



**KTR GETS RELIEF
FROM HIGH COURT
TILL 30 DECEMBER**

P6



**'OPPN SHOULD RAISE ISSUES
BY FOLLOWING RULES
INSTEAD OF DISRUPTING PARL'**

P5



**'PEOPLE'S NEEDS
DROVE ME'**

P9

**SAM KONSTAS JOINS OZ
SQUAD FOR LAST 2
TESTS OF BGT SERIES**

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WEATHER

Partly cloudy. Showers likely in the afternoon. Maximum and minimum temperatures likely to be around 36 °C and 29 °C respectively.

RAINFALL: NIL
RELATIVE HUMIDITY
Max. 92% Min. 77%
TEMPERATURE
Max: 36.2 °C Min: 29.3 °C
SUN RISES 06:12 hrs SUN SETS 16:57 hrs
MOON RISES 22:38 hrs MOON SETS 10:43 hrs

New Moon on 31 December

THUMBNAILS



A crowd of devotees outside Ajmer Sharif Dargah in Ajmer on Friday. ■ ANI

Ex-Haryana CM Chautala dies at 89: Om Prakash Chautala, a five-time Chief Minister and towering figure of Haryana, passed away at the age of 89. The son of former Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal, he died after suffering a cardiac arrest at his residence in Gurugram. The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, expressed his anguish at the death of the former Haryana CM. The state funeral of the former CM shall take place at Teja Khara Farm, Sirsa, at 3 pm on Saturday.

Curtains come down on a stormy session

Both Houses of Parliament adjourned sine die amid escalating tensions

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

The Winter Session of Parliament ended with the adjournment sine die of the two Houses on Friday without transacting any business amid escalating tensions between ruling NDA members and those on the Opposition benches over the Ambedkar issue.

Before the two Houses were adjourned, the two important Bills relating to 'One Nation, One Election' were referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks on B R Ambedkar in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday have triggered a storm with Opposition Members demanding an apology from him or his dismissal, leading to frequent disruptions and frequent adjournment of the two Houses.

This morning, the Lok Sabha was adjourned sine die shortly after it began the proceedings, a day after a massive scuffle in



the Parliament premises which resulted in injuries to two BJP MPs--Mukesh Rajput and Pratap Chandra Sarangi.

Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal today moved a motion that the Bills to further amend the Constitution of India, the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 be referred to a JPC. The motion was approved by the House amid din.

The 27 Lok Sabha members on the JPC include P P Chaudhary, Dr C M Ramesh, Bansuri

Swaraj, Anurag Singh Thakur, Bhartuhari Mahtab, Dr Sambit Patra, Anil Baluni, Dr Sanjay Jaiswal, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Manish Tewari, Sukhdeo Bhagat, Dharmendra Yadav, Chhotelal, Kalyan Banerjee, Anil Yeshwant Desai, Supriya Sule and Dr Shrikant Eknath Shinde. There are 12 members from the Rajya Sabha.

In order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum will be one-third of the total number of members of the JPC. The Committee will submit its report to the Lok Sabha by the first day of the last week of the next session.

Speaker warns of action over protests on Parl premises

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

Lok Sabha Speaker PM Birla on Friday warned the members that there should not be any sort of protests at the 'dwar' of Parliament, and said that action will be taken in case this is violated.

The House was adjourned sine die.

The Speaker said that there should be no protest at any of the "dwar" of Parliament, adding that "it is not appropriate". He said Parliament will have to take appropriate action in case of violation. "Maintaining the dignity of Parliament is collective responsibility," he pointed out. The Lok Sabha was adjourned sine die shortly after it began proceedings for the day, a day after massive Parliament scuffle.

TMC to hold protest rallies on Monday against Shah's Ambedkar remarks

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, in a statement, accused the BJP of systematically demolishing the country's constitutional ethos and "tearing apart the democratic values and the principles that bind the Indians as a nation"



AGENCIES

KOLKATA, 20 DECEMBER

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday announced that her Trinamul Congress will organise block-level and ward-level protest rallies on 23 December condemning the recent remarks by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah about Dr B.R. Ambedkar.

Noting that Ambedkar envisioned a nation built on values of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, where all classes, castes, creeds, and communities could live in harmony, Miss Banerjee, in a statement, said: "This is not just an insult to Babasaheb but an attack on the entire Drafting Committee of the Indian Constitution, an assault on the legacy of our freedom fighters, and a betrayal of our Dalit and Adivasi brethren."

"To condemn this, we will organise protest rallies across all blocks of Bengal and every ward of Kolkata on 23rd December, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. I urge you to join us in this fight to defend Babasaheb's legacy and our Constitutional spirit. Let's unite to hold the BJP accountable for their unforgivable actions."

Miss Banerjee, who is also Trinamul Congress chairperson, further accused the BJP of systematically demolishing the country's constitutional ethos and "tearing apart the democratic values and the principles that bind the Indians as a nation".

According to her, the comments about Ambedkar are reflections of the BJP's culture of hate and intolerance.

The Union Home Minister

was in West Bengal on Friday to address a programme at Siliguri in the Darjeeling district on the occasion of the 61st Raising Day of the Sashastra Seema Bal.

The Chief Minister had been quite vocal on Mr Shah's recent comments about Ambedkar. On Thursday, on two separate occasions for the forthcoming Christmas festival, she said that she was really shocked over comments made about Ambedkar.

Earlier on Wednesday, she had issued a statement where she claimed that as the Indian Parliament reflected on 75 years of the Constitution, the Union Home Minister chose to tarnish this occasion with derogatory remarks against Ambedkar and that "too in the temple of democracy".

'Intensify efforts against anti-India elements'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SILIGURI, 20 DECEMBER

Union Home Minister Amit Shah today urged the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) to intensify its efforts to identify and take action against anti-India elements operating along the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders.

Addressing the SSB's 61st Raising Day Anniversary at Ranidanga in Siliguri, Mr. Shah commended the force's vigilance in guarding the unfenced 2,450-kilometre-long borders with the two neighbouring countries.

"SSB has been diligently securing these borders, but it is crucial to monitor and



curb anti-India activities along these regions. Identifying such elements and ensuring they are brought to justice is essential for national security," Mr Shah said. He emphasised the strategic significance of the Siliguri Corridor, which connects the north-eastern states and lies between the Mahananda and Teesta rivers.

"The Siliguri Corridor

(close to the Chicken Neck region) is extremely sensitive. SSB's responsibilities here are heightened, and I am confident in their ability to safeguard the nation's interests," he added. Highlighting the SSB's achievements, Mr Shah lauded its role in maintaining border security and fostering trust and friendship with local communities.

During his speech, Mr Shah highlighted the SSB's efforts in reclaiming significant tracts of government land that were allegedly encroached upon, doing so with zero tolerance and without any conflict, in line with the Indo-Nepal Friendship Treaty.

Delhi raises with Washington Pannun's threat to Indian envoy

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

India has raised with the United States the threat issued by Sikh separatist Gurbatwint Singh Pannun to Indian Ambassador to the USA, Vinay Mohan Kwatra and hoped Washington will take New Delhi's security concerns seriously.

"We take the threats very seriously and we raise it with the US government. In this case, also, we have raised it with the US government and it is our expectation that the US government will take our security concerns seriously,"

Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at a media briefing on Friday. In a recent video message, Mr Pannun accused Ambassador Kwatra of being the face of the "India-Russia terror nexus," claiming he is under surveillance by pro-Khalistan groups. Mr Pannun alleged that Mr Kwatra has been coordinating with Russian diplomats to counter Khalistani activism in North America. The US govt, taking such threats seriously, has reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring the safety of Indian diplomats and others serving in the country.

India lodges protest with Dhaka over social media post of Bangladesh chief adviser's aide

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

India has registered a strong protest with Bangladesh over the recent comments made in a social media post by Mahfuz Alam, a close aide of Bangladesh Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, in which he reportedly threatened to capture parts of India on 'Vijay Diwas', the day that marks India's victory over Bangladesh in the 1971 war.

"We have registered our strong protest on this issue with the Bangladesh side. We understand that the post being referred to has report-



edly been taken down. We would like to remind all concerned to be mindful of their public comments," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal (photo) said at a media briefing.

He said that while India

has repeatedly signalled interest in fostering cordial relations with the people and the interim government of Bangladesh, such comments underline the need for responsibility in public articulation.

In his social media post that he subsequently withdrew following widespread backlash, Mr Alam highlighted cultural similarities between his country and parts of India, which he claimed, transcend religious differences.

He also shared a map portraying the Indian states of West Bengal, Tripura, and Assam as territories of Bangladesh.

AP woman receives parcel with decomposed body

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
HYDERABAD, 20 DECEMBER

A woman in Andhra Pradesh who was expecting a consignment containing electrical appliances for her home received a wooden crate containing a partially decomposed body and a threat letter demanding Rs 1.3 crore.

The incident occurred last evening at Yendagandi village in West Godavari district at the under-construction house of Naga Tulasi. The woman who had been abandoned by her husband previously, was building her own home at a site allotted to her by the government. She had requested aid from the Kshatriya Seva Samithi which had earlier sent her tiles and other construction material. This time she was expecting a consignment of electrical goods. She had earlier received a WhatsApp message which said the goods would be delivered to her. The consignment was delivered in an autorickshaw.

Upon opening the crate, she found a plastic-wrapped object which turned out to be the decomposed body of a man, approximately 45 years of age. Apart from



Police at the scene. ■ AGENCIES

the body, the crate also contained a letter demanding Rs 1.3 crore.

It claimed that the missing husband of Tulasi had borrowed Rs 3 lakh, which with interest had compounded to Rs 1.3 crore.

The family then called the police. The Superintendent of Police of West Godavari visited the site for investigations and the police removed the body to the Bhimavaram government hospital to conduct an autopsy. Initial investigations suggest the man has been dead for at least 3-4 days. Police are also investigating the philanthropic body to which Tulasi had reached out for help.



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SSB's role crucial in Darjeeling Hills, says MP Raju Bista

Highlighting the deep ties between India, Nepal, and Bhutan, Mr Bista said that the connection between their nations goes beyond political alliances



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SILIGURI, 20 DECEMBER

Darjeeling MP Raju Bista underscored the critical role of the Sashastra

Seema Bal (SSB) in safeguarding the Darjeeling Hills, Terai, and Dooars, which include the strategically significant "Chicken Neck" region of India. Speaking during the 61st Raising Day



celebrations of the SSB at its Frontier Headquarters in Ranidanga, Siliguri, Mr. Bista joined Union Home Minister Amit Shah to honour the contributions of the paramilitary force.

Highlighting the deep ties between India, Nepal, and Bhutan, Mr Bista said: "The

connection between our nations goes beyond political alliances. We are civilizational families sharing history, heritage, culture, and a strong people-to-people bond. Therefore, the SSB's role extends beyond border security to fostering and strengthening these relationships."

The SSB began guarding the India-Nepal border in 2001 and the India-Bhutan border in 2004. Since then, it has been securing the 2,450-kilometre-long open borders in diverse and challenging terrains, including mountains, forests, and rivers, under extreme weather conditions.



Quoting Home Minister Amit Shah, Mr. Bista said: "The Sashastra Seema Bal has played a pivotal role in securing our borders with friendly nations like Nepal and Bhutan. Its vigilance and presence have instilled a sense of security in the Siliguri Corridor and the Eastern

region." He further highlighted Mr Shah's appreciation for the SSB's efforts in promoting cultural integration. "The SSB has done commendable work by connecting the culture, language, and heritage of border villages with the nation's mainstream. This

initiative has strengthened the bond between India and its border communities," Mr Bista added. The event celebrated the SSB's dedication to national security and its efforts to foster cultural harmony and build stronger ties with neighbouring countries.

Siliguri Tourism Fair to be held till 22 December



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SILIGURI, 20 DECEMBER;

The officials of Blue Eye India Pvt. Ltd. announced the commencement of the Siliguri Tourism Fair 2024 at City Centre, Siliguri, from 20 to 22 December. The fair was inaugurated by Mr. Jyotimoy Biswas, Assistant Director, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in the presence of dignitaries from State Tourism Departments and Travel Associations.

Raipur this year, receiving enthusiastic responses from the travel trade fraternity. Supported by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, the three-day exhibition features Chhattisgarh Tourism Board and Gujarat Tourism as Gold Sponsors, Gorkhaland Teritorial Administration as a Silver Sponsor, and Jammu & Kashmir Tourism as the Feature State. Regional Travel Trade Associations have also extended their support to this mega event. The fair aims to highlight the diverse aspects of the "Incredible India" campaign, encouraging tourism and

providing visitors with essential travel-related information and booking facilities on a common platform. Organizers expressed confidence that the event would create new business opportunities, foster stronger networks among travel trade members, and promote the tourism industry in the region. Tourism enthusiasts are expected to make the most of this platform, which provides an excellent opportunity to explore destinations and enhance connections within the travel industry. The event promises to be a grand success and a memorable experience for all participants.

Protest erupts in Siliguri against Amit Shah

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
SILIGURI, 20 DECEMBER

As Union Home Minister Amit Shah visited Siliguri to attend the Sashastra Seema Bal's Raising Day celebrations, the CPI (ML) Liberation, Siliguri Local Committee, staged a protest at Hashmi Chowk demanding his resignation and an apology for allegedly disrespecting Babasaheb Ambedkar in Parliament. The protest gained intensity with slogans like, "Amit Shah, the criminal; Amit Shah, the enemy of the Constitution and social jus-



ice, step down." The demonstrators highlighted their discontent against the Home Minister's

actions while asserting their commitment to safeguarding the principles of the Indian Constitution.

Aadhaar card selling: Two arrested in Purbasthali

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
BURDWAN, 20 DECEMBER

Police sealed a Cyber Cafe on charges of selling Aadhaar cards for cash in Purbasthali in Kalna today.



Police received a tip off that the cafe was charging Rs 380 for online preparation of Aadhaar card and Aadhaar rectification using the Unique Identification Authority of India's portal. Police raided the Cafe and asked the operators to produce valid license documents allowing them

to run the business, but the youths failed. Police said that everyday at least two dozens such cards were issued from the Cafe near the Purbasthali Railway Station. Police also seized two laptops, mobile phones and arrested two individuals, Sahadev Biswas and Rajesh Sheikh. (Representational Image)

Migratory birds flock to water bodies at Haripal



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
HOOGHLY, 20 DECEMBER

The water bodies at Koikala, Haripal, are now teeming with activity as migratory birds arrive. The Bolod badh Jhill (lake) is the main centre of activity for these avian visitors. The presence of a large number of migratory birds presents a spectacular view for curious eyes. The Koikala gram panchayat is seeking to develop the area adjacent to the Bolod badh Jhill into a tourist spot. The abandoned deep sandbars adjacent to the Kana Nodi (river), which in the course of time have taken the shape of large deep water bodies, are commonly known as Jhills. The largest Jhill covers an area of 140 Bighas of land within the Koikala gram panchayat in Haripal. Mr. Swarup Mitra, one of the owners of the then sandbars, said: "The evacuation of sand or sand mining created large deep hollows in the area under Koikala gram panchayat. The sandbars, which were left abandoned for more than five decades, have developed into large water bodies over time." The abundance of greenery in the area, the favourable ambience, and the large Jhill have become an ideal place for migratory birds to take refuge during the winter months, especially from November onwards till February. Lesser whistling ducks especially dominate the Jhill,



but regular winter visitors include the rare fulvous whistling ducks, comb ducks, Swinhoe's snipe, and others. Hundreds of people from far and near visit the Jhill to have a glimpse of the rare visitors. The beauty of nature comes alive with the various antics of the migratory birds. Bird lovers, and even common people, stand gaping for hours at the birds, enjoying the antics of different colorful birds. However, human nuisance and the presence of bird hunters and smugglers have alarmingly reduced the number of arrivals of migratory birds. Mr. Mitra said: "We, all the local residents, have taken a vow to protect these migratory birds from human nuisance. We have forbidden the playing of sound systems and organizing picnic parties adjacent to the Jhill area. The help from the administration is a must to stop the bird hunters and bird smugglers." Supriti Mitra and other locals said they are deter-

mined to preserve, conserve, and protect the Jhills and the migratory birds. "The very sight of these birds, which travel thousands of kilometres to reach the Jhill, fills our mind with utter joy and pride. We feel honoured at the very presence of these birds. They are our guests, and we need to take care of them with full attention so that they feel 'home away

from home' at Bolod badh Jhill." The panchayat pradhan of Koikala gram panchayat in Haripal said: "We are ready with constructive plans to uplift the area surrounding the Jhill into a tourist spot. Work is being initiated in this regard. The panchayat is determined to safeguard the natural beauty of the Jhill as well as take necessary steps to be more attentive, careful, and concerned towards our migratory guests." Nature activist Chandan Clement Singh said: "Migratory birds play a major role in maintaining the ecological balance, especially the whistling ducks. At night, they enter into agricultural land areas to feed upon the harmful insects and pests that destroy the standing paddy crops, other cereal vegetation, and vegetables. These migratory birds can save a huge amount of money spent on insecticides and pesticides."

EASTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. : ELD-300-WC-22-2024-25, dated 18.12.2024. E-tender is invited by the Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, Control Building, 1st Floor, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Sealdah, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: **Tender No. ELD-300-WC-22-2024-25. Name of Work :** 25 KV OHE and allied electrical works in connection with "Sealdah - Baruipur Jn. - Rehabilitation of OHE in Sealdah - Baruipur section". **Tender Value :** ₹ 22,65,54,127.00. **Cost of Tender document :** Nil. **Earnest Money :** ₹ 12,82,800.00. **Completion period :** 24 (Twenty four) months from the date of issue of Letter of Acceptance. **Date of closing :** 20.01.2025 at 15.00 hrs. Details of tender notice and corrigendum issued from time to time are available at website www.irops.gov.in SDAH-281/2024-25. Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irops.gov.in
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NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice
For and on behalf of President of Republic of India, Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Construction-(1) North Western Railway, Jaipur invites E-Tender for the following works upto 15.00 hrs. on the mentioned date. **Tender No. ELCJ/PAI-CNA/DL/18/24-25 1. Name of work :** Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of Railway Electrification work of 2x25KV OHE system in Ajmer-Chanderiya Section (178.28RKM) of Ajmer Division, NWVR in connection with Doubling work. **2 Approximate cost of the Work :** ₹1506343645.00 **3. Earnest Money to be deposited :** ₹ 7681700.00 **4. Date of Completion of work:-** 18 Months **5. Date & Time of closing E-Tender :** 15.01.2025 Upto 15:00 Hrs. **Date & Time of opening E-Tender :** 15.01.2025 at 15:30 Hrs. **6. The details of above E-Tender are available on Website** www.irops.gov.in 1467-DK/24
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EASTERN RAILWAY
E-AUCTION NOTICE
No. C/Park/E-auction Approval/2024 Dated : 19.12.2024
E-Auction is invited by Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah (Auction Conducting Officer) 2nd Floor, Control Building, DRM Building, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 has published e-auction catalogue on www.irops.gov.in for operation of parking lot at Sealdah station of Sealdah Division. **Auction Catalogue No. PARK-JAN-25-86. Auction Start : 03.01.2025 at 10:00 hours. SI. No. : AA/1; Lot No. : PARKING-SDAH-SDAH-MX-1. Station :** Sealdah. Prospective bidders are requested to visit IREPS e-auction module for further details. SDAH-285/2024-25
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irops.gov.in
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EASTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. : SG.Tender/DSTE/SDAH/522, dated 19.12.2024. e-tender is invited by Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, 2nd Floor, Control Building, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: **e-Tender No.: SDSTE/TELE/20/24-25/RRSK. Name of work with its location :** Provision of Gate Telephone with Voice Recording facility at Interlocked LC Gate over Sealdah Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 2,04,91,445.93. **Cost of tender document :** Nil. **Earnest Money/Bid Security to be deposited :** ₹ 2,52,500.00. **Completion period of the work :** 9 months. **Tender Submission Start Date :** 31.12.2024. **Tender Submission End Date :** 14.01.2025 upto 14.00 hrs. **Tender Bid Opening Date :** 14.01.2025 at 14.30 hrs. **Details may be available :** www.irops.gov.in **Technical Eligibility Criteria:** The tenderer must have successfully completed or substantially completed any one of the following categories of work(s) during last 07 (seven) years, ending last day of month previous to the one in which tender is invited: (i) Three similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 30% of advertised value of the tender, or (ii) Two similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of advertised value of the tender, or (iii) One similar work costing not less than the amount equal to 60% of advertised value of the tender. **Financial Eligibility Criteria:** The tenderer must have minimum average annual contractual turnover of V/N or "V" whichever is less; where V = Advertised value of the tender in crores of Rupees, N = Number of years prescribed for completion of work for which bids have been invited. The average annual contractual turnover shall be calculated as an average of "total contractual payments" in the previous three financial years, as per the audited balance sheet. However, in case balance sheet of the previous year is yet to be prepared/audited, the audited balance sheet of the fourth previous year shall be considered for calculating average annual contractual turnover. The tenderers shall submit requisite information as per Annexure-VIB of GCC 2022 (Form-6 of the instant tender document), along with copies of Audited Balance Sheets duly certified by the Chartered Accountant/ Certificate from Chartered Accountant duly supported by Audited Balance Sheet. **Other document to be submitted:** As mentioned in the tender document. **Similar nature of work:** PI or RRI or EI or IBH or Automatic Signalling or LC gate Interlocking or Double Distance Signalling or voice logger or Data Logger at any S&T installation to be considered as similar nature of work for the instant tender work. **Note:** The tenderer shall submit along with the tender offer, documents in support of his/her claim to fulfill the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the tender document. 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. Self-attestation shall include signature, stamp and date (on each page). SDAH-284/2024-25
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irops.gov.in
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EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY
E-TENDER NOTICE
The Divisional Railway Manager (Engg)/E.C. Railway/Samastipur for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open Tender from experienced and financially capable tenderers for the following works in E-Tendering mode of IREPS web portal of Indian Railways :-
SI.No. : 1. Tender Notice No. : TC-175-2024-SPJ. Name of work : Maintenance of newly commissioned JDR-BMKI and BMKI-SRA Section. **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 8695235.62. **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 173900.00. **Completion period of the work :** 12 Months.
SI.No. : 2. Tender Notice No. : TC-176-2024-SPJ. Name of work : At Darbhanga - Special repair in staff qtrs. no. 141(16 units), 119(8 units), 116(14 units), 120(2 units), 121(4 units), 127(2 units), E/114, G/124, Block no. 1 to 12(48 units), L/112, L/113, L/114, L/115, 142(2 units), 143(10 units), 144(12 units), 145(18 units), 151-153(28 units) and campus area at DBG. **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 15993264.00. **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 230000.00. **Completion period of the work :** 09 Months.
SI.No. : 3. Tender Notice No. : TC-177-2024-SPJ. Name of work : Saint-Jaynagar - TRR(P) - 14.007 Tkm. **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 17690707.65. **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 238500.00. **Completion period of the work :** 12 Months.
1. Last Date & time for receiving of Tender in E-Tender mode on IREPS web portal: 09/01/2025 upto 12:00 hours. **2. Opening Date & time for E-Tender :** 09/01/2025 after 12:00 hours. **3. Website particulars where complete details of tender & tender document can be seen on Website:** www.irops.gov.in. **Amendments/ modification if any shall not be published in the newspapers but, the same shall be updated in the website.**
Sr. Divisional Engineer/Co-ord E. C. Railway/Samastipur PR/01732/SPJ/ENGG/TI/24-25/52

EASTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. : SG.Tender/DSTE/SDAH/521, dated 19.12.2024. e-tender is invited by Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer, Sealdah, Eastern Railway, 2nd Floor, Control Building, DRM Office, Kaiser Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following work: **e-Tender No.: SDSTE/TELE/16/24-25/RRSK. Name of work with its location :** Augmentation of conferencing system at DRM meeting room Sealdah. **Tender Value:** ₹ 67,35,189.25. **Cost of tender document :** Nil. **Earnest Money /Bid Security to be deposited :** ₹ 1,34,700.00. **Completion period of the work :** 03 months. **Tender Submission Start Date :** 31.12.2024. **Tender Submission End Date :** 14.01.2025 upto 14.00 hrs. **Tender Bid Opening Date :** 14.01.2025 at 14.30 hrs. **Details may be available :** www.irops.gov.in **Technical Eligibility Criteria:** The tenderer must have successfully completed or substantially completed any one of the following categories of work(s) during last 07 (seven) years, ending last day of month previous to the one in which tender is invited: (i) Three similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 30% of advertised value of the tender, or (ii) Two similar works each costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of advertised value of the tender, or (iii) One similar work costing not less than the amount equal to 60% of advertised value of the tender. **Financial Eligibility Criteria:** The tenderer must have minimum average annual contractual turnover of V/N or "V" whichever is less; where V = Advertised value of the tender in crores of Rupees, N = Number of years prescribed for completion of work for which bids have been invited. The average annual contractual turnover shall be calculated as an average of "total contractual payments" in the previous three financial years, as per the audited balance sheet. However, in case balance sheet of the previous year is yet to be prepared/audited, the audited balance sheet of the fourth previous year shall be considered for calculating average annual contractual turnover. The tenderers shall submit requisite information as per Annexure-VIB of GCC 2022 (Form-6 of the instant tender document), along with copies of Audited Balance Sheets duly certified by the Chartered Accountant/ Certificate from Chartered Accountant duly supported by Audited Balance Sheet. **Other document to be submitted:** As mentioned in the tender document. **Similar nature of work:** Any telecom work involving provision of MIS/LAN/WAN/Helpdesk/UTS/PRS/FIS/value added enquiry system/video enquiry system/Data connectivity/Datacom equipment/video conferencing/ wireless communication/secured communication /W-FI/Telecom work involving computer based enquiry system to be considered as similar nature of work for the instant tender work. **Note:** The tenderer shall submit along with the tender offer, documents in support of his/her claim to fulfill the eligibility criteria as mentioned in the tender document. 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. Self-attestation shall include signature, stamp and date (on each page). SDAH-283/2024-25
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in / www.irops.gov.in
Follow us at : [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited (WBFDCL), KB-19, Sector-III, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700106.
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
The undersigned publishes NITs for the project Carriage of CFC produce 2024-25 from various mouzas/CFC areas on behalf of the DM, MFCD, WBFDCL as follows:

NIT No.	Name of Project	Bid Submission Start Date	Last Date of Bid Submission
05/MFCD/2024-25	From Medinipur Division to Pirakata Timber Depot under Godapalasi Range.	20.12.2024	06.01.2025
06/MFCD/2024-25	From Medinipur Division to Godapalasi Timber Depot under Godapalasi Range.		
07/MFCD/2024-25	From Medinipur Division to Godapalasi Timber Depot under Godapalasi Range.		

Details of NITs can be seen at www.wbtdenders.gov.in and www.wbdfcl.com Sd/- DM, MFCD, WBFDCL

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Second Corrigendum
Second corrigendum to Tender Notice no.- SNT-PROJ-JU-07-2024-25. In the above cited tender notice following corrigendum is issued: (i) Correction in tender document to suit the requirement of S&T project unit Jodhpur-(ii) Correction in NIT. The others terms and conditions in the original tender will remain unchanged. 1469-DK/24
Follow us at : [@NWRailways](https://twitter.com/NWRailways) [@nwrailways](https://facebook.com/nwrailways)

MP POORV KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
BLOCK NO.7, SHAKTI BHAWAN, RAMPUR, JABALPUR (M.P.)
Tel No.0761 2702473, Fax No.0761-2660048
CIN: U40109MP2002SGC015120, e-mail : cepure2@yahoo.in
Jabalpur, dd:- 18.12.2024
TENDER NOTICE
Online Tenders are invited for following items:-

Sr. No.	TS No. (For e-Tendering) Discom-EZ/Pur	NAME OF ITEMS	APPROX. VALUE (Rs. in Lakhs)	TENDER FEE (in Rs)	Due date & time of opening of tender online from 14.00 Hrs (*)
1	TS-1531 (e-Tender No. 2024_FKVVVC_388887_1)	Strain Hardware Fittings	32	2360	08.01.2025

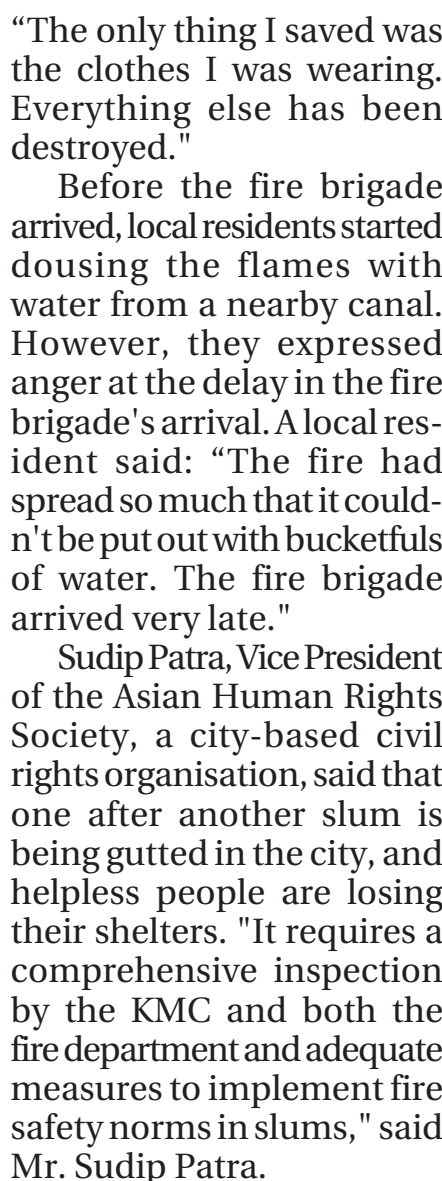
* For updated / extended due dates for opening of tender (EMD in cover-1 & Techno-commercial bid in cover-2) please refer to the online key dates.
For other details visit Company's website:- www.mpeco.co.in or <https://mptenders.gov.in>
SAVE ENERGY FOR BETTER TOMORROW
" बिजली सँवो विकासो विकास के लिए 1912 अवसल करे " C.G.M. (S&P)

While issuing the formal order, the court imposed several conditions on the doctors' group for organising its protest programme in the heart of the city.

"This (the court order) is a victory for us," said a senior member of the JPD. "We will start the demonstration from this afternoon."

Hence, sources said, the agency wants someone who had been a member of the investigating team for a long time like Saha, as the replacement for Bhattacharya.

