednesday night, police said.

Police on Thursday apprehended the minor, and lodged a murder case in this connection.

The victim was identified as Raja Babu, a resident of Sudhamapuri in Moti Nagar.

Babu's family, including his wife, alleged the involvement of the relatives of his in-laws in the murder. Police, however, said they are investigating their role.

According to the police, Babu got married in 2023 against the wishes of the family members of his 21-year-old wife.

"Babu's father Ganga Ram said that his son got married around a year ago against the wishes of the woman's family. He suspected they might have killed his son," deputy commissioner of police (west) Vichitra Veer said.

Police said they received a call at around 10pm on Wednesday about a stabbing. When they reached the spot, they were informed that the man was taken to a hospital, where doctors declared him dead.

A case on charges of murder was then registered.

On Thursday evening, the DCP said, the brother of the victim's wife was apprehended.

Babu used to work at an apparel shop in Moti Nagar. According to the victim's father, on Wednesday afternoon, he came back from work at around 8pm. Babu's wife said that the couple had gone to use the public toilet at around 9.30pm, and he asked her to proceed home by herself.

"About 15 minutes later, a relative told me that my family members were beating my husband. I ran but by the time I reached there, they had stabbed him. He was lying in a pool of blood...," she said.

The woman said that she and Babu lived in the same neighbourhood and were in a relationship for three years before they got married.

Her family disproved of their plan to get married, she said. "Last December, we eloped and got married. My family...thrashed both of us."

Babu's father said, "They had threatened to kill him at that time and they finally did it."

The couple then stayed in hiding in a UP village, and returned to Delhi only five months ago. "There was no contact between us and my family," the woman said.

Meanwhile, police said that the apprehended minor alleged that Babu used to "tease him".

"This, and the fact that the minor's family was unhappy with the marriage instigated him to kill Babu," the DCP said.

On allegations of involvement of the wife's relatives, the DCP said police will take action "if any evidence comes on record".

Babu's wife was inconsolable, but demanded justice. "I demand strictest punishment for all my family members."

366 arrested in 24 hrs under police operation

HT Correspondent
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: In a 24-hour-long crackdown at 907 locations across the city, Delhi Police arrested 366 people involved in the sale and supply of narcotics, illicit liquor and illegal firearms under the sixth iteration of "Operation Kavach", police said on Thursday. In the drive, which started at 5pm on Tuesday, police recovered 870 grams of heroin, 245kg of marijuana, 16 grams of cocaine, 434 grams of MDMA, six countrymade pistols, nine cartridges, eight knives, thousands of litres of illicit liquor and 17 two-wheelers. In all, 1,240 people were taken into preventive custody and 44 were prosecuted for smoking and selling tobacco products within 100 metres of educational centres, said Devesh Chandra Shrivastava, special commissioner of police (crime branch).

HT

Cyber criminals dupe 72-year-old of ₹10.3 crore

NEW DELHI: A 72-year-old resident of Rohini was put under duped of ₹10.3 crore by cyber criminals impersonating Mumbai Police officers, Delhi Police officers said. The criminals, who police said were operating from Cambodia, kept the a retired engineer under "digital arrest" for nearly eight hours, and then transferred the duped amount into at least 1,500 different bank accounts to avoid detection, police said.

Man transporting cattle killed after chase by police

GURUGRAM: A man transporting cattle in a pickup truck was killed, and six of his helpers were injured, after their vehicle overturned on the Delhi-Jaipur expressway during a police chase, Gurugram police officers said. The incident took place at 3.30am when police, acting on a tip-off about cattle smugglers, spotted some people loading cattle into a vehicle near the Manesar bus stand. On spotting police, the men sped away, and police started chasing them, leading to the accident.

Gangster held for murder of rival in Mundka market

NEW DELHI: Nearly a week after two gangsters killed a rival at a market in Mundka, the Delhi Police special cell on Thursday said they have arrested one of the assailants. Police identified the accused as Nihal, 22, a member of the Tillu Tajpuriya-Devender Bambiha gang. He was arrested on Wednesday night following a brief exchange of fire with a special cell team in Shahbad Dairy.

On Children's Day, CM Atishi launches school in NE Delhi

HT Correspondent
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Chief minister Atishi inaugurated a new school in Sunder Nagri, northeast Delhi on Thursday, as part of Children's Day celebrations.

Delhi government officials said the new school will be equipped with 131 classrooms, a library, seven state-of-the-art labs, two multi-purpose halls, an activity room, and elevators.

"Sundar Nagri and Nand Nagri are among the most densely populated areas in Delhi. To see such a magnificent world-class school here, in such a crowded area where even walking space is limited, is unbelievable," Atishi said, adding that the school will benefit over 7,000 children in the Sunder Nagri and Nand Nagri areas.

Separately, senior Aam Aadmi Party leader Manish Sisodia — the former education minister of the Capital — visited the School of Specialised Excellence in Performing & Visual Arts (SoSE-PVA) at Andrews Ganj and interacted with students.

"It's a unique institution where only artistically inclined children, passionate about music, dance, acting, painting, crafts, writing, photography, or any other art form, study with the goal of pursuing a career in the arts," Sisodia said in a statement.

Trade fair begins



Visitors on the first day of the India International Trade Fair at Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, on Thursday. Inaugurating the Delhi stall, state industries minister Saurabh Bharadwaj said it provides a platform for traders to promote their products to a wider audience. SANCHIT KHANNA/HT

Man rapes 4-yr-old relative

Hemani Bhandari
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police has arrested a 57-year-old man from Punjab, months after he allegedly raped his four-year-old relative — she used to call him "nana" (grandfather) — in north Delhi in July.

Officers said that after raping the girl, the man was absconding and was living as a self-proclaimed godman in Hoshiarpur. He was arrested on Tuesday and brought to Delhi, they said.

Police said the case came to light on July 11, after the girl complained of pain in her genitalia and her mother discovered she was bleeding. When pressed, the minor told her mother that her (the girl's) paternal aunt's father had done "something wrong", a senior officer said.

The next day, the girl's mother filed a complaint against the man. The girl was later taken for medical examination, after which she was counselled.

A case on charges of rape and under sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act was registered.

Police found that the 57-year-old was absconding, and questioned his family members. After interrogation, police traced his phone number to Hoshiarpur. "He was apprehended on Tuesday morning and brought to Delhi," the second officer said.

He was produced before a Delhi court on Wednesday, and sent to judicial custody.

Delhiwale

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Mayank Austen Soofi



CP soulful

On a revamped park in Connaught Place

{ PUBLIC INTEREST }

Reclined along the grass, a loner in white kurta-pajama is lazily looking up at the moon. Steps away, a masked gent is strolling with hands folded on chest. The crowd in the garden also comprises a pair of romantic couples, a bunch of people huddled in a close circle, a woman with a book, a man with a bouquet... plus scores of folks staring raptly at their mobile phone screens.

This evening, the garden above the underground Palika Bazar—sometimes called Palika Bazar terrace, as well as terrace garden— is strewn with discarded chip packets. The unfortunate litter tells a lot about us Delhiwale. That said, the park, newly re-landscaped by the New Delhi Municipal Council, has at last developed the potential to join the ranks of the Capital's beloved gardens.

The terrace garden is snuggled in the heart of circular Connaught Place. This being 6pm, the smoggy mid-November sky is pitch dark. Not a single star is visible. Doesn't matter! The CP lights are proving to be a worthy substitute. The overwhelming view is of the Jeevan Bharti complex that flanks the park's southern side (see photo). Its numerous windows are ablaze with office lights.

To be sure, this park isn't CP's crowning glory. The colonial-era shopping district already has the grand Central Park, just across the road from Palika Bazar. That assiduously landscaped garden lies cordoned off from the immediate urban chaos, snugly sanitised in conventional beauty. The terrace garden on the other hand is steeped in a more complicated mood, maybe due to its less secluded setting. The showrooms and offices of the surrounding CP are nearer, their evening lights more invasive. Consequently, the sense of escape that lingers here for a citizen is somewhat fragile.

Whatever, the facelift has erased the park's roughness to an extent. It is grassier and sleeker. There are rows of potted plants, lots of lamps, the winding paths jazzed up with floor-level lighting. The garden was, in fact, undergoing landscaping work for a long time. It must now regain its former regulars. They came from all segments of city life (including social misfits), and they will be relieved to know that the best thing about the revamped park hasn't changed. The most memorable experience remains the twilight time, when one lies down on the grass to watch the sky turn black and the CP lights turn on.

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

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NOVEMBER 21 - 23, 2024

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SHRI NARENDRA MODI



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Kay Dammholz



Vibha Dhawan



Ulrich Heppe



Rahul Munjal



Reinhold von Ungern-Sternberg



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Rahul Bharti



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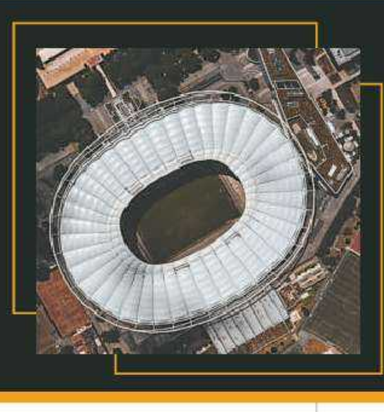
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STATE ELECTIONS 2024

Arson, stir after candidate who hit Raj SDM arrested

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

JAIPUR: Independent candidate Naresh Meena was arrested on Thursday, a day after his supporters torched vehicles and threw stones at a police team sent to arrest him for slapping a sub-divisional magistrate (SDM), triggering fresh violence in Tonk district of Rajasthan. At least eight police personnel were injured in the violence.

Mahaveer Kharadi, the chief of the Rajasthan Administrative Service Officers Association, which demanded Meena's immediate arrest and warned of a boycott of work if action was not taken, welcomed the action. "We are thankful to the CM (chief minister Bhajanlal Sharma) and the police for arresting him soon."

Inspector general (Ajmer range) Om Prakash earlier said that apart from Meena, at least 60 others have also been arrested for Wednesday's violence at Samrawata.

Meena, who contested the bypoll from Deoil-Uniara as an independent candidate after the Congress denied him the ticket and was suspended from the party, slapped SDM Amit Chaudhary when the official went to speak to a group of people in Samrawata who were boycotting the poll.

Meena joined the protesters and also alleged his election symbol was blurred intentionally on the voting machine. Police superintendent Vikas Sangwan said, "Meena fled while his supporters attacked police".



Security personnel remove a burning tyre after clashes erupted over the arrest of Naresh Meena in Tonk district of Rajasthan. PTI

Additional police forces were deployed in the area and tear gas shells were fired to disperse the crowd.

Meena maintained that he offered to surrender on Wednesday itself. "The police should investigate the matter fairly. They tortured my supporters. The SDM did wrong and I slapped him."

A senior police official said that Meena has 23 cases registered against him across Rajasthan.

IG Prakash said, "Meena is wanted in several cases in Jaipur Kota and Baran for a long time. We have arrested him and will take necessary action against him in all these cases."

Following Meena's arrest, another group of his supporters blocked a state highway and torched tyres, demanding his release.

Cabinet minister Kirodi Lal Meena reached the spot to speak to the protesters and try and defuse the situation.

Before his arrest, Meena blamed Tonk district collector Saumya Jha and SP Sangwan for what had happened.

"All 60 people who have been arrested are innocent. If anyone should be punished, it should be me," he said, alleging that the SDM on election duty had been working on the directions of the BJP. "He got 30 people to vote by threatening them to take action against them. I could not stop myself. I slapped him. It is correct. Seeing his nature, he should have been slapped more," Meena said.

JAYARAJAN RALLIES FOR SARIN AMID ROW OVER 'FAKE' AUTOBIOGRAPHY

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PALAKKAD: Former LDF convener EP Jayarajan on Thursday arrived in Palakkad to campaign for ruling coalition's candidate P Sarin, in the wake of reports that his candidacy was criticised by the CPI(M) veteran in his purported autobiography.

Addressing a press conference in Palakkad, Jayarajan accused the Congress of playing "dirty politics" by "conspiring to trigger the controversy to hurt the electoral prospects of the LDF" in the Palakkad and Chelakkara assembly by-elections.

As the controversy gained steam, Jayarajan termed the excerpts circulating in the local media "fake", maintaining that his autobiography was still in the works and he has not authorised anyone to publish it.

In those excerpts, Jayarajan purportedly referred to Sarin, a former Congress leader who defected to CPI(M) ahead of the bypoll, as an "opportunist", raising questions about the party's choice. But on Thursday, at a public meeting in Palakkad, the senior CPI(M) leader called Sarin an 'ideal' candidate for the party who had resigned from civil service to engage in public service.

Meanwhile, opposition UDF contended that the Left veteran was directed to join the Palakkad campaign due to the contents of his purported autobiography.

"Otherwise, why did he (Jayarajan) not campaign for Sarin till now?" leader of opposition in the Kerala assembly VD Satheesan said.

{ DEVENDRA FADNAVIS } MAHARASHTRA DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER

'Batenge slogan is just a reply to vote jihad'

MUMBAI: BJP leader and deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis is the face of the party's campaign in Maharashtra and has a lot riding on this election personally, especially after the rout in the Lok Sabha. In an interview with **Surendra P Gangan,** the senior leader talks about divisive slogans, what has changed for the party in the last four months, NCP leader Anil Deshmukh's allegations against him and whether industrialist Gautam Adani was present in the government formation talks with NCP in 2019. Edited excerpts:



ELECTION INTERVIEW

Ajit Pawar, Pankaja Munde and Ashok Chavan have all said they do not approve of the slogan 'Batenge toh katenge' that is being widely used by the BJP in this campaign. Your thoughts?

Ajit Pawar and others did not understand the concept of the slogan. If you look at the history of this country — be it the caste system, language system, or regionalism — (it enabled) outsiders to rule over us. The Congress's design is the same. Prime Minister has said that 350 OBC castes are important because they are united and if they get divided through a caste-based survey, their importance will reduce. *Batenge toh katenge* really means we should all be united...We are also against vote jihad as we saw in the Lok Sabha polls in Amravati, Mumbai North Central, North East where the Muslims got together to defeat the Mahayuti candidates. Is putting a banner in the name of Allah secularism?

So, 'Batenge toh katenge' is a response to what you call 'Vote Jihad'?

Yes, it was. In addition to that, our slogan "Ek hai toh safe hai" is a message to the society to be safe. We are not against Muslims. Out welfare schemes are meant for Muslim sisters too.

The BJP has also given 16 candidates to Shinde-led Sena and Ajit Pawar-led NCP? Will these candidates come back to the BJP after the polls?

Why just those candidates, at least 17 candidates in the first list announced by Uddhav Thackeray's party were originally from our party. That does not mean they will come back to us after the election. But yes, we had an understanding with Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar about giving some of our leaders to contest in their share of constituencies....

Why did the Mahayuti not support Raj Thackeray's son Amit at Mahim?

The BJP and even CM Shinde wanted to support Amit Thackeray at Mahim but then Shiv Sena leaders said not fielding their candidate will help Sena-UBT, which is why nothing could be done.

What's the target number of seats set by the ruling alliance, and who will be the CM candidate from your party?

The target set by us is a secret, but one thing is clear that we will form the government. The decision over the post of the CM will be taken by leaders of the three parties in the alliance...

What has changed since the Lok Sabha rout?

The narrative about the Constitution and Vote Jihad (referring to consolidation of Muslim votes against them) played against us. The first one has been killed by Rahul Gandhi himself by his statements against quota (that it should be scrapped) made when he was abroad. (There is no record of Rahul Gandhi having made such a statement). As for 'Vote Jihad' it will not work in assembly elections. Unlike the Lok Sabha constituency, where the consolidation of voters of a particular religion who are concentrated in one area can swing the outcome, in this election that voter concentration will at best change the outcome in only one constituency. (A Lok Sabha constituency typically comprises six assembly seats).

A section of BJP has never approved of the party joining hands with Ajit Pawar.

We could not convince them earlier, but we have done so now.

The Marathas voted against the Mahayuti in Lok Sabha.

Are you worried about the impact of the Marathas reservation agitation in this election too?

It's not true that the Marathas voted against us. Had they done so we could not have polled 43.6% votes against MVA's 43.9%. I can say with certainty that we will gain in all the regions...

In a recent interview, retired justice Chandiwal who was appointed to look into the allegations of corruption levelled at former home minister Anil Deshmukh by former Mumbai police commissioner spoke about the probe. Since Anil Deshmukh has dragged you into the controversy, what do you have to say about it?

Retired Justice Chandiwal has exposed Anil Deshmukh and his party leaders who wanted to set a certain narrative. Chandiwal has said that his report has not given anyone a clean chit and in fact he has said that the people who were responsible to provide proof to the commission did not do so. His interview also makes it clear that (police officer) Sachin Vaze had changed his statement (accusing Deshmukh of using police officers to collect money from dance bar owners) under pressure from then government. Most importantly, he said that there was a design to frame Fadnavis. This means I was their target, doesn't it?

Why did your government not make justice Chandiwal's report public?

It had lost its relevance. The CBI had already submitted the charge sheet... and Anil Deshmukh has been granted bail on health ground and it's a technical bail.

Your fellow deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar has recently said that industrialist Gautam Adani was present in the meeting that was held to form BJP-NCP government in 2019. What did actually happen?

It is true that a meeting took place in Delhi in the presence of Amit Shah, Sharad Pawar, Ajit Pawar, Praful Patel and me on November 11, 2019. But let me clarify that neither did it happen in the presence of Gautam Adani nor did it happen at his residence.

So, is Ajit Pawar then referring to some other meeting that happened in the presence of Gautam Adani?

There was no other meeting held for this, as per my knowledge.



Sharad Pawar

MAHA ON DECLINE, HAS FALLEN INTO WRONG HANDS: SHARAD PAWAR

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PUNE: NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Thursday said Maharashtra has fallen into "wrong hands" in the last few years and has "suffered a decline".

He was in the Chinchwad assembly constituency in Pune district to campaign for his party candidate Rahul Kalate, who has been pitted against BJP's Shankar Jagtap in the November 20 Maharashtra elections.

Pawar took part in a roadshow and addressed a public gathering in support of Kalate. "Maharashtra was once ranked number one in the country but it has fallen into the wrong hands in recent times leading to the state's downfall," he said.

ELECTION '24 MAHARASHTRA

The NCP (SP) president said the Chinchwad constituency lacks even basic infrastructure. "Those in power here for the last 10 years didn't complete any development projects. It's time for the transformation of Chinchwad," he said.

In the Chinchwad constituency, the BJP replaced sitting MLA Ashwini Jagtap, the wife of late party leader Laxman Jagtap, and instead, nominated his brother Shankar Jagtap, who is contesting his first election.

Rahul hits back at BJP amid 'blank book' row; vows to protect tribals

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NANDURBAR: The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) will protect the rights of tribals, Dalits and other backward classes (OBCs) and ensure they get opportunity in power and government in proportion to their population by conducting caste-based survey and removing the 50% cap on reservation, Congress lawmaker Rahul Gandhi said on Thursday.

Addressing a rally at tribal-dominated Nandurbar in north Maharashtra, Gandhi hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP for referring to the book he has been displaying during rallies as "blank book", saying the PM thinks that the Constitution of India is "blank" because he has never read it.

The Congress leader alleged that BJP and RSS insult tribals by referring to them as "vanvasi" (forest-dwellers) instead of adivasi. "Adivasis are the first owners of the country and have the first right on 'jal, jungle and zameen' (water, forest and land)," he said.

Gandhi claimed that population of tribals in country is around 8% but their share in resources is just 10 paisa out of ₹100, adding that his party "wants to change" this scenario. "Congress will protect your rights and give opportunity in power and government, conduct caste census and also remove the cap of 50% on the reservation," he said, adding that if MVA — comprising the Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP(SP) — is elected to power, tribals, Dalits and OBCs will find representation through caste census.



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses a rally in Nanded on Thursday. PTI

Gandhi's remarks came days after PM Modi accused the Congress of attempting to sow discord among SC, ST, and OBC communities and wanting to cut their reservation.

In his address, the Congress leader said the Constitution contains the soul of India and the principles envisaged by national icons like Birsa Munda, Dr BR Ambedkar and Mahatma Phule.

"The BJP has objections to the red colour of the book. But we don't care about whether the colour is red or blue. We are committed to preserve it (Constitution)," he said.

"Modi ji feels the Constitution (book) I carry is blank because he has no idea what it contains. He has not read it in his life," Gandhi added.

His retort came after Modi and several BJP leaders claimed that Gandhi was showing a copy of the Constitution with blank pages inside at his rallies.

Gandhi also addressed a rally in Nanded, where Lok Sabha bypoll will be held along with the assembly polls on November 20.

polldiary

CONG MANIFESTO VIOLATED MCC: J'KHAND CEO TO ECI

RANCHI: Jharkhand chief electoral officer (CEO) K Ravi Kumar wrote to the Election Commission of India (ECI) a day after the BJP accused the Congress of violating rules by releasing the party manifesto for the Jharkhand assembly elections during the 48-hour 'silent period' on November 12. Kumar said they have sent their report to ECI which will decide on the future course of action. "The commission had sought a report on it. We have sent it after conducting probe in the matter. Prima facie it's a case of violation of model code of conduct. ECI will take further action," Kumar said.

PM MODI PUT LAST NAIL IN COFFIN OF TERRORISM: YOGI

BOKARO/DHANBAD: Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath on Thursday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put the last nail in the coffin of terrorism and the government will eliminate maoists. Adityanath said this while addressing polls rallies in Jharkhand. Accusing the JMM-led coalition of "aiding" Bangladeshi infiltrators and Rohingyas to settle in the state, he asserted that the BJP, under PM Modi, was the only solution to stop this. "The world's most powerful leadership is with you. PM Modi put the last nail in the coffin of terrorism," he said.

'End near for JMM-Cong govt, will wipe out infiltrators'

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JAMSHEDPUR: Union home minister Amit Shah on Thursday declared that the end is near for the state's JMM-Congress government adding that, as a result, "the time is also over" for Bangladeshi infiltrators.

Shah also promised to wipe out infiltration, terrorism, Maoism and corruption from Jharkhand within five years and make it one of the most prosperous states in India. Shah's remarks came during his speeches in election rallies at Giridih, Gandey and Dumri on Thursday.

In Giridh, he specifically targeted the Congress. " Sonia-ji is very fond of launching Rahul Gandhi. He has been launched like a plane 20 times. But the problem is -- it never lands. It crashes everytime. I tell you that the 21st launch is going to crash at Baba Deogarh Airport. Congress will not cross five seats in Jharkhand," he said at a rally in support of BJP candidate Nirbhay Shahbadi.



Union home minister Amit Shah at a rally ahead of second phase of Jharkhand elections, in Dumri on Thursday. PTI

He also focused on infiltration, which BJP has made one of its key issues in this election.

"Hemant Soren paid no attention on producing power or setting up industries here. His full attention is on facilitating infiltration of Bangladeshi illegal immigrants into Jharkhand. But time is now over Hemant Soren government and so time is also over for the infiltrators. We will identify and drive out all the infiltrators from Jharkhand. We will bring a law under which tribal lands can't be transferred to the infiltrators ...," thundered Shah.

The Union home minister said that the Jharkhand is a mineral-rich state. "But people of Jharkhand are poor. Jharkhand provides energy (electricity) to entire country, but all the funds sent for Jharkhand by Modi-ji went down the drains of Hemant Soren government's corruption. You vote to form a BJP government in Jharkhand and I promise that Modi-ji will wipe out terrorism, Maoism, infiltration and corruption within five years."

ELECTION '24 JHARKHAND

Shah reiterated BJP's resolve to pass Waqf Act Amendment Bill and protect reservation for other backward classes, scheduled tribes and scheduled castes.

"In Congress ruled Karnataka entire villages, land and houses of farmers have been grabbed by the Waqf Board. This is why changes are imperative in the Waqf Act. But Rahul Baba and Hemant Babu are opposing it. Congress has promised 10% reservation to Muslims in Maharashtra. Whose reservation they will curtail to do this - ST, SC, OBC or Dalits? Be restored assured, we won't let it happen till there is a single BJP MLA is there," he added.

Nothing more to probe: Maha ATS on Sanatan Sanstha's activities

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MUMBAI: The Maharashtra anti-terrorism squad (ATS) on Thursday told the Bombay high court that it has probed all allegations levelled by the family of slain rationalist Govind Pansare, adding that there was nothing more to investigate.

Pansare's family, in a letter to the ATS, had alleged that Hindu right-wing organisation Sanatan Sanstha was systematically killing intellectuals in Maharashtra and Karnataka, and demanded a probe into its activities. The 68-page letter was submitted to Jayant Meena, superintendent of police, ATS, Pune division.

Meena, who was present in court, submitted the letter dated November 12, as well as his report on the allegations made in the letter.



Govind Pansare

Pansare was shot by two bike-borne men in Kolhapur on February 16, 2015, while on a morning walk. He died four days later.

Pansare's family, represented by advocate Abhay Nevagi, argued that the ATS probe has not looked into several aspects, including the role of Sanatan Sanstha. "One of the accused is also involved in the 2010 Goa bomb blast case," Nevagi said.

Advocate Subhash Jha, appearing for accused Virendra Tawade, said: "Monitoring is over, investigation is over, three charge sheets have been filed, and 28 witnesses have been examined." He cited Supreme Court judgments that monitoring of a probe by the court "can have deleterious effects on the trial." "There cannot be any monitoring once the investigation is over," he submitted.

After hearing both sides, a bench of Ajay Gadkari and Kamal Khata remarked: "The ATS has investigated for the last two years... It says UAPA [Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act] provisions cannot be invoked. We think they have completed the investigation."

The bench adjourned the matter and gave time to Pansare's family to deliberate if any steps need to be taken.

ED launches fresh raids against Santiago Martin

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CHENNAI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday conducted fresh raids in multiple states against Chennai-based 'lottery king' Santiago Martin, the single biggest donor to political parties with over ₹1,300 crore in electoral bonds, as part of a money laundering probe, officials said.

The action comes after the Madras high court allowed the probe agency to proceed against Martin as the Tamil Nadu Police had decided to close the primary FIR against him and a few others and a lower court accepted the police plea.

According to officials, at least 20 premises linked to Martin, his son-in-law Aadhav Arjun and associates in Chennai and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu, Faridabad in Haryana, Ludhiana in Punjab and Kolkata in West Bengal were being raided as part of a "comprehensive" action.

A clutch of FIRs have been taken into cognisance by ED to initiate the latest action against Martin and his business network for lottery "fraud" and "illegal" sale of lottery.

The federal agency last year attached assets worth about ₹457 crore in a case against Martin linked to an alleged loss of over ₹900 crore to the Sikkim government by fraudulent sale of the state lottery in Kerala.

Future Gaming Solutions India Pvt. Ltd. is the master distributor of Sikkim lotteries and ED has been investigating Martin, known as 'lottery king' in Tamil Nadu, since 2019.

UP agrees to conduct PCS prelims exam on single day after protests

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LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (UPPSC) on Thursday postponed the exams for review officer (RO) and assistant review officer (ARO) posts, and announced to hold the provincial civil services (PCS) prelims exam-2024 on the old pattern on a single day, partially agreeing to the demands of protesting aspirants.

A committee on RO and ARO exams will be formed to ensure its transparency and fairness, the commission announced. "On the directives of chief minister Yogi Adityanath, UPPSC has decided to postpone RO and ARO exams and hold PCS preliminary exam on old pattern," commission secretary Ashok Kumar said.



UPPSC aspirants stage protest in Prayagraj on Thursday. ANI

The UPPSC had decided to conduct PCS prelims and RO/ARO examinations in multiple shifts in December. The decision triggered protests by many aspirants, who have been agitating outside the UPPSC office in Prayagraj to press their demand for holding the exams in one shift.

The announcement of conducting the PCS preliminary exam on a single day brought relief to some aspirants while those preparing for the RO and ARO exams said their protest will continue till a similar decision is taken.

Opposition leaders also came in support of the agitating aspirants. In a post on X, Congress lawmaker Rahul Gandhi termed as "extremely insensitive" and "unfortunate" the attitude of the UP government and the UPPSC towards the aspirants.

SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, too, slammed the BJP government over the protests. "Those who talk about 'One Nation, One Election' cannot even manage exams for students on a single day."

Defending the decision, UP deputy chief minister Brajesh Pathak said: "The state government is ensuring the interests of the students. The demands have been met and the state government will ensure that the students don't face any problems."

PM to unveil key tribal welfare projects today

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NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to launch projects worth more than ₹6,640 crore on the birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Birsa Munda on Friday. Modi will also be launching several other initiatives for the tribal community during his visit to Jamui in Bihar, to commemorate Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, marking the beginning of the 150th birth anniversary year celebrations of Birsa Munda.

Tribal affairs minister Jual Oram, speaking at a press conference in Jamui said that the Prime Minister's visit is part of the "government's broader approach to ensuring the development of tribal regions through a whole of government strategy, bringing together central and state governments, along with various stakeholders, to work toward inclusive and sustainable growth".

The funds earmarked for schemes targeting scheduled tribes (STs) have increased by 5.7 times from ₹24,600 crore in 2013-14 (when the first Narendra Modi-led government took over) to ₹1.23 lakh crore (budgeted) in 2024-25.



PM Modi will inaugurate the projects on the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda.

During his visit, Modi will inaugurate and lay the foundation stones for multiple development projects worth over ₹6,640 crore. These projects will focus on infrastructure, health care, education, and livelihood generation in tribal regions, underscoring the government's commitment to the holistic development of these communities.

The Prime Minister will participate in the Grih Pravesh ceremony of 11,000 houses constructed under PM-JANMAN, bringing improved housing to tribal families. Further health care initiatives will be launched, including the introduction of 23 mobile medical units (MMUs) under PM-JANMAN and 30 additional MMUs under the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan (DAJGUA), aimed at enhancing health care access in remote areas.

In the education sector, PM Modi will inaugurate 10 Eklavya model residential schools and 300 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs), which are designed to promote entrepreneurship and improve the livelihoods of tribal communities. The government has thus far created 3,900 such VDVKs around India, catering to around 1.2 million tribal entrepreneurs. The number of Ekalavya schools now stands at 476. The preservation of tribal heritage will also be a focus, with the inauguration of two tribal freedom fighters' museums and two tribal research institutes, which will document and preserve the history and culture of India's tribal populations.

Furthermore, the Prime Minister will lay the foundation stones for 500km of new roads and 100 multi-purpose centres (MPCs) under PM-JANMAN, which will improve connectivity and provide community spaces in tribal areas. The expansion of housing infrastructure will also be a key focus, with the laying of foundation stones for 25,000 new houses under PM-JANMAN and 116,000 houses under DAJGUA, as well as 66 hostels under PM-JANMAN and 304 hostels under DAJGUA to ensure better living conditions for tribal students and families.

On Janjatiya Gaurav Divas 2023, Modi launched two key initiatives, the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyay Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) and the Viksit Bharat Abhiyan, both aimed at advancing the welfare of tribal communities. Additionally, the Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Utkarsh Gram Abhiyan, launched in October 2024, focuses on the comprehensive development of over 63,000 tribal villages.

According to the data shared by tribal affairs ministry, enrolment of tribal students in schools has risen from 34,000 in 2013-14 to over 113,000 in 2023-24, driven by the expansion of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS).

Dominica to bestow highest national award upon Modi

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NEW DELHI: The Commonwealth of Dominica has announced it will award its highest national honour to Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he visits Guyana for the India-CARICOM Summit next week.

THE PM IS BEING HONOURED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO DOMINICA DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Dominica Award of Honour is being bestowed on Modi in recognition of his contributions to Dominica during the Covid-19 pandemic and his dedication to strengthening the partnership between the two countries, an official statement said.

The office of the Dominican prime minister said President Sylvanie Burton will confer the award during the India-CARICOM Summit to be held in Georgetown, Guyana, during November 19-21. "In February 2021, Prime Minister Modi supplied Dominica with 70,000 doses of the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine – a generous gift which enabled Dominica to extend support to its Caribbean neighbours," the statement said.

The award also recognises India's support for Dominica in health care, education and information technology under Modi's leadership, and his role in promoting climate resilience-building initiatives and sustainable development on a global level.

Dominican Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit said the award is an expression of his country's gratitude for Modi's solidarity with Dominica and the wider region. Modi has been a" true partner to Dominica, particularly during our time of need amid a global health crisis", and Dominica's highest national accolade is a "symbol of our gratitude for his support and as a reflection of the strong ties between our countries", Skerrit said.

In accepting the award, Modi emphasised the importance of collaboration in tackling global challenges such as climate change and geopolitical conflicts, and affirmed India's commitment to working with Dominica and the Caribbean in addressing these issues, the statement said.

PM Modi has received state honours from 15 countries, including Saudi Arabia's Order of King Abdul Aziz, Order of the State of Palestine, the United Arab Emirates' Order of Zayed, the Order of Fiji and Egypt's Order of the Nile.

SC SLAMS GENDER BIAS IN PUBLIC OFFICE, REINSTATES C'GARH SARPANCH

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday condemned the entrenched gender bias against women in public office, ordering the reinstatement of a young woman sarpanch in Chhattisgarh after she was removed from her position on grounds the court deemed unjustified and discriminatory.

"Instead of admiring her commitments or cooperating with her or extending a helping hand to support her village's development, she has been wronged for absolutely uncalled-for and unjustified reasons," stated a bench of justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan, setting aside the order that had removed her from office.

The court also directed the Chhattisgarh government to pay ₹1 lakh to the sarpanch as compensation for the hardship she endured, adding that the state could recover the amount from the responsible officials once identified.

Ordering an inquiry against officials who had caused her what the court called "unwarranted harassment", the bench expressed strong disapproval over the actions taken against the 27-year-old sarpanch, who was removed on the grounds of alleged delays in local construction work — charges the court found to be without merit.

"This is a case bordering on high-handedness on the part of the authorities in removing an elected sarpanch, a young woman who chose to serve her village in a remote area of Chhattisgarh," maintained the bench.

The bench highlighted not only the wrongful removal of the sarpanch, Sonam Lakra, but also, the flawed logic employed by the authorities in holding her responsible for delays in the village's development projects.

Addressing these circumstances, the Supreme Court bench underlined: "Construction work involves engineers, contractors, and timely supply of materials, besides vagaries of weather...how can a Sarpanch be held responsible for delays unless it is shown there was a delay in the allocation of work or some specific duty assigned to the elected body?"

FATF hails India's financial digital stack

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NEW DELHI: The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the global money laundering and terrorism financing watchdog, has endorsed India's digital stack — the JAM trinity and Unified Payment Interface (UPI) — for its overall low vulnerability.

The latest edition of FATF's 'Money Laundering National Risk Assessment Guidance' recognised India's financial inclusion mechanism of combining Aadhaar identification, Jan Dhan accounts and mobile numbers (popularly known as JAM trinity) as an effective tool for formalising financial transactions.

FATF RECOGNISED INDIA FOR ITS EFFORTS TO CURB TERROR FINANCING, MONEY LAUNDERING

"Significant transactions in the informal economy in India happen in cash. Based on India's assessment of the risks associated with cash, India introduced policies (known as Jan Dhan, Aadhaar and Mobile) to encourage use of the formal financial system. These policies expanded affordable access to bank accounts and other financial services, using a biometric identification system and supported the development of a digital mobile payment system," the FATF document published earlier this month said. The document aids countries in assessing money laundering menaces and help them to mitigate such risks.