Ananda, a boat show to rediscover the river and its vessels, is being organised by Sea Explorer Institute (SEI) at Prinsep Ghat on the Hooghly River in Kolkata on Friday ■ BISWAJIT GHOSHAL





IFFL
FINANCE

CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IFFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V,
 Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagale Estate, Thane - 400604
 Tel: (91-22) 4135000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
 E-mail: reach@iffil.com • Website: www.iffil.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IFFL Finance Limited ("IFFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **24.12.2024 from 10:00 AM** at following district Centre **Howrah-Sankrali GI - IFFL Finance Ltd, 1st Floor, Midray House, Opp. St. Joe's Enclave, VIII & Po-Agarpal, Pe-Sankrali, Dist-Howrah-711302**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned here or in the auction does not get completed on the same day, IFFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No.: CL19225173, CL30266972, CL30276496, CL30703280, CL32383072, CL39799275, CL30267502, CL23924440, CL28493630, CL30303107, CL30502618, CL32574970, CL30585534, CL30350764, CL32324293, CL24472485, CL29464862, CL23476181, CL23666528, CL26065235, CL27561377, CL27658100, CL28414948, CL28430239, CL29142833, CL29407764, CL30022867, CL30515340, CL30250521, CL30211467, CL30427948, CL30429116, CL30403750, CL30431235, CL30451118, CL30504857, CL30517034, CL30521792, CL30556226, CL30561460, CL30698761, CL30755765, CL31164401, CL31204381, CL31354177, CL31403645, CL31404120, CL31501626, CL31416245, CL31827801, CL32023486, CL32038788, CL32159220, CL32289358, CL32422764, CL32439937, CL32440739, CL32303046, CL3684350, CL33079731, CL33764535, CL33781262, CL33827407, CL33894331, CL33840453, CL33900717, CL25003118, CL27842652, CL27865134, CL28129966, CL28656965, CL31222136, CL31966664, CL31991209, CL32405184, CL3137941, CL23342065, CL22410563, CL23553387, CL26229265, CL29431512, CL29448572, CL29466224, CL30424565, CL30499298, CL30511823, CL30645384, CL30666588, CL30685170, CL30929337, CL32459633, CL32472446, CL32583939, CL32553040, CL32624490, CL31370086, CL31319959, CL3378591, CL33440371, CL33461270, CL33504597, CL33512801, CL33562842, CL33567343, CL33585854, CL33600750, CL2946197, CL27961234, CL31125447, CL31141952, CL31661410, CL31765380, CL31826878, CL32241766, CL32541359, CL32710048, CL32712449, CL33877074, CL33245683, CL33040639, CL22804893, CL23280647, CL23320511, CL27302556, CL27974749, CL27993721, CL29261791, CL29277891, CL29512070, CL29583993, CL29546326, CL29859016, CL29877265, CL30409143, CL30424223, CL30425431, CL30451377, CL30518522, CL30505198, CL30521393, CL30521840, CL30530807, CL30535358, CL30588240, CL30606687, CL30614016, CL30628278, CL30650922, CL30754992, CL30758578, CL31037276, CL32451377, CL32471993, CL32490878, CL32703206, CL32806403, CL33166693, CL33337233, CL33357151, CL33367512, CL3372386, CL33991073, CL33987991, CL33974312, CL33965658, CL34199019, CL33920190, CL332274495, CL23531577, CL23577517, CL24486179, CL24364886, CL25060462, CL26027239, CL26779927, CL27294642, CL28339086, CL29161984, CL30571785, CL30588691, CL30599175, CL30654566, CL30703916, CL30747795, CL30762572, CL312185809, CL31816309, CL32359150, CL32419307, CL32505187, CL32562619, CL32552554, CL33586275, CL34298313, CL34319406, CL32577229, CL32329290, CL32345131, CL32624272, CL22996034, CL23044341, CL23266084, CL23627158, CL25442271, CL26929702, CL28384733, CL28669680, CL29890638, CL30039354, CL30054129, CL32365890, CL30515962, CL30521848, CL30525991, CL30574104, CL30770875, CL30734486, CL30736632, CL30510247, CL31516425, CL31947993, CL33010928, CL33016935, CL33037189, CL33055323, CL33142266, CL33243569, CL33266678, CL33314942, CL33418996, CL33430283, CL33432705, CL33532903, CL33541766, CL33663630, CL33667451, CL33716133, CL33742946, CL34168241, CL22765159, CL22974565, CL22892313, CL23334625, CL23477817, CL23837338, CL23839640, CL23713658, CL24005056, CL24837980, CL28686813, CL28497075, CL28771779, CL29420896, CL29466735, CL29507340, CL29924597, CL29925240, CL30228558, CL30642963, CL30658103, CL30737943, CL30860674, CL31283122, CL31749159, CL31756610, CL31790540, CL31792819, CL31797660, CL31798100, CL32107439, CL32186755, CL32319376, CL32296797, CL32312596, CL32352324, CL32416961, CL32441233, CL32515287, CL32513408, CL32528811, CL32575106, CL32587932, CL32102456, CL33154945, CL33251742, CL3266152, CL32531669, CL33541406.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IFFL does not make any representation or warranties regards quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IFFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IFFL Finance Limited.

Place: HOWRAH
Date: 21.12.2024



Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IFFL FINANCE LIMITED

[illegible]

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SRI Subhas Ghosh, S/o. Chandra Kr. Ghosh, residing at Jagacha Mohiary Road, P.O.: GIP Colony, P.S. Jagacha, Dist.: Howrah-1112 have changed my name and henceforth be known as Subhas Chandra Ghosh as declared before the Magistrate Public Use Affidavit No. NIL dt.: 16-12-2024. Subhas Chandra Ghosh and Subhas Ghosh both are same and identical person.

The Statesman

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'Oppn should raise issues by following rules instead of disrupting Parliament'

The winter session provided 20 sittings of Lok Sabha and 19 sittings of Rajya Sabha spreading over 26 days

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

Expressing concern over reduction in the productivity of Parliament's winter session, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday said the Opposition should raise their issues in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha by following established rules and procedures instead of disrupting both the Houses.

"There are rules and procedures in place for raising issues, and we should follow those rules instead of just shouting, creating a ruckus, and disrupting the proceedings of Parliament, which causes great harm to the work of Parliament," he said while addressing a press con-

ference following the adjournment of the Winter session.

The winter session of Parliament, which commenced on 25 November, was adjourned sine die on Friday. The session saw 20 sittings of Lok Sabha and 19 sittings of Rajya Sabha spreading over 26 days.

The Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha were adjourned sine die on Friday amid protests over Shah's remarks on BR Ambedkar.

Rijiju said two landmark Bills namely, The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth) Amendment Bill, 2024 and The Union Territories Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 to give effect to the mechanism of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State/Union Territory Assemblies under



the vision "One Nation, One Election" were introduced in Lok Sabha, on 17 December and got referred to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on 20 December.

He said the productivity

of Parliament's winter session had reduced due to disruptions caused by the Opposition and urged them to avoid similar interruptions in the upcoming Budget session.

'NDA MPs are very agitated over the conduct of Rahul Gandhi'

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday hit out at Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi saying that NDA MPs are very agitated over the conduct of the Congress lawmaker in the Parliament premises.

The Parliamentary Affairs Minister said BJP MPs were deeply agitated by the Congress leader's actions on the floor, specifically a scuffle that resulted in injuries to two of their colleagues on Thursday.

Talking to mediapersons, Rijiju said, "He (Rahul Gandhi) insulted one of the MPs from Nagaland and then injured two other MPs. The Speaker has said that no protest should be done at Parliament gate. So, our MPs protested at the Mahatma Gandhi statue," he added.

On the health condition of the injured when they were allegedly pushed by Rahul Gandhi, Rijiju said: "Two BJP MPs were injured after being pushed by Rahul Gandhi. They are in hospital. Their condition is not very serious. They are stable. Our colleagues have met them."

Fadnavis faces opposition ire after Maharashtra family gets assaulted

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, 20 DECEMBER



Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced in the Maharashtra Legislative Council on Friday that senior Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) official Akhilesh Shukla whose goons allegedly assaulted his Maharashtra neighbours with iron rods in a suburban Kalyan-based housing society, has been suspended from his job with immediate effect.

The incident snowballed into a serious political issue after a video of the alleged assault on the Maharashtra family went viral quickly leading to political and social tension. According to the video, Shukla and his wife allegedly abused Maharashtra family as "filthy", accused them of eating meat and fish, after which they were allegedly assaulted with iron rods by Shukla's goons. The victims of the assault had to be hospitalised later.

The incident snowballed into a serious political issue of non-Maharashtrians discriminating against native Maharashtra family on the basis of their local language and food habits, even as the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) parties attacked the Fadnavis government. The latest case of alleged anti-Maharashtrian discrimination came close on the heels of a similar incident in Girgaum just a few days ago, where a Marwadi shopkeeper allegedly

asked a Maharashtra lady customer to speak only in the Marwadi language, since according to him, a "Marwadi party" like the BJP has come to power in Maharashtra.

After the issue was raised in the Legislative Council, CM Fadnavis said that "Injustice will not be done to Marathi people under any circumstances" as he replied during a discussion on the issue under Legislative Council Rule 289 moved by Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad) member Advocate Anil Parash.

"Akhilesh Shukla has been suspended from his service and an FIR has been registered against him and other accused," Fadnavis said showing a copy of the First Information Report (FIR) filed against senior MTDC official Shukla whose goons allegedly assaulted his Maharashtra neighbour family. "Let there be no doubt in anyone's mind that Mumbai as well as Maharashtra always belonged to Maharashtra, it still does and it always will," Fadnavis said, as members of the house applauded his statement.

Eight burnt to death, 50 injured in LPG tanker truck explosion in Jaipur

JAIPUR, 20 DECEMBER

At least eight people were killed and around 50 sustained serious burns when a LPG tanker exploded with a big bang after collision with a truck near Bhankrota on the outskirts of the city Friday morning.

The tanker was taking a turn towards Bagru at the Ajmer Jaipur Highway when a speeding truck hit it from the rear causing the explosion in the tanker that instantly caught fire.

So intense was the blaze that it instantaneously engulfed several vehicles and some shops along the road. According to officials and hospital sources, bodies of the deceased were charred to such an extent that only three of them could be identified. SNS

2 troopers injured in IED blast

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
RAIPUR, 20 DECEMBER

Two security personnel were injured on Friday after an improvised explosive device allegedly planted by Maoists detonated in Narayanpur district of Chhattisgarh.

The injured personnel were promptly evacuated from the site and are being transported to the district hospital for treatment.

The incident occurred during a routine patrol to ensure the safety of an ongoing road construction project in the Maoist-affected region. The explosion, triggered when the personnel stepped on the pressure-sensitive IED, highlights the persistent threat posed by Maoist insurgents in the area. Recently, the police set up a new security camp in Kachhapal, a Maoist stronghold, to establish a stronger presence in the area. The construction of a road

to connect the camp to nearby regions has been underway, which Maoists are reportedly attempting to disrupt.

Superintendent of Police Prabhat Kumar confirmed the incident and revealed that the explosion was pre-meditated. "Two DRG personnel were injured when they accidentally triggered the IED while securing the area for road construction. The injured personnel are being provided the necessary medical assistance," he stated.

This incident comes just a day after security forces in Bijapur district foiled a major Maoist plot. During a search operation near the CRPF camp in Mudvendi, personnel from the 199th Battalion of CRPF discovered a series of explosive devices planted on the road. The security forces successfully defused five IEDs, each weighing five kilograms, averting a potential catastrophe.

Adani Group to invest ₹ 20,000 crore for thermal power plant in Bihar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

The Adani Group has planned to invest Rs 20,000 crore in setting up a super critical thermal power plant in Bihar. The development comes amid its plans for expands its cement, food processing and logistics business in the state.

Pranav Adani, Director, Adani Enterprises Ltd, while speaking at the Bihar Business Connect 2024 said the ports-to-energy conglomerate is invested in three sectors in Bihar - logistics, gas distribution and agri logistics, where it has already invested around Rs 850 crore.

"We are now going to invest another Rs 2,300 crore in these sectors. This investment will not only massively increase our warehousing

and handling capacity and expand our presence in the EV, city gas distribution (CGD) and compressed biogas (CBG) space but will also generate an additional 27,000 direct and indirect local job opportunities," he said.

The Director of Adani Enterprises said that another sector that the group is investing in is smart meter manufacturing. "As Bihar migrates from conventional electric meters to smart meters, we will invest Rs 2,100 crore to manufacture and install over 28 lakh smart meters to automate power-consumption monitoring in five cities—Siwan, Gopalganj, Vaishali, Saran and Samastipur--and this will generate at least 4,000 local jobs in this technology segment," he said.

He shared that the group is also looking to potentially

invest another Rs 1,000 crore in developing strategic infrastructure in Bihar, like Gati Shakti Railway Terminals, ICDS (Inland Container Depots) and Industrial Warehousing Parks.

"We are also exploring investment avenues in Bihar's energy sector. Our plan is to invest around Rs 20,000 crore to set up an ultra-supercritical thermal power plant," he said. "We expect such a massive project to open up at least 12,000 job vacancies in the pre-commissioning phase and also lead to around 1,500 skilled jobs during the operational phase," he added.

At the stock market, the Adani Enterprises shares were trading on a lower side. Adani Enterprises fell more than 1% to an intra-day low of Rs 2,388.

T E N D E R

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is hereby invited by Assistant Engineer, Uluberia Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte vide Ref: No WBPHD/AE/USD/ Nit_21/2024-2025 Memo No-1269/AE/USD, Dt: 14/12/2024. Details will be available in the website www.wbtenders.gov.in and wbphd.gov.in Last date of application is 31/12/2024. Sd/- For Assistant Engineer, Uluberia Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte. ICA- T23564(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
Tenders are invited from reputed firms for the Works abridged Nit No.-CMOH/SAMIT/1619 dated 18.12.2024 related to schemes of Procurement of Vehicle (Model-TATA Winger DLX 13-D AC BS6) for Blood Bank of Raghunathpur Sub-Divisional Hospital, Purulia. The last date & time of online bid submission: 06.01.2025 at 05:30 P.M. visit www.wbtenders.gov.in or www.westbengalforest.gov.in or www.swasthyapuralia.org Sd/- Secretary DH&FWS & CMOH, Purulia. ICA- T23526(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
THE DURGAPUR PROJECTS LIMITED
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
CIN No. U40107WB1961SGC025250
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)
NIT No. (1) WBPD/L/DPPS/PUR/NIT(E)-022 BP/343/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024_WBPD/L/DPPS/PUR/NIT(E)-022 BP/343/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024_WBPD/L/DPPS/PUR/NIT(E)-023 DI/349/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024_DPL_785580_1 for Procurement of High Flexible Trailing cables for Unit-7 & 8 CH. (2) WBPD/L/DPPS/PUR/NIT(E)-028 DI/365/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024_DPL_785569_1 for Procurement of Control Cable. Sl. Nos. 1 to 3, Bid submission end date : 04.01.2025 Bid Opening date : 10.01.2025 respectively. Cancellation NIT No. (4) WBPD/L/DPPS/PUR/NIT(E)-066 SR/70/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024_DPL_763323_1 (5) WBPD/L/DPPS/PUR/NIT(E)-068 SP/222/2024-25 Tender ID: 2024_DPL_763339_1 are hereby treated as cancelled. Visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in/> or www.dpl.net.in ICA- T23524(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE & COLLECTOR, ALIPORE, KOLKATA
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Name of Work: Hiring of GPS Based Mobile Van (12 x 6 x 8 ft) from 8th January, 2025 to 17th January, 2025 during Gangasagar Mela-2025 (3rd Call).
Tender reference No.: 411/TGS MELA-2025.
Tender ID: 2024_DMSF_787216_1.
SCHEDULE OF IMPORTANT DATES OF BIDS

PARTICULAR	DATE & TIME
Date of publication of e-NIT	18-12-2024 at 04-00 P.M.
Document download start date & time	18-12-2024 from 04-00 P.M.
Document download end date & time	01-01-2025 up to 04-00 P.M.
Bid submission start date & time	18-12-2024 from 04-00 P.M.
Last date & time of online submission of Technical Bid and Financial Bid	01-01-2025 up to 04-00 P.M.
Date & time of opening of Technical Bid in the Office of the Additional District Magistrate, (Infrastructure), South 24 Parganas	03-01-2025 at 04-00 P.M.
Presentation on proposed work (N.C. 3rd Floor, New Administrative Building, Alipore)	03-01-2025 at 05-00 P.M.

For details please refer to the following website: s24apps.gov.in & wbtenders.gov.in
Sd/- Additional District Magistrate (Infrastructure) South 24 Parganas
Memo No.: 40703/DCC/24Pp.Dt. 20-12-2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the E.E., NTKMD, P.H.E. Dte. on behalf of Government of West Bengal vide Ref. No: PHE/NTKMD/e-17 of 2024-25 and No: 2024_PHE/NTKMD/e-17 of 2024-25 for different Electrical-Mechanical works under NTKMD. Details will be available in the website: wbtenders.gov.in The last date for submission of tender is 28.12.2024 upto 12:00 P.M. Sd/- EE/NTKMD, P.H.E. Dte. ICA- T23589(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, PWD, Alipurdur Division invites online e-tender for the work of NIT No. 20 of 2024-25 of EE/PWD/APDD. New Construction of R.O. Plant room for proposed 10 bedded Dialysis Unit (PPP Model) over the roof of the Surgery Theatre at District Hospital, Alipurdur. Tender ID: 2024_WBPD/PWD_787367_1. Estimated Amount Rs. 6,95,993.00. Bid submission start date (online) 24.12.2024 from 02.00 P.M. Bid submission closing date (online) 31.12.2024 up to 02.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & Tender documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtenders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, PWD, Alipurdur Division. ICA- T23583(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Registered & Corporate Office: Bidyut Unnayan Bhavan Plot No.: 3/C, LA- Block, Sector-III, Bidhannagar, Kol-700106
Notice Inviting e-Tender
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/24-25/CORP/CC-2870 Dated: 19.12.2024
NIT No.: WBPDCL/CORP/NIT/E1973/24-25 Dated: 17.12.2024
"Procurement of Desktop Computer, AIO, UPS, HP LaserJet MFP M233dw, M208dw, 3303sdw printer for WBPDCL Corp. Office & Coal Mines".
NIT Document Download Start Date / End Date (e-portals): 18.12.2024 at 18:00 hrs. / 08.01.2025 at 10:00 hrs. Contact Person: Smt. Sulagna Dass, Manager (PS), M&C. Contact No.: 8240042058. E-mail: s.dass@wbpdcl.co.in For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in> ICA- T23537(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Bakrowar Thermal Power Project P.O. BKTPP, Dist.-Birbhum, Pin-731104
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/24-25/CORP/CC-2847 Dated: 17.12.2024
NIT No.: WBPDCL/BKTPP/NIT/E3469/24-25 Dated: 19.12.2024
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by General Manager - BKTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Earthwork including roadway required for completion of reclamation of RHS of Ash Pond-1, BKTPS". Tender Document Download Start Date: 18.12.2024 at 10:00 AM. Bid Submission End Date: 08.01.2025 at 04:00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Indrani Chakraborty, Dy. General Manager - CC, BKTPP, WBPDCL. Mobile: 8373055604. E-mail: cc_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in or cc_bktps@gmail.com For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in> ICA- T23535(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Bakrowar Thermal Power Project P.O. BKTPP, Dist.-Birbhum, Pin-731104
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/24-25/CORP/CC-2845 Dated: 17.12.2024
NIT No.: WBPDCL/BKTPP/NIT/E3461/24-25 Dated: 19.12.2024
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by General Manager - BKTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Construction of New Fire Hall/House with Shade at BKTPS Adjacent to Existing Fire Station". Tender Document Download Start Date: 17.12.2024 at 10:00 AM. Bid Submission End Date: 06.01.2025 at 04:00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Indrani Chakraborty, Dy. General Manager - CC, BKTPP, WBPDCL. Mobile: 8373055604. E-mail: cc_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in or cc_bktps@gmail.com For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in> ICA- T23534(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Tender Notice of I & CA Deptt
Memo No. of NIT 4809 - ICA (N) dt 20/12/2024 and Tender ID 2024_ICAD_788362_1. e-Tender is hereby invited from intending bidders for live feed to electronic media and installation of LED screen and LED TVs related to 26th January 2025. Bid submission closing date for the above e-Tender: 06/01/2025 at 12:30 pm. Other details may be available from the website: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>. Sd/- Director of Information, Information & Cultural Affairs Deptt., Govt. of West Bengal ICA- T23600(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
1st Corrigendum
Executive Engineer, Birbhum Highway Division II, P.W. (Roads) Directorate invites online e-tender for the work of 1) Parui-Batkar Road from 5.730 km to 6.950 km and from 7.60 km to 10.24 km (in stretches) under Birbhum Highway Division-II, in the District of Birbhum. Estimated Amount: 1) Rs. 8,77,438/- 2) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 3) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 4) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 5) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 6) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 7) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 8) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 9) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 10) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 11) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 12) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 13) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 14) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 15) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 16) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 17) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 18) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 19) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 20) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 21) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 22) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 23) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 24) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 25) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 26) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 27) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 28) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 29) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 30) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 31) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 32) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 33) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 34) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 35) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 36) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 37) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 38) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 39) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 40) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 41) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 42) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 43) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 44) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 45) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 46) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 47) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 48) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 49) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 50) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 51) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 52) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 53) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 54) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 55) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 56) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 57) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 58) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 59) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 60) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 61) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 62) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 63) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 64) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 65) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 66) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 67) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 68) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 69) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 70) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 71) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 72) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 73) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 74) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 75) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 76) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 77) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 78) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 79) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 80) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 81) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 82) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 83) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 84) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 85) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 86) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 87) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 88) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 89) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 90) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 91) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 92) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 93) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 94) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 95) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 96) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 97) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 98) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 99) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 100) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 101) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 102) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 103) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 104) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 105) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 106) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 107) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 108) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 109) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 110) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 111) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 112) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 113) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 114) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 115) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 116) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 117) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 118) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 119) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 120) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 121) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 122) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 123) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 124) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 125) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 126) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 127) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 128) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 129) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 130) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 131) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 132) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 133) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 134) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 135) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 136) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 137) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 138) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 139) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 140) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 141) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 142) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 143) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 144) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 145) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 146) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 147) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 148) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 149) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 150) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 151) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 152) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 153) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 154) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 155) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 156) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 157) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 158) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 159) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 160) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 161) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 162) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 163) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 164) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 165) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 166) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 167) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 168) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 169) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 170) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 171) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 172) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 173) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 174) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 175) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 176) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 177) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 178) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 179) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 180) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 181) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 182) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 183) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 184) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 185) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 186) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 187) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 188) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 189) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 190) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 191) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 192) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 193) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 194) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 195) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 196) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 197) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 198) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 199) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 200) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 201) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 202) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 203) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 204) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 205) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 206) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 207) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 208) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 209) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 210) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 211) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 212) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 213) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 214) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 215) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 216) Rs. 1,02,51,000/- 217) Rs. 1,02,51,000

‘Nadda equating Purvanchalis with Bangladeshis’



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal on Friday accused BJP chief J P Nadda of equating Purvanchalis with Rohingyas and Bangladeshis, and also deleting their names from voters' lists ahead of the Delhi Assembly polls.

Addressing a press conference, the AAP leader said, “We will not allow BJP to delete the name of any person from Purvanchal from the electoral roll.”

Taking a dig at the saffron party, he claimed that AAP has worked to honour and settle the Purvanchal society on the other hand, BJP has made plans to displace them from the national capital.

“In Parliament, J P Nadda has called the people of Purvanchal as Bangladeshi, Rohingyas and infiltrators. In response to this, we will go to every house of the purvanchali community and show them the video and expose the saffron party,” Kejriwal mentioned.

AAP's Rajya Sabha MP from Delhi and a Purvanchali face of the party, Sanjay Singh, will undertake 'Ratri Pravas' (night stays) at Purvanchali dominated areas of the city

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER-

Minister for Jal Shakti C R Patil asked the states to evolve a consensus on their respective river interlinking projects for the progress in the development of the country.

Chairing the 38th annual general meeting of the NWDA Society and 22nd meeting of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers (SCILR), he mentioned the recent progress made on MPKC (Modified Parbati Kalisindh Chambal) and Ken Betwa Link Project and apprised about a programme organised in Jaipur for the inauguration of various projects of Rajasthan along with declaration of signing of

to expose the BJP's "well planned conspiracy", he said. Kejriwal also voiced the issue of law and order situation in Delhi targeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah over its deterioration. “Amit Shah ji, till when will you remain silent? Every day there are threats of bombings schools in Delhi. Children and their parents are scared. Amit Shah has failed to provide security to the people of Delhi, he should come among the public and answer”, the AAP chief elaborated.

Meanwhile AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh said, “People from UP, Bihar have been living in the city for the past 30-40 years, are they Rohingyas and Bangladeshis? I will go to every place where brothers, sisters and elders are living and show them the video of the insult done to them by JP Nadda.”

Moreover, echoing similar sentiments, AAP leader and nominee from Patparganj assembly seat, Awadh Ojha said, “AAP has done development works for the people belonging to purvanchal society and JP Nadda has revealed the saffron party's intention by calling them infiltrators.”

The issue of deletion of votes in Delhi was raised in Parliament by Sanjay Singh on Tuesday. In reaction to this, Nadda had claimed the names of Bangladeshis and Rohingyas are being removed from the voters' list following the process laid down in the Constitution and asked the AAP if it was winning with their votes.

Jal Shakti minister calls for consensus on river interlinking projects

the MoA upon MPKC link project by the prime minister. The Secretary, DoWR, RD & GR, highlighted that substantial progress was made in the direction of interlinking of rivers during recent years. She specifically mentioned the Ken-Betwa Link project which is the first link of the National Perspective Plan under implementation.

The secretary stated that the management of the water resources has been one of the key priorities of the Central government Interlinking of Rivers (ILR) Programme.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation on the agenda items was made by the director general of the NWDA.



CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **24.12.2024 from 10:00 AM** at following district Centre **Tamluk-Manikata GI - IIFL Finance Ltd, Tamluk, Padumbasan, 1st Floor, Ward No.-10, Ps & Po-Tamluk, Dist Purba Medinipur, Idbi Bank Building, Near Manikata Bus Stand, Pin - 721636**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned here in or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No. : GL30576161, GL30749196, GL32330376, GL32422742, GL33357201, GL33844213, GL23022870, GL23359194, GL23370390, GL25998401, GL25998539, GL29729426, GL30428604, GL30430464, GL30589295, GL30667101, GL30685912, GL30729757, GL31945869, GL32046728, GL32331628, GL32415793, GL32592121, GL32596686, GL32716108, GL32907183, GL33046347, GL33214014, GL33471722, GL33562950, GL34057809, GL32609976, GL23299724, GL23317166, GL23318574, GL23412014, GL29520363, GL30430483, GL30435006, GL30608249, GL30628344, GL30654433, GL30700396, GL32317614, GL32342186, GL32359963, GL32572347, GL32584707, GL32697286, GL33096895, GL33103515, GL33104289, GL33119452, GL33120061, GL33811121, GL33820949, GL22897806, GL29485757, GL29499760, GL29740306, GL30691862, GL30715944, GL32379264, GL32407342, GL33107633, GL33121161, GL33438172, GL33657336, GL22352059, GL23170025, GL23261385, GL23470613, GL23530943, GL30327470, GL30346261, GL31382422, GL32277392, GL32285657, GL32430498, GL32442604, GL32573560, GL32588408, GL32607237, GL33724832, GL30405692, GL30592446, GL30646353, GL30743717, GL30761424, GL27008134, GL27023515, GL28030726, GL28056895, GL28441218, GL28849991, GL28866553, GL28973424, GL29334137, GL29352341, GL30026265, GL30241922, GL30254888, GL30440684, GL30447838, GL30492448, GL30512782, GL30592837, GL30634263, GL30658954, GL31309953, GL31488014, GL31975677, GL32077609, GL32098948, GL32787798, GL33571729, GL33591639, GL34194958, GL34216127, GL21820989, GL30474204, GL30525776, GL33054588, GL30747599, GL30761399, GL30962153, GL23284388, GL29187974, GL29199886, GL30018536, GL30493268, GL30516886, GL30521856, GL30728235, GL30739225, GL31151871, GL31175460, GL31698089, GL32425183, GL32442509, GL32877106, GL32893254, GL33219097, GL33232419, GL33726602, GL33815032, GL34296671, GL34318336, GL30013088, GL32652055, GL32662151, GL33226590, GL33235042, GL23250242, GL25597175, GL29420140, GL30669437, GL30685175, GL30807091, GL30823414, GL31134080, GL33094642, GL33363388, GL33373042, GL33757297.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulting borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Place: EAST MIDNAPORE
Date: 21.12.2024



Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED



CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **24.12.2024 from 10:00 AM** at following district Centre **Kalyani-Kalyani GI - IIFL Finance Ltd, 1st Floor, BB-273A, Por-Po-Kalyani, Dist - Nadia Beside Bank Of India, Pin-741235, West Bengal**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned here in or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No. : GL29491726, GL30518124, GL31856118, GL31882275, GL32630126, GL33834699, GL23263494, GL23309319, GL23460891, GL23462322, GL25622729, GL26988745, GL29440143, GL29448909, GL30406809, GL30422315, GL30425849, GL30451284, GL30560002, GL30584102, GL30690489, GL30716080, GL31217244, GL31226018, GL32223603, GL32330451, GL32343378, GL33365803, GL33372122, GL33843758, GL34197174, GL29438008, GL29450790, GL30172677, GL31332442, GL31342856, GL32066863, GL32262556, GL32282996, GL32359789, GL32710256, GL32909278, GL32923634, GL32944351, GL32958954, GL33194738, GL33814306, GL25023095, GL28365026, GL29284302, GL31998286, GL32015138, GL33944943, GL33970184, GL34330193, GL30288163, GL30339333, GL31574612, GL31579057, GL32184625, GL32197875, GL33136092, GL33148491, GL33334237, GL33351817, GL34263463, GL22629937, GL23106231, GL23261647, GL23356188, GL23360192, GL23370965, GL23428565, GL29260412, GL29277536, GL29283329, GL30269277, GL30417638, GL30497364, GL30511745, GL30517445, GL30517884, GL30521489, GL30521777, GL30540248, GL30558405, GL30567324, GL30618606, GL30618998, GL30735901, GL30746135, GL30761459, GL30764571, GL32387208, GL32408000, GL33027272, GL33143037, GL33202587, GL33208175, GL33447877, GL33459138, GL33572832, GL33592166, GL33659542, GL33767185, GL34328954, GL37767607, GL27775557, GL28024154, GL28051983, GL33346686, GL21940099, GL23362456, GL23460404, GL30700505, GL31749252, GL32391533, GL33187371, GL33217750, GL33238666, GL29304040, GL29328581, GL33240336, GL33264352, GL22904386, GL22957530, GL29490306, GL29499414, GL30014379, GL30035330, GL30053453, GL30117759, GL30137397, GL30569974, GL30580418, GL30599388, GL30676482, GL30687859, GL23117060, GL26977368, GL29391710, GL29582483, GL30498948, GL30527814, GL30579967, GL32935253, GL32957335, GL32305658, GL33316303, GL33322035, GL33477713, GL33562448, GL33567545, GL33650709, GL33679121, GL33778695, GL33795863, GL33837922, GL33842471, GL34049726, GL34142763, GL34270640, GL31409570, GL31743598, GL31753820, GL33550180, GL33567063, GL33789977, GL29460739, GL29474671, GL30436584, GL30438919, GL30563425, GL30567880, GL23250948, GL23751809, GL26937639, GL30647563, GL30703359, GL30733478, GL32214345, GL22956828, GL23387879, GL28260859, GL28270751, GL29032886, GL30469531, GL30471088, GL30496193, GL30517661, GL30608049, GL30641315, GL30722419, GL30739276, GL31101767, GL31165622, GL32316424, GL32342381, GL33075188, GL33088511, GL33109627, GL33229509, GL33237711, GL33247870, GL33267204, GL33473890, GL33630577, GL33692205, GL33791303.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulting borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Place: NADIA
Date: 21.12.2024



Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED



CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No. B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • Fax: (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • Website: www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **24.12.2024 from 10:00 AM** at following district Centre **Bankura-Bankura Road GI - IIFL Finance Ltd, Ground Floor, College Road, Pratap Bagan, Near-Bangiyagramin Bikash Bnak, Bankura, West Bengal, Pin-722101**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned here in or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No. : GL23303701, GL29246250, GL29985558, GL29959245, GL30507793, GL30575661, GL30577338, GL30609765, GL30615834, GL32624877, GL33333228, GL33336835, GL33353601, GL33665797, GL34098543, GL34171007, GL26846328, GL26868527, GL29400858, GL30502156, GL30725017, GL30755648, GL30761630, GL32716653, GL32743802, GL33277044, GL30539834, GL30612082, GL30670478, GL32330248, GL32345203, GL32452315, GL32472239, GL32591542, GL34257213.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulting borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Place: BANKURA
Date: 21.12.2024



Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



**DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA HOSPITAL
ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
NEW DELHI-110001**

No.HA-II-11022/1/2023-HA-II Section-Dr. RMLH/3716

Recruitment Notice for the post of Senior Resident (Non-Academic)

The Medical Superintendent, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital & ABVIMS, New Delhi, invites applications from Indian National in the prescribed form available on website: rmlh.nic.in for the posts of Senior Resident (Non-Academic) on regular basis.