The FATF's endorsement came close on the heels of its evaluation report published in mid-September that certified India's robust compliance system on 40 evaluation parameters. The report placed India on the FATF's exclusive club of top performers, surpassing the US, China, Germany, Japan and Canada for maintaining higher standards in curbing money laundering and terror financing through various measures, including its transparent and globally acclaimed digital India stack.

The FATF document also endorsed India's digital payment infrastructure (DPI). "India has prioritised the development of digital payment infrastructure, leading to a rapid increase in digital transaction volumes from 20.7 billion transactions in 2017-18 to 134.6 billion in 2022-23. As a result of these measures, access to financial services has increased from 35% of the total population in 2011 to 80% in 2017," it said.

According to the Union government data, the number of such transactions crossed 18,592 crore (or 185.92 billion) in India in 2023-24 with value touching ₹3,658 lakh crore.

MEGHALAYA-BASED INSURGENT GROUP HNLC BANNED

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Thursday banned Meghalaya-based insurgent group Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) for five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act or UAPA, for its involvement in violent incidents and for carrying out activities prejudicial to India's sovereignty and integrity.

The ministry of home affairs (MHA), in a notification, said the Union government is of the opinion that the HNLC has declared objective for secession of areas in Meghalaya, largely inhabited by Khasi and Jaintia tribes, and continued intimidation and bullying of the civilian population to extort funds for their organisation. "The HNLC along with all its factions, wings and front organisations of Meghalaya has been involved in such activities which are prejudicial to the sovereignty and integrity of India," the notification said.

It is also of the opinion that for the reasons aforesaid, it is necessary to declare the HNLC together with its factions, wings and front organisations, as an unlawful association with immediate effect for five years. HTC

Centre launches PAIR initiative to accelerate research in varsities

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NEW DELHI: The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) on Thursday launched the Partnerships for Accelerated Innovation and Research (PAIR) initiative to enhance research capabilities of universities, particularly central and state public institutions.

The programme is designed to support universities where research is still in its early stages, but show significant potential for growth. Through a hub-and-spoke model, PAIR aims to pair emerging institutions with well-established, top-tier institutions, enabling mentorship and collaboration to accelerate research output.

Secretary of the department of science and technology (DST) Abhay Karandikar said,"The PAIR programme stands as a catalyst for transformative research in universities which have potential, with well-established institutions providing the necessary mentorship to elevate overall research standards."



The PAIR initiative will see varsities work with each other in a hub-and-spoke model.

In the first phase, the PAIR initiative will target institutions that are ranked within the top 25 in the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) overall rankings over the past two years, as well as Institutions of National Importance ranked between 26 and 50. Each PAIR network will consist of a central hub institution and between three to seven spoke institutions. The maximum funding available for each network is capped at ₹100 crore, with the budget distributed between hub and spoke institutions in a 30:70 ratio.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WELFARE HOUSING ORGANISATION (CGEWHO)
[An Autonomous Body under the aegis of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Govt. of India]
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RERA No.- PBRERA-SAS81-PR1094
Scheme Open from 15th Nov 2024 to 31st Dec 2024


SAS Nagar Mohali, Artistic Impression
The Scheme is Open Only for Central Government Employees (Priority I)
Please refer Scheme Brochure

Type of DU	Dwelling Units (DU's) Available for Subscription**	Carpet Area (in sqft)	SBA (in sqft)	Cost* (in Rs.)
Type 'B' (Dining cum Living Room, 2 Bedrooms, Store Room & Kitchen with 2 Toilets and 4 Balconies).	118	833	1411	72,05,450/-
Type 'C' (Living Room, Lobby, 2 Bedrooms, Store Room, Dressing Room & Kitchen, 3 Toilets and 4 Balconies).	118	1102	1679	95,32,300/-
Type 'D' (Living & Dining Room, 3 Bedrooms, Entrance Foyer/Servant Room, Dressing Room, Kitchen, 3 Toilets, One Powder Room, 5 Balconies).	56	1429	2264	1,23,60,850/-
Type 'C' (Penthouse Duplex) Living Room, 3 Lobbies, 2 Bedrooms, 2 Store, 2 Dressing Rooms, Kitchen, Pantry, 2 Open to Sky Terrace, 6 Balconies, 4 Toilets, 1 Staircase.	12	1937	3040	1,75,37,780/-
Type 'D' (Penthouse Duplex) Living & Dining Room, 3 Bedrooms, Entrance Foyer/Servant Room, 3 Dressing Rooms, Kitchen, 5 Toilets, Powder Room, Pantry, 2 Lobby, 8 Balconies, 3 Open to Sky Terrace, 1 Staircase.	6	2400	4111	2,28,03,795/-

*Cost of DU given above is exclusive of: - 1. GST (as applicable), 2. 1% for IFMS & 1% for advance Maintenance charges for one year, of the total cost of DU. However, the cost of one car parking (stilt or basement) is included in the cost of DU.
**Out of the total 402 DUs available in the project, 92 DUs across various categories have already been subscribed through advertisements in the year 2014. However, the allotment of specific DUs nos of all DUs i.e. (402 nos.) will be done subsequently through draw of lots.
Nearby Amenities
- Adjoining Gurudwara/Mandir, Sector-79.
- Amity International School : 0.5 Kms.
- CP 67 Mall : 0.5 Kms.
- I.S. Bindra PCA Stadium : 3.0 Kms.
- Fortis Hospital, Mohali : 3.5 Kms.
- Mohali Railway Station (SAS Nagar) : 5.5 Kms.
- ISBT, Sector - 43 : 7.5 Kms.
- Chandigarh International Airport : 10.3 Kms.
Community Centre consists
1. Multi-purpose Halls, Restaurant with Kitchen
2. Fully Equipped Unisex Gymnasium
3. Kids indoor games zone
4. Senior Citizen Room
5. Shops (3 Nos.)
Other Amenities
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For more information please contact:
Head Office
Sh. Rajesh Katoch : 7065044984
Sh. Chandan Singh: 7065044986
Project Site
Sh. Bant Singh : 9357303479
Ms. Anju Arora : 9803439494
Site Address:
Plot No.-3, Sector – 79, SAS Nagar
Mohali, Punjab
For Scheme Brochure please visit our website or scan QR code.
CBC 20105/15/0008/2425

{ AMONG TWO DOZEN NAMES LISTED }

India renews its push for extradition of Nijjar aide

Rezaul H Laskar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India said on Thursday that it will renew a request made to Canada in 2023 for the extradition of Khalistani radical and designated terrorist Arshdeep Singh Gill alias Arsh Dalla following reports of his arrest in that country.

Dalla is among more than two dozen criminals and terrorists for whom India has submitted extradition requests to Canada. External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal noted there have been media reports since 10 November about the arrest in Canada of Dalla, a proclaimed offender or fugitive and the de-facto chief of the Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF).

"Canadian print and visual media have widely reported on the arrest. We understand that the Ontario court has listed the case for hearing," Jaiswal said.


Arshdeep was designated a terrorist by India in 2023.

"In view of the recent arrest, our agencies will be following up on an extradition request. Given Arsh Dalla's criminal record in India and his involvement in similar illegal activities in Canada, it is expected that he will be extradited or deported to face justice in India," he said.

Jaiswal described Dalla as a fugitive in more than 50 cases of murder, attempted murder, extortion and terrorist acts, including terror financing. In May 2022, Interpol issued a Red Notice for him.

Dalla was designated by India as a terrorist in 2023. In July 2023, the Indian government requested the Canadian government for his provisional arrest. "This was declined. Additional information was provided in this case," Jaiswal said.

A separate request was sent to Canada under the bilateral Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty to verify Dalla's suspected residential address, his financial transactions to India, moveable and immovable properties, and details of mobile numbers. Information on all these matters were provided to Canadian authorities in January 2023.

In December 2023, Canada's department of justice sought additional information on Dalla's case. "A reply to these queries was sent in March this year," Jaiswal said.

India's National Investigation Agency (NIA) has said Dalla fled from India to Canada, where he came in contact with Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who was shot dead by unidentified men in June 2023 in Surrey town. Nijjar was then the chief of KTF, and the duo recruited youth and formed terrorist gangs for carrying out extortion to raise funds for the KT, according to the NIA.

In January 2023, the ministry of home affairs declared Dalla as an "individual terrorist" under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA).

A native of Dala village in Moga district of Punjab, Dalla was believed to be operating from British Columbia. He is wanted by both Punjab Police and the NIA, which has offered a bounty of ₹10 lakh for him.

NIA ATTACHES PROPERTY OF TRF TERRORIST IN J&K

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has attached immovable property of a key terror accused linked with The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy outfit of the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), the agency said on Thursday.

The accused, identified as Adil Manzoor Langoo, was allegedly involved in the killing of two non-locals in Kashmir in February 2024. He is linked with TRF, which surfaced in the Valley for the first time in 2019 and is behind several attacks on non-civilians and security forces in the last five years. "The property of Adil Manzoor Langoo has been attached in a case relating to the brutal killing of two non-locals at Shala Kadal, Srinagar, in February this year," the NIA said in a statement.

The two victims, identified as Amritpal Singh and Rohit Masih, were shot at their residence in the Shala Kadal area of Shahed Gunj in Srinagar on February 7.

The property, located in Zaldagar, Srinagar, was attached on Wednesday under Section 25 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, it added.

Meanwhile, Pakistan-based mastermind Jahangir is still at large, NIA said. HTC

Key conspirator held in Bahraich violence case

HT Correspondent
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BAHRAICH: Police in Bahraich on Thursday arrested the suspected main conspirator behind the communal violence that erupted during a Durga idol immersion procession in Maharajganj town on October 13 leading to the death of a 21-year-old man, a senior officer said.

The accused, identified as 29-year-old Khursheed Ahmed, a resident of Maharajganj, had allegedly fled to Nepal following the incident and was apprehended upon his return to Uttar Pradesh in the morning, additional superintendent of police (ASP), Bahraich (rural), Durga Prasad Tiwari said.

"Khursheed Ahmed and his associates were responsible for disrupting the Durga idol immersion procession by stopping the DJ (music), creating tensions that escalated into violence and the fatal shooting of Ram Gopal Mishra," Tiwari told reporters.

Mishra was killed during the violence on October 13 which was reportedly triggered by loud music being played during the Durga idol immersion procession while passing through a Muslim-dominated area. Purported videos of the incident also showed a man allegedly climbing on top of a building to take down a green flag and hoist a saffron one. The incident triggered two days of unrest, as communal clashes spread to Mahsi, Maharajganj, and Bahraich city, resulting in extensive damage to property.


Around 122 people have been detained so far in connection with the violence.

"It was evident that he (Khursheed Ahmed) had planned to target the Durga idol immersion procession and he orchestrated the attack with his associates before fleeing to Nepal," the ASP said. "Our teams acted swiftly upon his return to India and took him into custody."

Ahmed was produced before a local court, which sent him to judicial custody. Nine people have been held in connection with the incident, the ASP said.

According to the police, a total of 11 first information reports (FIRs) have been registered in connection with the violence and 122 individuals from both sides have been detained. "A dedicated police team is identifying those involved in the incident through digital and electronic evidence," the officer said.

During the probe, Khursheed Ahmed was identified as main conspirator involved in the violence, Tiwari said. Further investigation revealed that Ahmed and his associates had previously attempted to disrupt a Ganesh idol immersion procession in the area.

Teen girl gang-raped in Indore; 2 apprehended

Shruti Tomar
letters@hindustantimes.com

BHOPAL: Two teenagers have been apprehended for gang-raping a 15-year-old girl and recording the act, in Indore district of Madhya Pradesh on Thursday, police said. The accused, aged 16 and 17, have been sent to a correctional home and further probe is on, an officer aware of the matter said.

"The victim is a class 8th student, and recently had a fight with her boyfriend. The 16-year-old accused, who is a common friend, had called the survivor to Kalka Mata Mandir on November 4 on the pretext of helping her resolve the fight. However, when the survivor reached the site, the accused and his 17-year-old friend took her to a secluded spot where they took turns to rape her. They also recorded the crime in a video," Malharganj town inspector Shivkumar Raghuvanshi said, quoting from the complaint lodged by the survivor's parents.

THE SURVIVOR SHARED HER ORDEAL AFTER HER MOTHER SCOLDED HER FOR MISSING SCHOOL

He added: "The accused threatened to defame the survivor by posting the video on social media. The victim stopped going to school. On Wednesday, when her mother scolded her for not going to school, she shared the ordeal."

A case has been registered under section 70 of Bharatiya Nyay Sanhitha (BNS). Based on the complaint, police have registered a case of gang rape against both the accused, and seized their phones to remove the obscene videos.

Ola Electric faces govt probe amid complaints over service standards

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NEW DELHI: The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) will probe Ola Electric, the country's largest maker of e-scooters, for deficient services and product quality, an official said on Thursday.

The national certification agency, an arm of the Union consumer affairs ministry, has been asked by the statutory Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) to investigate whether the EV maker had resolved a wave of complaints and if standards related to customer services and products were being followed.

The move comes after CCPA's notice to Ola Electric last month, seeking a response from the SoftBank-backed company over more than 10,000 complaints from customers on the National Consumer Helpline. Ola Electric did not immediately respond to a query requesting a comment.


Customers flagged its poor services on social media.

Angry customers recently took to social media to complain about poor services, delays and repair issues related to Ola Electric's e-scooters. In October, the EV maker was in the news after a social-media spat between its founder and a standup comedian over deficient services.

According to the official cited above, BIS has been instructed to submit a report within 15 days into Ola Electric's after-sales services. Ola, which has a 27% market share, disclosed to stock exchanges last month that it received a notice for "alleged violation of consumer rights" from CCPA.

In an earnings call last week, Ola founder Bhavish Aggarwal had said the customer complaints were mostly related to "minor issues" and some had to do with a lack of full knowledge about the e-scooter's technology.

Headquartered in Bangalore, Ola Electric operates the country's largest integrated and automated manufacturing plant, with R&D facilities in India, UK and US, including a Battery Innovation Centre. In a recent regulatory filing, Ola Electric said it had resolved almost all complaints lodged with the CCPA.

Guru Nanak Jayanti


Sikh pilgrims board a bus in Amritsar on Thursday as they leave for Pakistan to participate in the birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev. AFP

SC rejects plea seeking mandatory disclosure of meds' contraindication

Utkarsh Anand
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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking to establish a regulatory framework that would mandate doctors to inform patients about all contraindications of prescribed medications, calling the proposal "not practical".

Contraindications refer to specific situations or conditions where a particular medication, treatment or procedure should not be used because it may cause harm to the patient. For example, if a person has an allergy to a certain drug, that drug would be contraindicated for them, meaning it should be avoided to prevent adverse effects.

Expressing doubts about the feasibility of implementing such a system, a bench comprising justices Bhushan R Gavai and KV Viswanathan said that the proposition is not workable given the variety of medicines and their varied impact on patients.

"It cannot be individually informed. You may perhaps have such information displayed at pharmacies but there again, how many such boards and information you can have... Also, a medicine will have different effect on different people. How do you standardise it? It is very difficult to implement. It's not practical," the bench said.

The PIL in the matter was filed by Jacob Vadakkanchery, a naturopathy therapist and social worker from Kerala, and was argued by advocate Prashant Bhushan.

Bhushan said that there is no current obligation for doctors to inform patients about the potential adverse effects or contraindications of prescribed medicines, and he suggested that this gap leaves patients at risk. The proposal aimed to reduce cases of negligence and promote accountability among health care providers. Bhushan suggested that doctors could provide printed inserts to patients detailing possible contraindications, which he argued would ultimately reduce legal issues related to medical negligence.

Highlighting that doctors are already under the purview of the Consumer Protection Act, the bench ultimately concluded that the proposed mandate would be impractical to enforce.

Man held over false claim of bomb on flight

RAIPUR: An IndiGo flight from Nagpur to Kolkata with 187 passengers on board was forced to make an emergency landing at the Raipur airport on Thursday morning after one of the passengers told the crew there was a "bomb" on the aircraft, officials said. Nothing suspicious was found and the passenger who gave false information was later arrested, they added.

Sanjauli mosque: HP court rejects locals' petition

SHIMLA: A court on Thursday rejected the residents' plea who sought to be made a party to the Sanjauli mosque case. The court is hearing a plea on the maintainability of an appeal filed by the All Himachal Muslim Organisation challenging an order of the municipal commissioner's court permitting demolition of three unauthorised floors of the mosque within two months.

RG Kar case: Three more witnesses testify

KOLKATA: Three doctors testified in a special court in the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital rape and murder case on Thursday, taking the total number of witnesses deposing in the matter to nine. Prime accused Sanjay Roy was also produced before the court. The proceedings are being held in-camera daily since Monday. A senior doctor and two medics deposed before the judge during the day.

K'TAKA TO SET UP S.I.T. OVER COVID IRREGULARITIES

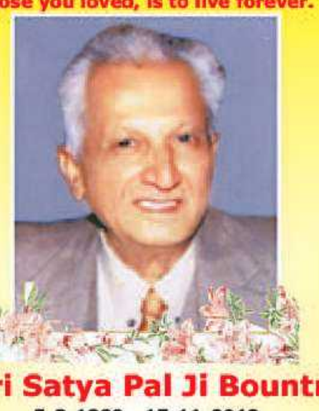
Arun Dev
letters@hindustantimes.com

BENGALURU: The Karnataka cabinet, chaired by chief minister Siddaramaiah, on Thursday decided to constitute a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the alleged irregularities in the purchase of equipment and medicines during Covid-19 pandemic when the BJP was in power in the state, based on the interim report submitted by Justice Michael D'Cunha Commission.

Law and parliamentary affairs minister HK Patil stated that the SIT would conduct an in-depth investigation, filing FIRs and charge sheets wherever applicable. Siddaramaiah is expected to appoint SIT officials soon.

"The SIT will be headed by an officer of the rank of inspector general of police and it will solely deal with the irregularities the report has highlighted," Patil added.

To be remembered in the hearts of those you loved, is to live forever.



Shri Satya Pal Ji Bountra
5-3-1929 - 15-11-2013

Time flies ....Eleven years ago you left us but your silent presence remains. We fondly remember your simplicity, caring and sacrificing nature. The warmth of your love and blessings are still with us & inspire us to move on. We will always be thankful for everything that you did for us . May God confer ever lasting peace to your soul.

Fondly Remembered by:
Sapna & Anil Bountra (Daughter-in-law & Son)
Indu & Rajesh Walia (Daughter & Son-in-law)
Joshita & Anshul Agarwal
Saurabh Walia, Sakshi & Siddharth Sikand
Abhinav Bountra (Grand Children)
(Grand Children)
Reet Walia & Oorvi Sikand (Great Grand Children)
All Relatives & Friends
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50th Death Anniversary



S. Kulwant Singh
Sep 2, 1941 – Nov 15, 1974

As we mark the 50th anniversary of our founder S. Kulwant Singh Ji's passing, we invite you and your family to join us for Keertan in his remembrance. The Keertan will be followed by Ardas and Langar.

Date: Saturday, 16th November 2024
Time: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
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Staff and Management:
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Smt. Sudesh Bagga
13th Death Anniversary
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तुम ना जाने किस जहां में खो गए, हम भरी दुनिया में तन्हा हो गए. Thirteen years have passed with Silent tears in our eyes and it already appears very very long time without you.With your untimely departure my world has shattered and scattered. It always hurts somewhere inside. Though short you lived a life to fullest spreading sunshine with your compassionate touch, utmost sincerity, dedication and loving manners making this world a healthier and happier place May God confer everlasting peace to your beautiful soul. **K.B. Bagga (Husband), S.B. Bagga Neelu Chhibba and Ranjan Chhibba (Daughter and Son in Law), Madhvi Singh & Pradeep Singh (Daughter & Son in law) Rohan, Samarth, Siddharth (Grand Children, Bagga, Sharma, Chhibba & Thakur Families, all Relative & Friends. # 9560848785**



MrsBhupinder Kaur Basi
17.01.57 - 15.11.2003

Every breeze feels like a gentle whisper from you, and the rain-soaked earth glows with your warmth and grace. Though your voice is silent, your presence surrounds us with a quiet comfort, as if you are watching over us. Thank you for filling our lives with a love that lingers beyond words and beyond time. आज एक और बरस बीत गया उस के बग़ैर, जिसके होते हुए होते थे ज़माने मेरे, काश तू भी कभी आजाए मसीहाई को, लोग आते हैं बहुत दिल को दुखा ने मेरे।

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Chander Prakash Grover
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Prayer Meeting
16th Nov 3pm to 4pm
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Anjali & Ravi Verma (Daughter & Son in Law)
Aneesh, Palak, Rachit, Ankit & Manisha (Grandchildrens)
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Catch the latest column of
HT TWTW THE WEEK THAT WAS
A quiz on the week's development.



HC upholds the death penalties of man, son for killing 4 of family

Karuna Nidhi
letters@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The Nagpur bench of the Bombay high court has upheld death sentences of a man and his son, convicted for murdering four family members over a property dispute, asserting that the killings met the "rarest of rare" standard required for capital punishment. The court, however, acquitted the third accused in the case saying that her involvement in the crime was minimal.

The convicts, Haribhau Telgote (66) and his son Shyam (35), were found guilty of murdering four relatives — Baburao Sukhdev Chaharte (60), Dhanraj Sukhdev Chaharte (50), Gaurav Dhanraj Chaharte (19), and Shubham Dhanraj Chaharte (17) — on June 28, 2015.

The dispute originated from Haribhau Telgote's wife Dwarkabai asking her brothers Dhanraj and Baburao for a share in over 29 acres of ancestral land in Malpura village. The demand led to frequent quarrels among the siblings and culminated into a violent confrontation in 2015.

On May17, 2024, the additional sessions judge, Akot, heard the matter and convicted Haribhau his wife Dwarkabai (55), and their son Shyam under sections 302 (murder) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code, read with section 34 (common intention). They received death sentences for murder and seven years of rigorous imprisonment for criminal intimidation.

Defence counsel, however, argued that the accused had acted in self-defence, citing injuries sustained by Haribhau and claiming that Shubham and other victims were armed. They also contended that Dwarkabai's involvement in the attack was minimal, pointing to inconsistencies in witness statements regarding her participation.

Hearing the matter on Thursday, the court found sufficient grounds to uphold the death sentences for Haribhau and Shyam, but noted significant inconsistencies regarding Dwarkabai's direct involvement, leading to her acquittal.

Union govt simplifies permits for industries

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Union government tweaked environment-related approvals processes to lay down that those industries that have secured an environmental clearance (EC) will no longer need a consent to establish (CTE), a decision it said was meant to remove dual compliance.

EC serves as India's primary regulatory checkpoint for new industrial and development projects, mandated under the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification of 2006. It is issued by either the central ministry or state authorities. A CTE, on the other hand, is issued by State Pollution Control Boards for industrial units that could potentially cause air or water pollution.

"The Government of India has accepted long-standing demand of industry to remove dual compliance of environmental clearance and consent to establish for setting up of new industries," the Union environment ministry said in a statement. "Industries that have taken EC will not be required to take CTE. This will not only reduce compliance burden, but also prevent duplication of approvals. Notifications to this effect have been issued by MoEFCC under the Air Act and Water Act," the statement added.

Additionally, non-polluting white category industries have been exempted from obtaining both CTE and consent to operate (CTO) from state pollution control boards. The notification integrates the two approvals and includes a Standard of Procedure to address issues typically considered during the CTE process within the EC itself.

"State Pollution Control Boards will be consulted during EC process. Further, the CTE fee shall be required to be paid by the industry, so that there is no loss of revenue to the States," the statement added.

"The environment regulatory architecture has come to increasingly rely on governance by exemption," said Kanchi Kohli, an independent environment, legal and policy expert.

thsti BRIC-Translational Health Science and Technology Institute BRIC
(An Institute of the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council, Govt. of India)
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भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
रेल मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(रेलवे बोर्ड) RAILWAY BOARD
No.2023/Track-III/MC/4 New Delhi, Dated 14.11.2024

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Electronic bids are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for procurement of **Self Propelled Track and Turnout Measurement Car (STTMC) with Track and Turnout Monitoring System (TTMS).**
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WALK IN INTERVIEW (TEST & INTERVIEW)

The **Walk-in-Interview (Test & Interview)** for purely contractual/temporary positions of **SRF/JRF/YP-I** under the project/scheme will be held during 20th, 25th & 27th November, 2024. For details of qualifications, experiences, terms & conditions, date & time of interview, please see Institute's website **www.iiss.icar.gov.in. Any change with regard to selection/schedule of interview will be notified at the Institute's website only.**

Assistant Administrative Officer

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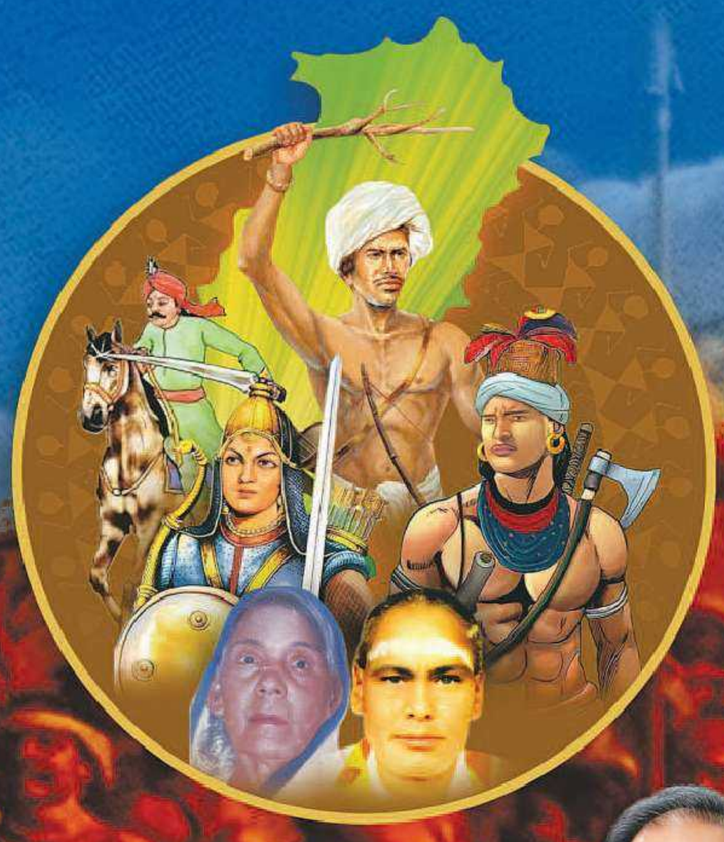
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छत्तीसगढ़ जनसंपर्क

'Cong misled people... we will easily win Maharashtra polls'

Union minister for road transport and highways Nitin Gadkari was in conversation with HT's national political editor **Sunetra Choudhury** at an online session of the 22nd HT Leadership Summit. Their conversation spanned infrastructure, environment, and the politics of his home state, Maharashtra, which goes to the polls on November 20



How much are roads a factor for voters in an election?

A country where water, power, transport and communication are developed attracts capital investment, which leads to an increase in industries, trade and business. Per capita income increases and poverty reduces. Therefore, better infrastructure is important for the country's development and progress. For example, we reconstructed the old highway between Delhi and Dehradun which increased the number of pilgrims by 2.5 times. This led to the creation of a (business) ecosystem of taxis, buses, restaurants and hotels and created employment.

When we build roads, it brings industries and townships. My ministry has taken two initiatives to work towards the development of the country. We are making 36 green express highways which will shorten the by-road distance. We have built the access controlled green express highway from Kashmir to Kanniyakumari and also increased the capacity of the existing roads. The second initiative taken was to prioritise biofuel and alternative fuel in place of petrol and diesel, therefore, we have encouraged ethanol, methanol, bio-diesel, bio-LNG, bio-CNG, electric and hydrogen. Through these initiatives, we will definitely bring down the current logistic cost from 14-16% to a single-digit value. We can become more competitive in the export market. Our exports will increase by 1.5 times and I believe these two initiatives will be helpful in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's aspiration to become a $5 trillion economy as well as the world's third-largest economy.

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Do you think that there is a disadvantage to the multi-modal development which is causing damage to eco-sensitive areas and how will you balance that out?

This insinuation is completely wrong. You tell me when it took nine hours to reach Dehradun from Delhi burning fossil fuel (petrol and diesel), how much pollution was it causing? And now that electric and bio-fuel vehicles will be driven, how much less pollution will it create? The time that will be saved will also lead to less pollution and savings on fuel which will also be cost effective. Secondly, isn't it important to increase the number of tourists in the country for its development? Such thinking doesn't prevail anywhere else in the world.

The country imports ₹22 lakh crore worth of fossil fuel which causes pollution. What are these people, who are questioning the highway projects, doing about that? I have been working on biofuel for 25 years. We reduced the height of Delhi's Ghazipur landfill and used the debris in the Delhi-Mumbai highway, Urban Extension Road (UER) II, Chandigarh and Ahmedabad. We used 80 lakh tonnes of garbage in it.

Development and environment both should go hand in hand. Our society has three pillars – ethics, economy and ecology, and environment. We have increased the domestic happy human index by protecting the ecology and environment and also by reducing air, water and land pollution. We need to think in an integrated approach where our country progresses as a pollution-free society, where everybody has developmental employment and with better ecology and environment.

Have you thought of a solution to tackle rash driving on highways?

We have improved the road and automobile engineering that was in our hands. We brought the Motor Safety Act to improve the law which ensures good governance and enables deterrence. Another thing is human behaviour. Not fearing or respecting the law is a peculiar matter and this becomes the foremost reason for road accidents. Not wearing a helmet, jumping lights, not following lane discipline. This will not change if people's behaviour doesn't.

> I respect (Sharad) Pawar, but if there's anyone who attempted to break the political parties in Maharashtra that is Pawar. He broke the Congress, Shiv Sena and other parties

Around 500,000 accidents and 150,000 deaths take place in our country, a loss of 3% of the GDP is incurred. I accept we haven't succeeded in reducing road accidents. Media is helping and if every stakeholder in society works towards respecting laws, especially if we specifically train students then future generations will be better. When I was in Switzerland, I ate a chocolate and kept the wrapper in my pocket. People generally do that there, but we throw the wrapper (on the ground) when in India. We have to change our behaviour and the media has a crucial role in this.

Your ministry hinted at changing the policy to scrap 15-year-old petrol cars and 10-year-old diesel ones. Can you tell us more about it?

Technology has changed and there is a benefit in this. We are gradually heading towards the gas economy and alternative fuel, ethanol-based vehicles are coming to the market. These vehicles will need ethanol which will be made by farmers. It will benefit the farmers and poor in the rural villages and the pollution will be near-zero. The transformation that is going to happen in the future is for everyone. Don't we need to reduce the pollution? Shouldn't we allow our farmers and rural population to become not the anna-data but the providers of energy, fuel, bitumen, aviation fuel and hydrogen? Will it not be beneficial for the Indian economy?

Therefore, we should scrap vehicles older than 15 years and buy new ones to get rid of pollution. We also brought a policy to provide a 2-3% discount for buying new vehicles after scrapping the old ones. I am working on getting banks to provide some interest-saving options for post-scrapping buying vehicles. It is for everyone's benefit.

You are saying that there would be no change in the policy to scrap older vehicles.

We are open to improving the scrapping policy with a practical approach based on the suggestions received.

Moving to politics, we are seeing blocs of three parties on each side in the Maharashtra elections – Mahayuti vs Maha Vikas Aghadi. For the first time, there are two parties that have split into two factions. Do you think this election is unique ?

Our strength has increased in Maharashtra. Three forces have joined. The Maharashtra government has done a good job, the Ladki Bahin Yojana has made a good impact. Therefore, I am sure there will be a definite victory for the Mahayuti and our government will be formed. The work that the central government did for the poor, women and rural population under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 10 years, which the Congress couldn't do in 60 years...

You are saying your strength has increased. Why couldn't we see it in June during the general elections when the BJP's numbers went down in Maharashtra? What is the difference that you are observing between then and now?

The public was misled by the Congress through wrong publicity that if we get 400 seats then we will change the Constitution. Neither will we change the Constitution nor do we have the desire to do that.

On the other hand, the Congress party attempted to change the Constitution repeatedly. We had to face some losses due to the disinformation. Now people have understood that the Constitution has not been changed. I believe we will win this time with a good margin.

The family factor is quite visible this election. People are perturbed to see a split between families for power. Ajit Pawar joined hands with you (BJP) after splitting from Sharad Pawar.

I respect (Sharad) Pawar, but if there's anyone who attempted to break the political parties in Maharashtra that is Pawar. He broke the Congress, Shiv Sena and other parties. A person matters more than money; a party matters more than a person; and a philosophy matters more than a party. I entered politics inspired by JP Narayan during the period of Emergency. I won't compromise on that. It is important to prioritise ideology and philosophy-based politics to strengthen our democracy and bring quality change to it. It has become common for political parties to undergo splits and defections. There are some who contest every election under different poll symbols. Every party should try to change this trend.

There are many rebels this time. How is BJP dealing with this issue?

Neither rightist nor leftist, we are known opportunists – this has become the story of today's politics. Nowadays, politics has become a career. In our times, we did politics for society, nation and poor, rural areas and farmers.

How will the Maratha factor play out in the assembly election? What is your personal view on the demand for a caste census?

My personal view is no one can become great based on their caste, religion, language and sex — but only on the basis of their qualities. The untouchability and casteism in society must be ended and socio-economic equality must be established. Backwardness has become a political interest. Everyone wants to prove that he is backward. Whoever talks about this is not speaking for the development of their community. We will prosper if everyone understands what leads to the country's development. We do not see an actor's caste, we see his acting. We do not consider a doctor's caste when we go to him for medicine, we check the effectiveness of that medicine. We check the taste of food when we go to a restaurant. We must not work towards breaking the society. Instead we should work for integrating it.

Union minister Nitin Gadkari speaks during the 22nd edition of the HT Leadership Summit. HT PHOTO

{ **REVATHI ADVAITHI** } CEO OF FLEX



Flex CEO Revathi Advaithi during the 22nd Hindustan Times Leadership Summit. HT PHOTO

'AI is an assistant to humans... it will have net zero effect on jobs'

Vishal Mathur
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The world today is in the midst of rapid, multifaceted technological evolution that's changing how we live, work, communicate, commute and interact. Few tech leaders have the vantage position of such a time that Revathi Advaithi, CEO of Flex, commands. The technology company works across industries - data centres, automotive tech, consumer tech and health care - laying foundations on which other companies build their products.

"My thesis is, AI is an assistant to humans. The debate of whether AI takes jobs away, of course, has relevancy to a company like ours which has a large employee base but I think it's somewhere in the middle. I think it'll have a net zero effect in terms of employment overall. That's controversial because a lot of people don't believe that," said Advaithi, in a virtual session at the 22nd Hindustan Times Leadership Summit.

But it isn't just AI as we know it, but a looming spectre of AGI, or artificial general intelligence, which is supposed to be even smarter.

"It (the debate) is a lot about AGI that is going to replace humans. I think the productivity boost that AI will bring will probably not reduce jobs directly, but redistribute them jobs and up-skill the workforce overall," she added.

Advaithi emphasised the importance of "co-pilots" - AI-based assistants customised for specialised workflows across industries.

"I agree with the co-pilot concept of AI agents. It'll all be about empowering humans, not replacing them," she said, drawing from her approach towards understanding people and "what makes us tick".