The detailed advertisement, numbers of posts, eligibility conditions, pay structure, age criteria, application form and other details can be seen in the full advertisement on the website: www.rmlh.nic.in Any corrigendum / modification order regarding this advertisement will be issued on the hospital website only. Candidates are advised to visit hospital website: www.rmlh.nic.in regularly for this purpose. Last date for submission of application is 15-01-2025 till 03-00 P.M.

CBC 17147/11/0005/2425



**National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)**



Corporate Office : First Floor, Tower-A, World Trade Centre, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029
F. No. NHIDCL/2(25)/Rectt. CA/2024/HR
Dated: 21.12.2024

National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (hereinafter referred to as 'NHIDCL', has been set up by the Government of India as a Corporation under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways to fast pace construction/up-gradation/widening of National Highways in the North-Eastern Region and areas that share international boundaries with neighboring countries.

Applications are invited from young, dynamic, effective and experienced eligible professionals from the open market for engagement as Consultant(s) in the Finance Division in NHIDCL at various locations as mentioned in para 2 on Contract basis for the following posts:

Sl. No.	Name of the Posts	No. of Vacancies	Remuneration per month (INR)*
1.	Associate	14	1,00,000/-
2.	Consultant	04	1,50,000/-

*Detailed advertisement may be seen at NHIDCL website: www.nhidcl.com.



CBC-37112/12/0009/2425

Col. Vivek Jain (Retd.)
Dy. General Manager (HR)

BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE, BUILDING THE NATION



India Post Payments Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Corporate Office, Speed Post Centre Building, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi -110001

RECRUITMENT OF SPECIALIST OFFICERS FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & INFORMATION SECURITY DEPARTMENT

Advt. No. IPPB/CO/IIR/RECT/2024-25/04

Applications are invited for appointment to the following positions:

(a) Details of number of regular vacancies (tentative) including backlog reserved vacancies:

Dept.	Scale	Designation	No. of Vacancies	Vacancy reserved for				
				UR	OBC	EWS	SC	ST
Technology	JMGS-I	Assistant Manager IT	54	33	8	5	6	2
	MMGS-II	Manager IT – (Payment systems)	01	-	-	-	-	1
	MMGS-II	Manager -IT – (Infrastructure, Network & Cloud)	02	-	1	-	-	1
	MMGS-II	Manager -IT – (Enterprise Data ware house)	01	-	-	-	-	1
	MMGS-III	Senior Manager -IT (Payment systems)	01	-	1	-	-	-
	MMGS-III	Senior Manager -IT (Infrastructure, Network & Cloud)	01	-	-	-	1	-
	MMGS-III	Senior Manager – IT (Vendor, outsourcing, Contract Management, procurement, SLA, Payments)	01	-	-	-	-	1

(b) Details of number of contractual vacancies (tentative) including backlog reserved vacancies:

Department	Post/Designation	No. of Vacancies	Vacancy reserved for				
			UR	OBC	EWS	SC	ST
Information Security	Cyber Security Expert	07	4	2	-	1	-

Horizontal Reservation is applicable for Persons with Disability (minimum 40% Disability) as per Government of India norms.

IMPORTANT DATES:

(i) Opening date for On-line Registration of Applications	21.12.2024: 10.00 AM
(ii) Last date of On-line Submission of Applications with Fee	10.01.2025: 11.59 PM

For detailed advertisement, please visit our official website <https://ippbonline.com/web/ippb/current-opening>

Place: New Delhi
Date: 21.12.2024
CBC-06346/12/0011/2425

Sd/
Chief HR Officer

GEAR UP WITH BENEFITS OF

DIGITAL SIGNATURE

Cut Operational costs

Address legal compliance

Improve efficiency and collaboration

Automate and expedite business process

Your Digital signature is equivalent to your hand written signature, keep your digital signature key securely, do not share it with anyone.

Manipur's Divide

The ethnic tensions in Manipur between the Kuki-Zo tribes and the Meitei community have brought the state's governance under intense scrutiny. The call by 10 Kuki MLAs, including seven from the ruling BJP, for direct routing of development funds to hill districts, bypassing the state government, reflects a breakdown in trust and governance. This situation is not merely an administrative issue but a political and humanitarian crisis that demands immediate attention from the Union government. At the core of the conflict lies the perception of systemic discrimination against the hill districts, predominantly inhabited by the Kukis. Allegations include deliberate exclusion from central financial assistance schemes, neglect of critical infrastructure projects, and even denial of essential supplies. Such grievances, if substantiated, point to a governance failure which risks exacerbating ethnic divides. The demand for autonomy and the creation of a Union Territory with a legislature for the hill districts underscores the Kukis' growing disillusionment. Their assertion that the state government has failed them since the ethnic violence erupted in May 2023 cannot be dismissed as mere rhetoric. The continued clashes and displacement of communities from their homes underscore the urgency of finding a political resolution. The role of the Central government is pivotal in resolving this crisis. As the ruling party at both the state and national levels, the BJP has a unique responsibility to ensure inclusive governance. A federal system thrives when state governments act as equitable agents of development for all citizens. If allegations of bias are not addressed, they will undermine the credibility of both state and central administrations. Direct routing of funds to district-level authorities, as proposed by the Kuki MLAs, could be a temporary measure to ensure equitable resource allocation. However, such steps must be accompanied by transparent mechanisms to prevent misuse and promote accountability. Long-term peace requires more than administrative fixes; it demands a political solution that addresses the aspirations and fears of all communities involved. The Kukis' demand for expedited political dialogue and a renewed focus on the Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement reflects their willingness to engage constructively. Delaying these dialogues risks alienating a significant portion of the population, pushing them further towards separatist sentiments. Manipur is a litmus test for India's commitment to federalism and inclusivity. Ethnic diversity is both a strength and a challenge for the country. Mismanagement of such crises can have ripple effects across the Northeast, a region already grappling with historical grievances and insurgencies. New Delhi must act decisively to rebuild trust. The failure to address these grievances risks creating a long-term rift between the communities. Without a clear commitment to fairness and justice from the government, the current situation could lead to further violence, displacement, and mistrust, ultimately destabilising the region for years to come. Equitable governance, transparent resource allocation, and sincere political dialogue are essential steps to prevent further erosion of unity and to chart a course toward sustainable peace in Manipur.

Policy balance

The recent appointment of Sanjay Malhotra as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), replacing Shaktikanta Das, signals a pivotal shift in India's monetary policy dynamics. Mr Das, widely respected for his steady leadership during crises like the Covid-19 pandemic and global geopolitical shocks, steps down at a time when India faces mounting economic challenges. His departure reflects the government's growing urgency to align the RBI's policies more closely with its immediate growth priorities. During his six-year tenure, Mr Das upheld the RBI's mandate of balancing inflation control with systemic stability. Despite mounting pressure from industrial lobbies and sections of the government, he resisted aggressive rate cuts, prioritising long-term economic health over short-term growth fixes. While this approach stabilised India's financial system, it also drew criticism for being inadequate in reviving growth, particularly as GDP slipped to a seven-quarter low of 5.4 per cent in the September quarter. The slowdown, marked by weak manufacturing and strained consumption, created a pressing demand for more growth-centric policies – something the government now expects from Mr Malhotra. His appointment signals a possible recalibration of priorities. Known for his close working relationship with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Mr Malhotra's elevation hints at the government's intent to exert greater influence over the RBI's policy framework. While this could lead to more coordinated fiscal and monetary measures, it raises concerns about the erosion of the central bank's institutional autonomy. Central banks must operate independently to safeguard long-term economic stability, even if their policies conflict with the short-term goals of the political leadership. The government's decision to replace the governor also reflects a growing trend of central banks globally facing heightened scrutiny and influence from political leadership. This development underscores the delicate interplay between policy independence and the need for economic coordination, especially in a volatile global economic environment. At the core of this shift is the government's dilemma: India's economic slowdown demands decisive action, but the available tools carry significant risks. Interest rate cuts, for instance, could spur consumption and investment but might fuel inflation, further burdening households. Similarly, loosening lending norms could stimulate short-term growth but at the cost of long-term financial discipline. Mr Das's caution in these areas, including his push for reforms like stricter bad loan reporting and higher risk weights for unsecured loans, prioritised stability. However, such measures often conflicted with the government's focus on immediate growth optics. As the new Governor, Mr Malhotra faces a formidable challenge. He must address India's sluggish growth while maintaining the financial prudence that Mr Das championed. Striking this balance is essential to ensure that short-term gains do not come at the expense of long-term stability. While the government's push for growth is understandable, preserving the autonomy and credibility of the RBI remains crucial for the sustainability of India's economic progress.

Means or end?

Creating sustainable work cultures requires systemic changes that prioritize employee well-being. In India, legislative reforms should ensure the right to disconnect, limit work hours, and mandate paid vacations, allowing workers the time to recharge. Alongside these legal changes, organizations must adopt policies that value employees as individuals, not just productivity units. Offering flexible schedules, mental health resources, and supportive leadership can empower employees to thrive both personally and professionally



The pursuit of professional success has often overshadowed the need for personal well-being. Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy, a staunch advocate for hard work, recently reignited the debate on work-life balance by expressing skepticism about its feasibility. While his views resonate with those who value dedication, they also raise important questions about the cost of excessive professional commitment. Is employment merely a means to an end, or should it define our lives? The answer lies in understanding the need for balance between work and personal well-being.

Murthy's journey –working 14-hour days, six and a half days a week – embodies a traditional perspective. His belief that education and opportunities come with a responsibility to work hard echoes the post-war ethos of nations like Germany and Japan. However, in today's digital age, where mental health and productivity are closely linked, this mindset may not align with the realities of the modern workforce.

Murthy's suggestion of a 70-hour workweek for Indian millennials has sparked mixed reactions: while some see it as a call for a stronger work ethic, others argue it is impractical and harmful to personal well-being.

The tragic stories of young professionals like Anna Sebastian Perayil, Saurabh Kumar Ladda, Tarun Saxena, and Karthikeyan highlight the devastating impact of work-related stress in India. These cases expose the toxic work environments characterized by unrealistic expectations and the absence of adequate support systems, which push employees to their breaking points. Tarun's heartbreaking suicide note, where he revealed sleepless nights and overwhelming stress, serves as a stark reminder that work should never come at the cost of one's life.

While countries such as France, Portugal, and Australia have implemented laws to protect employees' private time, Indian workers remain vulnera-

ble to the pressures of a hyper-connected, always-on work culture. The lack of robust labour protections exacerbates this crisis, leaving workers exposed to exploitative practices and unable to find relief.

The human toll of overwork demands urgent attention and systemic change to safeguard the mental and physical well-being of employees. The relentless pursuit of professional success is taking a significant toll on public health. Chronic stress, long working hours, and inadequate recovery time are leading to an increase in lifestyle diseases, including hypertension, diabetes, and cardiovascular conditions.

A study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) found that the prevalence of diabetes in India has more than doubled in the last two decades, now affecting over 70 million people. Hypertension, another work-related health issue, affects nearly 30 per cent of the adult population in urban areas, with work stress being a key contributing factor. Mental health conditions are also escalating.

Anxiety, depression, and burnout have become widespread, with employees facing heightened pressure to perform in highly competitive environments. According to a 2023 report from the World Health Organization (WHO), India has the highest rate of depression in the world, with over 56 million people affected.

The suicide rate is similarly concerning: the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) recorded 171,000 suicides in 2022, with a significant proportion attributed to work-related stress, unemployment, and societal pressures. Youth suicides are particularly alarming, with individuals under 30 making up over 40 per cent of all suicides in India. Pro-

fessional demands, academic pressures, and the rising cost of living are contributing factors to this tragic trend. Studies show that nearly 25 per cent of young people in India report experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression, with many citing work-related stress and academic expectations as primary causes. These statistics underline the urgent need to address mental health and work-life balance in India to prevent further deterioration of public well-being.

Creating sustainable work cultures requires systemic changes that prioritize employee well-being. In India, legislative reforms should ensure the right to disconnect, limit work hours, and mandate paid vacations, allowing workers the time to recharge.

Alongside these legal changes, organizations must adopt policies that value employees as individuals, not just productivity units. Offering flexible schedules, mental health resources, and supportive leadership can empower employees to thrive both personally and professionally.

Education is essential in this transformation. Workers need to be informed about their rights and the importance of work-life balance. Training on time management, stress coping strategies, and healthy work habits will equip employees to navigate professional challenges without compromising their well-being.

A broader cultural shift is necessary, where success is redefined not just by career achievements but by personal fulfillment, family time, and overall well-being. Moving away from the outdated "hustle and grind" mentality, modern work is about efficiency, creativity, and strategic thinking. Research shows that overwork harms focus, stifles innovation, and undermines

long-term performance. Smarter work strategies, like short intense work sessions followed by recovery periods, can sustain productivity without burnout.

Work should not overshadow life's broader purpose. It is a tool to achieve happiness, contribute to society, and live fulfilling lives. While Narayana Murthy's commitment to hard work is inspiring, it should not set a universal standard. Individuals should have the freedom to define success on their terms, balancing professional ambitions with personal joys.

As India progresses, it must learn from global examples that prioritize workforce well-being. France's "right to disconnect" law, which allows employees to ignore work communications outside of office hours, and countries like Belgium and Japan that have adopted a four-day workweek, demonstrate that reduced work hours can boost both productivity and satisfaction. Austria's mandatory vacation laws and Belgium's "time credit" system, which allows employees to take extended leave without jeopardizing job security, further highlight the importance of structured time off for worker rejuvenation.

In contrast, India's average workweek of 46.7 hours far exceeds global norms. Over half of Indian workers work more than 49 hours a week, often at the expense of their health. This highlights the urgent need for reforms that prioritize employee well-being and sustainable productivity. The WHO reports that work-related stress leads to a global productivity loss of \$1 trillion annually, underscoring the need for change.

As younger generations increasingly prioritize mental health and flexibility, India has an opportunity to embrace global best practices. By adopting thoughtful reforms, India can foster a compassionate, sustainable work culture that balances professional success with personal fulfillment. Ultimately, happiness is not defined by the hours we work, but by the quality of the lives we lead.

How climate change has hit our kitchens

The optimism we've employed in every climate Conference of Parties (CoP) over the last decade following the Paris Agreement to cut global carbon emissions by 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030 has only dwindled and proven naive. While we call out the big emitters for failing to meet their mitigation obligations, the spine-chilling frequency and ferocity of floods, landslides and droughts in the last decade have increased unabated, with some scientists even warning that we are heading for dangers not seen in the last 10,000 years of human civilisation.

Let's imagine for a moment that Nepal meets its national climate goals of achieving net zero before the 2045 deadline and implements the adaptation activities spelt out in our national plans. Will we be shielded from the growing menace of such disasters in a world that continues to set new climate records every year? The answer is probably a big, resounding no.

While speaking at CoP29 in Baku last month, the former US Vice President, Al Gore, succinctly stated, "Some of the load-bearing elements of our entire earth ecological system are at risk" due to the relentless rise in global carbon emissions. We are to witness the consequences of these perpetually rising emissions on multiple fronts, from infrastructure to water and biodiversity to productivity. Perhaps its impact on agriculture has hurt civilians

THE KATHMANDU POST

and communities the most. Starting from the global food crisis of 2008, we have been paying noticeably more for food each year. Certainly, there are multiple reasons for the higher food costs, but a closer look points to climate change being at the issue's core. These climate impacts have entered our kitchens, weakening the family economy and subsequently affecting public health and nutrition – hitting the poorest sections of society the hardest. The implications of climate impacts on our agriculture are unfolding incredibly. A cursory comparison of vegetable prices over the years exemplifies how we pay more as climate impacts intensify. For example, the cost of cauliflower, a popular and common winter vegetable, was Rs45 per kg in November last year, while its price in the same period this year hovered around Rs150 per kg. The prices of other vegetables remain equally high.

The price hike is believed to be due to the devastating floods and landslides of late September that damaged crops. Traders in Kathmandu's vegetable market incurred a huge loss when their stock of vegetables was buried knee-deep under loads of silt twice this year. When landslides and floods disrupt transportation, as we saw during the September floods, farmers suffer losses as vegetables go bad quickly without proper refrigeration, raising market prices. Consequently, most vegetables have been out of reach for consumers, especially those with fixed incomes, such as pensioners, daily wage workers, service holders and so on.

The price of imported food also shoots up when floods or droughts affect crops in the countries we import food from. One may recall that onion prices increased fourfold when India banned its exports following the loss of onion crops due to continued rain until late September 2019.

The rainfall distribution in recent years has become skewed, bringing heavy rain for a short period, usually concentrated in small areas – most of which flows out as runoff, leading to debris flows and landslides that often bury or destroy farms in the hills, rendering them beyond reclamation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

A new path

SIR, This refers to today's report "Won't allow our territory to be used against India." The meeting between Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake and PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi marks a critical juncture in Indo-Lanka relations.

As Sri Lanka rebuilds after years of economic and political turmoil, Dissanayake's visit signifies Colombo's trust in India's partnership for its recovery.

The meeting underscores his priority to deepen bilateral ties



with India and reaffirm Sri Lanka's commitment to a collaborative regional vision.

The island nation's significance as India's closest maritime neighbour ensures it occupies a central role in New Delhi's strategic outlook – from fostering trade to safeguarding regional security. Dissanayake known for his pragmatic leadership aligns well with Modi's own grassroots approach, offering opportunities for renewed cooperation, particularly in addressing economic rebuilding and ensuring regional stability.

The meeting underscored Delhi's support for Sri Lanka's economic recovery, recalling India's \$4-billion assistance during the 2022 crisis and its role in facilitating an IMF bailout.

By advancing mutual interests and focusing on sustainable solutions, India and Sri Lanka are poised to forge new paths for cooperation in a rapidly changing

geopolitical landscape.

Yours, etc., N Sadhasiva Reddy, Bengaluru, 17 December.

PROACTIVE STEPS

SIR, Hindu minority communities in Bangladesh are being eliminated by state sponsored Islamic fundamentalist organisations like Jamaat-e-Islami (ban lifted post 5 August 2024), Harkat-ul-Jihad, etc, aided and abated prominently by ISI of Pakistan and covertly by China and the US. Prominent world media is mum.

Since 5 August, when Sheikh Hasina fled from Bangladesh, minority Hindu communities are being tortured, looted, raped and killed. India has a strong government in power and it must take proactive steps to protect Hindus. India must recalibrate its approach and foil China's plan of alienating the neighbourhood.

Yours, etc., Sumitra Das, Guwahati, 19 December.

UNWORTHY CLAIMANTS

SIR, This refers to the front page report, "PM: Cong can't hide its insults to Ambedkar" (19 December). The Home Minister, while delivering his address, made remarks that insulted and disrespected Dr BR Ambedkar, the principal architect of our Constitution. This is a matter of grave concern, as it not only undermines Dr. Ambedkar's legacy but also tarnishes the ideals of justice, equality, and social harmony that our Constitution upholds.

Ambedkar's grandson, Prakash Ambedkar, on Wednesday criticised Shah for his remarks, describing them as reflective of the BJP's "same old mentality". PM Modi tried to defend the indefensible by accusing the Congress. Ambedkar was a great social reformer, but during his lifetime he did not get the recognition that Nehru or Patel had received.

The two main political parties – BJP and Congress – are vying for the legacy of BR Ambedkar, a Dalit icon. This is sheer political opportunism since during his lifetime Ambedkar actually had very little to do either with the Congress or the Hindu right-wing that later coalesced into the BJP. Ambedkar gave India a "secular" Constitution, but the BJP does not subscribe to its secular characteristics.

Yours, etc., S S Paul, Nadia, 19 December.



OCCASIONAL NOTE

It is well known that the discussions preliminary to the Treaty of Versailles, which was to make the world safe for peace and universal friendliness, were not themselves always carried on in peace and perfect friendliness, but it is nevertheless startling to be told that M. Clemenceau challenged Mr. Lloyd George to a duel with swords or pistols. Mr. Wickham Steed, who gives the story, points out that he would not have published it "without having verified it in advance from persons who were present." It reads like a romantic novel. M. Clemenceau accused the British Premier of repeating inaccurate statements—we are not told whether this is a literal translation of the French, or whether the words used were more colloquial; anyhow Mr. Lloyd George seized him by the collar and demanded an apology, but after President Wilson had separated them, received instead an offer of a duel. The story is incomplete from a literary point of view. It does not say what the fourth great man, Signor Orlando, did. He probably looked on with a smile of enjoyment. Mr. Lloyd George denies the story, and Mr. Steed does not wish to enter into controversy about it, so it is likely to remain one of the unsolved riddles of history.

NEWS ITEMS

SITUATION IN EGYPT

PREMIER AND UNLAWFUL PROPAGANDA

THE Cairo correspondent of The Times states that the Governors of Provinces attended a specially summoned Council of Ministers, when Zivarr Pasha, the Premier, who is also Minister of the Interior, addressed them. He reminded them that they were supreme under the Ministry of the Interior in their respective provinces and that they must administer without any outside interference. The Government looked to them to ensure that no political pro-paganda was carried out unlawfully.

These injunctions obviously refer to the state of affairs existing under the previous regime, when administrative officials were constantly interfered with by Zaghulust Senators and Deputies, who seemed to consider that their Parliamentary position gave them authority over official Government representatives, who were also subjected to other outside interference.

The new Government's action should conduce to terminate a condition of things which had become intolerable both to responsible officials and the people, and there is hope that hence-forward provincial government will follow a normal and regular course, as it did prior to the Zaghulusts' accession to power.

EMERGENCY POWERS

THE ONLY MEASURE TO MEET THE CASE

"THERE has been much public condemnation of these organizations for violent crimes and of their deeds; but at the same time my action in issuing the Ordinance has been condemned. Yet I have been unable to find in the public statements of those who condemned both, any concrete suggestion of utility as to how the activities of these violent organisations, admittedly directed against orderly government and the lives and property of citizens, are to be checked and punished, and what effective steps, other than the action taken by me, and for which I accept the full responsibility, could have been adopted.

"We cannot shut our eyes to facts. We cannot stand by and merely wail and wring our hands while law and order founder in the flood. Condemnation of the violation of the code of civilization is not of itself sufficient. If civilization is to live, its code must be upheld and its sanctity must be vindicated.

CASTE CONFLICT

ALLEGATION IN MYSORE COUNCIL

DETAILS of a case of severe oppression of Panchamas (non-caste Hindus hitherto known as Pariahs) by the caste Hindus of a village about 30 miles away from Mysore City were narrated in the Mysore Legislative Council by Mr. M. Pillai, member for the depressed classes. According to Mr. Pillai, the caste Hindu villagers entered the Panchama quarter of the village in a body, mercilessly beat their men and women and broke their household utensils. Not satisfied with this, they completely destroyed the only drinking water well of the Panchamas and filled it with debris. In consequence of this persecution, Mr. Pillai declared, the Panchamas were obliged to leave the village. The reason for this oppression was said to be that the Panchamas refused to remove a carcass from the house of a caste Hindu. The Government replied that inquiries would be made into the matter and action taken, if necessary.

People's needs drove me

Rajendra Singh, fondly called "Paani Baba" (waterman), is an acclaimed water conservationist. He is credited with bringing back water adequacy to villages, apart from fighting against illegal mining and taking up the cause of clean Ganga and Yamuna rivers.

This is the outcome of almost half a century's untiring work of training people on digging up water bodies, rejuvenating dried up ones, and educating them on farm techniques and suitability of crop patterns.

Singh and his team, Tarun Bharat Sangh (TBS), have toiled hard with locals to create 15,800 water bodies and rejuvenate 23 rivers in various states of the country. His water-centric crusades are not restricted to India; his missions for restoration of water adequacy with indigenous knowledge-based revival or building water bodies have already left a mark in over 15 countries.

The 65-year-old Magsaysay award winner is now on a two-pronged mission - working in fields with locals and on campuses with academia - for propagating indigenous knowledge systems among the younger generation.

Satish Kumar Sharma of The Statesman talks to the versatile environmentalist on his work and persona.

Q: Tell us about your early life.

A: I was born on 6 August 1959 in Daula village of Baghpat district in Uttar Pradesh. I came to Rajasthan 46 years ago, and became a follower of Vinoba Bhawe and J P Narayan. I joined JP's Tarun Shanti Sena. I did my first social welfare task in Jaipur

in 1974, helping 44 families whose huts were burnt in a slum near a university.

Q: When did you take up water conservation as your mission?

A: Fighting for this cause was born out of the need of the people. Since I am an Ayurvedic graduate, I used to treat villagers in Gopalpura where people were suffering from night blindness and other troubles. However, Maangu Kaka, my guiding soul in water conservation, whom I treated for night blindness, said, "Rajendra! We do not need your qualification or medicines, we need water, so give us water then there will be no diseases among us."

Then this gentleman, whom I have always regarded as my guru for imparting indigenous knowledge, taught me lessons on geographical and geological characters of the area and composition and types of earth crust, which guided me in selection of site for making water bodies, setting its course-route and deciding shape-design of dam/johad etc.

What he taught me in a typical indigenous method proved to me as good as a PhD in 'natural engineering and geo-hydro science'. Our overall efforts restored water adequacy in 2,500 villages spread over 19 districts, transforming lives for the better in more than 12.5 lakh rural households.

Q: Didn't you work for the upliftment of Ganga-Yamuna?

A: I have held many rejuvenation programmes for both the rivers. Around 2005-07, I went along the banks of the Yamuna in Delhi was being given to companies, we fought against

it in the Supreme Court. However, then Union minister Arjun Singh had persuaded then chief minister Sheila Dikshit and the Lt Governor for conceding to our demands. Accordingly, the Delhi government cancelled land deals of 370 companies and imposed a moratorium on allotment of the river land.

In 2008, renowned river environmentalist Prof G D Agrawal, former professor of IIT Kanpur, took me in for the cause of a clean and richly flowing Ganga. We led a successful yatra from Gangotri to Uttarkashi in 2008-09. The Centre accepted our demands, declared the Ganga as a national river, stopped all work on three dams along the Bhagirathi, assured of no new dams on this river, declared the stretch from Gaumukh to Uttarkashi as an eco-sensitive zone and inducted me in the National Ganga Basin Authority (2009-2014).

Q: You also worked against illegal mining and for rehabilitated dacoits?

A: Yes, we did resist illegal mining. After gaining success in Gopalpura, people from nearby villages approached me to replicate the work in their respective areas. I went there, and dug one 'johad' each in Palpur, Kilwadi and Khilpad villages. However, due to mining, the water from these johads receded down into mining pits. This emerged as a major issue as 478 mines were running in a 200 square km area along Sariska.

We moved the Supreme Court for closure of these mines. The court ordered the closure (October 1991). Encouraged by this success, we made



efforts for closing stone mines along the Aravali mountain range traversing four states - Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat. In fact, Parliament enacted the Aravali Protection Act 1992.

Another notable feature in our journey to success was the return of 3,500 dacoits in Dholpur, Karauli districts, to mainstream society. A woman (Bhagwati) of Chondakiya village, who was bought by dacoit chieftain Jagdish Gujjar alias Nirbhaya Singh for being his wife, very tactfully planned with us not only for rejuvenation of water resources in her husband's native village, but also brought her dacoit husband back home from the Chambal ravines.

Bhagwati and I persuaded Nirbhaya to lay down arms. He not just accepted our pleas, but also joined us in spreading the water mission and rehabilitation of fellow dacoits in mainstream life.

Q: What do you feel about your work leaving a mark across the globe?

A: I am happy my work is not just restricted to India. We have made strides in many other countries like Egypt, Kenya and Somalia. People in many villages in these countries have already adopted and launched, under my team's guidance, our programmes of water harvesting and conservation.

Rebuilding pillars of a relationship

SMRUTI S PATTANAIK

The newly elected Sri Lankan President, Anura Kumara Disanayake (AKD), made his first official overseas visit to India. India emerged as an important partner for Sri Lanka during the Covid-19 and post-pandemic periods when the country faced an economic crisis leading to its bankruptcy. This ultimately ended Gotabaya Rajapaksa's presidency through a *Jana Aragalaya* (people's struggle).

Dissanayake embodies the aspirations of the marginalised. His party, Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP), transformed its electoral base (which was 3 per cent earlier) and secured massive votes with 160 seats in the 300-member Parliament. He visited India to discuss several Indian projects that are being implemented in Sri Lanka, the comprehensive economic partnership agreement that has been under discussion for several years, the Tamil issue and the larger security cooperation issue.

Emphasising the futuristic relationship, during Dissanayake's maiden visit to Delhi, Prime Minister Modi said, "Physical, digital and energy connectivity shall be the key pillars of our partnership."

For the past two decades, India has emphasised connectivity as a precursor to economic integration with its neighbours, including Sri Lanka. However, China's Belt and Road Initiative projects have helped construct ports and airports and emerged as a major competition to India's infrastructure activities. China-funded infrastructure projects and India-funded ones have significant differences. First, the public sector companies from India enter into a joint venture with such companies in the host country. Second, India-funded projects are based on the host country's needs. They play a leading role in identifying sectors that need investment.

Recently, Indian private sectors have begun investing in the

neighbourhood, bringing private capital. Sri Lanka has become a destination for India's public and private capital. India's line of credit is directed towards building rail networks and the energy sector, especially the Sampur solar power plant and the long-drawn project in Trincomalee, a port city on the northeast coast of Sri Lanka.