The implementation of AI at Flex illustrates her approach. The company has built their own instance of an AI tool that employees across use. "We had to do that pretty quickly because people were beginning to use tools such as Anthropic or ChatGPT."

This AI tool finds deep integration within their infrastructure and systems, and can help with a variety of workflow tasks including drafting emails, transcribing meetings—the sort of tasks one would expect from a generative AI tool.

For Flex, the scale means they've to weigh implementation within their systems. The tech company has more than 140,000 employees worldwide, that presence spread across 30 countries with more than 100 facilities.

> The debate of whether AI takes jobs away, of course, has relevancy to a company like ours which has a large employee base but I think it's somewhere in middle.

The basis of Advaithi's approach towards technology and how it must be deployed stems from the rather unique choice she made, at least for that time, with her education at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani. "I ended up becoming a mechanical engineer in Pilani, which was an odd choice, because girls really don't end up becoming a mechanical engineer. I enjoyed the hands-on aspect of engineering, ended up on the factory floor because I just loved how things are made," she said.

It is that attention to detail which has perhaps made the difference for Flex Ltd., at a time when tech companies are looking for ways to cut costs and find new avenues for revenue. In the quarterly numbers for Q2 2024, the company reported revenue of $6.5 billion, alongside a 40% growth year-on-year in their data centre portfolio. Their businesses include developing solutions across industries including health care and automotive tech.

Flex's group companies include Infinex that focuses on semiconductors and Irumold that builds for healthcare and pharma industries as well as Anord Mardix, which builds critical power solutions for design and manufacturing processes.

Advaithi had an inkling, as she puts it, that the "world was going towards computer science and AI understood the heartbeat and pulse of how things were getting made".

On India's role in AI, manufacturing and data centre capacity, Advaithi sees significant potential.

"Infrastructure improvement, streamlined processes, reduced bureaucracy, and incentive schemes like Digital India and PLI have helped build overall manufacturing capability. Today, we make iPhones in India, unthinkable five years ago. India has benefited from geopolitics and supply chain redistribution, and deservedly so," she said.

The investments and policies emphasising on developing a semiconductor ecosystem, which is resource- and time-intensive, should hold the country in good stead for further inroads into the AI domain.

"Building a semiconductor ecosystem is not easy. I would say, from a design capability, India has a lot of very able people to help with that. In terms of actually manufacturing fabs, there's a significant role that India can play," Advaithi explained.

For Advaithi, there can be very few compromises. Technology innovation, supply chain resilience and sustainable manufacturing remain non-negotiable priorities.

Is the world at another pivotal moment in time, like a few years ago, when cloud computing gave technology companies a new trajectory to work with? Has artificial intelligence made clear the importance of ramping up compute power?

"It's even more significant than that," said Advaithi.

"If you think about the growth that's happening with data centres, numbers are staggering. In just the last few weeks, around $300 billion of capital investment has been committed into data centres. I think the growth is projected at around 19% CAGR, which is significant. The hardest part is, of course, the power required to be driving all of this. That tends to be the long pole in the tent," she said.

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Rajeev @Rinku

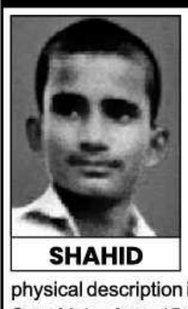
General Public is hereby informed that one male person **Namely: Rajeev @Rinku**, **S/o:** Naresh Pal, **R/o:** H.No. A-66, Gali No. 02, Harijan Basti, Karawal Nagar, Delhi-94 **Sex:** Male, **Age:** 30 Years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Green Color Shirt Blue Color Pant and White Chappal in feet has been missing since 05.11.2024 from H.No. A-66, Gali No. 02, Harijan Basti, Karawal Nagar, Delhi from the Jurisdiction of Police Station **Karawal Nagar.** In this regard **DD No. 56A Date: 07.11.2024** has been registered **at P.S.: Karawal Nagar, North East Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing male but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone have any information about this missing male. Please inform to the following.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
DP/15062/NE/2024

SHO
P.S.: Karawal Nagar, North East Delhi
Mobile: 9205832616, 9582529810

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



SHAHID

General public is hereby informed that this Boy (depicted in the photo) namely **Shahid S/o Shamiullah R/o House No. L-271, Laxmanpuri, Nabi Karim, Delhi** *also at:* **Village- Balua Tola Guabari, East Champaran, Bihar** has been missing from his residence since **01.11.2024 at 11:00 AM.** In this regard a FIR No./DD No. **418/24,** Dated **01.11.2024** has been lodged at **PS Nabi Karim, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out this boy but no clue has come to light so far. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** 15 yrs, **Height:** 4' 5" ft., **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Medium, **Wearing:** Blue colour jeans and white colour Shirt.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing person may kindly inform to the following telephones numbers:-

Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641
Fax No.: 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Nabi Karim, Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-23621045, 23521081
Mob. No: 8750870428
DP/14942/CD/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified Male (depicted in the photo) name: **Unknown** residence and family is **Unknown about 70 years** of age was found unconscious condition at **South Ex. Metro Gate No. 02 Subway, New Delhi.** He was admitted to AIIMS Hospital, New Delhi on dated **20.09.2024** where he was declared brought dead. In this regard a vide FIR No./DD No. **45-A, U/s 194 BNSS, Dated 20.09.2024** has been lodged at **PS Kotla Mubarakpur, Distt. South, New Delhi.** The dead body was preserved for 72 Hrs in AIIMS Hospital Mortuary. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, **Age:** About 70 years, **Height:** 5' 5" ft., **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** White & blue colour Lower and white check shirt.

Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers:-

SHO
PS: Kotla Mubarakpur, Delhi
Ph.: 011-24620106, 26523967
Mob.: 8750870828
DP/14820/SD/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING



Seema Devi

General public is hereby informed that this female (depicted in the photo) Namely: **Seema Devi, W/o: Manoj Kumar, R/o: H. No. N-68/213, Majnu Ka Tilla, Civil Lines, Delhi** has been kidnapped/Missing from the area of **P.S. Civil Lines since 06.11.2024 at 8.00 A.M.** In this regard a missing report case vide **DD No.71A dated 06.11.2024** has been lodged at **P.S Civil Lines, Delhi.**

Her Physical description is as under:-

Sex: Female, **Age:** 24 Years, **Height:** 4' 5", **Complexion:** Fair, **Built:** Medium, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Black Color Jeans, Cream Color Top and Green Color Lining Sports Shoes.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing woman but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this person please inform undersigned.

SHO
P.S. Civil Lines, Delhi.
Phone: 9968467807, 011-23815444 & 011-23810633.
Email Id: sho.civilline.delhipolice.gov.in
DP/15082/N/2024

India ranked as third most improving global destination to conduct business

mint

Gireesh Chandra Prasad
letters@hindustantimes.com

THE REPORT SAID THAT INDIA AND SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES ARE BENEFITTING FROM DIVERSIFICATION OF INVESTORS AWAY FROM CHINA

NEW DELHI: India is the third most improving country when it comes to business environment following strides made in foreign direct investment policy, foreign trade, exchange controls and tax regime, the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) said in its 2024 rankings.

The research and analysis division of the Economist Group said, in its latest ranking of countries by their business climate, that India, followed by Greece and Argentina, are among the places where it expects the most significant policy improvements, infrastructure investment or growth in market opportunities. Improvements in these countries' business environment index may subsequently result in an uptick in per capita growth in real GDP, investment spending and FDI, EIU said.

"India is the only single-country market that offers a potential scale comparable to that of China. India's youthful demographic profile promises both strong demand and good labour availability. Alongside solid economic fundamentals, digital infrastructure and favourable demographics, more policy support is being introduced to attract manufacturing investment," EIU said.

The index is calculated over a period of time – the previous five years as well as the next five.

Singapore, Denmark and the US are leaders among the top ten economies with the best business environment over the next five years. These are advanced economies and long-standing strong performers in the EIU index and tend to be safe bets for investments but both headline and per capita GDP growth rates are likely to be fairly stable and slow, EIU said.

Singapore topped the list with a score of 8.56. However, countries which are further down the ranking—such as Greece, Argentina and India – are where EIU expects a strong improvement in the coming years. The report also said that India and South East Asian countries are benefitting from the diversification of global investors away from China.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has pledged to make the country a developed nation over the next 25 years and the Central government is investing heavily in infrastructure. Cutting red tape, offering incentives to local manufacturing and investing in research and development are policy priorities for the government.

EIU's index measures the attractiveness of the business environment in 82 countries and territories, examining 91 indicators spread across 11 different categories including political environment, macroeconomic environment, market opportunities, policy towards free enterprise and competition and policy towards foreign investment.

WIFE, 2-YR-OLD KID AMONG 3 KILLED BY SWORD-WIELDING MAN IN A HOSPITAL

Utpal Parashar
letters@hindustantimes.com

GUWAHATI: Three people were killed and six others were injured after a 40-year-old man attacked them with a sword at a district hospital in Arunachal Pradesh on Thursday, police said, adding that he has been arrested.

Among those who were killed were his wife and two-year-old daughter. The incident took place in Seppa area of the East Kameng district around 11am, when the man, identified as Nikam Sangbia, attacked people with a 'dao', a traditional single-edged sword. "Sangbia started attacking people without any provocation, leading to the death of his wife Tadu Sangbia (38), daughter Nakia Sangbia (2), and a 45-year-old medical attendant Pakha Welly," said East Kameng SP Kamdam Sikom.

Merchandise exports surge amid focus on key markets, countries

Rajeev Jayaswal
letters@hindustantimes.com

THE GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO CLOSE 2024-25 WITH RECORD $800 BILLION IN OVERALL EXPORTS

NEW DELHI: India's merchandise exports registered 17.25% growth to $39.20 billion in October over the same month last year, with non-petroleum exports aggregating a record $211.34 billion in the first seven months of current financial year despite global headwinds, commerce secretary Sunil Barthwal said, crediting a concerted policy push and Christmas demand for the growth.

On the back of strong services exports, the government is expecting to close 2024-25 with record $800 billion in overall exports (both goods and services) if the trend continues. Cumulative overall exports in the first seven months (April-October) of FY25 is estimated at $468.27 billion, 7.23% up from $436.48 billion in April-October 2023. India registered a record $776.68 billion exports in FY24.

India's services exports in October 2024 is estimated at $34.02 billion, 21.3% up from $28.05 billion in October 2023, according to trade data released on Thursday. "The estimations are often conservative, for example, last month $30.61 billion services export was projected for September 2024 and the actual number for the month that came now was $32.58 billion," a commerce ministry official said requesting anonymity. Cumulatively, services exports in April-October 2024 posted a 12.5% jump to $215.98 billion.

"If we continue in this manner then definitely we are going to cross more than $800 billion of our exports in this (fiscal) year, and we will break the record," Barthwal said highlighting the growth of non-petroleum exports. "I think, our strategy of focusing on certain sectors, our strategy of focusing on certain countries is perhaps now yielding results."

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) president Ashwani Kumar said that double-digit growth in merchandise exports amid continuing global economic uncertainties was an "encouraging sign of revival". He, however, sought more focus on key issues such as high trade deficit and liquidity crunch faced by Indian exporters. "Conclusion of some of the key FTAs [free trade agreements] including UK, Peru, Oman and Sri Lanka should also soon see the light of the day," he added.

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(3rd Floor, B-Block Udhyog Bhawan, C-Scheme, Jaipur-302005) Contact no. 2227416, 5188112

File No. F. 31(11)RD/RGAVP/CB/Mission-Panch Ratna -00496/16010 Date:- 12.11.2024

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

Online Bid is being invited for "Hiring of a Technical Support Agency (TSA) to provide Services for the Logistics support, Marketing, Branding, Payment Mechanism for Rajasthan Grameen Aajeevika Vikas Parishad (RGAVP) Mission Panch Ratna" (Third Floor, B- Block, Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur) by 02/12/2024 till 2 PM. The estimated value of procurement is Rs 1,50,00,000/- (One Crore Fifty Lakhs Only). Interested firms/bidders may apply through the e-procurement portal of Rajasthan Government **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the Procurement Portals **htpp://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** of the State and RGAVP website.

NIB RGA2425A0131 **UBN RGA2425SLOB00151**
E-Proc Tender ID/Reference No.: 2024_RGAVP_430725_1/1 7757

Raj.Samwad/C/24/7707 **Project Director (Admin), RGAVP**

DELHI CANTONMENT BOARD
SADAR BAZAR, DELHI CANTT-110010
TENDER NOTICE

Tenders from the eligible firms/contractors are invited for the following works:

	Work Details
1.	Term contract for repair/replacement of GI pipe and allied work in Delhi Cantt.
2.	Term contract for maintenances/upkeep of existing street lights & high mast light in Cantonment area, Delhi Cantt.
3.	Term contract for repair to AC's, Water Coolers, RO's Plants etc. Delhi Cantt.
4.	Maintenance & operation of lifts installed in CB School, Delhi Cantt.
5.	Term contract for cleaning of bore-wells and other allied work, Delhi Cantt.
6.	Term contract for repair maintenance of electrical equipment such as DG Set, HT/LT Panels, Transformers & other essential switchgear at Raksha Sampada Bhawan, Ulaan Baatar Marg, Delhi Cantt.

For further details, please visit **https://defproc.gov.in/nicgep/app**.

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Delhi Cantonment

ASSAM MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LTD.

Tender No. : 570420/6603

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

Assam Medical Services Corporation Ltd. (AMSCL) invites e-Tender affixing court fee stamp of Rs.8.25/-(for bidders within Assam) or IPO of Rs.10/- (for bidders outside Assam) from eligible manufacturers/ authorised dealers/ distributors for **"Supply of 22 Essential Drugs (Under EDL/SDL)"** by entering into a Rate Contract. The complete e-tender documents may be obtained from the website- http://assamtenders.gov.in from **16/11/2024 till 09.12.2024**

S/d Managing Director, AMSCL

Janasanyog /CF/2205/ 24/15-Nov-24

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR EMPANELMENT AS A VENDOR FOR PURCHASE OF BANKNOTE BRIQUETTES FROM ISSUE OFFICES OF RESERVE BANK OF INDIA FOR USE IN MANUFACTURING OF PARTICLE BOARDS

Reserve Bank of India, Department of Currency Management, Central Office, Mumbai invites EOI for empanelment as a vendor for purchase of banknote briquettes from Issue Offices of RBI for use in manufacturing of particle boards. The EOI document will be available from November 15, 2024 and can be downloaded from the "Tender" section of our website (**www.rbi.org.in**). Last date and time for submission of bids is 1500 hrs. on December 27, 2024.

Any update to the above EOI will be notified only on the RBI website.

Chief General Manager-In-Charge
Department of Currency Management

"Don't get cheated by E-mails/SMSs/Calls promising you money"

North Eastern Railway
E-Tender (Corrigendum)

Tender Notice Number NER_S&T_Project_Gorakhpur_03_2024 was invited on 11.10.2024, Corrigendum-2 has been issued with amendments. Detailed information can be seen on e-tendering website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Dy. CSTE/Project NER/Gorakhpur
CPRO/Sig-66
Do not travel with inflammable article in train

Centre for Railway Information Systems
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021
Tel : 011-24106717, 24104525

Tender No: 2024_CRIS_ELECT_05 dt. 14.11.2024; Subject: Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Air Handling Units (AHU) and Cooling Towers including allied works at CRIS office, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-21. **Tender Closing Date:** 05.12.2024 (15:00 hrs.). Tender Documents can be downloaded from Website **www.ireps.gov.in.** For future modification/extensions please see **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
6th, 7th, & 8th Floor, Tower-B, World Trade Centre,
Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029

Petition No. 320/TL/2024 **Dated: 11.11.2024**

NOTICE UNDER CLAUSE (a) OF SUB-SECTION (5) OF SECTION 15 OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT, 2003

An application under Sections 14 & 15 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (the Act) has been made by **Sirohi Transmission Limited**, C/o ED (TBCB), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No.2, Sector -29, Gurgaon 122001 for the grant to establish Inter-State transmission system for "Transmission system for evacuation of power from Rajasthan REZ Ph -IV (Part-2: 5.5 GW) (Jaisalmer/Barmer Complex) Part B" (hereinafter referred to as the 'transmission scheme/project'). The scope of the project for which a transmission licence has been sought is as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the Transmission Element	Scheduled COD in months from Effective Date	Percentage of Quoted Transmission Charges recoverable on Scheduled COD of the Element of the Project	Element(s) which are pre-required for declaring the commercial operation (COD) of the respective Element
1.	Establishment of 2x1500 MVA, 765/400 kV Substation at suitable location near Sirohi along with 2x240 MVAR (765 kV) & 2x125 MVAR (420 kV) Bus Reactor • 765/400 kV, 1500 MVA ICT- 2 Nos. (7x500 MVA including one spare unit) • 765 kV ICT bays-2 Nos. • 240 MVAr, 765 kV Bus Reactor-2 Nos. (7x80 MVAR including one spare unit) • 765 kV Bus reactor bays-2 Nos. • 765 kV line bays- 2 Nos. [for D/c line to Fatehgarh-IV (Section-2) PS] • 400 kV ICT bays - 2 Nos. • 400 kV line bays - 2 Nos. [for D/c line to Chittorgarh (PG) S/s] • 125 MVAR, 420 kV Bus Reactor-2 Nos. • 400 kV Bus reactor bays- 2 Nos. **Future provisions: Space for** • 765/400 kV ICT along with bays- 4 Nos. • 765 kV line bays along with switchable line reactors –10 Nos. • 765 kV Bus Reactor along with bay: 1 No. • 400 kV line bays along with switchable line reactor –4 Nos. • 400 kV line bays –4 Nos. • 400 kV Bus Reactor along with bay: 1 No. • 400 kV Sectionalization bay: 2 sets • 400/220 kV ICT along with bay - 6 Nos. • 220 kV line bays -10 Nos. • 220 kV Sectionalization bay: 2 sets • 220 kV BC (3 Nos.) & TBC (3 Nos.) • STATCOM (2x±300 MVAR) along with MSC (4x125 MVAR) & MSR (2x125 MVAR) along with two number of 400 kV bays.	24 months from SPV acquisition	16.24%	All elements of scheme are required to be commissioned simultaneously as their utilization is dependent on each other.
2.	Fatehgarh-IV (Section-2) PS – Sirohi PS 765 kV D/c line along with 240 MVAR switchable line reactor for each circuit at each end • 765 kV, 240 MVAR switchable line reactors at Fatehgarh-IV (Section-2) PS – 2 Nos. • 765 kV, 240 MVAR switchable line reactors at Sirohi PS–2 Nos. • Switching equipment for 765 kV, 240 MVAR switchable line reactors at Fatehgarh-IV (Section-2) PS – 2 Nos. • Switching equipment for 765 kV, 240 MVAR switchable line reactors at Sirohi PS – 2 Nos.		58.41%	
3.	2 No. of 765 kV line bays at Fatehgarh-IV (Section-2) PS • 765 kV line bays at Fatehgarh-IV (Section-2) PS – 2 Nos.			
4.	Sirohi PS-Chittorgarh (PG) 400 kV D/c line (Quad) alongwith 80 MVAR switchable line reactor for each circuit at Sirohi PS end • 420 kV, 80 MVAR switchable line reactors at Sirohi PS –2 Nos. • Switching equipment for 420 kV, 80 MVAR switchable line reactors at Sirohi PS – 2 Nos		25.35%	
5.	2 No. of 400 kV line bays at Chittorgarh (PG) S/s • 400 kV line bays at Chittorgarh (PG) S/s – 2 Nos			

Note:
i) POWERGRID to provide space for 2 Nos. of 400 kV line bays at Chittorgarh (PG).
ii) Developer of Fatehgarh-IV S/s (Section-2) to provide space for 2 Nos. of 765 kV line bays at Fatehgarh-IV(Section-2) PS along with the space for switchable line reactor.
iii) Switchable line reactors to be implemented with NGR bypass arrangement.

2. The Central Transmission Utility of India Limited vide its letter dated 9.9.2024 has recommended for the grant of a transmission licence to the applicant to establish the proposed transmission system.
3. Based on the material available on the record, the Commission vide order dated 11.11.2024 in Petition No. 320/TL/2024, has proposed to issue a transmission licence to the applicant for establishment of the transmission scheme as noted in para 1 above.
4. A copy of the application, along with its annexures and enclosures, made by the applicant for the grant of an inter-State transmission licence to **Sirohi Transmission Limited** before the Commission can be accessed at the www.powergrid.in/subsidiaries or inspected by any person in the Commission's office by following the laid down procedure.
5. Notice is hereby given in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (5) of Section 15 of the Act that suggestions or objections, if any, to the Commission's proposal to grant a transmission licence to the applicant, as aforesaid, be sent to the undersigned by **26.11.2024** at the above noted address. The suggestions or objections received after the specified date shall not be considered.
6. The Application shall be taken up for the further hearing by the Commission on 18.11.2024. Any person who files suggestions or objections may in his/her discretion attend the hearing, for which no TA/DA shall be paid by the Commission.

Sd/-
(Harpreet Singh Pruthi)
Secretary

SEARCH FOR MISSING


Khalik

General Public is hereby informed that a person namely **Khalik S/o Shahid Ahmad R/o** H.No. 1/236A, Shri Ram Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi has been missing from his house Delhi since 18.10.2024 at 09:00 AM. In the area of PS MS Park, Delhi. In this regard a **DD No. 88A** dated **22.10.2024** has been Lodged at PS, MS Park, Delhi. The description of missing person is as under:

Name: Khalik, **Father's Name :** Shahid Ahmad, **Age :** 50 years, **Height** : 5'4", **Complexion** : Wheatish, **Built :** Thin, **Face :** Long, **Wearing:** T-Shirt Lower and Hawai Chappal in feet. **ID Mark:** Mind Weak.

If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned at following phone numbers.

Website : http://cbi.nic.in
e-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax : 011-24368639
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S., Mansarover Park, Delhi
Ph. : 8595847344, 7065036029

DP/14272/SHD/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male Namely Bhopal **S/o** Unknown, **R/o** Unknown, **Age:** 55 years, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Shallow, **Wearing:** Hospital Clothes, was found in unwell condition on 02.10.2024 from Aawar Gard footpath Khoya Mandi, Mori Gate, Delhi & admitted in AAA Hospital, Rajpur, Delhi vide MLC No. 1417 and after that referred to LNJP Hospital, where during the treatment Doctors declared him dead on 06.10.2024 at 10:23 PM. In this regard a **DD No.92A Dated 06.10.2024** has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO
P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi
Ph.: 011-23967889, 23968730
Mob.: 8750870123, 9810975426

DP/14987/N/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING


Dushant

General public is hereby informed that a boy namely **Dushant, S/o Anuj Kumar, R/o H.No - 37/1, Samrat Gali, Khajuri Khas, Delhi has been missing since 20.10.2024 at 05:00 PM from his home.** In this regard **FIR No. 0530 U/s 137(2) BNS dated 01.11.2024**, has been lodged at Police Station Khajuri Khas, Delhi. The description of missing boy is as under:

Name: Dushant, Age: 14 Years, Height: 04'5", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Thin, Face: Long, Wearing: Pink colour T-shirt & Mehrun Colour Half Pant.

If anyone has any information about this missing boy please inform P.S. Khajuri Khas, Delhi.

Web: http://cbi.nic.in, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639

SHO
Police Station, Khajuri Khas, Delhi
Ph: 011-22962735, 8750870727

DP/14996/NE/2024

SEBI भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनिमय बोर्ड
Securities and Exchange Board of India

NOTICE OF DEMAND UNDER RULE 2 OF THE SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961 r/w SECTION 28A OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA ACT, 1992

The Recovery Officer, Securities and Exchange Board of India-Northern Regional Office, New Delhi ("SEBI-NRO"), had issued Notices of Demand ("NoD") to the following entities ("Defaulters") as per the details provided herein below:

No.	RC No.	Name of Defaulter	PAN
1	6390 of 2023	Girish Chandra Gupta	AIMPG6205H
2	6390 of 2023	Bhawani Srivastava#	AACCP1163C
3	6697 of 2023	Torus Buildcon Private Limited	AACCT8158M
4	6831 of 2023	Vitoba Realtors Private Limited	AAACV5887D
5	6843 of 2023	Sachin Kumar	CXMPK2057E
6	6930 of 2023	Raghupati Overseas Private Limited (earlier known as Nainadevi Commotrade Pvt. Ltd. and Orange Commotrade Private Limited)	AABC06972D
7	7794 of 2024	Investment Adviser Rajiv Kumar Singh Proprietor Elite Investment Advisory Services	BZZPS6587H
8	7925 of 2024	King Empire Tradexim Pvt. Ltd.	AADCK9235D
9	7925 of 2024	King Empire Tradexim Pvt. Ltd.	DAIPS9917R
10	8028 of 2024	AMS Powertronic Private Limited	AAECA8718H
11	8030 of 2024; and 7073 of 2023	Ram Prakash & Its proprietorship firm viz. Khan Enterprise Aggarwal Traders	AXFPR4439L
12	8033 of 2024	Y P Enterprises	AABFY3695C
13	8050 of 2024	CHP Finance Private Limited	AABCC5031H
14	7874 of 2023	Adept Lifespaces Private Limited (Formerly known as Adept Creations Private Limited)	AAGCA5007J
15	7875 of 2024; and 6824 of 2023	Best Cure Private Limited (New Name-Devera Developers Pvt. Ltd)	AADCB 1809L
16	7877 of 2023; and 7076 of 2023	Rexcin Finance Private Limited	AADCR6690P
17	7878 of 2023; and 6825 of 2023	Artifice Properties Private Limited	AAGCA5140E
18	6788 of 2023	Tripoli Investment & Trading Company	AAACT2207P
19	6665 of 2023	Shubhang Exports Ltd.	AAJCS1526R
20	7162 of 2023	Ram Mohan Gupta	AGDPG7175M
21	7164 of 2023	i360 Staffing and Training Solutions Pvt. Ltd.	AAAC18851P

The NoD could not be served at the last known address through postal service. The Noticees may download a copy of the NoD from the SEBI website (**www.sebi.gov.in**) under the head **"Enforcement-> Recovery Proceedings"**, or collect a copy of the same from the Office of the Recovery Officer at the address below, or obtain it through e-mail sent to **recoverynro@sebi.gov.in** with a copy of the email marked to **vipulj@sebi.gov.in** and **kshamac@sebi.gov.in**.

Recovery Officer
Securities and Exchange Board of India-Northern Regional Office, New Delhi
8th floor, Plate B, Tower 1, NBCC Complex, East Kidwai Nagar
New Delhi - 110023

In case no response to the NoD is received within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, the Recovery Officer shall continue the recovery proceedings further on the basis of material available on record.

Date: November 13, 2024
Place: New Delhi

CBC 15204/11/0154/2425

NEW DELHI, **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024**

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

PROPERTY BEARING NO. A-1/133, SITUATED AT SAFDARJANG ENCLAVE, NEW DELHI, MEASURING 299 SQ. YDS.

"Be it known to all that my client intend to purchase entire freehold built-up property bearing no. A-1/133, situated at Safdarjang Enclave, New Delhi, alongwith the ownership rights in the land underneath measuring 299 sq. yds., [say **'Said Property'**] from **Dr. Mittar Pal Dhir** S/o Late Shri Harnand Lal Dhir who has represented himself to be sole, absolute and exclusive owner of the said property and has further represented that the said property is free from all sorts of encumbrances (registered or un-registered) including but not limited to prior sale, gift, mortgage, charge, lien, claims, disputes etc.

Any other person(s) having any claim against, into or upon the said property or any part thereof by virtue of sale, inheritance, agreement, contract, mortgage, lien, charge etc., or otherwise howsoever and of whatsoever nature is hereby required to notify the same in writing along with supporting documentary evidence to the undersigned within 10 days, from the date of publication of this notice, failing which my client shall conclude the sale and any claim and/or objection if any shall be considered as waived and abandoned and shall not be binding upon my client.

AMIT GUPTA (Advocate)
C-13, Pamposh Enclave, New Delhi-48.Tel: 26284741, 26284569

AUTOMOBILES

TATA MOTORS

FOR SALE: 2 AC Tourist Buses, Make & Model: Tata Motors & LPO 1822/69 Seating Capacity: 10-Seating, 40-Sleeper, Year of Manufacture: October 2023, Condition: Excellent; well-maintained with regular servicing, Location: Delhi, India Price: Negotiable. Contact: Mr Kapish Verma, Phone: 8595353822 Email: Kapish01072003@gmail.com

TOYOTA

TOYOTA CAMRY (Hybrid), Black color, 2024 model, done 8000 kms only, First owner, Delhi registration, excellent condition. Contact: 9871470772 Timing 11 am to 6 pm

HMV/HTV

SCHOOL BUSES For sale Make : Swaraj Mazda Limited Model : ZT54MNG LWB Delhi Reg valid upto 14/06/2028 Seating : 37 and Make : Ashok Leyland Delhi Reg valid upto 23/03/2027 Seating 55 with very good condition & School Bus owned by RD Rajpal School, Dwarka Contact 96508 50119

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

The general public at large is informed through this public notice that Rakesh Bhatia, son of Late Mr. ML Bhatia has applied to the Municipal Corporation Faridabad for transfer of the area of 233 square yards of house no. 3D/75 NIT Faridabad in his favor, based on the testamentary Regd. will no. 527. Dated 02.07.2013 duly registered in the office of Sub-Registrar Faridabad executed by Mrs. Raj Bhatia. Rakesh Bhatia is the only legal heir after the death of Mrs. Raj Bhatia, his mother on 03.05.2023. If anyone has any objection to its transfer, he or she may submit objections in writing to the Municipal Corporation Commissioner, Faridabad, along with supporting documents, within 30 days from the date of publication of the notice, otherwise the Property Officer will send the matter to the Commissioner Municipal Corporation Faridabad for necessary transfer of ownership. As per faridabad policy the said transfer property ID will be approved and any claim thereafter will not be considered.

Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Faridabad

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Mrs. AMRIT VERMA aged 82 years W/o, late Mr. Bal Krishan Verma, R/o, F-247, UGF, New Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi- 110060, hereby debarred/ disowned and disinherit my elder daughter Mrs. SUDHA DANG W/o, Dr. Sanjeev Dang, presently residing in Inder Puri, New Delhi 110012, from all my movable and immovable properties, whether inherited or self-acquired and severed all relations with her and her husband and children. If anyone deals them, they do so at their own risks. I, Amrit Verma, in my sound mental state and without any pressure from anyone, declare that my younger daughter Charu Verma (alias Charu Oberoi) shall bequeath all my movable and immovable properties and do not require any NOC/No-objection(s) from anyone or other legal heirs, any objection raised by anyone shall be deemed null & Void.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that Kavindra S/O Sh. Dheeraj Singh R/O Makoda, Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh (being the owner of the entire proportionate share in the land underneath), situated in Village Chuhadpur Khadar, Pargana and Tehsil and Distt. Gautam Buddha Nagar, Khata No. 00116, Khasra No. 64, area 27 Bigha representing themselves to be the absolute and exclusive owner of the same, had agreed to sell and transfer the same to my client, Mohd. Arif Hotelwala S/o Mohd. Ismail Hotelwala R/o 101, Nandanvan Colony Manikvan Road, Indore, Madhya Pradesh, vide written Agreements, free from all sorts of encumbrances, charges, liens, mortgages etc. Morever, aforesaid Kavinder has received substantial amount, who failed to take all necessary steps as per the agreement.

Further any other person(s)/ Institution/ Government authorities, having any sort of right, claim, title or interest of any kind whatsoever in the aforesaid portions under by virtue of any deed(s), document(s) or under inheritance, succession or otherwise are required to put forth his/its claim with the undersigned, within 10 days of publication of this notice, failing which, it shall be presumed that the aforesaid portions are free from all encumbrances whatsoever, in terms of the already agreed arrangement/ agreement as bonafide purchaser and no claim of whatsoever nature shall be entertained there after.

Naushad Ahmed Khan (Advocate)
Mohd Arif hotelwala countersigned

LOST & FOUND

WE WOULD like to inform the general public that the property documents i.e; welcome kit, receipt, demand, Builder Buyer Agreement of unit number T3-1209 which was issued by Rise Organic Ghar situated GH/03, Jaipuria Sunrise Greens, NH-24, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201002 being developed by Rise Project Pvt Ltd having its registered office at 195, lower ground floor, Ram Vihar, Delhi-110085. FIR Number. 2262097/2024 dated: 02/11/2024 have been lost. Finder may please contact -9773709626

WE MEENU Taneja and Sonu Datta, S/d/ W/o Brij Mohan Mehra, 7/3 First Floor South Patel Nagar, Delhi, have Lost Demand cum Allotment Letter of Flat No 109-B, Pocket-1 Mayur Vihar, Phase-1 Delhi-110091. Finder may contact 9899458585

LOST & FOUND

I, DINESH Chandra Kashyap S/o Naresh Chandra Kashyap R/o Flat No 0904 Opulent Tower, Supertech ORB Sec-74, Noida, GB Nagar (UP) have lost my original Builder Buyer Agreements, Dated 19-05-1990, Conveyance deed (sales deed) bearing registration No. 10562 dated 01-02-1991 and Original Sales Deed bearing registration No. 8976 dated 24.01.1994 of Property S-31/2, DLF City Phase-3, Gurugram (Haryana) Finder Please contact: 9812046867

CHANGE OF NAME

I BHIM Sen S/O. Mela Ram R/o X/972, Chand Mohlla, Gandhi Nagar, Delh-110031 have changed my name to Bhim Sain.

I, NAGAMMA M M/o 15791769F L/Hav Arun N R/o VPO-T Narasipura, Teh-T Narasipura, Dist-Mysuru, Karnataka-571124, declare that I have change my name from Nagamma M to M Nagamma in my son's service records vide affidavit dt 12-11-2024 before Public Notary Delhi.

I, UPNEET Kaur Dhaliwal, D/o Hardeep Singh Dhaliwal, R/o H.No-31, Street No-2, Near Milap Chowk, Central Town, Jalandhar-I, PO: Jalandhar City, Jalandhar, Punjab-144001, have changed my name from Upneet Kaur Dhaliwal to Upneet Kaur Panwar for all future purposes.

I, VIVEK Rastogi S/o Anil Rastogi R/o A-1401, Sethi Max Royal, Sector 74, Noida have changed my minor son's name from Aarush to Aarush Rastogi for all future purpoese.

I, SHIVANSH Devrani S/o Deepak Chand Sharma, R/o C-30, MBR Enclave, Pochanpur, Sec-23, Dwarka, New Delhi, have changed my name from Manav to Shivansh Devrani for all future purposes.

IN ALL my original non-educational/ educational certificates, my name is recorded as Rashi Chitranshi (before marriage). After marriage my name has become Shweta Srivastava. Hence, in my Aadhar card, PAN card and movable and immovable property, my name is recorded as Shweta Srivastava. Apart from this, in my children's Aadhar card, birth certificate and all government documents, my name is recorded as Shweta Srivastava as mother/guardian. Both the above names are mine and now/in future, I should be known and identified as Shweta Srivastava alias Rashi Chitranshi. Shweta Srivastava alias Rashi Chitranshi wife of Late Arun Srivastava, N-1108 Officer City-1, Rajnagar Extension, Ghaziabad-201017, UP.