The Sri Lankan president's visit should be seen in the context of the country's larger foreign policy framework and India's keenness to partner in developmental sectors. Sri Lanka is at the geopolitical fulcrum of the Indian Ocean and the Indo-Pacific. As a small state, it wants to stay away from the conflicting and competitive geopolitical interests of major powers.

As a dominant player in the Indian Ocean, India, like Sri Lanka, is equally apprehensive of external powers' geopolitical interests toward seeking a firm foothold in the region. It is increasingly working with other economic players like Japan to collaborate on infrastructure projects, especially in developing ports. The Chinese have had a controlling stake in the Hambantota port for 99 years as the Sri Lankan government failed to repay debt to China.

Two important factors that could challenge bilateral relations between India and Sri Lanka are the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) and the Tamil issue. Both have domestic political implications for Sri Lanka. Moreover, the JVP was opposed to them in the past.

India-Sri Lanka economic relations have a baggage of politicisation. The Free Trade Agreement (FTA) the two countries signed in 1998 and implemented in 2000 tripled the bilateral trade despite initial resistance from the business community to trade in certain commodities in which they had competitive advantages. Interestingly, 60 per cent of Sri Lanka's exports to India benefit from the FTA, while 5 per cent of India's exports to Sri Lanka use FTA's provision to its advantage.

Despite FTA's success, negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CEPA) took eight years. They were finally abandoned due to excessive politics and the fear of the negative implication of Indian domination of Sri Lanka's market on certain Sri Lankan industries. The Rajapakse regime politically manipulated this opposition in their strategy to oppose India while forging close economic cooperation with China. One also saw similar opposition from the Trade Union and the JVP to the trilateral Memorandum of Consent (MoC) between India, Sri Lanka and Japan in developing the Eastern Container Terminal, which cancelled the MoC. The Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna party and its new incarnation, the National People's Power (NPP), continued opposing Indian projects in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka also cancelled the wind power project on its northern island, which China was developing due to India's security concerns.

From 2016-18, there have been 11 rounds of talks between India and Sri Lanka. These talks were revived in 2023 and included trade in goods and services. Trade in services is more politically complicated than goods.

Sri Lanka has welcomed India's investment in renewable energy, especially in the solar and wind sectors, to reduce its dependency on electricity generated by fossil fuels. The country produces electricity using imported oil and coal, constituting 20 per cent and 35 per cent of energy production, respectively. This makes the unit cost of energy production expensive and impacts foreign exchange reserves. India's solar and wind energy investment would be a game changer in Sri Lanka's energy mix. During this visit by the Sri Lankan president, the two countries also agreed to connect their electricity grid and have a multi-product petroleum pipeline.

Unresolved Tamil political issues have always shadowed India's relations with Sri Lanka. The JVP, the



main constituent of the National People's Power party, has consistently opposed devolution of powers. However, this time, the NPP has won 3 seats in Jaffna, the capital city of the northern province of Sri Lanka. At one point in time, Jaffna was a stronghold of the Tamil separatist group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Voices in favour of Tamil political aspiration are often raised in Jaffna, which is also the capital of the Northern province. The NPP has towed the Sinhala Buddhist majoritarian line that refused to recognise devolution as a means to the political solution of Tamil political aspiration.

Issues of militarisation of the North, including the occupation of Tamil lands, remain a potent point of dispute. After his victory, in the first rally addressing Tamils, Dissanayake

promised to gradually return their land grabbed by state agencies. With the closure of the Paruthithurai camp, some lands have already been handed back to the Tamil owners.

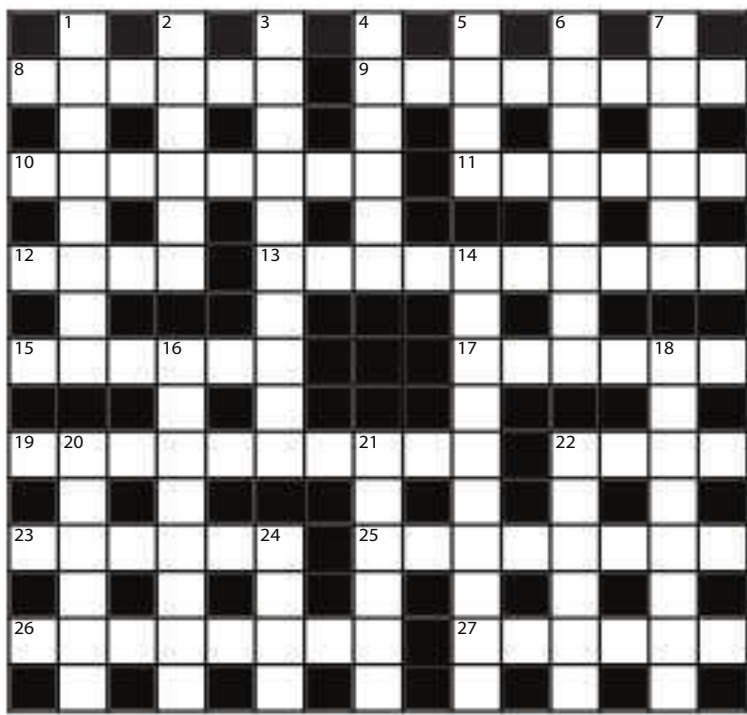
The important constitutional reform that will resolve ethnic conflict is yet to be implemented. With the NPP dominating parliament and the complete erosion of traditional political parties, Sri Lanka is expected to move to new politics that promise to be responsive to the marginal working class, who form the bulk of the voters for the NPP.

Given the challenges, India and Sri Lanka should be careful to advance their relations in a mutually beneficial way without giving in to nationalist fervour on both sides.

The Kathmandu Post/ANN.

CROSSWORD

NO-292996



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



ACROSS

- 8 Slavers sold those captured in Troy off (6)
9 Person whose convictions limit his career (8)
10 Cast regularly wanting Tony Curtis to direct (8)
11 Football manager wears women's clothing for trip to see big game? (6)
12 Steal money from house? (4)

- 13 Means of releasing what's been bottled up by city's gangs (10)
15 Must have latrine emptied in sewer (6)
17 Spread the word about stopping chap going mad (6)
19 Star and moon could be central parts of her world (10)
22 Stop esteem being eroded by taking drugs at fixed intervals (4)
23 Old lady isn't fazed, being of pious attitude? (6)

- 25 Leave Islamic State for good, when the former limits the latter? (8)
26 Implement measure in court taking nothing from offence (8)
27 Go further than u-turn abandoned by leader of opposition (6)

DOWN

- 1 Press report of sport articles that were forged? (8)

- 2 Tories condemned offensive act (6)
3 Key French article about revolutionary doctor staying in to shield (10)
4 Tesco terrine contains duck (6)
5 Drunk almost topples over (4)
6 Voice in favour of church service (3,5)
7 Where old folk laid to rest argument in pub? (6)
14 Person who manages excellent coverage for viewers (10)

- 16 Helping to support start of Durham University's term (8)
18 Large organism with a trunk and head (8)
20 They're often battered by foreign character behind swindle (6)
21 This ultimately fills up part of the intestines (6)
22 Different levels in institute promoting right answer (6)
24 Seconds from assuming control of marginal seat (4)

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



US diplomats in Syria on first visit since Assad ouster

The team is also the first group of American diplomats to formally visit Syria in more than a decade

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, 20 DECEMBER

The first U.S. diplomats to visit Syria since President Bashar Assad's ouster earlier this month are now in Damascus to hold talks with the country's new leaders and seek information on whereabouts of missing American journalist Austin Tice.

Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Barbara Leaf, former special envoy for Syria Daniel Rubinstein and the Biden administration's chief envoy for hostage negotiations, Roger Carstens, made the trip for talks with Syria's interim leaders, the State Department said early Friday.

The team is also the first group of American diplomats to formally visit Syria in more



than a decade since the U.S. shuttered its embassy in Damascus in 2012.

"They will be engaging directly with the Syrian people, including members of civil society, activists, members of different communities, and other Syrian voices about their vision for the future of their country and how the United States can help support them," the State Department said. At the top of their agenda will be information about

Tice, who went missing in Syria in 2012. And they will push the principles of inclusion, protection of minorities and a rejection of terrorism and chemical weapons that the Biden administration says will be critical for any U.S. support for a new government.

The U.S. has redoubled efforts to find Tice and return him home, saying officials have communicated with the rebels who ousted Assad's

government about the American journalist. Carstens traveled previously to Lebanon to seek information.

Tice, who has had his work published by The Washington Post, McClatchy newspapers and others, disappeared at a checkpoint in a contested area west of Damascus as the Syrian civil war intensified.

A video released weeks after Tice went missing showed him blindfolded and held by armed men and saying, "Oh, Jesus." He has not been heard from since. Assad's government publicly denied that it was holding him. The rebel group that spearheaded the assault on Damascus that forced Assad to flee — Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, or HTS — is designated a foreign terrorist organization by the United States and others. While that designation comes with a raft

of sanctions, it does not prohibit U.S. officials from speaking to its members or leaders.

The State Department said Rubinstein, Leaf and Carstens would meet with HTS officials but did not say if the group's leader Ahmad al-Sharaa, who was once aligned with al-Qaida, would be among those they see.

U.S. officials say al-Sharaa's public statements about protecting minority and women's rights are welcomed, but they remain skeptical that he will follow through on them in the long run. The U.S. has not had a formal diplomatic presence in Syria since 2012, when it suspended operations at its embassy in Damascus during the country's civil war, although there are U.S. troops in small parts of Syria engaged in the fight against the Islamic State militant group.

Russian missiles target Kyiv after Ukraine fires US-made missiles across the border

AGENCIES
KYIV, 20 DECEMBER

A Russian ballistic missile attack on Ukraine's capital Kyiv early Friday killed at least one person and injured nine others, officials said. Moscow claimed it was in response to a Ukrainian strike on Russian soil using American-made weapons.

At least three loud blasts were heard in Kyiv shortly before sunrise. Ukraine's air force said it intercepted five Iskander short-range ballistic missiles fired at the city. The attack knocked out heating to 630 residential buildings, 16 medical facilities, and 30 schools and kindergartens, the city administration said, and falling missile debris caused damage and sparked fires in three districts.

"We ask citizens to immediately respond to reports



of ballistic attack threats, because there is very little time to find shelter," the air force said.

During the almost three years since the war began Russia has regularly bombed civilian areas of Ukraine, often in an attempt to cripple the power grid and unnerve Ukrainians. Meanwhile Ukraine, struggling to hold back Russia's bigger army on the front line, has attempted to strike Russian infrastructure supporting the

country's war effort.

The Russian Ministry of Defense said the strike was in response to a Ukrainian missile attack on Russia's Rostov border region two days earlier. That attack used six American-made Army Tactical Missile System, known as ATACMS, missiles and four Storm Shadow air-launched missiles provided by the United Kingdom, it said.

That day, Ukraine claimed to have targeted a Rostov oil refinery as part of its campaign to strike Russian infrastructure supporting the country's war effort. The use of Western-supplied weapons to strike Russia has angered the Kremlin. Ukraine fired several American-supplied longer-range missiles into Russia for the first time on 19 November after Washington eased restrictions on their use.

Canada's Justin Trudeau will shuffle his Cabinet as he faces calls to resign and rising discontent



AGENCIES
TORONTO, 20 DECEMBER

Embattled Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will shuffle his Cabinet Friday.

The prime minister's office confirmed late Thursday that Trudeau will participate in the swearing-in ceremony and chair a meeting with his new Cabinet later Friday.

Trudeau is facing rising discontent over his leadership, and the abrupt departure of his finance minister on Monday could be something he can't recover from.

A rising number of Liberal lawmakers are calling on Trudeau to resign but new Finance Minister Dominic LeBlanc said Thursday Trudeau has the "full support of his Cabinet."

LeBlanc said he respects the views of Liberal lawmakers who want Trudeau to resign. "That's a view they are expressing. The prime minister listened carefully when that view was expressed to him," LeBlanc said. "He listened, in some cases responded to

specific things that were raised, and he said he would reflect carefully."

LeBlanc said the government will remain focused on work and addressing the threat by President-elect Donald Trump to impose a 25% tariff on all Canadian products when he is inaugurated next month.

"We shouldn't be looking inward. We shouldn't be worrying about ourselves," LeBlanc said.

LeBlanc said he will meet with Tom Homan, Trump's incoming "border czar," after Christmas to discuss Canada's plan to secure the border as part of a bid to avoid the tariffs.

Official says Wisconsin shooter was new student at Christian school where her victims had deep ties

AGENCIES
MADISON, 20 DECEMBER

The Wisconsin 15-year-old who shot and killed a teacher and a fellow student Monday was only in her first semester at the school but seemed to be settling in, a school official said Thursday as families of the victims remembered them as people of faith who had deep connections within the Christian school.

Abundant Life Christian School student Rubi Patricia Vergara, 14, of Madison and teacher Erin West, 42, of DeForest were killed Monday. Two other students who were shot remained hospitalized Thursday in critical



condition. Barbara Wiers, the school's director for elementary and communications, told The Associated Press that the attack lasted

eight minutes — shorter than the school's regular snack break. She said the community's faith and connection to one another has

sustained them as they struggle with the possibility that the shooter's motive might remain undetermined.

"Are we broken right now? Yes. Are we bruised and battered? Yes," she said. "But we will laugh again, and He will turn our mourning into joy again. And we will go on."

Police say student Natalie "Samantha" Rupnow shot herself at the school and died at a Madison hospital. Police have said her motivation for the attack remains a key part of their investigation.

This was Rupnow's first semester at ALCS, Wiers said. The school was working with

her family on attendance, but teachers had no significant concerns, she said.

"I pray for this family because right now they've lost a daughter and they are wounded," she said. "And they're dealing with the fact that their daughter did this terrible thing and hurt these other people. It has to be one of the loneliest, bitterest places to be."

Vergara's funeral is set for Saturday at City Church, which is adjacent to the school, and West's funeral is Monday at Doga Church in Madison, where she was a member, according to obituaries published Wednesday and Thursday.

House rejects Trump-backed plan on government shutdown, leaving next steps uncertain

AGENCIES
WASHINGTON, 20 DECEMBER

A day before a potential government shutdown, the House resoundingly rejected President-elect Donald Trump's new plan Thursday to fund operations and suspend the debt ceiling, as Democrats and dozens of Republicans refused to accommodate his sudden demands.

In a hastily convened evening vote punctuated by angry outbursts over the self-made crisis, the lawmakers failed to reach the two-thirds threshold needed for passage — but House Speaker Mike Johnson (*photo*) appeared determined to reassess, before Friday's midnight deadline.



"We're going to regroup and we will come up with another solution, so stay tuned," Johnson said after the vote. The cobbled-together plan didn't even get a majority, with the bill failing 174-235.

The outcome proved a massive setback for Trump and his billionaire ally, Elon Musk, who rampaged against Johnson's bipartisan compromise, which Republicans and Democrats had reached earlier

to prevent a Christmas-time government shutdown. It provides a preview of the turbulence ahead when Trump returns to the White House with Republican control of the House and Senate.

During his first term, Trump led Republicans into the longest government shutdown in history during the 2018 Christmas season, and interrupted the holidays in 2020 by tanking a bipartisan Covid-relief bill and forcing a do-over. Hours earlier Thursday, Trump announced "SUCCESS in Washington!" in coming up with the new package which would keep government running for three more months, add \$100.4 billion in disaster assistance including

for hurricane-hit states, and allow more borrowing through 30 January 2027.

"Speaker Mike Johnson and the House have come to a very good Deal," Trump posted.