I, ALEX Panicker, S/o Shri Chandapilla Panicker R/o Flat 100, DDA Janta Flats, Group-2, PKT-C, Hastsal, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi changed my name to Alex Penicar S/o Chandapilla Panicker for all purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TRILOKI S/o Shri Chunni Lal R/o 239/120 Dalpat Khidki 1 V NO.949 to last Mathura, Virandavan, Mathura Uttar Pradesh-281001 has change my name to Trilok Koli for Future

I, SOMYA Mittal Also Known as Somya Gupta W/o Ashish Gupta Presently R/o Flat No.1107, Tower -B, Prateek Fedora, Plot No. E-11, Sector-61, Noida, Distt Gautam Budh Nagar(U.P) Pin -201301.

I, VIBHA Jamanlal Bhatia W/o Umesh Kumar Arora, R/o QU-25C, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Vibha Arora for all future purposes.

I SADHNA Solanki alias Sadhna d/o Shri Munni Singh Attri w/o Shri Ravinder Solanki R/o H. No. A-97, Street No. 10, Main Pusta Road, Khajoori Khas, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Sadhna Solanki for all purposes, for all future purposes.

I, KAMAL Kumar S/O Sh. Parmanand Chauhan R/O Plot No.-154, Khasra No.-10/1, Uttrakhand Enclave, Shashtri, Park, Buradi, Uttri Delhi-110084, solemnly Declare That Kamal Kumar and Kamal Chauhan both are Same and one person.

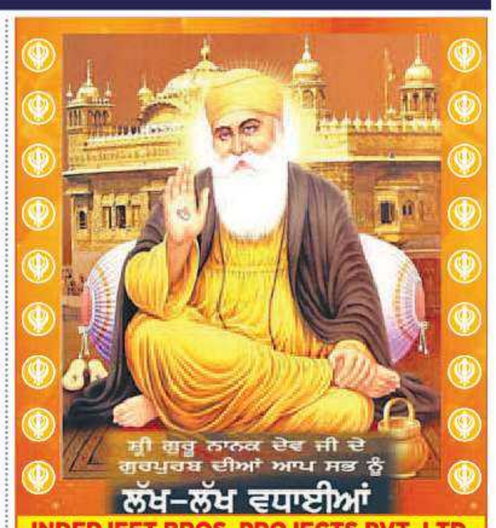
I, NARASIMAIAH F/o 15791769F L/Hav Arun N R/o VPO-T Narasipura, Teh-T Narasipura, Dist-Mysuru, Karnataka-571124, declare that I have change my name from Narasimaiah to Narasimhaiah in my son's service records vide affidavit dt 12-11-2024 before Public Notary Delhi.

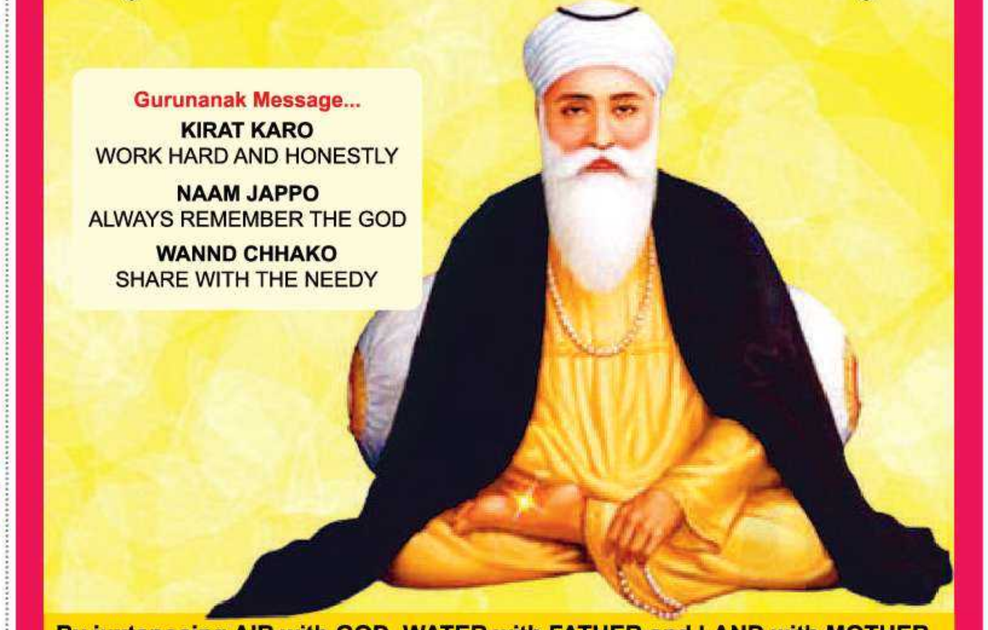
I, AMANA khatoon R/O P-35, 1st floor gali no-6 Batla house Jamia nagar Okhla New delhi have changed my name to Amna khatoon for all future purposes.

I, RAJENDER Kumar Ram Nath Chopra S/o Ram Nath Buta Ram Chopra, R/o 774, 7th Flr, Plot No. 9, Guru Aptts, Sec-14, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name Rajender Kumar Chopra for all future purposes

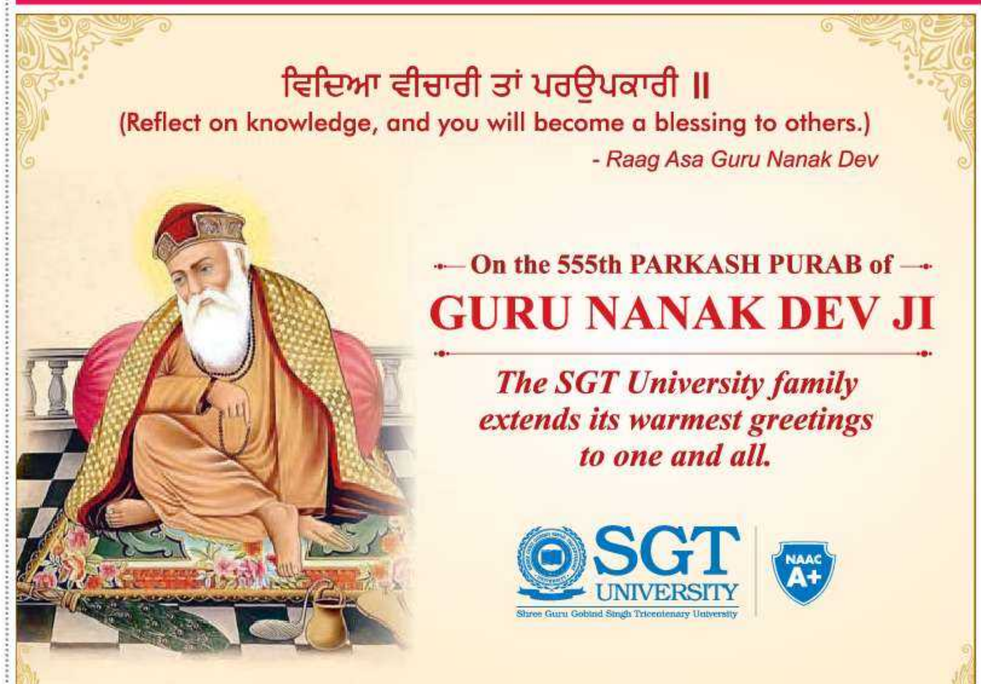
I RAMESH Narain S/O Jai Narain Dahiya R/O E-125, Sobha International city Phase-2, sector -109, Bajghera Gurgaon Haryana 122017 have changed my name to Ramesh Narain Dahiya for all future purposes

I KHAN Akhtar Jamal Sagir Ahmed (Resident Of, Church Compound, Mehrauli), Delhi Have Changed My Name To Akhtar Jamal Sagir Khan For All Purposes. Notary No. IN-DL8649104779 4096W











CHANGE OF NAME

I, JC-811920Y Sub Dilbar Singh Rawat R/o Vill- Amdanda Walla Near Bagada, Post-Timalsaim, Pauri Garhwal, Uttarkhand-246179, declare that my son's Manish Rawat date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 17-05-2006 in my service records and his correct date of birth is 17-03-2006 for all future purposes vide affidavit before Executive Magistrate Delhi Cantt dt 13-11-2024

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NO 14645543M Hav Manatosh Chatterjee S/o Rajkumar Chatterjee R/o Vill-Gopalpur, PO-Mahadia, Teh-Kandi, Dist-Murshidabad, West Bengal, declare that my father name is Raj Kumar Chatterjee wrongly mentioned in my service records and his correct name is Rajkumar Chatterjee for all future purposes vide affidavit before Executive Magistrate Delhi Cantt dt 13-11-2024

CHANGE OF NAME

I UDITA Goel W/o Rahul Goel R/o H.No. - 178 Kailash Hills, Sriniwaspuri, South Delhi-110065 have changed my name from Udita Garg to Udita Goel after my marriage on 28th November 2017 with Mr. Rahul Goel S/o Sh. Harish Chander Goel. Further, I declare that Udita Garg and Udita Goel are the names of one and the same person.

CHANGE OF NAME

I JIWAN Kumar Gurung S/o Late Bhakta Bahadur Gurung R/o Bhagat Singh Nagar, Jaigaon, P.O. & P.S. Jaigaon, Dist. Alipurduar, West Bengal - 736182 declare that myself Jiwan Kumar Gurung and Jiwan Gurung is/are the same and one identical person.

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

DELHI POLLUTION

measures for months, even as the triggers and causes for the toxic smog that masks north India every winter are now well known: Vehicular emissions, local industries, construction, garbage burning, and above all, smoke from Punjab's and Haryana's burning paddy fields.

This, despite the Supreme Court pulling up the agency several times over the past two months alone, along with Delhi government agencies and the state governments of Punjab and Haryana.

During a hearing in September, the top court pulled up CAQM for failing to act once again. "Calling meetings will not yield anything. Actions must follow," it said.

Though agencies said inspection teams fanned out across farmlands in north India to snuff out stubble fires, it clearly hasn't worked. Punjab has recorded 7,626 fires so far and Haryana 1,035.

Arvind Nautiyal, CAQM member secretary, told HT Wednesday's deterioration was due to an episodic event, with forecasts by both IMD and IITM showing stronger winds were likely on Thursday. This led to them not invoking Grap, he said.

"The AQI was supposed to show a declining trend on Thursday and was likely to move back to the Very Poor category. Comprehensively reviewing this scenario, it was accordingly decided by the subcommittee to keep a close watch on the situation, before invoking these stringent and restrictive measures under Stage 3. This stage is to be imposed when the daily average AQI is expected or forecasted to be above the 400 mark for a sufficiently long duration, say three days," he said.

Also in the dock was the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which runs the governments in Delhi and Punjab, home to the bulk of India's winter farm fires. Instead of acting on pollution within the states it governs, it trained its guns on Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

The party came to power in Punjab in 2022; before that, its leaders periodically blamed the agrarian state and its administration for the pollution crisis. But on Thursday, Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai shifted track.

Referring to a Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) of data from October 12 and November 3, he said a large chunk of pollution was coming from outside Delhi.

"It shows only around 30% is from sources within Delhi and the remaining 70% from outside. For this, we need cooperation from NCR governments too," he said.

In winter, long-range transport winds blow from Punjab and Haryana towards Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, bringing dense, toxic plumes of smoke from scorching paddy fields to NCR. Last year, the contribution of farm fires to Delhi's PM2.5 (an ultrafine pollutant) concentration peaked at 35.43% on November 3, when the AQI hit 450.

The worst may be yet to come this year. Officials in Punjab on Thursday said half the area under paddy fields in the state were still to be harvested, implying that the number of fires will surge in the days to come as farmers scramble to clear their fields before the winter crop. The administration has flailed in its attempts to snuff farm fires out. It has threatened farmers with a string of measures, including putting their name on "red lists" that would disallow them from availing loans.

None of these steps have worked.

"What we are seeing is that farmers that have more land and money are able to get machines and can even pay for bailors to lift residue. Smaller farmers are the ones burning their leftover residue and are the ones that are likely to suffer," said Balkarn Brar, state president of the All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) in Bathinda, Punjab.

And amid the cycles of blame game between agencies, residents were left to suffer helplessly, breathing in thick lungfuls of a toxic cocktail that slashed their life expectancies by several years.

Kunal Sharma (35), a resident of Subhash Nagar in West Delhi said the worsening AQI makes it almost impossible to ride a bike.

"My eyes and throat ate itching by the time I reach office in Gurugram," he said.

Doctors warned that such levels of pollution expose even healthy, young adults to serious respiratory and cardiac ailments, while seriously imperilling older people or those with chronic illnesses.

"We are noticing people complaining of throat and eyes problems, which prevail for days. An increasing number of patients are coming with coughs and upper airway problems. These symptoms are prevalent even in healthy people. Meanwhile, people already with respiratory diseases are already suffering from aggravated symptoms," said Dr Vikas Mittal, pulmonologist and director at the Wellness Home Clinic and Sleep Centre in Paschim Vihar.

With inputs from Jasjeev Gandhiok

AFSPA IN MANIPUR

insurgent groups in these areas," the notification said.

Section 3 of Afspa defines "disturbed area" as a region where there is "extensive disturbance of the public peace and tranquillity." Before Thursday's notification, all of Manipur except the areas falling under the jurisdiction of 19 police stations were categorised as "disturbed.". The act grants special powers to the forces to maintain public order in "disturbed areas", empowering the personnel to even "fire upon or otherwise use force, even to the causing of death, against any person who is acting in contravention of any law or order". It remains a contentious legislation, with civil society members saying that it gives personnel impunity to carry out excesses and forces saying that it helps them maintain order in restive areas.

The reimposition of Afspa comes in the backdrop of fresh attacks on civilians and renewed gunfights between forces and militants in the northeastern state. The Centre has already rushed 20 additional paramilitary companies, or nearly 2,500 personnel, to Manipur, where 230 people have died in clashes that started roughly 18 months ago between the majority Meitei and the tribal Kukis, with other communities increasingly sucked into the violence.

"The security situation in the State of Manipur has been further reviewed in consultation with the stakeholders. It is noted that situation continues to remain volatile amidst ongoing ethnic violence in Manipur and intermittent firing in violence-prone areas continues in the fringe areas of Bishnupur-Churachandpur, Imphal East-Kangpokpi-Imphal West and Jiribam districts with several instances of active participation of insurgent groups in heinous acts of violence," the notification said and added that Afspa will remain in place will remain in place in these place till March, 2025 unless withdrawn earlier.

Jiribam, which is home to Meiteis, Kukis, Bengalis, Nepalis, Nagas, and other communities, was the epicentre of the fresh wave of clashes to besiege the state. Last Thursday, a 31-year-old woman was allegedly shot, raped, and set on fire as suspected members of the radical Meitei organisation Arambai Tenggol attacked a tribal village in the district. On Monday, security forces gunned down 10 militants in Jiribam after a group of armed men attacked a CRPF post. A day after the gunfight, bodies of two civilians were recovered from a Jiribam village. Six members of a Meitei family from the same village—three women and three children—were reported missing, with officials saying that they were likely abducted by militants.

"...DG Assam Rifles has already reached at CCpur [Churachandpur] for safe release of 6 abducted meitei people of Jiribam Manipur. Great efforts from Ministry of Home Affairs& Grateful to Hon'ble HM Shri Amit Shah ji & PMO India," Rajya Sabha MP Maharaja Leishemba Sanajaoba said in a post on X.

.In the Meitei-dominated Bishnupur, suspected Kuki militants attacked a group of farmers working in a paddy field close to the foothills of adjoining Churachandpur district, killing a 34-year-old woman. On Wednesday, suspected militants again opened fire on a group of farmers in the district, leading to a gunfight with the personnel of the 9th Indian Reserved Battalion (IRB).

The unrest played out in the Meitie-majority Imphal Valley on Wednesday after normal life came to a halt due to a total shutdown called by 13 civil rights organisations to protest against what they called an "increase in attacks by Kuki militants".

The security situation has worsened after tribal bodies asked people from the community to obstruct the operations of CRPF, accusing it of bias. In the hill districts of Churachandpur and Kangpokpi, the groups took out rallies against the central force.

"The police stations where Afspa has been reimposed are located in the buffer zones between hills and valley. These are the places where most of the gunfights are happening and the situation is tense. This is also the harvest season, so many farmers are working in the fields near the foothills," a senior security officer posted in Manipur said on condition of anonymity.

Far from any administrative salve to a now fractured society, the fallout of the long-running ethnic hostilities has meant that the Meiteis, who live largely in the plains of the Imphal valley, and the Kukis, who predominantly live in the hills, have withdrawn to their respective strongholds. In response, security forces have created buffer zones in different border districts, set up camps and posts on highways. But often, militants from both groups use the hills and the jungle area to cross into other districts and attack each other.

Afspa gives greater autonomy to security personnel when conducting operations. Under the act, they can arrest without warrant any person who has committed a cognisable offence or against whom a reasonable suspicion exists.

"Militants from both the sides are crossing from different districts using the jungles in the buffer zones. The army and Assam Rifles have their own network of gathering intelligence. At times, the crucial period of immediately acting on an information after receiving it is lost in the need to get a requisition from different places. But when an area is declared "disturbed," the forces can act swiftly," a second officer said, requesting anonymity.

Ng Lun Kipgen, a spokesperson of Kangpokpi-based Committee on Tribal Unity(COTU), said the reimposition of Afspa in just six areas was an eyewash. "COTU has sought Afspa in all areas within the jurisdiction of 19 police stations in the valley districts from day one. Afspa is required to rein in all armed militia, such as Arambai Tenggol who are freely roaming in the Capital brandishing looted arms unchecked," Kipgen said.

GADKARI AT HTLS

forces (the BJP, Nationalist Congress Party under Ajit Pawar, and the Shiv Sena under Eknath Shinde) have joined and the vote bank has increased. The Maharashtra government has done a good job, the Ladki Bahin Yojana has had a good impact. Therefore, I am sure there will be a definite victory for the Mahayuti and our government will be formed."

The Union minister also launched a strong attack on Maratha leader and Nationalist Congress Party (SP) founder Sharad Pawar for his allegation that the ruling Mahayuti has broken up families in the state. Pawar's reference is to the BJP aligning with Pawar's nephew Ajit Pawar, to split the NCP in 2022 . "I respect [Sharad] Pawar but if there's anyone who attempted to break the political parties in Maharashtra that is Pawar. He broke the Congress, Shiv Sena and other parties. The void of ideology is indeed more significant than the variation of ideas, which is unfortunate," he said, adding that he has kept himself away from this kind of politics. "In political and public life, principled behaviour and politics are important. Whether there is a victory or a defeat, I will keep on working in politics with the same conviction. I won't leave my philosophy," he said.

What the splits have meant, however, is an increase in competition -- and rebel candidates.

Gadkari admitted that rebels have become commonplace in today's politics. "Neither rightist nor leftist, we are known opportunists – this has become the story of today's politics," he said.

Infrastructure push

The Narendra Modi government's term has been marked by an emphasis on capital spending, mostly on large infrastructure projects. Highways are a key part of this. Gadkari said better roads and easy connectivity have also resulted in a reduction in pollution and saved fuel.

"When it took nine hours to reach Dehradun from Delhi burning fossil fuel (petrol and diesel), how much pollution was it creating?" he asked.

India imports ₹22 lakh crore worth of fossil fuel which causes pollution, the minister said. "What are these people, who are questioning the highway projects, doing about that?" the minister asked

Highway construction is being made environment friendly, Gadkari said.

"We reduced the height of Delhi's Ghazipur landfill and used the debris in the Delhi-Mumbai highway, urban extension road (UER) II, Chandigarh and Ahmedabad. We used 80 lakh tonne of garbage," he added.

His ministry is not against the environment, he said.

Development and environment both should go hand in hand; society has three pillars – ethics, economy, and ecology and environment, Gadkari added. "We have increased the domestic happy human index by protecting the ecology and environment and also by reducing air, water and land pollution. We need to think in an integrated approach where our country progresses as a pollution-free society, where everybody has development and employment and with better ecology and environment."

The minister also targeted the small group that spreads the narrative that large projects are bad for the environment. "It would be better if they came forward in helping to protect the environment through this initiative. I think, trying to stop ongoing projects will not do good to the country's development."

There are huge spillover effects from good infrastructure, Gadkari explained.

"Per capita income improves and poverty reduces, and the country prospers. Therefore, better infrastructure is important for generating income and reducing poverty as well as for the country's development and progress," he said.

"When we build roads, it brings industries and townships. My ministry has taken two initiatives to work towards the development of the country. We are making 36 green express highways which will shorten the by-road distance between Delhi and Dehradun to two hours, which will begin from January. Jaipur can be reached within two hours (from Delhi), Chandigarh in 2.5 hours; Bengaluru to Chennai in two hours, Bengaluru to Mysore in one hour; Delhi to Mumbai in 12 hours; Delhi to Amritsar in four hours, to Katra in six hours and Delhi to Srinagar in eight hours," the minister added.

The second initiative is prioritising biofuel and alternative fuel in place of petrol and diesel, the minister said.

"Therefore, we have encouraged ethanol, methanol, biodiesel, bio-LNG, bio-CNG, electric and hydrogen. Through these initiatives, we will definitely bring down the current logistic cost from 14-16% – China has an 8% cost and Europe and America have 12% -- to a single-digit value. We can become more competitive in the export market . Our exports will increase by 1.5 times and I believe these two initiatives will be helpful in realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's aspiration to make India a $5 trillion economy, as well as the world's third-largest economy."

MODI IN MAHA

the people are eager to give befitting reply to the opposition like they did in Haryana," he said in Mumbai.

"The voters have decided to burry the falsehood of the MVA and they have realised that the Congress that ruled in the country and Maharashtra for six to seven decades has insulted Dr BR Ambedkar. They did not implement Constitution in J&K for decades ," he added.

He was referring to the BJP's unexpected victory in the Haryana assembly polls over the Congress, defying exit poll predictions.

"This election in Maharashtra is not just an election to elect a new government. In this election, on one side there are patriots who believe in Sambhaji Maharaj and on the other side there are people who praise Aurangzeb," Modi said in Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar.

Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj was a Maratha ruler and the eldest son of Chhatrapati Shivaji. The PM also claimed credit for changing the name of Aurangabad to Sambhaji Nagar,

"The whole of Maharashtra knows that the demand to rename this city as Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar was raised by Balasaheb Thackeray...The MVA government was in power for two-and-a-half years but did not have the courage to rename the city under pressure from the Congress," he added.

The BJP is part of the Mahayuti alliance with the Shiv Sena and the NCP, and is hoping to retain power in a high-stakes contest. The MVA, which comprises the Congress, the Shiv Sena (UBT) and the NCP (SP), is aiming to replicate its performance in the Lok Sabha polls, when it won 30 of the state's 48 seats.

In Panvel, Modi referred to Maharashtra's legacy of revered local leaders and said only the Mahayuti government could self-rule and good governance.

"When BJP made me the PM candidate in 2013, I sat before Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's Samadhi at Raigad fort as a devotee sits in front of God and sought blessings to serve the country," he said.

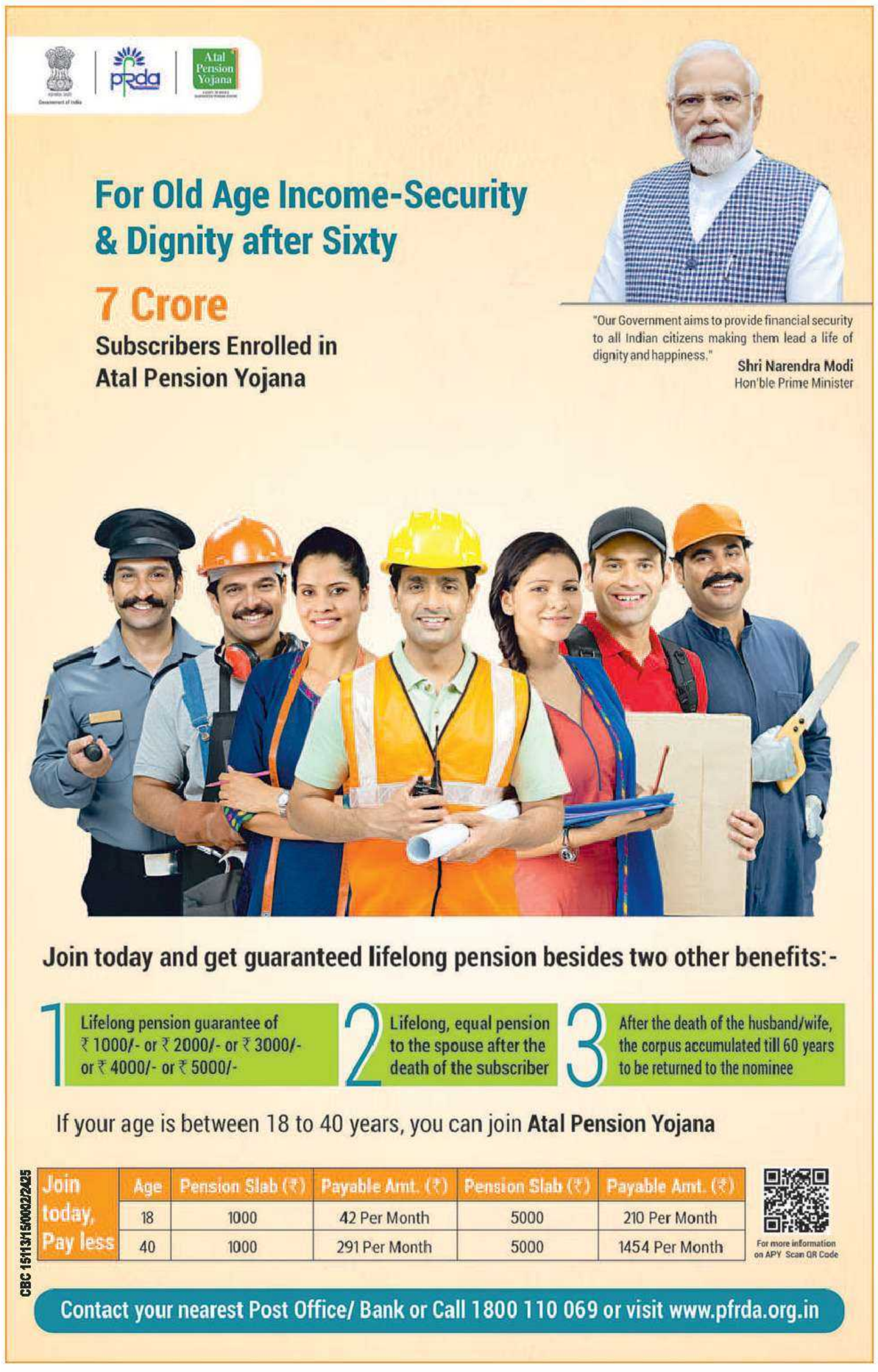
Asking people to be alert to the Congress's efforts to "poison the society"and alleging that it was against the poor, Modi reiterated his "ek hain toh safe hain (unity will keep us safe)" slogan.

Modi said the Congress gave the "garibi hatao (remove poverty)" slogan, but looted the poor, adding that the party's mentality was to ensure that the poor did not progress.

In Mumbai, he taunted Uddhav Thackeray. "Mumbai is a city of self-respect, but a party in Maha Vikas Aghadi has handed over its remote control to those who insulted Balasaheb Thackeray," Modi said. "That is why I challenged them to get the Congress to praise Balasaheb Thackeray. Till date these people have not been able to get the Congress and the prince of the Congress to praise Balasaheb," Modi said.

Modi said the Congress was desperate for power. He said that terror attacks rocked India during the Congress regime. "Everywhere people were scared of unclaimed objects. But now all this has stopped," he said.

Countering the PM, Maharashtra Congress general secretary Sachin Sawant said: "Modi is now known for his baseless allegations and illogical jibes. If he is talking about Balasaheb Thackeray, he should first tell people why did they broke the party founded by him.





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{ OUR TAKE }

Speaking to the State for citizens

The Supreme Court's order on demolitions is a welcome reminder to the executive to function as a custodian of constitutional values

That the executive needed to be reminded of its role is worrying, albeit not surprising. Given delays in investigation and the judicial process, retributive vigilante justice has always had an appeal to certain segments of the public. Governments should be immune to this — but not all are, and not all the time.

In recent years, especially, partly from a desire to appear decisive and responsive, and partly to pander to the public's demand for immediate retributive justice, several state governments have started subscribing to what they popularly term "bulldozer justice", the demolition of the properties of those accused of crimes (with the magnitude ranging from heinous ones to minor offences that disturb the peace). There have been voices raised in protest, pointing to the unconstitutionality of such demolitions which are a blatant display of overreach, but these have been ignored. The usual defence is that the property in question was illegal.

On Wednesday, following an order in September when it said it would issue guidelines for demolitions, the Supreme Court did so, specifying the details of the process that needs to be followed while demolishing even those properties that violate some laws or encroach on public land (which need to go, of course, but with due process).

The two-judge bench has unequivocally stated that "bulldozer justice" is unconstitutional, for it subverts the rule of law, violates the principles of natural justice and separation of powers of institutions, and the rights of individuals to shelter and a fair trial. As the judgment spells it out, it is for a court to declare a person guilty. Until it does, the accused is presumed innocent. And even when a person is guilty, the punishment has to be what is prescribed by law (which does not prescribe, in any case, demolition of property as a punishment). The bench was critical of the approach of the state governments, pointing out that the selective nature of demolitions made their actions appear retributory: Many of the victims were in the State's crosshairs for their political, and worse, in some cases, religious beliefs. Understandably, the apex court has held that such action "reminds one of a lawless state of affairs, where 'might was right'".

The apex court's directions on demolitions are elaborate and clear. And its judgment is an eloquent censure of the executive on its failure to uphold constitutional values. The court has done its job. Now, the executive has to fulfil its responsibility to function as a "trustee" of citizens.

Civic bodies must be fiscally empowered

The country's pace of urbanisation — by 2050, the urban population will rise by more than 50% over the 500 million today — makes cities the focal point for spurring growth. This needs empowered and efficient city governments that have adequate finances to function. Against this backdrop, a just-released Reserve Bank of India (RBI) analysis of municipal finance paints a concerning picture. The share of own-source revenue (taxes and usage charges for services such as parking, and waste collection) in municipal finances has shrunk between 2016-17 and 2023-24 (budget estimates). And within own-source revenues, usage charges outweigh taxes, a more stable revenue source. The share of transfers from central and state governments increasing over the years raises temporal and autonomy risks for urban local governments' expenditure including delays and politicisation of transfers. The solution lies in increasing own-source revenue, which allows municipal corporations to strategise and respond to constituents' needs.

But this is easier said than done. There are low-hanging fruits, of course — better targeting for property tax recoveries (coverage in more than 90% of municipal corporations remains below 80%), dynamic pricing for usage charges such as parking, closing the gap between service delivery and usage charge through periodic review, and instruments such as municipal bonds. The long-term solution, however, lies in greater fiscal decentralisation — devolution of revenue streams from the state governments to municipal bodies. This calls for political will, not just at the state level but also at the Centre, since devolution can't be a mere "give-only" pathway at the state level; the state governments will need to be recipients of fiscal decentralisation as well.

Ending digital divide among school goers

What if each student is given a computer? This would be much better than some of the schemes our political parties come up with



The hope is that with the brilliant learning programmes available today on the net, there may be a small percentage of self-motivated children who learn on their own and can get qualified to take open board exams HT ARCHIVE



Janmejaya Sinha

The current school system in India is failing us with learning outcomes as the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) illustrates each year. This is truly tragic. One of the biggest gifts India can give to the ageing world in the coming decades is youth. But it is a gift only if the young it offers are educated. The statistics are telling: Average ages across the world are 19 in Africa, 29 in India, 40 in China and the US and over 44 in the European Union, South Korea and Japan — with Japan nearly 50, Italy nearly 48 and Germany nearly 46 being the highest. Therefore, the fact that young Indians suffer from poor learning outcomes is a matter of utmost concern not just for India but for the world. In fact, today, the total global population is 8 billion people. It will stabilise finally in 2072 at 10 billion. The additional 2 billion will come from South Asia and Africa.

It is not that improving the quality of schools in India is not a top agenda for the Indian central and state governments. The discussion around school education has not changed — teacher training, teacher attendance, teacher salaries, more schools, and better facilities. We have over 1.4 million schools, but the ASER illustrates that in the 14-18 age group, more than half the children struggle with a division of a three-digit number by one digit. Clearly, outcomes are moving up very slowly.

At every age between 0-20, India has roughly about 20 million people and so, if we take the age group from 10-20, it will be around 200 million people. We all recognise that labour productivity in India is low and disguised unemployment in agriculture is high. While India can boast of the best digital public infrastructure (DPI) in the world, witness our remarkable Aadhaar, unified payments interface, and DigiLocker to name a few. Our schools seem to be unaffected by the developments that are taking place in technology and generative Artificial Intelligence.

We recognise that the entire system needs a relook. How might we embed the new developments in education delivery? Imagine an individualised curriculum, people learning different subjects at different levels, customised to their level of achievement. Identification of the best teachers and leveraging them more in a quality-starved system, embedding training in delivery by watching and doing, making dissemination broadcasts easier and using technology for receiving these broadcasts and engaging with them. But we all understand that achieving something like that will be harder than getting GST introduced. That took close to 17 years. India does not have that much time to waste: Its decade of opportunity will pass by then and it will not stay young anymore.

What is an experiment we may try to provide a chance to some of these children? I am reminded of a conversation I had more than a decade ago with Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar. I was on his industry advisory board then and, in a car ride, he mentioned that for Biharis you don't need to provide the solution. You just need to show them a prize in the distance over a rocky path and they will find a way to get there themselves. Just show them the prize and a gettable path.

Given that I believe what the HP India managing director is saying, an experiment is worth trying. Give every child in India a computer. Begin with the children in the ages 10-20 years of age. This would be a much better gift than many of the other schemes political parties employ before elections. How might a scheme like this work and what good could it do?

I lay out an initial outline of a possible scheme for discussion:

One, every child gets a computer against an Aadhaar number. The manufacturers would compete for the order, and we should try and obtain a computer below ₹15,000. This computer may not be resold and it should be disabled if the fingerprint changes from the original allottee.

Two, in every village and every district, there should be a set of buildings with attached desks and benches that cannot be stolen. These buildings should have power 24 hours a day with a strong Wi-Fi connection with a pay-for-use option.

Three, at these locations, a representative of the computer manufacturer should be present or available virtually around the clock. The representative should be able to teach the kids how to use the computer — basic stuff.

Four, the representative should also be able to guide the children to qualified learning sites where they are not charged for data usage. For these qualified sites, they should be permitted unlimited usage without a data charge. Some gamification should be done so that there is a tournament with monthly prizes culminating in a yearly championship prize in different subjects. Winners should be provided with digital certificates.

Five, watching other things on the computer should be allowed but would incur charges.

This scheme is not an alternative to the current schools and education system. It is a supplement. It will prevent digital apartheid and provide a chance for some motivated children to escape poverty and be productive additions to the workforce. The hope is that with the brilliant learning programmes available today on the net, there may be a small percentage (say 15%) of self-motivated children who learn on their own and can get qualified to take open board exams and improve their lot. This approach may also seep into the entire school system by observation and experimentation. I can almost hear the uplifting beat of Eddy Grant's Apartheid-era song *Gimme Hope Jo'anna* being sung by all the disadvantaged children of India. Please let us give them hope!

Janmejaya Sinha is chairman India, BCG. The views expressed are personal

How platform power shapes political choices



Lloyd Mathias

In his 2024 campaign, Donald Trump adopted a novel political strategy by aligning with powerful influencers like Elon Musk, Joe Rogan, and Peter Thiel. Unlike traditional political endorsements or party strategies, Trump's approach marked a significant shift in how candidates can reach audiences directly through influential figures who command large, loyal followings.

This strategy harnessed the reach of these influencers to engage new constituencies, especially younger and independent-minded voters, creating a "political D2C" model that bypassed traditional media and party structures. By leveraging these prominent voices, Trump not only revitalised support among his base but also expanded it to include groups that had not previously engaged with his campaign, including Latinos and some African-American voters.

For this campaign, Trump capitalised on the unique reach of individuals who have cultivated credibility with specific audiences. Joe Rogan, the host of the massively popular "The Joe Rogan Experience" podcast, engages millions of listeners with his direct, unfiltered discussions, which appeal to younger, individualistic voters who often view mainstream media with scepticism. By connecting with these audiences through Rogan, Trump was able to reach people who might otherwise feel disconnected from politics, let alone a candidate from a traditional conservative party.

Perhaps the most influential of these allies was Elon Musk, whose support on his own platform, X (formerly Twitter), reshaped how Trump's messaging reached the public. Musk's endorsement wasn't limited to statements of support; he used his position as the platform owner to amplify Trump's message, sometimes even bypassing normal content limitations. This was a striking departure from 2021 when Trump was banned from Twitter during the final days of his term. He had over 88.9 million followers at that time.

Musk's involvement gave Trump a reach of over 200 million users (Musk's follower count is 203 million), enabling him to directly access a younger, tech-savvy demographic that values Musk's free-speech ideals and entrepreneurial perspective. This influence extended well beyond Musk's immediate followers, reaching millions who may not have sought out political content or even supported Trump initially. The fact that Musk owns the platform itself introduces complex questions about the power of private individuals over public discourse, as well as the influence of platform owners over elections.

And seemingly, it works both ways. Tesla's shares surged 12% during premarket trading, post the results, translating to around a $100 billion bump up in market capitalisation. On Tuesday, Trump appointed Musk to lead a department of government efficiency.

One of the most noteworthy outcomes of this influencer strategy was its effectiveness in reaching non-traditional conservative voters, especially within Latino and African-American communities. Trump's campaign, aided by this new "political D2C" model, delivered messages that addressed issues directly relevant to these communities, from economic opportunities to issues of individual freedom. Influencers offered a sense of authenticity and relatability that traditional political channels often lack, allowing Trump to attract minority voters in a way that was previously challenging for his campaign.

By bypassing conventional media, this D2C approach effectively mirrored digital marketing strategies used in consumer industries, where brands reach customers directly through trusted voices. This allowed Trump to connect with audiences who had historically been either indifferent or oppositional to his platform, creating new avenues for support within demographics that have felt overlooked by mainstream political messaging.

This growing influence of private individuals in politics raises significant questions about democracy's future. As recently as 2018, a storm broke out on a revelation that Facebook shared data with Cambridge Analytica, which used the data to psychologically target voters during Trump's 2016 presidential campaign. The firm was also accused of interfering with the Brexit referendum.

Facebook's CEO Mark Zuckerberg testified in front of the US Congress and the firm apologised for its role in data harvesting. Facebook was fined $5 billion by the Federal Trade Commission due to its privacy violations. The firm also paid a £500,000 fine to the UK Information Commissioner's Office for exposing the data of its users. Cambridge Analytica filed for bankruptcy. Clearly, all this water is under the bridge now.

Trump's campaign demonstrated that tech moguls, podcast hosts, and investors now wield substantial power over public opinion, often rivalling that of traditional news outlets or political party machinery. The intertwining of political support with digital platform ownership, as seen with Musk, points to a future where platform bias could shape election outcomes, prompting discussions on whether new regulations are needed to ensure fair political discourse.

The implications extend beyond the United States, as nations like India observe similar trends where influencers hold sway over public opinion. In regions with large youth populations or rapidly growing social media use, influencer-driven politics could redefine how campaigns engage with voters. To maintain a balance between free speech and fair political influence, democracies worldwide may need to consider regulatory frameworks that prevent potential abuses of power by platform owners while safeguarding open discourse.

Trump's 2024 campaign exemplifies how influencer endorsements and platform power are reshaping political strategy.

TRUMP'S CAMPAIGN DEMONSTRATED THAT TECH MOGULS, PODCAST HOSTS, AND INVESTORS NOW WIELD SUBSTANTIAL POWER OVER PUBLIC OPINION, OFTEN RIVALLING THAT OF TRADITIONAL NEWS OUTLETS AND POLITICAL MACHINERY

Lloyd Mathias is a business strategist and an independent director. The views expressed are personal

{ DALER JUMA } TAJIKISTAN'S ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES MINISTER

Over the past 30 years, out of 14,000 glaciers in Tajikistan, more than 1,000 glaciers have disappeared. The rapid melting of glaciers is a serious threat in the global context of protecting water resources



HT

What COP29 needs to do on climate finance goals



Manish Kumar Shrivastava

The ongoing 29th Conference of Parties (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, has a critical decision to make on delivering finance. In 2010, at the Cancun round of the global climate talks, developed countries had agreed to provide developing countries $100 billion per year by 2020.

However, ever since the adoption of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992, developed countries have evaded their responsibility to provide "new and additional" climate finance to developing countries in order to enable them to undertake climate measures without compromising on their developmental priorities.

The 2015 Paris Agreement required the countries to define a New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance before 2025. At Baku, there are three key issues in finance: quantum, sourcing, and access modalities of such financing.

On the quantum question, the second Needs Determination Report by the Standing Committee on Finance under the UNFCCC estimated that between $5-7 trillion would be needed by 2030 to meet half the needs of 98 countries. It is no surprise, therefore, that developing countries, including India, have asked for commitments of $1-2 trillion under the NCQG. Given the scale of financing required, it has to be predominantly from public sector sources. Going by the long-term trend of the leverage ratio between public finance and private finance (1:4), $1-2 trillion must be sourced through budgetary allocations by developed countries to mobilise $5-7 trillion in aggregate. However, that might not be enough given that quantum only meets half the needs of less than 100 countries out of 194 signatories to the UNFCCC.

In addition to the scale, however, the modalities of access to climate finance need bold political decisions. The limited ability of public finance in developing countries to unlock the potential of financial markets for climate action is well understood. COP27 had categorically underscored how high debt burdens of developing countries limited their ability to fully leverage the fiscal instruments to incentivise domestic private capital for climate action. Accessing $1-2 trillion through debt instruments, therefore, isn't an option for developing countries. It would add to their fiscal and economic vulnerabilities, further deteriorating their adaptive capacity with regards to the climate crisis. One must also keep in mind that the remaining quantum will eventually have to be sourced from the capital market.

Clearly, a successful agreement on finance at COP29 goes beyond the quantum of climate finance. The ultimate objective is to strengthen the fiscal capacities of developing countries and unlock financial markets for financial flows aimed at climate action. This would require reducing the debt burden of developing countries and ensuring that the financial markets begin to look at the risks and returns differently — in a manner that favours climate investment in developing countries. While instruments such as "debt swaps for climate" and "risk guarantees" have been proposed and indeed experimented with, the scale of the challenge would require bolder commitments.

The issue of prohibitively high lending rates in developing countries compared to developed countries, along with the bulk of global financial flows being restricted within the OECD countries, has been well documented. Hence, ensuring a flow of climate finance to developing countries at affordable lending rates is key. The success of COP29, therefore, should not be assessed only by the quantum of finance it agrees on but must also consider the scope of its influence on making the global financial markets favourable for climate action in developing countries. In order to ensure that the NCQG is adequate, predictable, and of quality, developed countries must not only commit public resources at scale but also put their economic credibility behind climate investments in developing countries. An institutionalised way of doing that would be to revisit countries' credit ratings. It would be wise to think of the potential that developing countries offer for averting the climate crisis, with timely investments as a measure of credit ratings in addition to the macroeconomic strength and political stability of these countries.

Ultimately, if timely climate investments are not made, the stability of the global economic order itself may be prone to climate-induced risks. The outcome of COP29 in terms of climate finance, therefore, could only be the beginning of the finance agenda. It better be firm and forward-looking.

Manish Kumar Shrivastava is senior fellow and associate director, Earth Science and Climate Change Division, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). The views expressed are personal

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Tulsi Gabbard appointed US's new intelligence czar

Prashant Jha
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WASHINGTON: Tulsi Gabbard will be America's new intelligence czar from January 20, 2025. President-elect Donald Trump has picked Gabbard — a former Democratic Congresswoman and presidential ticket aspirant, a recent convert to Republican ranks, a staunch critic of America's foreign wars and someone who has openly expressed an understanding of the Russian position on the Ukraine war — as the director of national intelligence, a position that oversees all of US's intelligence agencies.

Gabbard, a veteran who was deployed in Iraq and remains a lieutenant colonel in the US Army reserve, will be the first practising Hindu, the first person with roots in American Samoa, and the first person from Hawaii at the pinnacle of what's often called America's "deep state".

Announcing the decision, Trump said, "For over two decades, Tulsi has fought for our Country and the Freedoms of all Americans. As a former Candidate for the Democrat Presidential Nomination, she has broad support in both Parties — She is now a proud Republican! I know Tulsi will bring the fearless spirit that has defined her illustrious career to our Intelligence Community, championing our Constitutional Rights, and securing Peace through Strength. Tulsi will make us all proud!"

Speaking to Fox News after her nomination, which is subject to a Senate confirmation, Gabbard said that she was grateful to accept Trump's nomination to protect the "safety, security and freedom" of the American people. Gabbard said that Trump wasn't waiting for January 20 and had already hit the ground running with his engagements with foreign leaders.



Tulsi Gabbard has been picked as the new director of national intelligence; Matt Gaetz will serve as Trump's attorney general

Personal story

Gabbard was born in American Samoa and grew up in Hawaii where her parents were devotees of a splinter group from ISKCON called the Science of Identity Foundation.

A family of Krishna devotees, Gabbard's father was engaged in state politics, a local movement opposing same-sex marriages, and eventually became a Honolulu city council member and state legislator and still serves as a state senator in Hawaii. Gabbard was deeply influenced by her guru, Chris Butler, grew up with Bhagvad Gita as a guiding text, and has openly owned her Hindu roots.

When she was 21, in 2002, Gabbard was elected to the Hawaii state of representatives. After her deployment in Iraq, she worked as a Senate aide before getting elected as a member of the House of Representatives from Hawaii in 2012.

Her rise in the House was swift, as she made a mark in several Congressional committees and rose up the Democratic National Committee party leadership structure. She threw her hat in the Democratic presidential primaries in 2019-20, but after a failed bid, left the party and criticised it for its support for foreign wars of "regime change".

Earlier this year, she backed Trump. During the election campaign, Gabbard helped Trump in presidential debate preparations. She was an active campaigner on the election trail, and her presence, along with that of Robert F Kennedy, allowed Trump to claim that he represented a much wider coalition of interests including former Democrats. Gabbard formally joined the Republican Party at the end of October.

Trump names Matt Gaetz to head justice dept

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump announced firebrand lawmaker Matt Gaetz as his pick for attorney general, on Wednesday, naming a fierce defender who would be well-placed to make good on the president-elect's threats of revenge against political foes.

"Few issues in America are more important than ending the partisan Weaponisation of our Justice System," Trump posted on social media. "Matt will end Weaponised Government... and restore Americans' badly-shattered Faith and Confidence in the Justice Department." AFP

Support for Ukraine is key to US security, Biden urges Trump

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WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden told President-elect Donald Trump that supporting Ukraine was crucial for American national security, underlining that a strong Europe capable of deterring aggressors would prevent the US from being pulled into continental conflicts, national security adviser Jake Sullivan said.

During a two-hour meeting at the White House on Wednesday that officials described as "gracious, cordial and substantive", Biden countered criticism about Ukraine aid, explaining that the funds were being spent within the US to produce weapons, create jobs and strengthen America's defence industrial base.

Sullivan, who was briefing reporters at the White House and was asked about threats he would flag to his successor, said competition from China ought to be the paramount priority and issues with Iran should be considered an immediate challenge.

The meeting in the Oval Office, attended by Biden's chief of staff Jeff Zients and Trump's chief of staff Susan Wiles, covered both domestic and foreign policy issues, with Trump arriving with specific questions. Biden promised his predecessor-turned-successor a smooth transition of power.

While Biden has made supporting Ukraine against Russian aggression central to his presidency, Trump has criticised the scale of aid to Kyiv and promised quick peace, with his aides suggesting Ukraine may need to cede territory.

Sullivan said Biden stressed that supporting Ukraine is vital for US interests. "It's in our national security interest because a strong Europe, standing up to aggressors and pushing back against their aggression is vital to ensuring that we don't end up getting dragged directly into a war, which has happened twice in the 20th century on the European continent."

Addressing Republican concerns about resource allocation, Sullivan said Biden clarified that funds weren't simply being "shipped" overseas.

"They are dollars we are investing here in the United States in American jobs, producing American weapons that we send to Ukraine and American weapons that we are building to expand our own industrial base and our own military capacity to deter other adversaries all around the world."

Sullivan added that during the transition period, his team would brief their successors on developments and strategies to strengthen Ukraine's battlefield position for eventual negotiations. Trump has selected Michael Waltz, an army veteran, Congressman, China critic and co-chair of the House India caucus, as his national security adviser. Sullivan expressed respect for Waltz and outlined key challenges facing the incoming administration. Sullivan expressed respect for Waltz and highlighted key challenges for the next administration, stating that competition with China will be a defining issue for the coming decades and a top priority.

World's largest coral found thriving in Pacific



Divers swim over the world's largest coral near the Pacific's Solomon Islands. Scientists describe it as "pulsing with life and colour". The coral is so immense that researchers initially mistook it for a shipwreck. The standalone structure had been growing for some 300 years, the researchers said. It measures 34m wide and 32m long. It was spotted by a National Geographic team. AFP

{ SRI LANKA } ANURA KUMARA DISSANAYAKE

Prez eyes parl win in snap elections

Agencies
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COLOMBO: Sri Lankans voted in snap parliamentary elections, on Thursday, with new leftist President Anura Kumara Dissanayake's party expected to secure a mandate to drive through economic reforms.

People trickled into temples, schools and other public buildings being used as polling stations soon after polls opened.

The 55-year-old hopes to grab two-thirds of the legislature's 225 seats to press ahead with reforms after the country's economic meltdown two years ago, when then-president Gotabaya Rajapaksa was ousted.

Dissanayake took power after sweeping September elections on a promise to combat graft and recover the country's stolen assets. "I expect a new country, a new government that is friendly towards the people," said 70-year-old pensioner Milton Gankandage, who was among the first to vote in Colombo's Wellawatte district.

"Previous rulers deceived us. We need a new set of rulers who will develop the country."

The snap parliamentary polls are the first after the 2022 economic crisis. Dissanayake's JVP, or the People's Liberation Front, is the main constituent of the National People's Power (NPP) coalition of professionals seeking to form the next government. The NPP held just three seats in the outgoing assembly.



An election official carries a sealed ballot box to a counting centre, in Colombo. AFP

Voter turnout was about 65% at close of polling, the election commission said.

Just over 17 million Sri Lankans were eligible to elect lawmakers to the parliament for a five-year term. A record 690 political parties and independent groups are in the fray across 22 electoral districts.

Counting of the paper ballots started shortly after polling closed on Thursday, with results expected on Friday.

2 ISRAELI STRIKES HIT SYRIA, KILLING AT LEAST 15 PEOPLE

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DAMASCUS: Syria's state news agency says Israel carried out two airstrikes on a western neighbourhood of Damascus and one of the capital's suburbs, killing at least 15 people.

One of the strikes targeted an office of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad group. Sixteen people were also wounded in the airstrikes, state news agency SANA said, quoting an unnamed military official.

SANA said the airstrikes on the Mazzeh neighbourhood in Damascus and the suburb of Qudsaya northwest of the capital struck two buildings.

An official with the Palestinian Islamic Jihad Group said the strike in Mazzeh targeted one of their offices, and that several members of the group were killed.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

SANA said Syria's air defences were activated against a "hostile target" south of the central city of Homs. It gave no further details.

Israel has carried out hundreds of airstrikes in Syria targeting members of Lebanon's Hezbollah and officials from Iranian-backed groups.

Parleys behind closed doors, China signals key shift on climate finance

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NEW DELHI: Nations at COP29 have moved into closed-door negotiations after co-chairs presented an unwieldy 34-page draft on the new collective quantified goal (NCQG), with developing countries pushing for streamlined discussions.

The G77 and China group, representing 134 developing nations, requested informal meetings to pare down the extensive document. These "inf-inf" (informal-informal) sessions, closed to observers, aim to find common ground on crucial climate finance issues. Against this backdrop of complex negotiations, China has indicated a potentially more flexible stance on climate finance. During the high-level ministerial dialogue, Beijing emphasised the complementarity between developed countries' financial obligations and voluntary support through South-South cooperation.

The G77 is the largest coalition of developing countries within the UN system, representing nations from Africa, Asia, and Latin America and serves as a unified voice for the Global South on economic and development issues. Xuexiang Ding, President Xi Jinping's special representative and first vice premier, pointed to China's growing role: "Since 2016, China has provided and mobilised more than 177 billion yuan of project funds supporting other developing countries' climate response." He called for "more ambitious funding targets" at COP29, emphasising the need for developed nations to increase financial support and technology transfer.

The European Union has also shown signs of movement in its position. European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen joined the High Ambition Coalition's COP29 Leaders' press statement, acknowledging that "trillions of dollars are required" for climate action. The statement emphasised the importance of grant-based and concessional finance, particularly for adaptation and loss and damage response.

However, the United States introduced new complexity by suggesting that the new goal should draw from a broader pool of contributors than the previous $100 billion target, proposing what it calls a "pragmatic approach".

Even basic issues remain contentious. Debates continue over how to reference 2024 as the warmest year on record, with developing countries insisting this be contextualised within historical emissions patterns. Gender-related text also remains disputed, particularly regarding references to indigenous peoples and representation of women from developing countries.

Sehr Raheja, programme officer for climate change at the Centre for Science and Environment, outlined how the day unfolded: "The NCQG negotiations started with a show of unity from the G-77 and China group. They rejected the first draft following which a newer text, reflecting more of the developing country options for various elements of the goal was brought to the floor for discussion."

However, Raheja expressed concern about the negotiation strategy: "As of this afternoon, the discussions on NCQG have moved to 'informal informals'... This is likely to leave the tough - and critical — questions of quantum and contributor base to the second week, with a lot more pressure and much less time."



Activists protest against the continued use of fossil fuels during the COP29, in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Thursday. REUTERS

Meta fined €840mn for 'abusive' ad practices in EU

BRUSSELS: The European Union (EU) fined online giant Meta almost €800 million on Thursday for breaching antitrust rules by giving users of its Facebook social network automatic access to classified ads service Facebook Marketplace. AFP

'Bear that damaged cars was actually a person in costume'

LOS ANGELES: California has seen its share of bears breaking into cars. But bears caught on camera entering luxury cars tipped off insurers that something wasn't quite right. In what it's dubbed "Operation Bear Claw", the California Insurance Department said four Los Angeles residents were arrested on Wednesday, accused of defrauding three insurance companies out of nearly $142,000 by claiming a bear had caused damage to their vehicles. AP

{ CONSPIRACY THEORIST } WITH HELP FROM SANDY HOOK SCHOOL FAMILIES

Satirical news site The Onion buys Alex Jones' Infowars at auction

Agencies
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NEW YORK: The satirical news site The Onion won the bidding for Alex Jones' Infowars at a bankruptcy auction, backed by families of Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting victims whom Jones owes more than $1 billion in defamation judgments for calling the massacre a hoax, the families announced, on Thursday.

"The dissolution of Alex Jones' assets and the death of Infowars is the justice we have long awaited and fought for," Robbie Parker, whose daughter Emilie was killed in the 2012 shooting in Connecticut, said in a statement provided by his lawyers. The sale price was not immediately disclosed.

Jones confirmed The Onion's acquisition of Infowars in a social media video, on Thursday, and said he planned to file legal challenges to stop it. An email message seeking comment was sent to Infowars. "Last broadcast now live from Infowars studios.



Alex Jones AP

"They are in the building. Are ordering shutdown without court approval," Jones said on the social platform X.

Jones was broadcasting live from the Infowars studio, on Thursday, and appeared distraught, putting his head in his hand at his desk.

It was not immediately clear what The Onion planned to do with the conspiracy theory platform, including its website, social media accounts, studio in Austin, Texas, trademarks and video archive.

The Chicago-based Onion did not immediately return emails seeking comment on Thursday.

Sealed bids for the private auction were opened on Wednesday. Both supporters and detractors of Jones had expressed interest in buying Infowars. The other bidders have not been disclosed.

The Onion, a satirical site known for convincing readers of the absurd, bills itself as "the world's leading news publication" with "4.3 trillion daily readers".

Jones has claimed on his show that if his critics took over Infowars, he'd move his broadcasts and product sales to a new studio and platforms he's already set up.

'$6.7tn climate funding needed yearly by '30'

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NEW DELHI: Global climate investment needs are projected to reach $6.3-6.7 trillion annually by 2030, with emerging economies requiring nearly half the funding, according to a new report by the Independent High-Level Expert Group on Climate Finance, which called on the ongoing climate conference to deliver on a commitment to deliver at least a trillion dollars every year by 2030.

The report, co-authored by economists Amar Bhattacharya, Vera Songwe and Nicholas Stern, calls for mobilising $1 trillion yearly by 2030 in external finance for emerging market and developing countries (EMDCs) excluding China to meet Paris Agreement goals. This figure needs to increase to $1.3 trillion by 2035.

"The less the world achieves now, the more we will need to invest later.

Delayed action means we will need to mobilise even larger sums in shorter timeframes to catch up on critical targets," the authors warned, emphasising that investment needs for adaptation, resilience, and loss and damage will rise sharply as climate risks escalate.

The investment breakdown by 2030 shows advanced economies requiring $2.7-2.8 trillion, China needing $1.3-1.4 trillion, and other EMDCs needing $2.3-2.5 trillion.

By 2035, global requirements are projected to rise to $7-8.1 trillion annually, with advanced economies needing $2.6-3.1 trillion, China $1.3-1.5 trillion, and other EMDCs requiring $3.1-3.5 trillion.

"These needs are our estimations of what is required for delivery on the Paris Agreement, and the investments will also make a vital contribution to sustainable growth and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals," the report noted.

The authors highlighted a significant opportunity for developing countries due to falling technology costs, particularly in solar power. However, they pointed out a stark disparity in investment distribution, noting that "Africa accounts for about 60% of the world's best solar resources, but received less than 2% of the investment in clean energy in 2023."

"Ramping up climate investments in EMDCs is the only way to reach the Paris Agreement goals of limiting the global temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius and adapting to climate change, and to arrest the accelerating threat to nature and biodiversity," the authors emphasised.

Domestic resources are expected to fund 70% of climate finance, covering $1.4 trillion annually by 2030 and $1.9 trillion by 2035.

International public and private sources must bridge a gap of $1 trillion per year by 2030 and $1.3 trillion by 2035.

The report highlighted three urgent priorities: implementing quality investments, enacting key policy reforms, and scaling finance with improved access to affordable capital.

{ FRENCH QUEEN } OPULENCE BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

Necklace linked to Marie Antoinette sells for $4.8mn



A woman wears an 18th-century diamond necklace with 300 carats, shown during a preview at Sotheby's in Geneva on Nov 7. The piece is crafted from 500 diamonds, some possibly linked to Marie Antoinette's downfall. AFP

Reuters
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GENEVA: A diamond-studded necklace thought to be linked to a scandal that hastened the downfall of the doomed 18th century queen of France, Marie Antoinette, sold at auction, in Geneva, on Wednesday, for 4.26 million Swiss francs ($4.81 million).

Originally valued at 2 million francs, the Georgian-era piece with 300 carats of diamonds surpassed expectations after intense bidding, per Sotheby's, and was sold by a private Asian collector.

"It was an electric night," said Andres White Correal, a Sotheby's jewellery specialist, after the evening sale of the necklace to an undisclosed female buyer. "There is obviously a niche in the market for historical jewels with fabulous provenances. People are not only buying the object, they are buying all the history that is attached to it."

Sotheby's said this month that some of the diamonds in the piece may have come from a necklace that helped precipitate the fall of Marie Antoinette, a member of the Austrian royal family who became the wife of French King Louis XVI.

Both were guillotined in 1793 during the French Revolution.

The jewels were central to the 1785 Diamond Necklace Affair, where Jeanne de la Motte impersonated the French queen to acquire the necklace without payment. Although a trial cleared the queen, the scandal fuelled her reputation for extravagance, contributing to the French Revolution and monarchy's fall.

SPORT

Confident Varma asks for a promotion, delivers in style

A classic IPL find, the batter was tracked down by MI scouts, nurtured and now looks the part in T20Is

Rasesh Mandani
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MUMBAI: A Ranji debutant at 16, Tilak Varma always had the batting chops. But there was a fear that he would be lost in Hyderabad cricket's constant administrative strife.

End up in the wrong team and it can take a while before the selectors notice you and Hyderabad just seemed to fit the description. Twice Ranji trophy winners, they were relegated to the Plate Group recently. And for a player like Varma, a way out of the quagmire was a necessity.

It wasn't quite clear what that path would be though. The talented left-hander had earned himself a berth in the 2020 India U19 World Cup side but once there, he couldn't make the opportunity count.

Yashasvi Jaiswal attracted all the eyeballs by plundering 400 runs in 6 matches. Varma, on the other hand, managed just 86 runs in the same number of games.

He may have not had the best of tournaments but the Mumbai Indians (MI) scouts had been keeping an eye on him. It was a way for him to claim a place in the limelight. The chance, though, wasn't just handed to him. He had to work for it.

Varma still vouches for those MI trials, the ones in which he was rejected, and the one where he was certified 'ready' for bidding in the Indian Premier League auction. The 22-year-old is a classic IPL find, tracked by hawk-eyed scouts and carefully mentored. The path that had once seemed sketchy was now clearer and it left the national selectors with little doubt about his ability.

With the seniors still holding down a place in the playing XI, he had to wait out this year's T20 World Cup but since then, he has swiftly become a regular in India's playing XI. His maiden T20I hundred – 107* (56b, 8x4, 7x6) in the third T20I against South Africa at Centurion showcased a rare match-winning ability and, at 22 years and 5 days, he became the second youngest to score a T20I hundred for India. Only Yashasvi Jaiswal, his old team-mate, has done it faster — in 48 balls against Nepal in 2023.

A lot of Varma's early success is propelled by a desire to prove a point. Before he had tasted IPL's riches, he had barely enough money to keep his dream alive. Then, it was all about scoring so many runs that he wouldn't have to thread the only bat he had. The goalpost shifted soon after.

Wednesday, though, was about living up to a promise he had made to captain Suryakumar Yadav. He wanted to bat at No.3 and he told his skipper that he wanted the opportunity.

At one level, Surya was empowering a talented youngster to bat higher and aiming to create a bigger impact. In terms of strategy, it wasn't sound to promote anyone ahead of himself though, given that he is arguably the most destructive batter in the business. It also compromised on left-right batting combinations.

But as it turned out, batting two left-handers Varma and Abhishek Sharma together worked out just fine for India. Their presence in the middle delayed the introduction of South Africa's sole left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj into the attack and helped them open the floodgates.

"The team was backing us two, despite flopping in the last two matches. We were told that we are a champion side, a World Cup-winning side, so the brand of cricket should be like that. We should play bindaas cricket, without pressure even when wickets are lost," said Varma.

That sort of 'bindaas cricket', Varma had become accustomed to playing every alternate night in the IPL. He combined it with tactical awareness to lay the foundation of his hundred.

The left-hander exploited the short square boundaries at SuperSport Park, pressed the accelerator in Maharaj's final over by exploiting the favourable match-up and batted through the innings. You might remember the big shots but the innings was also a measure of Varma's improved game sense.

Last IPL season, his franchise captain Hardik Pandya had been critical of his lack of game awareness by not taking on Delhi Capitals' left-arm spinner Axar Patel in a high-scoring run chase. His knock on Wednesday night showed that he had learnt his lessons.

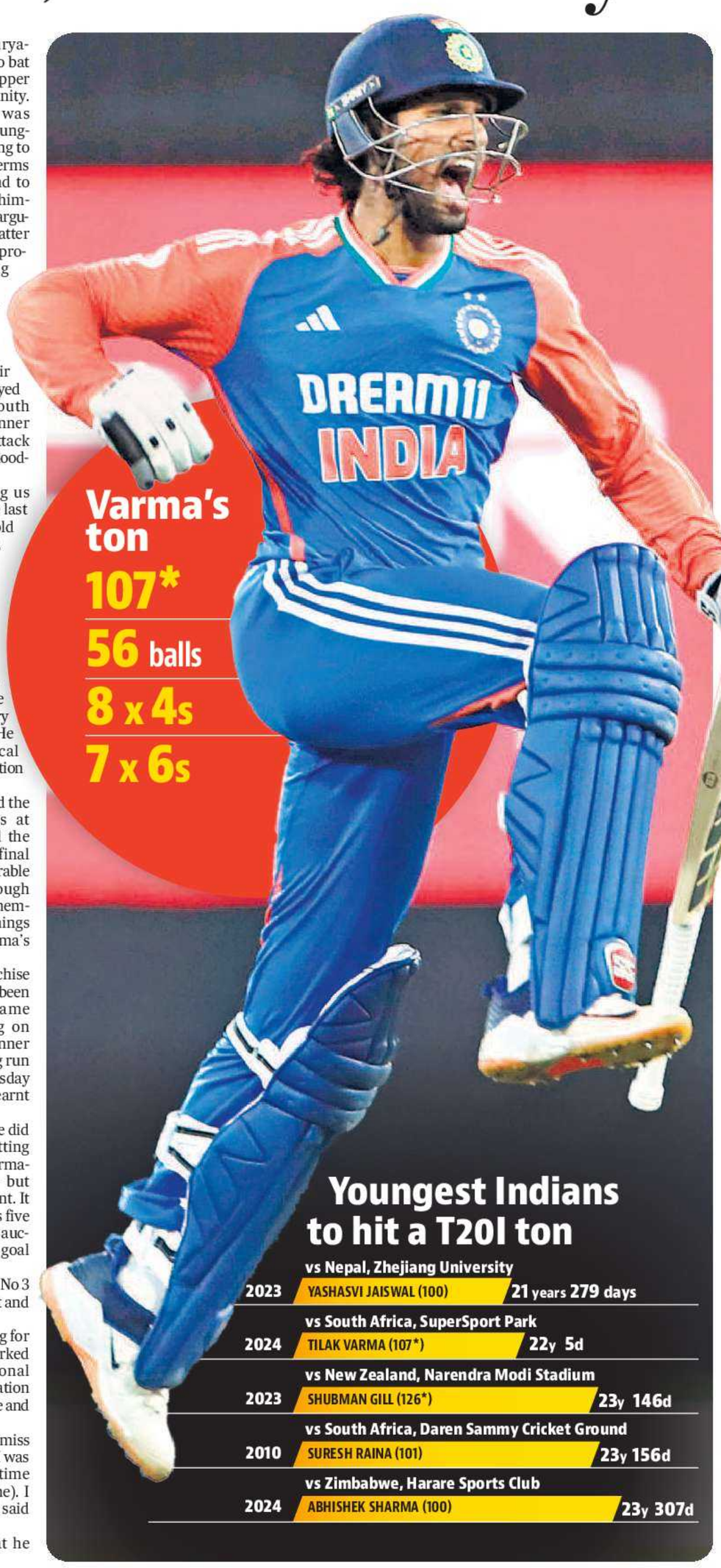
In the Centurion T20I, he did not put a foot wrong. Batting positions in T20 are not permanent and used tactically but Varma loves to prove a point. It fuels his desire. One of MI's five retentions before the mega auction, it was fulfillment of a goal he set for himself.

"He's definitely batting at No 3 going ahead. He asked for it and delivered," said Surya.

Perhaps equally satisfying for him was that this series marked his return to international cricket after a finger dislocation saw him miss the Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka series.

"I was feeling very bad to miss out on good opportunities. I was telling myself that, mera time aayega (my time will come). I wanted to make it count," said Varma.

And few can argue that he didn't.



Varma's ton
107*
56 balls
8 x 4s
7 x 6s

Youngest Indians to hit a T20I ton

	vs		
2023	Nepal, Zhejiang University	YASHASVI JAISWAL (100)	21 years 279 days
2024	South Africa, SuperSport Park	TILAK VARMA (107*)	22y 5d
2023	New Zealand, Narendra Modi Stadium	SHUBMAN GILL (126*)	23y 146d
2010	South Africa, Daren Sammy Cricket Ground	SURESH RAINA (101)	23y 156d
2024	Zimbabwe, Harare Sports Club	ABHISHEK SHARMA (100)	23y 307d

A baptism of fire: Seniors give pointers to GenNext

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: In the school of hard knocks, a tour of Australia is perhaps the hardest of them all. It tests you in ways expected... and unexpected. It starts off with the crowd, brings in the abrasive local media and finally ends with a team that is very tough to beat at home.

Starting in 1877, Australia have played 445 Tests at home and won 259 of them. Their win-loss ratio of 2.539 in home Tests is unmatched in the game and even though India have won on their last two trips, no place challenges a cricketer like a tour Down Under.

It could, as it has done over the years, break a cricketer. But if you manage to come out of it well, it could prove to be the start of something great. A successful tour fills you with confidence that could last a career and the lessons learnt go a long way in helping keep the player grounded.

This is precisely the message that India head coach Gautam Gambhir and some of the senior players have shared with the younger members of the squad on their first tour of Australia. India won there with a motley crew during the last tour, so the team management will be confident of the squad's ability to adapt to the different conditions. But this time, India are coming of a series loss at home and the touring party has as many as eight members who have never played a Test on Australian soil.

"*Gauti bhai* (Gambhir) had a chat with the boys just before we started, we had some of the senior boys as well," India batting coach Abhishek Nayar said in video posted by bcci.tv. on Thursday.

"Booms (Bumrah), Virat , Ash (Ashwin) having a chat with the guys... how first they came here as youngsters with a lot of seniors around and how they sort of felt that once you finish an Australia series you go back a better cricketer. I think the young boys are very keen, raring to go and hopefully make a name for themselves by the end of this tour. It's one of the toughest challenges for an Indian cricketer coming here and overcoming it," said Nayar.


Assistant coach Abhishek Nayar and Gautam Gambhir during a training session at the WACA in Perth. BCCI

Yashaswi Jaiswal, Dhruv Jurel, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Sarfaraz Khan, Nitish Reddy, Harshit Rana, Akash Deep and Prasidh Krishna will get a taste of the challenge for the first time in the series that begins in November 22.

And who better than the troika of Virat Kohli, R Ashwin and Jasprit Bumrah to share their learnings from past series. While Kohli and Ashwin are on their fifth Test tours Down Under, Bumrah will play in his third in Australia. There is more than enough experience there and vitally, they have tasted success too.

India bowling coach Morne Morkel described the series as "a showpiece on the international calendar" and predicted teams would go hard at each other every session. "I think it's a showpiece on the international calendar since it's going to be teams that not going to give anybody an inch or a sniff and it is going to be hard-fought sessions," Morkel said. "I'm hopeful that the five Test matches is hard (cricket). Five days of cricket when you sit after the day's play and you take your shoes off and say, 'Listen, I have given it all'."

The fact that Australia have not been able to lay their hands on the Border-Gavaskar Trophy since 2014-15, with India winning four consecutive series including the historic triumphs Down Under in 2018-19 and 2020-21, adds spice to the proceedings. India remain the only Asian nation to beat Australia at their backyard in a Test series.

If anything, things have got a little more intense after Australia beat India in the World Test Championship in June 2023. Blows have been traded and the Aussies, led by Pat Cummins, would like nothing more than to set the record straight this time around.

"It's become a big part of Indian cricket to come here and do well. It's obviously a very proud moment that India won here twice in the last two times as well as winning it in India," assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said.

And, as coach, Gambhir would like nothing more than to keep the streak going. For that to happen, he'll have to inspire not just the seniors but also the youngsters. It starts off with a few words but it'll have to be followed up by some good, old hard cricket... the kind the Aussies appreciate and the kind that wins Test matches.

Shami finds his rhythm, bags four-for on Ranji comeback

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: Mohammed Shami marked his long-awaited return to competitive cricket with a four-wicket haul as Bengal bowled out Madhya Pradesh for 167 on Day 2 of their Group C Ranji Trophy clash at Holkar Stadium here on Thursday.

Shami, who was making his first appearance in almost a year after recovering from an Achilles tendon injury, had a quiet start, going wicket-less in his first 10 overs on the opening day. He found his rhythm in the later stages of the MP innings and finished with 4/54 in 19 overs to help Bengal take the upper hand. This was after Bengal were dismissed for 228 in their first innings. At stumps, Bengal were 170/5 in 48 overs, extending their overall lead to 231 runs.

Kushagra ton

Wicketkeeper-batter Kumar Kushagra struck a breezy 133* to steer Jharkhand to 356/9 on Day 2 of their Group D match against Delhi in capital's at the Arun Jaitley Stadium.

The 20-year-old Kushagra, who was bought by Delhi Capitals for ₹7.2 crore, but released early this month after playing just four matches in this year's IPL, hit 14 boundaries and five sixes during his 166-ball knock.

Goa duo makes history

Goa's Snehal Kauthankar and Kashyap Bakle scored triple centuries and recorded the highest partnership in Ranji Trophy's history, adding 606 runs to help their team hammer Arunachal Pradesh by an innings and 551 runs in the plate group.

While Kauthankar smashed 314 off 215 balls, Bakle blazed away to 300 off just 269 balls to propel Goa to 727/2 declared in only 92 overs and gain a 643-run first-innings lead. Goa then dismissed Arunachal Pradesh for 92 to complete the rout.

Brief scores
Indore: Bengal 170/5 and 228 vs MP 167 all-out (M Shami 4/54); **Delhi:** Jharkhand 356/9 vs Delhi; **Porvorim:** AP 84 & 92 vs Goa 727/2 dec (S Kauthankar 314*, K Bakle 300*). Goa won by an innings and 551 runs; **Lucknow:** UP 89 & 78/1 vs Kar 275 (K Shrijith 110; A Khan 3/53).

Ministry objects to ex-office bearer becoming TTFI CEO

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NEW DELHI: The Sports Ministry has objected to the Table Tennis Federation of India appointing a former office bearer as Chief Executive Officer, calling the appointment as one that goes against the National Sports Code, which promotes 'good governance practices' in National Sports Federations (NSFs).

TTFI appointed former secretary general MP Singh as CEO in its Annual General Meeting in July this year. Singh served as treasurer of the TTFI from 2013-17, and secretary general from 2017-2021.

The Sports Ministry in a circular to NSFs and IOA in 2022, said that ineligible outgoing office bearers returning as CEO of the federation is against the spirit of the guidelines of the Sports Code.

Citing the government circular on CEOs appointment, the Ministry in a letter to TTFI on Wednesday asked it to "take appropriate action in the matter." A copy of the letter is with HT.

"It has come to the notice of this Ministry that TTFI has appointed Shri M.P. Singh as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to look after all administrative matters of TTFI. To ensure good governance practices in the management of National Sports Federations (NSFs) this Ministry issued letter no. 92-1/2020-SP-III dated 28.02.2022 which is self-explanatory. TIFI is, therefore, requested to take appropriate action in the matter," according to the letter.

> SPORTS MINISTRY IN A CIRCULAR TO NSFS AND IOA IN 2022, SAID THAT INELIGIBLE OFFICE BEARERS RETURNING AS CEO OF FEDERATION IS AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF THE GUIDELINES OF THE SPORTS CODE.

In its 2022 circular, the Sports Ministry said, "It has been observed that upon being ineligible for re-election, the outgoing office bearers come back as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Federation, which is against the spirit of the guidelines limiting age and tenure of office bearers of IOA and NSFs of the Sports Code 2011.

"This issue has been considered in the Ministry and it has been decided that any person who has held an elected post in IOA and an NSF in the past, should not be appointed as CEO. The post of CEO is an administrative position for which the person selected is paid by the IOA and NSF, as per the terms of and conditions of engagement."

The Ministry said the instructions shall be "adhered to scrupulously by IOA and all recognised NSFs."

As per the TTFI constitution, which is aligned with the Sports Code, the secretary general and treasurer shall hold office maximum for two terms of 4 years each consecutively after which a minimum cooling off period of one term of four years shall apply to seek fresh election for the posts.

It has been learnt that objections were raised by some members on Singh's appointment during the AGM though it was passed by the house.

"The Sports Ministry is looking to bring a Sports Bill to promote good governance practices in sports bodies and therefore it is going to take up such things very seriously," said an official aware of the development.

Deepika scores five goals in India's win

NEW DELHI: Drag-flicker and forward Deepika (3rd, 19th, 43rd, 45th, 45th) scored five goals as the Indian women's hockey team hammered Thailand 13-0 in the Asian Champions Trophy in Rajgir on Thursday. Preeti Dubey (9th, 40th), Lalremsiami (12th, 56th) and Manisha Chauhan (55th, 58th) scored a brace each while Beauty Dungdung (30th) and Navneet Kaur (53th) scored one each to help India win their third match on the trot.

Maxwell powers Aus to win over Pak

BRISBANE: Glenn Maxwell's robust 43 off 19 balls helped Australia thump Pakistan by 29 runs in a rain-shortened first Twenty20 on Thursday. After a nearly three-hour delay due to lightning and rain, the match was shortened to seven overs per side. Maxwell powered Australia to 93-4 and Pakistan reached only 64-9 after slumping to 16-5 inside the first 15 balls.

Teenager Aryan making waves after his plunge into pro tennis

Rutvick Mehta
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MUMBAI: In his first full year as a professional tennis player, teen Aryan Shah has already experienced the rollercoaster that it tends to be for most pros out there: travelling week after week for tournaments, taking in the confidence-building victories and difficult defeats, relishing the feel of clinching a title, soaking in new experiences, which, in Aryan's case, was becoming a Davis Cupper.

Riding through that "rollercoaster", as Aryan puts it, the 18-year-old has made steady progress in his debut year as a pro after a promising junior run that saw him reach a career-high ranking of world No.39 in January last year while competing in all four junior Grand Slams.

This season in his pro plunge, Aryan captured his first singles Futures title at the men's 15K ITF event in Kingston last May, made another final and a couple of semi-finals in 25K events. His most recent last-four entry was at the ITF Bhubaneswar tournament last week, where he beat reigning national champion Rethin Senthil before losing to the top seed and eventual champion Dalibor Svrcina from Czech Republic ranked 254.


Aryan won his first Futures title at the 15K ITF event in Kingston. HT

Aryan is currently placed 621 in the ATP singles charts, the youngest among the top 10 from the country and already the India No.6 aiming to finish his first professional year even higher.

"Competing professionally full time, everything was a new experience for me. It does feel a bit different, dealing with different kinds of players and of various age groups. But I think I've managed it pretty well so far," Aryan said.

The Bhuj-born teen trains at the Altevol-Alexander Waske tennis centre in Ahmedabad. His coach Swapnil Desai said they planned his transition from juniors to pro last year, ensuring he ended his junior career inside the top 100 so that he could get into the main draws of ITF events this season.

"I played a lot of great guys in the junior Slams last year," Aryan said. "The major difference coming into pros is the mentality of players. They don't give free points, like in juniors, and the rallies go that much longer."

Getting his first singles pro title in Kingston — where he also won a doubles title and made another final with Leo Borg, son of Bjorn Borg — early in the season was a boost in belief. "Winning a 15K, having not played many Futures tournaments before, was a good jump for my confidence. I felt like I deserve to be here with these guys, and I know my level."

Aryan's progress propelled his Davis Cup debut, being named in India's squad for the tie in Sweden in September. "That was a great moment. That attire, the India blazer, you cannot buy it. And I knew I had worked hard for it," he said. The teen realises there is room for improvement. He has a decent serve, is fairly solid from the baseline and isn't averse to moving out of his comfort zone. In this week's ITF Mumbai tourney, Aryan tried an underarm serve. He also plays doubles in tournaments to get more comfortable on the net and imbibe that into his singles game. "I'm still 18. I have to grow every aspect of my game and make them sharper," he said.

"The challenge now will be to develop his endurance and make him physically stronger," Desai said. For now, Aryan aims to end the year ranked between "400-500". That will land him into ATP Challenger events next season (four of them are lined up in India in February). "Challengers is where the real tennis journey starts," Aryan said.

BAI hopes to cut down on personal coaching culture

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Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty were coached by Mathias Boe till the Paris Games. BAI

NEW DELHI: The Badminton Association of India (BAI) hopes to slowly reduce the culture of personal coaches in favour of group training sessions under national coaches going ahead in the current Olympic cycle.

"We are spending a lot of money on coaches. If a player gets injured, then the coach for that time being can also train other players. Also, in a group, players practice better and improve much more quickly," BAI secretary general Sanjay Mishra said on Thursday.

"In a competitive environment, they become better players which is why we want them to play and train together. But nothing is final. We will discuss with coaches, how many players they can accommodate as we do not intend to overload them. We will also discuss with the players."

In recent years, almost all top shuttlers, from PV Sindhu to the doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, have enjoyed the services of personal coaches going into tournaments.

The development comes in the wake of BAI approaching foreign coaches to take over the responsibility of Indian shuttlers.

The federation has approached Indonesia's Irwansyah Adi Pratama and Malaysian Tan Kim Her to coach India's top singles and doubles players respectively. The negotiations are not complete yet.

"We sent them the contract letters only yesterday and they have not accepted it yet. We have given them a week to respond to the contract proposal," said Mishra, who was appointed BAI secretary general in 2022. Irwansyah is currently the head coach of the Indonesian singles shuttlers. It has been reliably learnt that his contract with Badminton Association of Indonesia (PBSI) is till December.

While Irwansyah guided two Indonesians — champion Jonatan Christie and Anthony Sinisuka Ginting — to the men's singles final of the All England Open in March, there has been some disappointment in Indonesia — where badminton is the most popular sport — after both of them failed to proceed beyond the group stages at the Paris Olympics despite being among the top seeds.

BAI APPROACHED INDONESIA'S IRWANSYAH ADI PRATAMA AND MALAYSIAN TAN KIM HER TO COACH INDIA'S TOP SINGLES AND DOUBLES PLAYERS RESPECTIVELY

If Irwansyah decides to join, he will coach both men's and women's singles Indian shuttlers, replacing Agus Dwi Santoso who was brought in to prepare former world champion Sindhu for the Olympics at the start of the year.

Tan, on the other hand, has coached in India in the past and is credited for bringing Rankireddy and Shetty together as a pair. The Malaysian, who was part of the Indian setup from 2015 to 2019, is currently the doubles coach of the Japanese national team.

Talks between BAI and Tan were held in 2021 and 2022 too but the deal didn't come through. If he decides to come, Tan will replace Mathias Boe, under whom Rankireddy and Shetty achieved multiple laurels including becoming the first Indian pair to be ranked world No.1.

"These are all plans and nothing has been decided right now. Who will be joining, which players will he be coaching and all that will be decided later but yes this is all in preparation for the Los Angeles 2028 batch," said Mishra. "Nothing is finalised yet. We will be discussing with the players too and what their wishes are and how we can move forward."

Multiple Indian badminton players were contacted to comment on the topic but most refused, stating that they haven't received any intimation yet from BAI. The national versus personal coach topic doesn't just pertain to badminton but has been a raging debate in other sports like shooting, table tennis and boxing too.

In addition, Dwi Kristiawan will also return to India. He left for Indonesia after his contract expired following the Paris Olympics.

Dwi had been part of the Indian setup since 2011 and was asked by BAI to come on board again as a coach and sparring partner for Indian singles shuttlers.

"Yes, he is being brought back as he is comfortable with Indian conditions, having coached here for so many years. He fits in well in the system," said Mishra.

Sindhu loses

Meanwhile, Sindhu went down 21-17, 16-21, 17-21 to Canadian Michelle Li in the women's singles Round of 16 of the $420,000 Japan Masters in Kumamoto on Thursday. This brought an end to India's campaign at the Super 500 event.

Kane irked by England Nations League pull outs

LONDON: Harry Kane says he is disappointed by the high number of withdrawals from the England squad this week, insisting the national team must come first.

The Euro 2024 runners-up head to Greece for Thursday's must-win Nations League match before a Wembley meeting with Ireland on Sunday.

But interim boss Lee Carsley's final camp, before the arrival of Thomas Tuchel as the new manager, has been hit by an eight pull-outs.

The situation has frustrated Kane, who will lead the side. Asked if there was one thing former manager Gareth Southgate put in place that senior players need to ensure is not lost, the striker told ITV: "I think the joy to play for England. I think he brought that back. Every camp people were excited to come, every camp people wanted to play for England and, yeah, that's the most important thing. I think England comes before anything. England comes before club."

The Bayern Munich forward said it was a "shame" that so many players had withdrawn.

Eight players withdrew from Carsley's initial 26-man squad for the Nations League doubleheader, including Declan Rice, Phil Foden, Bukayo Saka and Cole Palmer.

CARLSEN TAKES SOLE LEAD AFTER WINNING SPREE IN TATA CHESS INDIA

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KOLKATA: Round 5 of Rapid category began with handshakes around the tables and the supervisors asking the live audience to put their phones on silent mode. Magnus Carlsen though was nowhere to be seen. For a good minute, Wesley So was looking around, checking the giant screen behind the stage when Carlsen entered, shook his hand and quickly settled down while rearranging his pieces.

Carlsen was tied at three points with So and Nodirbek Abdusattorov. In his zest to surprise Carlsen, So played into the hands of the World No 1 with an uncharacteristically aggressive game. "Maybe I should have stuck to my main opening but I decided to play this line to surprise Magnus," he said.

Into the second day of the Tata Steel Chess India, Carlsen took little time to show his class, defeating SL Narayanan, So and Arjun Erigaisi and take sole lead with five points. Close on Carlsen's heels is former World Rapid Champion Abdusattorov with 4.5 points. The Uzbek prodigy held his own with draws against Nihal Sarin and Vidit Gujrathi in rounds 4 and 5, and ended the day with a win over Narayanan.

R Praggnanandhaa beat Sarin in a 103-move game but draws with Vincent Keymer and Vidit Gujrathi left him on three points.

In the women's section, Aleksandra Goryachkina mirrored Carlsen's success, securing three victories. Her back-to-back wins against Vantika Agrawal and Vaishali R, followed by a victory over Kateryna Lagno, boosted her tally to five points. Trailing in second was Georgian Nana Dzagnidze with four. Dzagnidze's successful day included wins over Vaishali and Humpy Koneru, as well as a hard-fought draw with Lagno.



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BOOK II

SPORT

{ HARIKA DRONAVALLI AND VIDIT GUJRATHI } CHESS OLYMPIAD GOLD MEDALLISTS

'This is India's time in the chess world'

Two key players who made history at the chess Olympiad, Vidit and Harika, encapsulate the rise of Indian chess and discuss what makes them and their compatriots dominate

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: It's been an incredible year for Indian chess, and it may to get even better over the next fortnight.

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The Indian open and women's teams won their first-ever Olympiad gold medals, there are two Indian players ranked in the top five, and one of them — D Gukesh — is the favourite to win the World Championship match later this month.

India's Olympiad glory has been in the making over the last decade. Two key players who made history in the campaign, Vidit Gujrathi and Harika Dronavalli, encapsulated the rise of Indian chess and discussed the ins and outs of what makes them and their compatriots click, at the 22nd Hindustan Times Leadership Summit.

Vidit, ranked 15 in the world, believes that the Olympiad double gold has transformed how Indian chess and its players are viewed by the world. "So many people — even on the streets of London — came up and asked me for a picture, which was surprising; it's not something I was used to. It made me realise the significance of this Olympiad win and how much of a difference it has made," he said in a session moderated by senior assistant editor Susan Ninan.

For Harika, 33, it's been a particularly long wait. She and Koneru Humpy have been flag-bearers of Indian women's chess for decades. Last year R Vaishali joined them as India's third female Grandmaster.

"It took a long time for it (Olympiad gold) to fully sink in. It has been a dream come true, especially since this was my 10th Olympiad and my 20th year of playing at this level. For years, I dreamed of being on that podium and didn't understand why it hadn't happened before," Harika said.

The Olympiad also revealed the strength of Indian women players such as Divya Deshmukh and Vantika Agrawal, who finished with individual board medals. "This is one of the best times for Indian women's chess," said Harika, "I haven't seen the gap between top players close this quickly in years, which shows how strong women's chess is in India right now. This growing competition makes everyone work harder and get stronger. For further progress, I think young girls should aim high — not just for titles like Woman Grandmaster but for even higher goals."

Motherhood, Harika said, has allowed her to put professional goals, challenges and setbacks into perspective. "I was once





like these young players now, playing one tournament after another, setting one goal after the next. Chess felt so stressful back then, with everything focused on winning medals, and jumping to the next tournament. But since becoming a mother, I've realised that there are more stressful things in life — like worrying about your toddler falling down. That put everything in perspective. Now, I truly value just having the opportunity to sit at the board and play. Competing in tournaments and playing for the country is still important, but it doesn't feel as stressful."

Much like chess fans everywhere, Harika is hoping the World Championship is competitive and engaging. Defending world champion Ding Liren's form in recent years has been a concern. He will go up against a hungry Gukesh, who will be aiming to become the youngest ever world champion.

Vidit believes that Gukesh's approach to chess is quite unique and touches upon a visible change he noticed in the 18-year-old at the recent Olympiad.

"I've known Gukesh for a long time. Back in 2017, during the World Cup, I even invited Gukesh and Praggnanandhaa to my home for a training camp. I remember them being so young — maybe 13 and 14. Gukesh's approach to chess is quite unique. For his first 14 years or so, until he became a Grandmaster, he didn't use chess engines at all. That approach gives him a different perspective, unaffected by the modern chess engines. His thinking remains very original, even though he's adapted to the current ways of playing. In the past, during team championships, he tended to keep to himself, needing his own space. But at the Olympiad, I noticed a transformation. He was more outgoing, engaging, and enjoying himself."

On the upcoming World Championship, Vidit said that while Ding is out of form and suffering from a confidence crisis, Gukesh's latest tournament performance (at the European Club Cup) suggests that he might not be at his peak either right now.

"Ding was at his best in 2018-2019, playing at an exceptionally high level. If he can bring some of that level back, he could put up a good match. But confidence is critical. When you're confident, you don't hesitate or double-check everything; you play with instinct and can intimidate your opponent. If Ding can regain some of that form, it'll be a competitive match," Vidit, who turned 30 last month, said.

"Gukesh did struggle a bit in his last rapid tournament, losing around 10 rating points, which suggests he may not be at his absolute peak either... But he has this intense 'game face' and a fierce drive to win — a bit like Garry Kasparov."

WATCH: Scan the QR code to watch the full session of HTLS Day 1

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Rabindra Bhavan, 35 Feroze Shah Road
New Delhi - 110 001
Tel: 011-23386648, 23387246, 23387247, 23387248
email: mail@sangeetnatak.gov.in

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Walk-in-interview will be conducted at 1100 hrs on 21 November 2024 in the Mask Gallery, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ground Floor, Rabindra Bhavan, 35, Feroze Shah Road, New Delhi - 110001 for the engagement of one Consultant (ICH)

The detailed information in this regard may be accessed through the Akademi's website **https://sangeetnatak.gov.in/vacancy** Interested candidates may appear for the walk-in-interview along with their latest CVs and other credentials reporting one hour before the interview at above mentioned venue.

The Akademi reserves the right to reject any/or all applications or cancel the proceedings/recruitment at any time without assigning any reason thereof.

Secretary
Sangeet Natak Akademi
New Delhi

CBC 09114/12/0005/2425

Kalyan Singh Super Specialty Cancer Institute
C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002
Website: https://cancerinstitute.edu.in

GeM Bid NOTICE

It is hereby informed that a bids No. is as follow.

Sr. No	Name of Service	Bid No. & Date	Pre-bid Meeting Date & Time
1	Operation And Maintenance of Fire Fighting System-Complete System	GEM/2024/B/5599033 Dated 12-11-2024	20-11-2024 14:00:00

The Bid uploaded on GeM Portal for Procurement of Service Bid at KSSSCI. All interested service providers/bidders are required to submit their bids on GeM Portal in accordance with the terms and conditions of the GeM bid documents. The Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.
The Tender documents are available on the website of the Institute **www.cancerinstitute.edu.in**

Note- The information in respect of above work/Bid further will be uploaded on institute website.

Advt. no. KSSSCI/PRO-12/2024-25 **DIRECTOR**

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No. 26-Elect/G/PRYJ/24-25 **Dt. 13.11.2024**

Senior Divl. Electrical Engineer/Gen/N.C. Rly/Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites the following e-Tenders on prescribed form for the following works up to **15.00** hrs. on **09.12.2024.** The details of the tenders are as under:

Name of work: Electrical work in connection with "Construction/improvement of RPF barrack/Thana in PRYJ area". Electrical work in connection with "Prayagraj Provision of parking shed near PRYJ station with other facilities". Electrical work in connection with "Provision of Cover over platform at PF No.- 06 of PRYJ station". Electrical work in connection with "Prayagraj Division - Augmentation of DDU ruining room by construction of 15 additional rooms."

SN	TN	Cost of work	Bid Security
1	ELG-48-2425	₹ 1,24,58,304.06	₹ 2,12,300.00

Name of work: Electrical work in connection with "Renovation of Vindhya Conference Hall in Sangam Building at GM office/NCR/PRYJ under ADEN/HQ-II/NCR/PRYJ." Electrical work in connection with "Renovation of Aravali Conference Hall in Sangam Building at GM office/NCR/PRYJ under ADEN/HQ-II/NCR/PRYJ." Electrical work in connection with "Renovation of GM Chamber in Sangam Building at GM office/NCR/PRYJ under ADEN/HQ-II/NCR/PRYJ."

SN	TN	Cost of work	Bid Security
2	ELG-49-2425	₹ 1,87,72,846.61	₹ 2,43,900.00

Duration of completion for both the above tenders: 06 Months and **Tender Opening Date: 09.12.2024, 15.00** Hrs. **Note:- 1.** The complete information along with tender document of above e-Tender is available on Website **www.ireps.gov.in** up to **15.00** hrs. on the due date of tender opening. **1984/24 FA**

@ CPRONCR North central railways www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

कार्यालय प्राचार्य
शासकीय दन्त चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय
रजबंधा मैदान, रायपुर (छ.ग.), फोन न. 0771-2222990,
वेबसाईट www.govtdentalcollegeraipur.in ई-मेल govdentalcollege@gmail.com

क्रमांक/4645/जीडीसी/क्रय/2024 रायपुर, दिनांक : 11.11.2024

-: तृतीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना :-

शासकीय दंत चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, रायपुर में अध्ययनरत् छात्र-छात्राओं को वर्ष 2024-2025 में 'अध्ययन भ्रमण हेतु' एजेंसी के चयन बाबत् मोहरबंद निविदायें, अधिकृत टूर एण्ट ट्रेवल्स एजेंसी अथवा फर्म अथवा विद्यार्थियों के यात्रा-शिविरों (Travel Camp's) के आयोजन से संबंधित अनुभवी संस्थाओं से आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र (टेण्डर फार्म) विस्तृत शर्तों के साथ निर्धारित तिथि दिनांक 22-11-2024 दोपहर 5:30 बजे के पूर्व तक कार्यालयीन दिवसों में महाविद्यालय से राशि रु. 500=00 नगद अथवा प्राचार्य, शासकीय दन्त चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय के नाम से तैयार राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक का बैंक ड्राफ्ट जमा कर प्राप्त किया जा सकेगा। साथ ही महाविद्यालय की वेबसाईट www.govtdentalcollegeraipur.in से भी यह डाउनलोड कर प्राप्त की जा सकती हैं। जिस हेतु उपरोक्तानुसार रु. 500=00 मूल्य का बैंक ड्राफ्ट निविदा के साथ संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा। उक्त निविदा प्रपत्र की राशि वापसी योग्य नहीं होगी।

निविदा प्रपत्र बिक्री की अंतिम तिथि	:	22/11/2024 समय दोपहर 5.30 बजे तक
निविदा जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि	:	25/11/2024 समय सायं 5.30 बजे तक
प्री-क्वालिफिकेशन टैक्निकल बीड खोलने की तिथि	:	26/11/2024 समय दोपहर 12.00 बजे
प्राईज-बीड खोलने की तिथि	:	27/11/2024 समय दोपहर 12.00 बजे
निविदा जमा करने का स्थान	:	शासकीय दंत चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, रजबंधा मैदान, रायपुर (छ.ग.)
निविदा खोलने का स्थान	:	शासकीय दंत चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, रजबंधा मैदान, रायपुर (छ.ग.)

प्राचार्य
शासकीय दंत चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय
रायपुर (छ.ग.)

G-242503746/4

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LIMITED
CIN: – U40102RJ2000SGC016484 (राजस्थान सरकार का उपक्रम)
VIDYUT BHAWAN, JANPATH, JYOTI NAGAR, JAIPUR - 302005
CIN - U40102RJ2000SGC016484
E-mail: accountsrvunl@yahoo.com Website: energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvun

Extract of Financial Results for the Quarter ended 30th SEPTEMBER, 2024

(₹ in Lakhs)

S. No	Particulars	Standalone					
		3 months ended 30th Sept 2024	Preceding 3 months ended 30th June 2024	Corresponding 3 months ended previous year 30th Sept 2023	Year to date figures for current period ended 30th Sept 2024	Year to date for previous year ended 30th Sept 2023	Previous year ended 31st March 2024
		Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Un-audited	Audited
1	Total Income From Operations	4,86,146.75	5,25,533.62	4,69,996.64	10,11,680.37	9,49,114.39	19,84,548.65
2	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before Tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(94,967.66)	(71,790.90)	(93,776.66)	(1,66,758.57)	(1,39,257.85)	(3,38,181.90)
3	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before Tax(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(2,61,843.10)	(84,705.57)	(9,56,949.75)	(3,46,548.68)	(10,13,752.03)	(13,05,993.76)
4	Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after Tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	(2,61,843.10)	(84,705.57)	(9,56,949.75)	(3,46,548.68)	(10,13,752.03)	(13,05,993.76)
5	Total comprehensive income for the period [Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	(2,65,805.81)	(88,668.28)	(9,59,176.23)	(3,54,474.10)	(10,18,205.00)	(13,18,504.55)
6	Paid up Equity Share Capital (Face Value ₹10/-per share)	10,69,236.00	10,69,236.00	10,63,174.00	10,69,236.00	10,63,174.00	10,63,174.00
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	(30,81,248.16)	(28,15,442.34)	(24,31,916.50)	(30,81,248.16)	(24,31,916.50)	(27,26,774.07)
8	Net Worth [Share Capital + Reserves and Surplus (excluding fly ash utilization fund) - Miscellaneous Expenditure not written off]	(20,12,444.40)	(17,46,598.31)	(13,69,433.92)	(20,12,444.40)	(13,69,433.92)	(16,57,930.04)
9	Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt*	35,59,735.42	36,22,337.13	39,55,418.90	35,59,735.42	39,55,418.90	37,11,291.22
10	Outstanding Redeemable Preference Shares	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Debt Equity Ratio (Paid-up debt capital / Shareholder's Equity)***	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A
12	Earnings Per Share (of ₹10/- each)(for continuing and discontinued operations - basic & diluted)(in ₹)	(2.45)	(0.80)	(9.01)	(3.25)	(4.72)	(12.29)
13	Capital Redemption Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Debenture Redemption Reserve**	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Debt Service Coverage Ratio [(Profit for the period + Interest + Depreciation + Exceptional items) / (Interest net of transfer to expenditure during construction + lease payments + Scheduled principal repayments of long term borrowings)	(1.04)	0.18	(2.15)	(0.53)	(1.43)	(1.63)
16	Interest Service Coverage Ratio [(Profit for the period + Interest+ Depericiation + Exceptional items) / Finance Cost+ Lease Payment)] (Interest net of transfer to expenditure during construction)#	(3.43)	0.41	(7.64)	(1.48)	(3.22)	(4.24)
17	Current ratio (Current assets / Current liabilities)	0.13	0.24	0.32	0.13	0.32	0.25
18	Long term debt to working capital ratio (Long term borrowings including current maturity of long term borrowings/ (working capital excluding current maturities of long term borrowings))	(2.78)	(3.65)	(10.50)	(2.78)	(10.50)	(4.34)
19	Bad debts to accounts receivable ratio (Bad debts / Average Trade receivables)	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	Current liability ratio (Current liabilities / Total liabilities)	0.44	0.40	0.35	0.44	0.35	0.41
21	Total debts to Total assets ratio (Paid up debt capital/ Total Assets)	1.14	1.08	1.13	1.14	1.13	1.09
22	Debtor turnover ratio (Revenue from operations/ Average trade receivables) - Annualised	15.30	10.36	2.82	15.92	2.88	2.83
23	Inventory turnover ratio (Revenue from operations / Average Inventory) - Annualised	21.96	21.76	18.22	21.30	17.43	18.86
24	Operating Margin (%) (Earnings before interest, tax and exceptional items / Revenue from operations)	-1.78%	3.20%	1.18%	0.81%	6.28%	2.93%
25	Net Profit Margin (%) (Profit for the period/ Revenue from operations)	(53.86%)	(16.12%)	(203.61%)	(34.25%)	(106.81%)	(65.81%)

* Comprises Long Term Debt and short term debt.
** Debenture Redemption Reserve could not be created due to accumulated losses.
*** Not Applicable due to negative Net Worth
# Depreciation considered from the current period along with reworking for earlier periods.
Notes:
1. The above is an extract of the detailed format of the Quarterly and yearly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 52 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly and yearly financial results of the Company is available under investors section of our website 'energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvun'.
2. Figures for the previous period have been regrouped/reclassified wherever necessary, to conform to current period's classification.

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors
(Devendra Shringi)
Chairman & Managing Director
DIN: 09817426

Date : 14-11-2024
Place Jaipur RVUN/PR-4096
Raj.Samwad/C/24/7832

Office of The Superintending Engineer, Water Resources Circle, Kota

क्रमांक: SE/WRC/e-NIB-03/2024-25/2436-2478 दिनांक: 11.11.24

e-NIB No.- 03/2024-25

On behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan, e-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors for the work for **Safety Measures works of village Barod for seepage effected house under Navnera Barrage Project (Rs. 292.15 Lacs)** for the period for **9 Months** including Rainy season are invited from interested bidders from **12.11.2024** (930 Hr) to **03.12.2024** till 1800 Hr other particulars, terms & conditions may be seen on the procurement portal **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in**, **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in**, **www.dipr.rajasthan.gov.in** & **www.waterrajasthan.gov.in**.

UBN NO.- WRD2425WS0B01142
NIB NO.- WRD2425A0291

Superintending Engineer
Water Resources Circle, Kota

Dipr/c/11227/2024

RAJASTHAN URJA VIKAS AND IT SERVICES LIMITED

(Formerly known as Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited)
(A Govt. Of Rajasthan Undertaking)
(Personnel & Administration Department)
Room no 415/A, Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jaipur-302005

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited for consultancy services in RUVITL, Jaipur with NIT no. 05/2024-25 for providing assistance in power procurement, regulatory affairs., billing matters and support to the Chairman/MD cell on retainership basis. All the details regarding tenders are available at www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. UBN NO. RUV2425SLOB00008

Raj.Samwad/C/24/7825 RUVITL/PR-80 (2024) **Deputy Director(HR)**

कार्यालय कलेक्टर, जिला नारायणपुर (छ.ग.)

(आदिवासी विकास शाखा)
दूरभाष नं. : 07781-252881, (फैक्स) : 299047
E-mail : collector.assttw.narayanpur@gmail.com

-: संक्षिप्त विज्ञप्ति :-

क्रमांक/3571/आ.वि./रा.यु.उ.यो./प.पू.प्र./2024-25 नारायणपुर, दिनांक- 8/11/2024

अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति एवं अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के अभ्यर्थियों के लिए ''राजीव युवा उत्थान योजना वर्ष 2019'' अंतर्गत एस.एस.सी., बैंकिंग, रेलवे एवं व्यापम जैसे प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं की तैयारी हेतु वर्ष 2024-25 में नारायणपुर में परीक्षा पूर्व प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र में प्रवेश लेकर परीक्षा की तैयारी करने इच्छुक पात्र अभ्यार्थियों से निर्धारित प्रारूप में आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते है। चयनित अभ्यार्थियों को नारायणपुर स्थित परीक्षा पूर्व प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र में युवा करियर निर्माण योजना के तहत हॉस्टल में आवास, लाईब्रेरी, समाचार पत्र, पत्रिका आदि सुविधाएं निःशुल्क उपलब्ध कराई जाती है।

अभ्यर्थियों के पात्रता हेतु अर्हताएं :-

(1) आवेदक छ.ग. राज्य का मूल निवासी होना अनिवार्य है।
(2) आवेदक भारत सरकार द्वारा छ.ग. राज्य के लिए घोषित अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति एवं छ.ग. शासन द्वारा घोषित अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग से हो तथा स्थायी जाति प्रमाण पत्र धारक हो।
(3) आवदेक की न्यूनतम आयु 20 वर्ष तथा अधिकतम आयु 30 वर्ष होनी चाहिए। न्यूनतम आयु की गणना विज्ञापन प्रकाशन वर्ष में 1 जनवरी 2024 की स्थिति में की जाएगी।
(4) आवेदक बैंकिग / रेल्वे/व्यापम / एस.एस.सी. द्वारा आयोजित परीक्षा में शामिल होने हेतु निर्धारित न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता रखता हो।
(5) ऐसे अभ्यर्थी जो वर्तमान में किसी शासकीय सेवा में कार्यरत हो वे इस योजना हेतु पात्र नहीं होंगे।
(6) चयनित अभ्यार्थियों को योजना का लाभ केवल एक बार ही दिया जायेगा।
(7) ऐसे आवेदक जिनकी स्वयं की आय या माता-पिता/पालक की आय रु. 3.00 लाख वार्षिक तक है, वे योजनांतर्गत संचालित प्रशिक्षण हेतु पात्र होंगे। इस हेतु सक्षम अधिकारी द्वारा जारी आय प्रमाण पत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा।

इस योजना का लाभ लेने हेतु दिनांक 25.11.2024 तक कार्यालय कलेक्टर (आदिवासी विकास शाखा) जिला नारायणपुर के कक्ष क्रमांक 94,95 में आवेदन जमा कर सकते है।

1. कुल स्वीकृत सीट – 100 (ST-50,SC-30, OBC-20) महिलाओं के लिए 33% सीट आरक्षित होगी।
2. प्राक्चयन परीक्षा हेतु आवेदन जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि – 25.11.2024 समय 5:30 बजे तक
3. प्राक्चयन परीक्षा दिनांक – पृथक से जारी किया जायेगा।
4. आवेदन पत्र कार्यालय सहायक आयुक्त, आदिवासी विकास नारायणपुर के कक्ष क्रमांक 94, 95 में अंतिम तिथि तक जमा किया जा सकता है।

विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु जिला नारायणपुर की वेबसाईट www.narayanpur.cg.gov.in से ''राजीव युवा उत्थान योजना वर्ष 2019'' विस्तृत विज्ञापन का अवलोकन कर एवं निर्धारित आवेदन पत्र प्रारूप (Download) कर सकते है।

सहायक आयुक्त
आदिवासी विकास, नारायणपुर

G-242503737/6

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

BID No. E-61/2024-25 **Date : 13.11.2024**

E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the president of India for the supply of following items Only e-offer will be accepted for which vendors must have class III Digital Signature and registration on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence **S. No.; Tender No.; (Due Date); Description; PL No.; and Quantity; 1; 02241624A**; (12/12/2024); Cylinder Test Valve Assembly; 16241137; 2961 Nos. **2; 10241781**; (10/12/2024); Main Bearing Lower Centre to; 16150089; 907 Nos. **3; 10241299**; (09/12/2024); Flange Assembly to; 16080634; 406 Nos. **4; 10241298**; (21/11/2024); Nozzle Ring to; 16080610; 622 Nos. **5; 10241798**; (05/12/2024); Housing Water Pump to; 16120930; 1115 Nos. **6; 10241326**; (09/12/2024); Set Gear Planet to; 16210207; 733 Nos. The details of above tenders are available on **www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in**.

PR/BLW/S-63 **Principal Chief Material Manager**

/blwvaranasi **Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in**

Government of Punjab

Tender Notice for Various Works

Tender Notice Reference No. 32 dt. 13.11.2024

The Department of Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board invites online bids for the following:

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1.	Providing Tap Connection to consumers, Extension and Augmentation of Water Supply System at **Bassi Pathana** District Fatehgarh Sahib for Distribution Network, Installation of Tube well and Construction of 0.5 Lakh Gallon OHSR under AMRUT 2.0 Scheme, Part-1, Phase-1	1

Closing Date and Time : up to 02.12.2024 at 03.00 PM
For detail log on to : **www.eproc.punjab.gov.in**

Note: Any Corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Punjab W/S & Sew. Divn No. 2, Patiala
39034 **eep2.pwssb@punjab.gov.in**

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)

	N.I.T No.	98, 99, 100 - 2024-25-W-IV
1	Name of work with its location	**98)** Renewal of 01 Nos. Diamond Crossing (2 Acute and 2 Obtuse) along with 2 WCMS (1 in 12) in NRW Yard in the section of SSE/Pway /JHI under ADEN/JHI."(a part of Delhi Division - TTR of Special Layout - 88 Nos) **Similar Nature of work:** 1. Design, Manufacturing & Supply of CMS, non-standard weldable diamond xing including all fittings to Zonal Railways/Metro Railways /Railway PSUs. And 2. Manufacturing and Supply of weldable CMS xings to Zonal Railways/Metro Railways/ Railway PSUs. **Note:** (i) At least one completed work of SN-1 above compulsory. (ii) Requirement of Financial value of completed Similar works may be fulfilled by SN-1 or 2 above.
		99) Repair to cess at km. 21/0 - 22/0, 27/0 - 28/0, 33/7 - 34/16, 37/5 - 38/0, 38/12-40/0, 41/5 - 42/0, 42/0 - 47/5, 49/3-51/5, 53/0-54/0 and 67/5-69/1 and provision of Ballast retainer at various locations on ROK-PNP section **Similar Nature of work:** Any Civil work other than track work
		100) Annual Zone Work for maintenance of staff qtrs and service building in branch line JHI-SNP section under SSE/W/JHI.
2	Approximate Cost of work	**98)** Rs. 19325649.56 **99)** Rs. 37985525.79 **100)** Rs. 4999943.75
3	Earnest Money Deposit	(It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway Only. **Note:-** FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2010251/CE-1/CT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016) **98)** Rs. 246600.00 **99)** Rs. 339900.00 **100)** Rs. 100000.00
4	Completion period of work	**98)** 06 Months **99)** 06 Months **100)** 12 Months
5	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs. on 06.12.2024 Opening of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 06.12.2024
6	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender from can be purchased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in**

No. 128-W/280/OET/2024-25/W-IV/NIT-98, 99, 100, Date : 14.11.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3538/24

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites open e-tender for the under noted work:-

1	**Name of Work with its Location**	Replacement of Contact wire over Delhi Division.
2	**Approx. Cost of work**	Rs. 11,40,24,093.36
3	**Earnest Money Deposit**	Rs. 7,20,100/-
4	**Date & Time of Pre-Bid Conference**	21.11.2024 (11:30 hrs.)
5	**E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period**	26.11.2024 (00:00 Hrs.) to 10.12.2024 (15:00 Hrs.)
6	**E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time**	10.12.2024 (15:00 Hrs.)
7	**Fund Allocation**	RRSK & DF-3 (PH-36)
8	**Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen**	**www.ireps.gov.in**

E-Tender No.: 30B-TRD-NDLS-2024-25, Dated: 14.11.2024 3541/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

प्रवर्तन निदेशालय/ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

देहरादून उप-क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय/Dehradun Sub-Zonal Office
5-क्रास रोड, देहरादून/5-Cross Road, Dehradun-248001
TELE: 0135-2715572. FAX -135-2716672
E-mail: dddnszo-ed@gov.in

CORRIGENDUM-II

Reference : Tender No. 01/2024 for Hiring Office Accommodation for Directorate of Enforcement, Sub-Zonal Office, Dehradun.

With reference to the above mentioned NIT, the dates for submission of bids are extended as per details given below :

Document download end Date	25.11.2024, 12:30 hrs.
Seek Clarification End Date	25.11.2024, 12:30 hrs.
Bid Submission End Date	25.11.2024, 15:00 hrs.
Technical Bid opening Date	26.11.2024, 15:30 hrs.
Financial Bid opening date (Only for those bidders who have qualified in the Technical Bids)	With prior notice to technically qualified bidder

Other terms and conditions of NIT will remain same.

Date : 08/11/2024

Deputy Director,
Directorate of Enforcement,
Dehradun Sub-Zonal Office

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कॉरपोरेशन लि०

(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम)
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत वितरण मण्डल (ग्रामीण) 18 ईसी० रोड, देहरादून
दूरभाष: +91-135-2653601

"ई-निविदा विस्तार एवं पुर्ननिविदा सूचना"

अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा ई-निविदा संख्या **44/EDCRDDUN/2024-25** आमंत्रित की गई थी जिसको खोलने की तिथि **11.11.2024** थी को अपरिहार्य कारणों से पुनः विस्तारित कर पुर्ननिविदा की जाती है। निविदा अब दिनाँक **28.11.2024** को 1200 बजे तक ऑफलाइन/ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत की जा सकती है जो उसी दिन 1500 बजे खोली जाएगी। निविदा की शेष नियम व शर्तें पूर्ववत रहेंगी। उपरोक्त निविदा की अधिक जानकारी हेतु वैबसाईट **www.uktenders.gov.in** पर देखें।

"विद्युत बिलों के **24x7** ऑनलाईन भुगतान हेतु **www.upcl.org** पर जायें"

पत्रांक: 3056/विवि0मं0ग्रा0दे0/उपाकालि दिनांक: 11/11/2024 अधीक्षण अभियन्ता

"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें" टोल फ्री नं0 1800-419-0405

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF INVITING E-TENDER

Sr.DMM, DRM Office, Bikaner, acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tender No. 34245417 Closing date 03.12.2024 at 14.25 hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. **1. Description of Work:** Scotch Block Assembly for BWTB/BOMN type wagons **2. Quantity:** 4600 Nos. **3. Date and time for submission of tender:** Submission of E-Tender up to 03.12.2024 at 14.25 hrs. **4. Website Particular : www.ireps.gov.in**

1313-CR/24

Follow us at /NWRailways NWRailways_

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

(SURVEY & CONSTRUCTION)

For and on behalf of the president of India, Dy. Chief Engineer/Const.-II, North Western Railway, Udaipur invites e-tender under "Two packet system" from the agencies fulfilling the eligible criteria for the following work: **- 1. E-Tender Number :** BI-NMH-T-04 **2. Name of work with its location :** Supplying and stacking 65 MM gauge stone ballast machine crushed (Hard Stone) confirming to RDSO Specification along the cess, including station Yards, disposal of unusable boulders & debris, between Bari Sadri (excl.) from Km.0.785 to Nimch (excl) Km 46.278 in connection with Bari- Sadri Nimach New line project. **3. Approximate cost of the work :** 13,45,77,322.05 **4. Earnest Money to be deposited :** 8,22,900.00 **5. Last date for submission of E-tender :** 03.12.2024 up to 15.00 hrs. **6. Details and particulars of website where e-tender can be seen & filled up: www.ireps.gov.in 7. Official email address: dycec2udz@gmail.com**

1310-CR/24

Follow us on : /NWRailways NWRailways_

PROVISION OF STADIUM LIGHTING SYSTEM ETC. WORKS

Tender Notice No.: Dy.CEE/PS/MLG/HQ/34/24-25, Dated: 09-11-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work. **Tender No.:** DYCEE-PS-MLG-HQ-34-24-25; **Name of Work:** At NFRSA Stadium, Maligaon-Provision of stadium lighting system with provision of four high mast, light fixtures and associated control gears, cables etc. suitable to achieve voloumetric illumination of 1500 lux at pitch level, 1250 lux at infield and 1000 lux at outfield both at ground level as well as at respective heights suitable to conduct National level Televised Cricket Matches. **Advertised Value :** ₹.5,24,90,242.24/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹.4,12,500/-; Date and time of **closing** of tender at **15:00** hrs. on **03-12-2024**. For details please visit in website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Dy. CEE/PS/MLG/HQ
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, CONSTRUCTION CIRCLE U.P. JAL NIGAM (URBAN)

220, CIVIL LINES, MEERUT-250001
E-mail: gmypcugzb@gmail.com

Letter No.: 1865 / NIVIDA / 181
Dated: 13.11.2024

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE

U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) invites E-bids for execution of "Survey, Soil investigation, Design, Supply of all materials, labour, T&P etc. required for construction, completion, testing and commissioning of water supply works including (but not limited to) RCC Over Head Tank (2 Nos.), Rising main, Distribution system, Tube wells, Pump house, Boundary wall, site development works etc. and other appurtenant works including SCADA and Automation as per specifications in tender document for **"Daurala Water Supply Re-organization Scheme."** Distt. Meerut. The scope of work also includes trial run of 03 months and defect liability period of 12 months for civil works and 24 months for E/M works after completion of successful trial run. All completed and commissioned work under **"Daurala Water Supply Re-organization Scheme."** Distt. Meerut shall be handed over to Daurala Nagar Panchayat after 03 months successful trial run period" are invited in two bid system on percentage basis from eligible, reputed and experienced bidder. E-bid documents will be available on U.P. Govt. e-procurement portal **https://etender.up.nic.in** and U.P.J.N. (Urban) website **www.jn.upsdc.gov.in** for download **from dated 16.11.2024 from 01:00 PM.** Pre-bid meeting will be held on **dated 22.11.2024 at 01:00 PM** in undersigned office. E-bids can be submitted **till 02.12.2024. up to 05:00 PM** and technical bid shall be opened **on 03.12.2024 at 03:00 PM** in the office of undersigned in presence of contractor or their authorized representative, e-tender cost is **Rs. 10000.00+GST@18%** for tender. Details are available on U.P. Govt. e- procurement portal **http://etender.up.nic.in** & U.P.J.N.(Urban) website **www.in.upsdc.gov.in**.

भारत सरकार टकसाल, मुंबई
INDIA GOVERNMENT MINT, MUMBAI

एनएबीएल/आईएसओ 17025:2017 प्रमाणित इकाई — NABL/ISO 17025:2017 Certified Unit
भारत प्रतिभूति मुद्रण तथा मुद्रा निर्माण निगम लिमिटेड की इकाई — A Unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited
सीआईएन : U22213DL2006GOI144763 — CIN : U22213DL2006GOI144763
मिनी-रत्न श्रेणी । सीपीएसई (भारत सरकार के पूर्ण स्वामीत्वाधीन) — Mini -Ratna Category - I CPSE (Wholly owned by Govt. of India)
शहीद भगत सिंह मार्ग, फोर्ट, मुंबई - 400 001 — Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Fort, Mumbai-400 001

Tel: 022 - 22663199 Ext. 250/217 Fax: 022 – 22661450 Email: igm.mumbai@spmcil.com Web: igmmumbai.spmcil.com

NOTICE

BOOKING OF and "250 Years of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited" and "75th Foundation Year of Central Silk Board" Commemorative Coin Sets

India Government Mint, Mumbai (A unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd.) is pleased to notify booking of commemorative coin sets in Proof and Uncirculated varieties of following themes.

Theme	Proof (Rs.)	UNC (Rs.)
250 Years of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (Denomintion of ₹ 250) - Folder Packing	4290.00	3985.00
250 Years of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (Denomintion of ₹ 250) - Wooden Packing	4630.00	NA
75th Foundation Year of Central Silk Board (Denomination of ₹ 75) – Folder Packing	3650.00	3470.00
75th Foundation Year of Central Silk Board (Denomination of ₹ 75) – Wooden Packing	3865.00	NA

The booking period will be from **15.11.2024** the coin sets can be booked online on our website https://www.indiagovtmint.in. Alternately, the coin sets can be ordered offline by submitting an order form available on our website or visit our store at Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Fort, Mumbai - 400001.
***50gms Silver Coin on Shree Ram Janmabhoomi Mandir, Ayodhya available for sale.**
For other detailed terms and conditions and online booking please visit customer corner section of our web site: **https://www.indiagovtmint.in**.

Follow us on : @SPMCILINDIA /SPMCILIndia /spmcilindia

BIHAR STATE POWER (HOLDING) COMPANY LTD.

Govt. of Bihar
(A Govt. of Bihar undertaking)
(Regd. office:- Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna)
Contact No :7091690452
email-cecivilbsphclpatna@gmail.com

NIT No.- 18/PR/BSPHCL/2024

Through e-procurement mode only- (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

Online e-Tenders are invited by Chief Engineer (Civil), from Agencies/ Firms/Companies/ State or Central Govt. undertaking who have necessary experience for execution of the works detailed below:-

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Rs.)	E.M.D (in Rs.)	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable) Including GST(in Rs)	Completion time
1	Comprehensive maintenance & housekeeping contract of prefabricated community hall building (G+1) along with entire amenities and campus at BSPHCL Colony, New Punaichak, Patna.	As quoted	2,50,000/-	11,800/-	03 (Three) Years
Starting date for the sale of Tender documents		**26.11.2024** through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in			
Pre- bid meeting		**03.12.2024.(at 3:00 PM)** in the office of Chief Engineer(Civil), BSPHCL, Vidyut Bhawan Patna.			
Online receiving of tender up to		**17.12.2024 (upto 3:00 PM)** through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in			
Date of submission of original DD/BG		**Upto 18.12.2024.(at 3:00 PM)** in the office of Chief Engineer(Civil), BSPHCL, Vidyut Bhawan Patna			
Date of opening of Technical Part		**18.12.2024 (at 3:30 PM)** through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in			
Date of opening of price part		To be notified after Technical Bid Evaluation through website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in			

1. Cost of BOQ will be paid through online mode i.e. internet payment gateway (credit/debit), net banking, NEFT/RTGS to BSPHCL, Patna.
2. EMD to be deposited in favour of Account Officer, BSPHCL Patna through Demand draft or online mode.
3. Bid processing fee as mentioned in website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in will be paid through online mode i.e. internet payment gateway (Credit/debit), Net banking, NEFT/RTGS to BSEDC, Patna.
4. In case of submission of EMD through DD, Original Demand Draft will be submitted in the office of Chief Engineer (Civil), BSPHCL, Vidyut Bhawan Patna up to **18.12.2024 at 3.00 PM.**
5. Tender may be cancelled at any stage by the competent authority without refunding the cost of BOQ.
6. The department doesn't take any responsibility for the delay/non-submission of tender/non-reconciliation of online payment caused due to non-availability of internet connection, network traffic/holidays or any other reasons.
7. Tender document along with General/special condition, bids and any corrigendum/ addendum of the tender are available only at website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.
8. This advertisement does not come under model code of conduct.

For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

"विवादों के निष्पादन के लिए लोक अदालत का लाभ उठावें।"
"परस्पर सहमति से न्यायिक निर्णय करें।"
"समय एवं खर्च की बचत करें।"

PR- 012426 (B & C) 2024-25 **Chief Engineer (Civil) BSPHCL, Patna**

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd.

(A Government of Uttar Pradesh Undertaking)

Tender Notice

Tender Ref.No: UPMSCL/Drugs-222/24 Dated: 14-Nov-2024

e-TENDER FOR SUPPLY OF DIAGNOSTIC KITS

Online tenders are invited from licensed manufacturers for supply of diagnostic kits (Dengue NS1 ELISA) to UPMSCL. The details of tender, list of items and Tender Documents are made available on website **https://etender.up.nic.in** and **www.upmsc.in**. The last date/time of online submission of the tender documents is **29 November, 2024** upto **15:00 Hrs**.

Managing Director
UPMSCL, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare, U.P.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR APPOINTMENT

TENDER NOTICE NO. CPM-MLG-HQ-GC-2024-01; **Date: 10-11-2024.** E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Tender No.:** CPM-MLG-HQ-GC-2024-01. **Name of work** : Request for Proposal (RFP) for appointment of General Consultant for N.F. Railway, Gati Shakti Unit. Approx. Value: ₹14,88,08,535.16/-; **E-tender will be closed at** 15:00 hrs. on 09-12-2024 and **will be opened** at 15:30 hrs. on 09-12-2024. For details please visit **www.ireps.gov.in**.

CPM/GSU/Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers with a smile"

SPECIAL BRANCH
POLICE HEADQUARTER, M.P., BHOPAL

No. SB PHQ/SEC-24/Store/447/2024 Bhoapl, Dated : 12.11.2024
Tender ID - 2024_MPP_381624_1, Dated- 12.11.2024

// ONLINE E-TENDER NOTICE //

E-tender are invited by Assistant Inspector General of Police (G) Police Head Quarter, Bhopal for the Financial Year 2024-25 for rate contract for purchase of following, Items on website **https://www.mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** :-

S. No.	Name of Item	Specification	Tender	EMD Rs.
			Paid Online Through **mptenders.gov.in**	
1	Stationary & office supply items	As per tender	1000/-	45000/-

1. Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is non refundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & **must submit online through website https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**.
2. Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police **(www.mppolice.gov.in)**
3. Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website : **https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
4. **Tender Schedule :-**

No.	Tender Activity	Date & Time
1	Bid Submission Start Date	12.11.2024 at 1700 hrs.
2	Last date of purchase e-Tender document	03.12.2024 up to 1700 hrs.
3	Bid will be opened on	04.12.2024 at 1700 hrs.
4	Demonstration from (नमूनों का मिलान)	09.12.2024 at 1200 hrs.

नोट- विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु M.P. Police Website **(https://www.mppolice.gov.in/en/tenders)** एवं M.P. Tender Website **(https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app)** पर देखें।

A.ING. of Police
SB(G), M.P. Bhopal
Tel. No. 0755-2443654

G-18968/24 **"स्वच्छता ही सेवा"**

बिहार सरकार

भवन निर्माण विभाग, भवन प्रमंडल, लखीसराय

केवल ई. निविदा पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाईट एवं **eproc2.bihar.gov.in** पर

पुनः अतिअल्पकालीन ई0-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना-11/2024-25

कार्य का विवरणी :-

क्र. सं.	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपयें)	अग्रधन की राशि (रूपयें)	परिमाण विपत्र का मूल्य (रूपयें)	बीड प्रोसेसिंग का मूल्य	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1.	लखीसराय जिला मुख्यालय में मॉडल नक्शा पर आधारित 630 क्षमता का सभागार निर्माण कार्य। (विद्युतीकरण कार्य सहित)	14,97,83,000/-	30,00,000/-	10000/-	As Per Website	15 माह

1. विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता:- कार्यपालक अभियंता, भवन प्रमंडल, लखीसराय ।
2. निविदा आमंत्रण की तिथि :- दिनांक-**12.11.2024**
3. परिमाण विपत्र (डाउनलोड करने) एवं निविदा जमा करने(अपलोड करने) का अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :- दिनांक-**21.11.2024** से दिनांक **05.12.2024 तक** को **15:00** बजे तक।
4. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (तकनीकी बीड): दिनांक- **06.12.2024** को **15:30** बजे तक।
5. प्रिबीड मिटिंग की तिथि समय एवं स्थान :- (क) दिनांक- **27.11.2024** को **3.:00** बजे मुख्य अभियंता (द0), भ0नि0वि0 पटना के कार्यालय कक्ष में। (ख) दिनांक-**30.11.2024** को **3.:00** बजे **अधीक्षण अभियंता,** वन अंचल मुंगेर, के कार्यालय कक्ष में
6. निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय (वित्तीय बीड):- तकनीकी बीड का निष्पादन सक्षम प्राधिकार से होने के पश्चात्।
7. परिमाण विपत्र की बिक्री स्थान :- **वेबसाईट (eproc2.bihar. gov.in)**
8. निविदा प्राप्ति का स्थान :- **वेबसाईट (eproc2.bihar. gov.in)**
9. निविदा वैधता की तिथि :- 120 दिन

विस्तृत जानकारी **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

PR. No.012400 (BCD) 2024-25 **कार्यपालक अभियंता भवन प्रमंडल, लखीसराय**

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

GOVT. OF BIHAR

BIHAR COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD

I.A.S. Association Building, Near Patna Airport, Patna-14.

POST GRADUATE MEDICAL ADMISSION COUNSELLING (PGMAC)-2024 for MD / MS / PGD / DNB (Degree & Diploma) in Govt./ Private Medical Colleges of Bihar

Advt. No.- BCECEB(PGMAC)-2024/05 Dated : 14.11.2024 bceceboard.bihar.gov.in

Notice for Round-1 Online Counselling

In continuation to the advertisement no.-BCECEB(PGMAC)-2024/01 & 2024/02 dated 03.11.2024, Rank Card of all eligible candidates who have filled their online registration form successfully and paid the registration fee as well as security deposit in between 04.11.2024 to 08.11.2024 have been uploaded on Board's website. Candidates are advised to download their Rank Card of PGMAC-2024 by clicking the link **"Rank Card of PGMAC-2024"** by submitting their PGMAC ID and Date of Birth.

(2) **Counselling Programme and Online Registration-cum-choice filling process for Online Counselling of UGMAC-2024 has been published through Adv. no. BCECEB(UGMAC)-2024/04 dt. 14.11.2024 which is uploaded on Board's website: bceceboard.bihar.gov.in.** All concerned are requested to go through the advertisement uploaded on Board's website and act accordingly.

Controller of Examination

CORRIGENDUM/ADDENDUM-2

No. EL/1/DB/W/1/Rooftop Solar/2024-25 **Date: 12-11-2024**

The interested bidder are requested to take note of the following corrigendum/addendum in respect of the **Tender Notice No.: EL/1/DB/W/1/Rooftop Solar/2024-25/78, Dated:** 01-10-2024 & TSC: DBWS-2024-TN000001 of website **https://www.bharat-electronictender.com** for the work - "Implementation of Rooftop Solar PV System of capacity 1 MWp (1000kWp) at N.F. Railway Mechanical Workshop, Dibrugarh-786001 (Assam) with the objective of generating and supplying energy to railway installations through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis under Developer Mode.".

SN	Details			
1	It is requested to deposit the amount of Rs.34,810/- (Thirty four thousand Eight hundred Ten only) (Non-refundable) as the cost of RFQ document in the form of DEMAND DRAFT in favour of FA&CAO/MALIGAON /NFR payable at Maligaon, Guwahati (Assam). The scanned copy of the original Demand Draft to be submitted to the Email ID: dyceedbws19@gmail.com before the closing of tender. On submission of the scanned copy of the Demand Draft, the tender documents will be made accessible by the tendering authority (Dy.CEE/DBWS/NFR) on the Bharat Electronics Tender website https://www.bharat-electronictender.com. The original copy of Demand Draft (DD) should also be sent to the postal address - Office of the Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Northeast Frontier Railway Mechanical Workshop, Dibrugarh-786001 (Assam). All terms & conditions as stipulated in the tender documents remains same.			
2	15 days will be extended from the original closing date of the tender. Details are extension is as follows:-			
	Details	**Previous**	**Revised**	
	Date & Time of closure of procurement of tender documents	14-11-2024 at 13:00 hrs.	**29-11-2024 at 13:00 hrs.**	
	Date & Time of Pre-Bid meeting	06-11-2024 at 15:00 hrs.	**20-11-2024 at 15:00 hrs.**	
	Last Date & Time of receipt of bid	14-11-2024 at 15:00 hrs.	**29-11-2024 at 15:00 hrs.**	
	Date & Time of start of tender Opening Event (TOE)	14-11-2024 at 15:30 hrs.	**29-11-2024 at 15:30 hrs.**	
3	**Dispensation for MSMEs**: Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) bidders who are having Valid Udyog Aadhaar certificate will be exempted for payment of Bid Document fee Rs. 34,810/-(Thirty four thousand Eight hundred & Ten) (non refundable) (inclusive of GST). Documentary evidence in respect of above shall require to be submitted. It is clarified here that no other benefit as mentioned above shall be extended to SMEs. MSME bidders must send scanned copy of Valid Udyog Aadhaar certificate to the **Email ID: dyceedbws19@gmail.com** so that tender document may be made accessible.			

Dy.CEE/Mechanical Workshop, Dibrugarh
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

MORARJI DESAI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOGA

Ministry of Ayush, Government of India
68, Ashok Road, New Delhi-110001
Ph.: 23730417-18, 23351099, Telefax: 011-23711657
E-mail: , Website: www.yogamdniy.nic.in

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Walk-in-Interview for engagement of different positions on purely temporary contract basis at Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), 68, Ashok Road, New Delhi-110001 is held as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Maximum Remuneration	Date of Walk-in-Interview
1.	Senior Consultant (Yoga Therapy) (MDNIY)	01	Rs. 75,000/- P.M.	25.11.2024
2.	Consultant (Yoga Therapy) (MDNIY)	03	Rs. 50,000/- P.M	
3.	Consultant (General Admn/Admn) (MDNIY) *	02	Rs. 50,000/- P.M or As per M/O Ayush	
4.	Research Associate (Yoga) (For Yoga Therapy Centres of MDNIY)	04	Rs. 47,000/- + HRA (as per rule)	26.11.2024
5.	Junior Research Fellow (JRF) (For Yoga Therapy Centres of MDNIY)	02	Rs. 31,000/- + HRA (as per rule)	
6.	Domain Expert (Naturopathy)	01	Rs. 75,000/- per month	

Note: The number of vacancies may increase or decrease as per requirement.

*Rs. 50,000/- P.M. plus TA OR Last pay drawn minus basic pension as per Ministry of Ayush letter No. A-41021/4/2020-E-II dated 01.04.2023 plus TA.

The detailed advertisement with the essential qualifications, exper

WPI inflation hits 4-month high of 2.4% in October

Prices of food items, especially vegetables, and manufactured goods led the rise

Auhona Mukherjee

auhona.mukherjee@hindustantimes.com



Inflation for vegetables continued to be high at 63%. HT

NEW DELHI: India's wholesale inflation, as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), rose to a four-month high of 2.4% in October, according to data released by the Union ministry of commerce and industry on Wednesday, mirroring the spike in retail inflation, and also caused by the same underlying factor -- higher food prices.

Sequentially, the WPI print was 0.97%, the highest in six months.

Although an increase in the WPI reading for October was expected, the actual number has surprised analysts as wholesale inflation exceeded a projection of 2.3% by a Bloomberg poll of economists. This rise in October was preceded by a moderation in the last three months.

A disaggregated analysis of the WPI data shows that a spike in the prices of food products was the main reason for the rising WPI print. The prices of primary food articles and the overall food group, which have a weightage of 15.3% and 24.4% in the WPI basket, grew at 13.5% and 11.6% in October compared to 11.5% and 9.5% in September. Inflation for vegetables continued to be high at 63%, with the rate of inflation for staple vegetables such as potatoes rose to 78.7%, compared to 78.1% in September, while that of onions eased to 39.3%, compared to 78.8% in September. Overall, primary food articles became significantly expensive with the WPI print at 13.5% up from only 3.2% last month.

Retail inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose to a 14-month high of 6.2% in October, going above the Reserve Bank of India's tolerance band of 2-4% for the first time since August 2023.

Manufactured goods, which account for 64.2% of the WPI basket, saw an inflation of 1.5% up from 1% in September. Prices of manufactured goods excluding food items continued to contract for the sixth consecutive month in October. A fall in prices of non-food manufactured goods implies a decrease in the prices of inputs for industrial production, which could have a lagged impact on overall inflation.

The increase in food inflation was balanced slightly by a fall in the wholesale inflation for fuel and power, which has a total weightage of 13.2% in the WPI basket. Inflation in the fuel and power component contracted for the third consecutive month at 5.8%, a larger fall than a contraction of 4% in September.

INDIA'S ECONOMY IS WITHSTANDING GLOBAL RISKS: DAS

Bloomberg

feedback@livemint.com

The Indian economy is "sailing through smoothly," even as global growth faces accelerating risks ranging from geopolitical tensions to climate change, according to the country's central bank governor.

The world's fastest-growing major economy is "powered by buffers like strong macroeconomic fundamentals, stable financial system and a resilient external sector," Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das said at a CNBC-TV18 event in Mumbai on Thursday.

The global economy was hit "very hard" by multiple shocks, but synchronized policy action by central banks helped to ease the impact. Even so, the "risk of inflation coming back and growth slowing down do remain," he said.

The central banker's optimistic outlook on India's growth comes at a time when the country is showing a weakening in urban spending.The RBI has stuck to its economic growth projection of 7.2% for the current fiscal year.

Oct merchandise trade deficit widens to $27 bn

Dhirendra Kumar & Rhik Kundu

dhirendra.kumar@livemint.com



The widening deficit underscores persistent challenges in balancing trade despite growth in outbound shipments. REUTERS

NEW DELHI: India's merchandise trade deficit widened to a two-month high in October, driven by a rise in imports, data released by the commerce ministry on Thursday showed.

The goods trade deficit—the difference between exports and imports—stood at $27.14 billion in value terms in October, up from $20.78 billion in September. The deficit was $29.65 billion in August, $23.5 billion in July, $20.98 billion in June, $23.78 billion in May, and $19.1 billion in April. A year ago, the deficit stood at $30.43 billion. Economists had expected the October trade deficit to be $22 billion, according to a Reuters poll.

India's merchandise exports touched $39.2 billion in October, up from $34.58 billion in September and $ 33.43 billion in October 2023, according to government data. However, imports surged to $66.34 billion from $55.36 billion in September and $63.86 billion in October 2023. The widening deficit underscores persistent challenges in balancing trade despite incremental growth in outbound shipments.

Services exports rose to $34.02 billion in October from $30.61 billion in September and $28.05 billion in the year-ago period. They came in at $30.69 billion in August, $28.43 billion in July, $30.27 billion in June, $30.16 billion in May, and $29.57 billion in April.

Services imports also increased to $17 billion in October from $16.32 billion in September and $13.46 billion a year ago. In August, services imports stood at $15.7 billion, compared with $14.55 billion in July, $17.29 billion in June, $17.28 billion in May, and $16.97 billion in April.

The combined value of merchandise and services exports touched $73.21 billion in October, up from $65.19 billion in September and $61.48 billion in the year-ago period. The overall trade deficit, including both services and merchandise, fell to $10.12 billion in October, down from $15.85 billion in October 2023.

India's foreign trade has been affected by weak demand in major markets, geopolitical tensions, and volatile commodity prices, leading to a widening of the trade deficit. Sluggish growth in India's key markets has lowered demand for key exports while rising global fuel costs have increased expenses.

In April, the World Trade Organisation (WTO) had forecast a recovery in global merchandise trade in 2024 following a weak 2023 that was marked by inflation and high energy prices. The WTO expects trade volumes to grow by 2.6% in 2024 and 3.3% in 2025, though geopolitical risks remain.

Engineering goods, petroleum products, electronics, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and readymade garments were key drivers of merchandise exports in October, while major imports included cruel oil, petroleum products, electronic goods and gold.



Last month, the CCPA sent Ola Electric a notice seeking an explanation on the issue.

INDIA TO PROBE OLA ELECTRIC OVER SERVICE STANDARDS

Reuters

feedback@livemint.com

India's top product certification agency will investigate e-scooter maker Ola Electric's deficiency in service standards and product issues, India's consumer affairs secretary told *Reuters* on Thursday.

Last month, the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) sent Ola Electric a notice seeking an explanation from the SoftBank-backed company after the consumer rights agency received an unusually high 10,000 complaints.

Ola, India's top e-scooter maker, responded that it had resolved 99.1% of the complaints.

After reviewing that response, the CCPA has now asked the Bureau of Indian Standards to conduct a detailed investigation into the matter, consumer affairs secretary Nidhi Khare said on Thursday.

Ola Electric did not immediately respond to a *Reuters* email seeking comment.

The complaints were mostly for "minor" issues, Ola's founder Bhavish Aggarwal said on an earnings call last week.

"Two-thirds of it actually are just minor issues like loose parts or customers unfamiliar with the software used," Aggarwal said.

The rising complaints and ensuing regulatory scrutiny have cast a shadow on the e-scooter maker, following its stellar market debut in August.

Ola Electric's shares are down about 7.6% from their listing price of ₹76. On the day, its shares were down about 1%, while auto stocks had risen 0.5%.



India's infrastructure spending and private consumption will support robust economic growth, said the report. MINT

S&P projects 6.5-7% annual growth for economy till 2027

Press Trust of India

feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: S&P Global Ratings on Thursday projected the Indian economy to grow between 6.5-7% annually in the three fiscal years till March 2027 as infrastructure spending and private consumption drive growth momentum.

In its global bank outlook report, S&P also said that good economic growth prospects will continue to support banks' asset quality, while healthy corporate balance sheets, tighter underwriting standards and improved risk management practices will further stabilise asset quality.

It said structural improvements and good economic prospects will support the resilience of India's financial institutions.

"India's infrastructure spending and private consumption will support robust economic growth. We forecast GDP will expand 6.5-7.0% annually in fiscal years 2025-2027 (year ending March 31). India's good economic growth prospects will continue to support banks' asset quality," S&P said.

For the current fiscal, the Reserve Bank has projected economic growth to be 7.2%, lower than 8.2% in 2023-24.

It said higher demand coupled with stronger bank capitalisation will boost bank loan growth but deposit growth will lag.

"We project the banking sector's weak loans will decline to about 3% of gross loans by March 31, 2025, from our estimate of 3.5% as of March 31, 2024. This is on the back of healthy corporate balance sheets, tighter underwriting standards, and improved risk-management practices," it said.

S&P said corporate borrowing has gained momentum, but uncertain external conditions may delay capital expenditure-related growth. Deposits may struggle to keep pace, which would weaken credit-to-deposit ratios. Despite this, banks' overall funding profiles should remain sound.

Underwriting standards for retail loans in India are healthy, and delinquencies in this segment remain manageable. However, unsecured personal loans have grown rapidly and could contribute to incremental non-performing loans, it added.

Blackstone eyes 20% stake in Haldiram's for $8 bn

Reuters

feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Blackstone has dropped plans to acquire a majority stake in the snacks business of India's Haldiram's but is now discussing purchase of a 20% stake at a valuation of $8 billion, which is still a sticking point, sources told *Reuters* on Thursday.

Haldiram's, which Euromonitor International estimates has a share of almost 13% of India's $6.2-billion market for savoury snacks, has more than 150 restaurants, but many foreign investors are salivating over its popular snacks business.

In May *Reuters* reported a consortium led by Blackstone was eyeing a stake of 75% in the business and had made a non-binding bid, but those talks did not materialise as Haldiram's is no longer keen to sell a big stake, said the sources, who sought anonymity as the discussions are private.

"Blackstone is keen to close the transaction as a lot of effort has gone into it," said one source with direct knowledge of the issue.

There is a disconnect over valuation, though, with Haldiram's wanting to value the snacks business at $12 billion, but Blackstone aiming to seal the deal at $8 billion, two of the sources said.

While the first two sources put the size of the stake under discussion at 20%, the third source put it in a range of 15% to 20%, and said Blackstone remains keen to deploy capital in the company.

Haldiram's chief executive Krishan Kumar Chutani and Blackstone declined to comment.

Also in the running for a minority stake in the Indian business, two of the sources said, are Bain Capital, Singapore state investor Temasek and Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), though they gave no details of their further plans.

Temasek said it declines to comment on speculation, Bain declined to comment while ADIA did not respond.

Last year, *Reuters* reported India's Tata Group was in talks with Haldiram's to acquire a majority stake in the entire snacks and restaurants business.

At the time, Haldiram's was seeking a valuation of $10 billion, but those talks ended, and no Tata deal is in the works.

Haldiram's started in 1937 with a tiny shop in the city of Bikaner in the western desert state of Rajasthan.

Urban consumption revival to take six months, says Marico

Reuters

feedback@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Indian consumer goods maker Marico expects urban consumption will take at least six months to revive, its managing director told *Reuters*, signaling more pain for the sector from food inflation which has hit a 15-month high.

With a market cap of $9.12 billion, Marico is best known for its iconic coconut oil brand "Parachute" and edible oil brand "Saffola", and competes with the likes of Hindustan Unilever and Nestle.

India's annual inflation for food items, which account for nearly half of the consumption basket, hit a 15-month high of 10.87% in October, and retail inflation surged to a 14-month high in the same month, driven by a jump in vegetable prices and dashing hopes of an interest rate cut by the central bank next month.

"It will take a couple of quarters for urban consumption to revive. But I think once the food inflation is sorted out to a large extent, urban consumption is expected to recover," Marico chief executive officer and Managing Director Saugata Gupta said in an interview in Mumbai.



Marico's international business contributes 27% of consolidated revenue. MINT

"Whenever there is a food inflation, there is an impact on FMCG (fast moving consumer goods)...consumers either downgrade or titrate consumption," he added. India's middle class, estimated to be a third of its 1.4 billion people, has been cutting spending due to higher food inflation, impacting the earnings of largest consumer goods firms.

Though consumption is mainly affected among the middle- and lower-income classes, there is not much impact on those with high incomes, Gupta said. India has seen high luxury spending in recent months - German luxury car manufacturer Mercedes-Benz' car sales in India grew 13% in first nine months of this year, its best-ever performance, while sales of luxury apartments in country's top seven cities surged nearly 38% during that period.

Marico's international business contributes around 27% of consolidated revenue and it has a strong presence in Bangladesh, Vietnam and the Middle East, and is looking to expand operations in the United States and East Africa, as well as entering the Indonesian market, Gupta said.

In Bangladesh, where Marico has a distribution network of more than 770,000 outlets, the company's operations were briefly disrupted after violent student-led protests that led to the resignation of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in August.

Gupta said Bangladesh's share of Marico's international revenues dropped from 44% in the year ended March 2024 to under 40% now, and could fall further as its grows more in other geographies.

Plan for cities for 100 years, says DLF's KP Singh

Vandana Ramnani

vandana.ramnani@htdigital.in

NEW DELHI: India's urban spaces are a mess, and they get worse during extreme weather events such as heavy rains that flood the streets, causing traffic snarls and other civic woes.

K.P. Singh of DLF Ltd, the country's largest listed real estate developer, believes India needs to completely overhaul its approach to urbanization. "Plan big, but enforce plans with rigidity. In my view, a complete reorientation of thinking is required in urban planning at the top level," he added.

"Plan for cities for 100 years, think big and create surplus bigger spaces," Singh, chairman emeritus at DLF, told Mint, as his new book Why the Heck Not hit the stands.

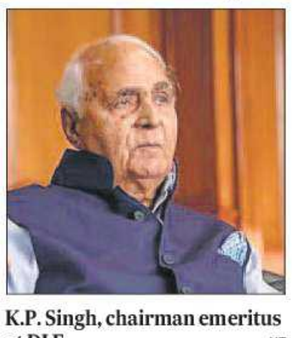
The 95-year-old billionaire emphasized that there is no shortage of spaces but there is a shortage of vision. "India's position in every aspect of urban infrastructure should be based on future thinking. You think ahead, but how much ahead, I say 100 years," he said.

"This (big thinking) cannot be done by people who have grown in scarcity, myopic thinking, bigger vision has to come from the top," he cautioned.

He cited the examples of roads in Lutyens' Delhi and Chandigarh where "you don't see traffic mess even today." The reason, he said, was that when it comes to urban planning, one needs to think far ahead, and the people who planned these roads were visionaries.

If a mistake is made at the time of initial urban planning, course correction may be difficult, Singh cautioned.

"Initially, therefore, you have to plan much bigger than what you think. And as time goes by, you cannot make roads that are narrow, and cannot demolish those houses. In urbanization, if a mistake is made at the time of initial planning, it is very difficult to set it right," he said.



K.P. Singh, chairman emeritus at DLF. HT

"India will grow more than $5 trillion, take it from me. Entrepreneurs will grow India. But, what will happen to this infrastructure?" he asked.

He pointed out that the Mckinsey Global Institute had in 2010 said that India needs to build one Chicago, a large, populous US city, every year to meet its urban development needs.

"But after that not a single city has come up. My gut feeling is that it may not come also. To make a city is the most difficult job - but when you think of new cities, it requires planning, how to get the land, amass land, it is difficult to arrange money, and how to have confidence in people. Take the case of Lavasa... they could not do... Sahara City failed, it is not necessary that every city you make will be a success story, it has to be done very well," he said.

His advice to scores of real estate developers undertaking redevelopment projects is that people cannot be forced out of their homes. "In my view, it is the art of negotiating ... your ability to convince so that they leave amicably," he said.

On wealth creation through land, he said that his father-in-law and DLF founder Chaudhary Raghvendra Singh had anticipated the post-Independence influx of migrants into the city and the subsequent surge in housing demand. He knew that providing land for housing was going to be a massive business opportunity. It is this vision that led to the establishment of the Delhi Land & Finance (DLF) in 1946. From then on, "whoever associates with DLF—it was the farmers first, then the property owners and even the government, because you finance them through external government charges—anyone who associates with you—you must ensure that they also must profit from you," Singh said.

{ THE CROSSWORDS }

CRYPTIC CLUES

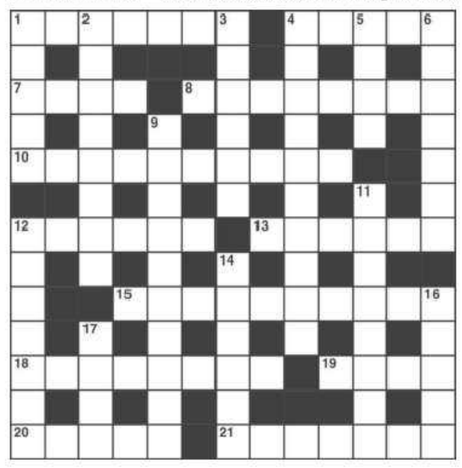
ACROSS

1 Animals about a road are easily frightened (7)
4 Nonsense children are always prepared to swallow (5)
7 Emotional shock of a revolution (4)
8 Again make a sap reduce expenses (8)
10 Possibly desecrated something very private (4,6)
12 Someone wanting more time? (6)
13 Suit the deed (6)
15 Uncast replacements? (5,5)
18 Carousal long overdue (4,4)
19 Whistle for some wine (4)
20 Rush to the youth leader with a shrill voice (5)
21 They provide information for bank employees (7)

DOWN

1 Quoted as being seen when heard (5)
2 Feature film put on before a big fight (3,5)
3 Draw south by boat (6)
4 Useful outlet if things get out of hand at a housewarming (4,6)
5 Agreed it's over (4)
6 Formation of Eastern church Noel arranged (7)
9 Hope to stay involved in medical practice (10)
11 It's highly painful (8)
12 Her tale is garbled but materially correct (7)
14 Supply lines (6)
16 Measures taken to decorate indoors perhaps (5)
17 A monster spiller of gore (4)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

1 Depart from main subject (7)
4 Class of objects (5)
7 Spruce (4)
8 Contest of strength (3,2,3)
10 Elicit no response (4,1,5)
12 Slant backward (6)
13 Reside in (6)
15 Quite soon (6,4)
18 To swamp (8)
19 Set of papers kept for reference (4)
20 Hidden stock (5)
21 Central mass (7)

DOWN

1 No longer in fashion (5)
2 Leadership (8)
3 Sudden strong wind (6)
4 Aircraft's maintenance team (6,4)
5 Fresh information (4)
6 Unkempt (7)
9 Unsentimentally practical (4-6)
11 Hold in reserve (3,2,3)
12 Nonsense (7)
14 Scene of 'Tea Party' 1773 (6)
16 Conjecture (5)
17 A Caribbean country (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS (17017)

CRYPTIC

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QUICK

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{ SUDOKU }

DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★

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5				2		3		

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9X9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

{ WEATHER }

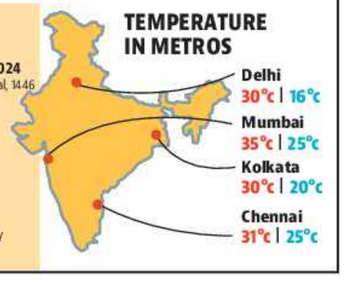
TEMPERATURE ▪HIGH ▪LOW

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Dense fog	Moderate fog	Fog mist in the morning and mainly clear sky later
30°c | 16°c	30°c | 16°c	30°c | 16°c

ALMANAC
Today is
15th November 2024
- 12 Jumada Al-Awwal, 1446
- 30 Kartika, Shukla Paksha, Purnima
- Samvat 2081

Sunset: Friday at 05:27 p.m.
Sunrise: Saturday at 06:44 a.m.
Moonrise: Friday at 04:51 p.m.
Moonset: Saturday at 07:05 a.m.

TEMPERATURE IN METROS



buzz

KP Group appoints Dr Alok Das as group CEO

KP Group announced the appointment of Dr Alok Das as its new Group CEO, effective from November 11. With over 30 years of experience in the renewable energy sector, Dr Das's expertise will be instrumental in guiding 35 companies within the KP Group, including KPI Green Energy and KP Energy, toward new heights in sustainable energy.

BHEL emerges as successful bidder for Thermal Power Plant of NTPC

BHEL emerged as the successful bidder in a major contract of NTPC Ltd for the establishment of the main plant package of the 3x800 MW Telangana Stage-II supercritical thermal power plant. Under the contract, BHEL's scope of work includes design, engineering, manufacturing, supply, erection, commissioning, and civil construction.

State Trading Enterprises observe Vigilance Awareness Campaign

In compliance with CVC's directions, a campaign from Aug 16 to Nov 15 was undertaken on different preventive vigilance measures, under the supervision of Anurag Prasad, Chief Vigilance Officer, in the State Trading Enterprises, namely MMTC, State Trading Corporation of India Ltd, PEC Limited and Export Import Council under Department of Commerce.

SRMJEEE 2025 admissions announced for SRM Institutes

SRMIST will hold its SRM Joint Entrance Examination for Engineering (SRMJEEE) 2025 in three phases: April, June, and July 2025. Applications opened on Nov 12. The exam will be conducted remotely, allowing candidates to take it from home. SRMIST has a strong recruitment record, with over 5,000 job offers and 1,100 recruitment drives in 2024, including top companies like Amazon, IBM, PayPal, and Deloitte.

Rajasthan Vidyut Prasaran Nigam records profit of Rs 65 Crore in Q2

Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam recorded a profit of Rs 65 cr in the second quarter of FY 2024-25. Chairman of Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam, Alok, informed that in the 325th Board Meeting of the Corporation, the accounts for the second quarter of FY 2024-25 were approved by the Board, which states, total income of the Corporation stood at approximately Rs 1,104 cr and total expenditure at approximately Rs 1,039 cr.

India-Sri Lanka Coast Guards strengthen ties at 7th annual high-level meeting



The 7th Annual High-Level Meeting (HLM) between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Sri Lanka Coast Guard (SLCG) was conducted on Nov 11 at Colombo, Sri Lanka marked a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts to combat transnational maritime crime and promote regional cooperation. This annual meeting follows the institutionalised mechanism as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between both maritime agencies in May 2018.

The four-member ICG delegation was led by DG S Paramesh, PTM, TM, Director General, Indian Coast Guard while the SLCG side was led by Rear Admiral YR Serasinghe, Director General, Sri Lanka Coast Guard.

AKGEC triumphs as 'Best State Sports Team'



AKGEC showcased outstanding sportsmanship at the State-level Sports Fest, hosted by AKTU at SRMCEM in Lucknow from Nov 12 to 13. The college's teams achieved a commendable 10 gold, 3 silver, and 2 bronze medals, earning accolades for their formidable skills and commitment.

TMB celebrates its 103rd Foundation Day



TMB celebrated its 103rd Foundation Day at AVM Kamalavel Mahal. The bank invited Padma Shri Dr Sridhar Vembu, CEO & Co-Founder @ Zoho Corporation as the Chief Guest, and TES Fathu Rabbani, Chairman, Seyad Group of Companies, Tirunelveli as the Guest of Honour.

AIIB and DEA delegates visit RRTS corridor



A high-level delegation comprising the Board of Directors of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) accompanied by senior officials of DEA and the Ministry of Finance, who visited the first RRTS corridor, connecting Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Meerut, as part of their visit.

Kendriya Vidyalaya celebrates Children's Day with fervour



The inaugural ceremony of the Children's Day commenced with Principal Rabindra Kumar, Vice Principal Rosy Puniyani, Headmaster Abhijat Srivastava and CCA in-charge Shipra Negi along with other senior staff members offering garlands to the portrait of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, symbolising respect and gratitude.

NBCC profit jumps on YoY basis

The Board of Directors held a meeting on Nov 13, and approved the Financial Results of the company for the Quarter and Half Year ended on Sept 30, 2024. The company reported PBT of Rs 272.27 cr on standalone basis and Rs 309.74 cr on a consolidated basis showing growth of 45.02 per cent and 48.51 per cent respectively on a YoY basis for half year ended on Sept 30. The company earned Profit After Tax (PAT) of Rs 210.32 cr on a standalone basis and Rs 232.33 cr on a consolidated basis for the half year ended on Sept 30.

HUDCO announces financial results for H1FY25

Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd (HUDCO) reported remarkable financial performance in H1FY25, with key achievements including a record Rs 76,472 crore in loan sanctions (10x YoY growth) and Rs 21,699 crore in disbursements (6x YoY growth). Profit After Tax rose 39% to Rs 1,246.37 crore, while revenue grew 27% to Rs 4,706.07 crore. HUDCO also improved asset quality, reducing Gross NPAs to 2.04%. These results reflect HUDCO's strategic focus and growth, enhancing its industry standing.

MHA approves India's first all-women CISF battalion



In a landmark decision aimed at empowering women and enhancing their role in national security, MHA, approved the establishment of the first all-women battalion of CISF. CISF has been a preferred choice for women who wish to serve the nation in the Central Armed Police Force constituting over 7% of the force at present. The addition of a Mahila battalion would encourage more aspiring young women across the country to join CISF and serve the nation. It will give a new identity to women in CISF. The CISF HQrs started preparations for the early recruitment, training and selection of locations for the HQrs of the new Battalion.

BEML wins awards across multiple categories

BEML Ltd was honoured with multiple awards at the 18th Global Communications Conclave and the 14th PRCI Excellence Awards. It highlights BEML's achievements in communication and its dedication to nation-building commitment. BEML's team received accolades across categories for innovative and impactful communication efforts, including Multi-Channel Communications, Change Communication Campaign, Corporate Brochure, Channel Partner Engagement, and the Chanakya Award for Excellence in Investor Engagement.

HUDCO observes Vigilance Awareness Week

Under the aegis of the CVC, HUDCO observed Vigilance Awareness Week from Oct 28 to Nov 3, 2024. This year's theme, "Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity," underscored the importance of integrity in public life. The week aligned with the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, emphasising vigilance's role in national prosperity. To mark the occasion, Sanjay Kulshrestha, CMD HUDCO, administered the integrity pledge to employees, reinforcing their commitment to uphold integrity and transparency.



Rakesh Kumar Jain, Director (Finance), GAIL (India) Ltd was honoured as the "Top 50 Visionary CFO in India" at the National Economic Growth Summit 2024 organised by Bharat 24 News. He was honoured for his exceptional leadership.



IEPFA in collaboration with NCAER and the BSE organised a workshop on "Digitalisation of Financial Education: A Modern Approach for Investor Protection and Capital Market Development," at the BSE International Convention Hall.



POWERGRID acquired four Project SPVs for Inter-State Transmission Projects: Khavda PS1 and 3 Transmission Ltd, Barmer I Transmission Ltd from PFCCL, and Bikaner A and B Power Transmission Ltd from RECPDCL.



VIT celebrated its 40th anniversary with honourable former VP of India, M Venkaiah Naidu as the chief guest who inaugurated the Ruby Jubilee celebrations, Sarojini Naidu ladies' hostel block and RG Tower staff quarters in VIT.



India International School and IIS World School, hosted their Annual Function Cum Awards 2024 at Birla Auditorium on Nov 12, where IISians showcased their talents, earning praise from Chief Guest Satish Kumar Garg.



Day 4 of the Gomti Book Festival honoured Munshi Newal Kishore, founder of Newal Kishore Press, with Padma Shri Ranjit Bhargav, Nita Dube, and Himanshu Bajpayee celebrating his impact on Lakhnawi culture.



A review meeting of SBM-G for the North-East region was held in Guwahati, Assam, chaired by CR Patil, with ministers from Sikkim, Manipur, Mizoram, and senior officials, including Secretary Ashok Kumar Kaluram Meena.



On Nov 13, the Coast Guard District Headquarters at Lakshadweep received a medical evacuation request for 68-year-old. The ICG Regional HQ promptly responded with a night evacuation via an ICG Dornier aircraft.



Team India, with 15 players at the World Cup ITF Taekwon-Do Games in Uzbekistan, brought glory through the Taekwon-Do Association of India. Two NSR Taekwon-Do club students won 1 gold, 1 silver, and 2 bronze medals.



The 5th convocation of NIFTEM-K on 11th Nov awarded degrees to 764 students, including 408 BTech, 233 MTech, 84 MBA, and 39 PhD scholars, with dignitaries like Anita Praveen and Prof V Ramgopal Rao in attendance.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender No.: PRYJ-Sig-414-2024-25 **Date:** 12.11.2024

E-TENDER NOTICE

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer / Coordination / North Central Railway / Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite **E-TENDER** on prescribed form for the following works up to **15.00** hrs. on **11.12.2024.** The details of the Tender is as under:-

Name of Work: Conversion of K-point into motor operated points at 04 stations of Sr. DSTE/ALJN Over Prayagraj Division.

Approx. Cost of Work (in Rs.): ₹ 19474918.94 (Rs. One Crore Ninety Four Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighteen and Ninety Four Paisa Only.)

Bid Security/Earnest Money (in Rs.): ₹ 247400.00

Completion Period: 12 Months | **Date of Closing of Tender: 11.12.2024**

Availability of tender form: Tender forms shall be available on **www.ireps.gov.in** 21 days prior to date of opening of the tender. **Earnest Money to be deposited:** The prescribed amount of Earnest Money as mentioned above must be deposited along with the tender form. The tenderer(s) should note that, Tenders without earnest money shall be summarily rejected. **Time, Date & Place of Opening of Tender:** Tender will be opened through E-tender at office of Divisional Railway Manager, Prayagraj on or after pre determined date at **15.30 hours.** In case tender opening date happens to be holiday, Tenders will be opened on the next working day. **Validity of offer:** 60 days from the date of opening. **Right of Railway to deal with tender:** Railway administration reserves the rights to postpone/modify or to cancel the tender without assigning any reasons. **1980/24 (A)**

f North central railways | @CPRONCR | www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

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NORTHERN RAILWAY

e-Open E-Tender Notice

Sr. Divisional Engineer-I/Northern Railway, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India invites e-tender on the prescribed form for the under noted work.

Name of work with location, cost of work and Earnest Money	Narwana-Kurushetra-Rebuilding of Bridge No. 6, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24, 27, (RCC slab Bridge) & 62 (Arch Bridge) on NRW-KKDE section in the section of SSE/W/KKDE under ADEN/KUN. **Approx Cost : Rs. 23647127.49/- Earnest Money: Rs. 268200/-**

Earnest Money should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note : FDR or Demand Draft will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter No. 2015/CE-I/CT/5/I dated 31.08.2016.

Completion Period	06 Months
Date and time of submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15.00 hrs on **06.12.2024** opening of e-tender at 15.00 hrs on **06.12.2024**
Website particulars, published-tender, notice location etc complete details of tender can be seen and web site where the tender form can be downloaded	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in
Similar nature of work	Construction of Bridges with pipe & box pushing technic/crossing of underground cable/pipe line etc.

NOTE: All attachments must be self attested by the tenderers and the affidavit should be submitted in the new format attached with tender conditions as per Annexure-XXIV is compulsorily.

No. 128-W/280/Tender Notice/24-25/W-I (NIT-52) Date : 14.11.2024 3542/2024

Serving Customers With A Smile

Government of Rajasthan
Office of the Chairman, NEET PG Admission/Counseling Board-2024
SMS Medical College, Jaipur, Rajasthan I Phone: 0141-2619020
https://medicaleducation.rajasthan.gov.in/me/#/home/dptHome
www.rajpgneet2024.org

No. State PG Counseling Board/2024/ **Dated: 14.11.2024**

NOTIFICATION

State Medical PG Seats (M.D/M.S)/Post MBBS DNB/Post MBBS Diploma Allotments-2024

In continuation to Notifications dated 23.09.2024 and 30.10.2024 (Inviting one-time registration on-line from 25.09.2024 to 02.11.2024 for MD/MS, Post MBBS DNB and Post MBBS Diploma courses in Rajasthan), subsequent schedule for choice filling and allotment process (Round 1) will be as below:

Schedule for Allotment process (Round 1)

Application form (One-time Registration) Start date for filling of on-line application form and deposition of required **application fee** **It is a mandatory step for subsequent process of counseling and allotment. Both the parts (Part 1 and Part 2) of the application form must be filled and completed.**	**Completed on 02.11.2024**
Last date for depositing the application fee at the website	**Completed on 02.11.2024**
Last date for submitting the on-line application form at the website	**Completed on 02.11.2024**
Publication of Provisional Merit List	18.11.2024
Publication of Provisional Seat Matrix	19.11.2024
Deposition of security amount (refer the Instructions Booklet for details)	19.11.2024 to 23.11.2024 (4.00 pm)
On-line choice filling locking of the choices by the candidates (including filling up and saving of the choices/changing the filled choices multiple times)	19.11.2024 to 23.11.2024 (11.45 pm) (choices auto-locked at 11.45 pm on 23.11.2024)
Verification of Disability certificate (issued by 16 centers approved by MCC) of all persons with disabilities (PwD), candidates of all categories (at 9.00 am sharp at Academic Block, SMS Medical College, Jaipur) **All such candidates must present themselves physically along with all original relevant documents, before the Board**	23.11.2024, 9.00 am
Verification, Allotment and Reporting by State NEET PG 2024 Registered Eligible Sr. Demonstrator candidates for In-Service Quota (sub quota), (before the Board, at 9.00 am at Academic Block, SMS Medical College, Jaipur) **All such candidates must present themselves physically along with all original relevant documents only after depositing security amount.**	23.11.2024, 9.00 am
Publishing of provisional seat matrix (after Sr. Demonstrator allotments)	23.11.2024
Printing of the on-line application form after auto-locking of the choices filled and saved by the candidates	24.11.2024
Publishing of the provisional allotment list	26.11.2024 (midnight)
Printing of allotment letter, on-line, through website, by the candidates	28.11.2024 to 03.12.2024 (till 5.00 pm)
Deposition of prescribed one year tuition fee by allotted candidates through NEFT and RTGS only (No other mode of fee deposition will be accepted)	28.11.2024 to 03.12.2024 (till 5.00 pm)
Reporting, document submission (including prescribed eligibility criteria) at the allotted college desk at Academic Block, SMS Medical College, Jaipur along with printout of allotment letter, all original documents, required bonds etc. and 2 copies of application form along with Self attested photocopies (one set) of all relevant documents as listed in information booklet	28.11.2024 to 04.12.2024 (10.00 am to 5.00 pm)
Commencement of academic session	20.12.2024
Further Processes	To be published later

1. Refer Information booklet, college Information sheet and college fee structure etc. and other information at the website Regarding fee, also refer order dated 19.05.2022 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in civil appeal no. 3978-3995/2017.
2. **All PWD candidates** must present themselves physically for document verification before the admission board on 23.11.2024 as per the notification and the list to be made available at the website.
3. **All Eligible senior Demonstrators** must present themselves physically with all applicable original documents for verification and allotment before the admission board on 23.11.2024 as per the notification.
4. The candidates are advised to visit the websites regularly for registration and other relevant information.

Chairman
NEET PG Admission/Counseling Board-2024
Dipr/c/11333/2024 **Jaipur, Rajasthan**

RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPURTHALA

Open tenders through E-tendering are invited on & behalf of President of India by Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15.30 Hrs or the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter. **(1) Tender No:** RCF/EL/TS/ET/101H/2023-24 **Name of Work:** Rewiring Type II qtrs (160 units) in RCF HSQ & Type-IV qtrs (DS)(155 units) Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthla **Approx. Cost(Rs):** ₹ 12751746.00 **Bid EMD (Rs):** ₹ 213800.00 **Period of Completion :** 12 Months. **Date of closing & opening :** 05.12.2024 **1.** Tenderers are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligible documents including PAN/TIN/GST as per conditions. **2.** The required Bid security will be acceptable On-line payment through Net Banking/or Payment Gateway only well before & upto 15.30 Hrs of closing date & time of tender. **3.**Tenderers should have class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in e-Tendering of works tenders. **4.** For detail, please log on IREPS website www.IREPS.Gov.in **5.** GST will be levied as per GST Act.2017. **Dy CEE/PS**

PCE/RCF acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders on website **www.ireps.gov.in** closing date **14.12.2024 at 11:00 a.m.** Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. **Tender No.** RCF-CE-WA-EOT-54-24-25, **Name of Works:** Request for Proposal (RFP) for providing Project Supervision Services (PSS) at Various Construction Sites for Projects being executed by Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala. **Date of opening: 14.12.2024 at 11:05 a.m, Tender Closing Date & Time: 14.12.2024 at 11:00 a.m Bidding Start Date:** 30.11.2024 **Advertised Value:** ₹ 1,50,53,194.08 **Validity of offer :** 120 days **Bidding Style :** Single rate for each Schedule **Period of Completion :** 18 Months **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,25,300.00, **Tender Document cost :** ₹ 0.00, **Note :-** Credentials/documents received from the tenderers after opening of the tenders shall not be given cognizance. **PCE**

Sealed Open Tenders are invited by Dy. Chief Engineer on behalf of President of India, for the licensing of under mentioned Shops.**Tender No.** RCF/CE/WA/OT/53/24-25 **Name of Work:** Licensing of Shop No. 09, 12, 14, 16, 17, 29, 38 & 39, 41, 66, 68, 88, 89, 91, 98-A,105, 111 & 115 in RCF, Kapurthala (Shop no. 17 reserved for Barber shop exclusive for males, Shop no. 38 & 39 reserved for Bank/E-Lobby, Shop no. 41 reserved for Fruits & Vegetables). **Cost of Tender Document : ₹ 590/-** to be submitted by DD/Banker's Cheque, in f/o PFA&CAO/RCF payable at Kapurthala or Money Receipts issued by cashier, RCF/Kapurthala. (FDR /Pay Order are **not acceptable**). (₹ 590/- extra, if Tender Documents required by mail) **Tender form can be purchased from:** The office of Principal Chief Engineer, Admin. Building, Rail Coach Factory Kapurthala between 10.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. on any working day from 28/11/2024 to 12/12/2024 (on Saturday the tender sale will be upto 12.30 hrs). **Earnest Money Deposit : ₹ 20,000/-** EMD is acceptable in the form Cash Receipt issued by Cashier RCF/Kapurthala, DD, Banker's Cheque, FDR or Pay Order in favour of PFA&CAO/RCF, payable at Hussainpur (Kapurthala) Offers without EMD will be summarily rejected. **Licensing Period:** 05 Years. **Date, Time & place for submission of tender:** Upto 11.00 hrs. of 13.12.2024 in the office of the Principal Chief Engineer, Admin Building, Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. Late offers are liable to be rejected. **Date, Time & place for Opening of tender: On 13.12.2024 at 11.05 hrs.** in the office of the Principal Chief Engineer, Admin, Building,Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala. The tenders will be opened at 11.05 hrs. on the same day in presence of tenderers/their representatives, present at the time of opening of the tenders. If the office is closed on the stipulated date and ttme due to some unforeseen holiday, tenders will be received up to and opened on the next working day at the same place and time. **Website particulars:** Tender documents can be downloaded from www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in Cost of tender documents to be deposited along with offer through Cash Receipt issued by Cashier RCF/Kapurthala, DD, Banker's Cheque (FDR/Pay Order are not acceptable) if downloaded from net. In case, the tender is not accompanied with the cost of tender documents as detailed above, the tenders will be summarily rejected. **Note:- (i)** Only two shops will be allotted to any applicant in his/her name or in the name of his/her spouse. Any applicant who found defaulter against this condition later on, the shop allotted to him/her liable to be cancelled and earnest money/security deposit against the new shop will be forfeited. (ii) The tender notice is available on web-site **www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in** **Dy.CE**

No.86-M/2024-25 | **Dated: 14.11.2024**

NOTICE TO THE RESPONDENT TO SHOW CAUSE
[SCR, Order XXII]
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

PETITION FOR SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) No(s) 6150-6151 OF 2023
WITH
I.A. No. 195399/2024 - APPLICATION FOR APPLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 CPC FOR EFFECTING SERVICE THROUGH PUBLICATION

PT. BHAGWAT DAYAL SHARMA, PGIMS ...Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s)
VERSUS
KAPIL AND OTHERS ...Respondent(s)

To,
SURINDER SINGH S/O BISHAN SINGH, R/O Q.NO. 101/14J, MEDICAL CAMPUS, ROHTAK DISTRICT- ROHTAK, HARYANA

PID: 221632/2024 FOR R[7] IN SLP(C) NO. 6150-6151/2023 (SECIV B)

Whereas the Petition for SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) above-mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the Registry by **Mr. ROBIN KHOKHAR**, advocate on-record, on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named, was listed for hearing before the Court on 24th March, 2023 and the Court was pleased to pass the following order:

"Delay condoned.

Issue notice, returnable in four weeks.

In the meantime, there shall be an interim stay of the impugned order."

AND WHEREAS, the service of show cause notice could not be effected on unserved Respondent No. 7 and the matter above-mentioned was listed before **Ld. Registrar's Court** on **25th September, 2024**, when the following order was passed:-

"Respondent nos, 1,3 and have filed counter affidavit. Service is complete on respondent nos. 2,4 and 5 but none has entered appearance. Ld. Counsel for the petitioner has instead of curing the defects in the proof of publication in respect of respondent no. 7, filed fresh application for substituted service. Same is allowed. Proof of publication be filed within four weeks of such publication.

List again on 17.12.2024."

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above matter(s) will be posted for hearing before the Court in due course when you appear before this Court either in person or through an advocate on record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within thirty days from the date of publication of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why special leave and interim relief, as prayed for, be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed.

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rule VI of Order XXII, SCR 2013, within thirty days from the date of publication of notice or not later than two weeks before the dated appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court against whose order the SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance, as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Dated: 27th September, 2024

RO NO. 1241/11/62/2025/30323/C/19/7 **ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE NO-17 Dt. 14.11.24

Website www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in Email :- cos@ner.railnet.gov.in

Invitation of tenders through e- Procurement system

Principal Chief Material Manager., North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur- 273012 and on behalf of The President of India, invites tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items. Complete description of the item and other condition are available on www.ireps.gov.in

Item No.	Tender Number	Due On	Brief Description of Stores	Reserved to be procured from
1	29231045	23.12.24	Contact Tip for plug in Type Relay Style etc	--------
2	22231099A	23.12.24	Lateral Bump Stop for FIAT bogies etc	MCF,ICF, RCF
3	22241319	16.12.24	POH Kit for KE Make Distributor Valve etc	MCF,ICF, RCF
4	30231221C	16.12.24	Sealed maintenance free valve regulated etc	--------
5	29231064B	16.12.24	Set of Assembly parts of-60kg TWS clamp etc	--------
6	22241314	16.12.24	SET OF CONNECTOR KBI PART NO STN 30979 etc	--------
7	24240295B	16.12.24	AOH KIT FOR ELGI COMPRESSOR MODEL etc.	--------
8	30241143A	11.12.24	4.5 KW, 110 VOLT BRUSHLESS ALTERATOR WIT etc	--------
9	29231035	11.12.24	Punching Item set used in Contact group etc	--------
10	22241511A	10.12.24	Dustbin assembly (Complete) to ICF Drg. etc	------
11	29245063	09.12.24	Supply, Installation Testing & commissioning etc	RDSO
12	29231042	09.12.24	Set of Magnetic path Assembly for QN-1 R etc	--------
13	26245016A	09.12.24	Fabrication/ Manufacturing and supply etc	RDSO
14	24241073	02.12.24	SUB KIT IOH-1 FOR TAP CHANGER TYPE N-32 etc	--------
15	22241961	29.11.24	High tensile tight centre buffer coupler etc	RDSO
16	22242085	29.11.24	Levelling Valve for Air Spring as per RDSO etc	RDSO

Principal Chief Material Managar, Gorakhpur

CPRO/S-72

DO NOT SMOKE BIDI/CIGARETTE IN TRAINS