But Republicans, who had spent 24 hours largely negotiating with themselves to cut out the extras conservatives opposed and come up with the new plan, ran into a wall of resistance from Democrats, who were in no hurry to appease demands from Trump — or Musk.

House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries said Democrats were sticking with the original deal with Johnson and called the new one "laughable."

International students urged to return to US campuses before Trump inauguration

AGENCIES
CONCORD, 20 DECEMBER

A growing number of U.S. colleges and universities are advising international students to return to campus before President-elect Donald Trump is inaugurated, over concerns that he might impose travel bans like he did during his first administration.

More than a dozen schools have issued advisories, even though Trump's plans remain uncertain. At some schools, the spring semester begins before Trump will take office, so students may have to be back in class anyway. But for anyone whose ability to stay



in the United States depends on an academic visa, they say it's best to reduce their risks and get back to campus before 20 January.

Trump issued an executive order in 2017 January banning travel to the U.S. by citizens of seven predominantly Muslim countries — Iraq, Syria,

Iran, Sudan, Libya, Somalia and Yemen. Travelers from those nations were either barred from getting on their flights or detained at U.S. airports after they landed. They included students and faculty as well as business people, tourists and visitors to friends and family.

Trump later removed some countries and added others to the list — 15 nations were affected at some point during his presidency. More than 40,000 people were ultimately refused visas because of the ban, according to the U.S. State Department. President Joe Biden rescinded the orders when he took office in 2021.

LEISURE

10 MINUTE CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1 Knight's title (3)

3 Unmarried (6)

5 Defeat utterly (7)

10 Wallpaper adhesive (5)

11 Stare in wonder (4)

12 Salad vegetable (8)

14 Supreme power (11)

17 Briskness (8)

19 Honey drink (4)

22 Supplement (3,2)

23 Unyielding (7)

24 Consented (6)

25 Era (3)

DOWN

1 Zodiac sign (7)

2 Ladder step (4)

4 Skin disease (8)

5 Zest (5)

6 Happenings (6)

7 Male deer (4)

8 Respectful (11)

13 Frightening (8)

15 Adolescent (7)

16 Capital of Cuba (6)

18 Viper (5)

20 Palm fruit (4)

21 Information (4)

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Due

3 Teen

5 Erse (Duty nurse)

9 Storeys

11 Rioja

13 Argumenta-

12 Scavies

18 Round-the-clock

20 Shine

21 Aviator

22 Ruste

23 Stop

24 Run

DOWN

1 Drumay

2 Enough

3 Therm

4 Eraser

5 Quots

6 Boater

7 Sku run

8 Chirp

9 Ornate

13 Cudgel

14 Cudgel

15 Quots

16 Boater

17 Sku run

19 Chirp

By arrangement with The Independent

Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required

BEETLE BAILEY/Mort Walker

THIS FOG IS SO THICK I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING

CAN'T YOU SEE ME, SARGE?

NO, BEETLE, I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING!

6-28

RED EYE/Bill Yates & Mel Casson

TANGLEFOOT, YOU CAN'T LOCATE WATER WITH THAT DOWNSY ROD THE PALEFACE SOLD YOU !!

SEE? THE STUPID THING IS POINTING UP!!

6-12

DADDY DAZE/John Kovalieski

...BA BA BA

OH, I CAN SEE HOW YOU WERE CONFUSED.

THE PHRASE IS ACTUALLY "HELPING HAND" NOT "HELPING HAM"

ALTHOUGH I LIKE YOUR IDEA OF A SEEING-EYE PIG.

NEED TO KNOW

Ambulance

FD Block Association (Amb) 9830452536, 9830181286

Happy Calcuttans 24400160

City Point Nurses Centre 2567-4113, 9831142623

People's Relief Committee 2280-4943/9444

Life Care 2284-6940

Peoples Blood Bank 2455-5164/ 5557

RK Mission Seva Pratishthan 2475-3636/39

Police/Fire

Lalibazar (Police Control Room) 22143230

S. P. (North 24-Pgns) 25423005

S.P. (South 24-Pgns) 2479-3333/1311

Bhawani Bhawan 24791761/9, 24791933

Fire Service Station Salt Lake: 2357-5293;

Blood Banks

Ashok Laboratory 24720333

Central Blood Bank 23510619

Howrah 2666-8111; Behala 2497-6285

Civic Services

Kolkata Municipal Corporation: 2286-1000

Water: 2543-1602

Calcutta Telephones

1331/1332 (Auto Telephone Numbers), 1310, 2638-7412/3542/2581 (manual). Sealdah: 2350-3535/3537

Shalimar Station: 2668-1121, Eastern Railway and South-Eastern Railway: 139.

Taxi Refusal

SMS 575756: Complaint and registration

Police Toll Free No. 1073

Transport Deptt. No. 6451-6718

CESC Fault Reporting

1912 and 4403-1912

Trains

Howrah Station Old Complex 1331/1332 (Auto Telephone Numbers), 1310, 2638-7412/3542/2581 (manual). Sealdah: 2350-3535/3537

Shalimar Station: 2668-1121, Eastern Railway and South-Eastern Railway: 139.

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SDAE EEW

UEC NORT

SSRITAT

VPERITA

EIVYSTIR

PAR SCORE 190-200

by JUDD

Life Care 2284-6940

Peoples Blood Bank 2455-5164/ 5557

RK Mission Seva Pratishthan 2475-3636/39

Police/Fire

Lalibazar (Police Control Room) 22143230

S. P. (North 24-Pgns) 25423005

S.P. (South 24-Pgns) 2479-3333/1311

Bhawani Bhawan 24791761/9, 24791933

Fire Service Station Salt Lake: 2357-5293;

Blood Banks

Ashok Laboratory 24720333

Central Blood Bank 23510619

Howrah 2666-8111; Behala 2497-6285

Civic Services

Kolkata Municipal Corporation: 2286-1000

Water: 2543-1602

Calcutta Telephones

1331/1332 (Auto Telephone Numbers), 1310, 2638-7412/3542/2581 (manual). Sealdah: 2350-3535/3537

Shalimar Station: 2668-1121, Eastern Railway and South-Eastern Railway: 139.

Taxi Refusal

SMS 575756: Complaint and registration

Police Toll Free No. 1073

Transport Deptt. No. 6451-6718

CESC Fault Reporting

1912 and 4403-1912

Trains

Howrah Station Old Complex 1331/1332 (Auto Telephone Numbers), 1310, 2638-7412/3542/2581 (manual). Sealdah: 2350-3535/3537

Shalimar Station: 2668-1121, Eastern Railway and South-Eastern Railway: 139.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3

8

4

6

1

2

4

6

2

9

6

8

7

4

1

9

3

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

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

epaper.thestatesman.com

Market records steepest weekly declines in over two years

NSE NIFTY

Intra-day on December 20, 2024

High: 24,065.80
Open: 23,960.70
Previous close: 23,951.70
Low: 23,537.35
Close: 23,587.50
Change: -364.20 (-1.52%)

BSE SENSEX

Intra-day on December 20, 2024

High: 79,587.15
Open: 79,335.48
Previous close: 79,218.05
Low: 77,874.59
Close: 78,041.59
Change: -1,176.46 (-1.49%)

On Nifty, the top gainers were Dr. Reddys Laboratories

Further on BSE, the top gainers were Network 18 Media & Investments (7.31%), BASF India (4.41%), Bank of Maharashtra (4.29%), The New India Assurance Company (4.16%), Mahindra Lifespace Developers (2.97%). On the losing side were Siemens (9.65%), RBL Bank (7.33%), Pfizer (6.75%), Brigade Enterprises (6.64%), Balram Churi Mills (6.38%). The rupee closed at 85.0150 against the U.S. dollar, up from its close at 85.07 in the previous

Dr Reddy's Labs shares emerged as one of the top gainer on the Nifty 50, closing the day with 1.5% gains.

The pre-meeting discussions at Hotel Marriott included Deputy CMs Samra Chaudhary (Bihar), Jagdish Devda (MP), Chowna Mein (Arunachal Pradesh), Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu (Telangana), and T. R. Zeliang (Nagaland), alongside Finance Ministers from other states and Chief Economic Advisor Dr V. Anantha Nageswaran.

He also informed the Com-

A presentation was also made by Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal highlighting various Sustainability & Green Initiatives being undertaken by the PSUs.

“Following nine rounds of intensive negotiations, FTA discussions require strategic political guidance to conclude a commercially



Minister Goyal underlined that non-tariff barriers were impeding trade and emphasised the need to address long pending issues as a confidence building measure. Both sides agreed to explore a balanced, equitable, ambi-

Commerce Minister Goya welcomed that President Ursula von der Leyen was

Goyal congratulated the EU Trade Commissioner Šefovič on his new role in the European Commission and expressed confidence in working together to develop a new Strategic India-EU Agenda. Recognising shared values of democracy and rule of law, the two leaders agreed to explore ways to ensure greater wealth and prosperity for about 2 billion people of India and the EU.

A large cargo ship is shown at sea, with a cargo plane flying overhead and a cargo truck on the ground. The ship is a large container vessel with multiple decks of colorful shipping containers. The plane is a large cargo aircraft, and the truck is a white cargo truck with a blue container on its trailer. The scene is set against a blue sky with white clouds.

Speaking on skill devel-

Following a rigorous evaluation process, 72 participants were shortlisted to develop prototypes. Of these, 25 finalists were presented their innovative solutions during the Finale Event on 20th December 2024.

Karnataka leads with 5,765 EV public charging stations, followed by Maharashtra at 3,728 and Uttar Pradesh at 1,989, Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Steel, Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma, told the Rajya Sabha in a written reply. As per the information received from the Ministry of Power, 271 EV public charging stations are installed in Chhattisgarh. The govt has been promoting the adoption of EVs in India.

Under the 'Swachh Bharat Mission,' in the past 6 months (since June 9, 2024), the government has released more than Rs 1,123 crore for projects in nine states -- Assam, Bihar,

A new rental housing ven-
tical has been introduced

According to the government, a revamped National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) will soon be launched, based on the results of a pilot project currently underway in 25 cities, including industrial hubs and migrant centres.

A: Established in 1911, today our bank is celebrating 111 years of its glorious existence as we are on a transforming path from 'good' bank to 'great' bank. Being the first Indian commercial bank, wholly owned and managed by Indians, we have come across a long way and have a remarkable presence in Bengal, Sikkim and Port Blair holding a very prominent place among other public sector banks on account of four wide network of 332 branches, regional offices. We are the

A: Our bank has been delivering excellence in MSME business through customer focus approach. We have been empowering MSME units by providing accessible innovative and customized financial solutions. Our Kolkata zone has seen increase in MSME advances by 15% from 31st March 2024 as our figure



A: Our Kolkata zone comprising of seven regions has been playing an increasingly active role in promoting the key thrust areas of agriculture, small scale industries and

Empowering MSME Units by providing accessible, innovative and customised financial solutions. We have put equal focus on all kinds of Retail loans, MUDRA loans, advances to food processing industries self help groups, Nari Shakti

A: We are continuously advancing our technology and processes to deliver greater efficiency and a seamless, efficient banking experience. We have a robust risk management system which helps in early detection of frauds. Our competent and hardworking manpower supplemented by

For borrowers who are in financial distress due to business failure or genuine reasons we are offering One Time Settlement Scheme to them in order to free them from the baggage

A: We have a diverse range

where we will be providing free personal accidental insurance of upto Rs 100 lakhs besides other attractive features. Our Cent Queue specially designed for women customers has gained popularity because of the attractive offers it brings with it. We have received huge response from women customers . Cent PM SURYA scheme promoting use of renewable energy through installation of rooftop solar panel has also gained popularity among all other schemes.

Ex-Haryana CM Chautala dies at 89, PM condoles his death

The state government has declared three days of state mourning on 20, 21 and 22 December

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, 20 DECEMBER

Om Prakash Chautala, a five-time Chief Minister and towering figure of Haryana, passed away at the age of 89. The son of former Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal, he died following a cardiac arrest at his residence in Gurugram, today.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, has expressed his anguish at the death of former Haryana CM. Expressing his grief, the PM said on X, "He (Chautala) was active in the state politics for many years and strove constantly to advance the work of Devi Lal,". He expressed his condolences to his family members and supporters.

The state funeral of former Chief Minister shall take place at Teja Khara Farm, Sirsa, at 3 pm tomorrow. The state government has declared three days of state mourning on 20, 21 and 22 December during which the National Flag will be flown at halfmast throughout the state on all buildings. All government functions stand cancelled and there will be no official entertainment. A public holiday has been declared on 21 December in all state government offices as a mark of respect to the departed soul, as per an official order issued on Friday.

Earlier, the senior INLD leader suffered a cardiac arrest



early in the day and was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital. However, despite the efforts of the medical team, he could not be revived, according to a news agency.

Chautala's demise marks the end of an era in Haryana's political landscape. Known for his astute leadership and deep understanding of rural and agricultural issues, he was a significant force not only in state but national politics as well.

Born on 1 January 1935, he rose to prominence in the footsteps of his father, Devi Lal, who was an influential farmer leader and a key figure

in the Indian political arena. Chautala began his political journey in the early 1970s, eventually establishing himself as a strong leader in Haryana politics. He served as Haryana CM five times, with his tenure marked by efforts to improve the state's infrastructure, education, and agricultural sectors. Chautala was also instrumental in strengthening the INLD, which he led with a focus on regional issues and the welfare of farmers. His legacy extends beyond his political achievements. He will be remembered for his ability to connect with the grassroots and his commitment to addressing the

challenges faced by rural communities. Apart from the PM, Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatraya, state Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, several ministers, and leaders of different parties on Friday condoled the passing of former Chief Minister of Haryana Chaudhary Om Prakash Chautala.

In a statement, the state Governor Bandaru Dattatraya expressed profound sorrow over the demise of Chautala. In his condolence message, he described Chautala as a seasoned politician and a visionary leader who dedicated

his life to the service of the people of Haryana. "Shri Om Prakash Chautala ji's contributions to the development of Haryana and his commitment to the welfare of its people particularly "Kisan" will always be remembered. His demise is a great loss to the state and its people," said Dattatraya.

Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini in his condolence message said that with Chautala's passing, a significant chapter in state's political history has come to a close, and it is hard to fill the void left by his departure. His immense contribution to Haryana's political landscape will always be remembered, he said. He said that Chautala's personality was a reflection of simplicity and resilience. He was a visionary leader who initiated numerous schemes for rural development, education, and infrastructure improvement. His passing has left not just his family, but the entire state in deep sorrow, he said.

Cabinet Ministers of Haryana Anil Vij, Krishna Lal Panwar, Rao Narbir Singh, Mahipal Dhandra, Vipul Gole, Dr Arvind Kumar Sharma, Shyam Singh Rana, Ranbir Gangwa, Krishan Kumar Bedi, Shruti Choudhary, Aarti Singh Rao, along with Minister of State Rajesh Nagar and Gaurav Gautam also expressed their grief over the demise of Chautala and extended heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Manipur CM highlights progress amid ethnic clashes, urges inclusive governance



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
IMPHAL, 20 DECEMBER

Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh has asserted that the state, which has been reeling under ethnic clashes since May 2023, is witnessing signs of improvement.

Addressing district officials, Singh commended the deputy commissioners, particularly those stationed in the conflict-hit hill districts, for their unwavering commitment during these trying times.

"The situation in Manipur is improving. The deputy commissioners, especially those serving in the hill districts, have been working with dedication and sincerity during this difficult period," the chief minister stated.

BJP MP gifts '1984' bag to Priyanka Gandhi

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

In a move aimed at casting doubts over her priorities in supporting a cause, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra was gifted a bag 'symbolising the 1984 anti-Sikh riots' by BJP MP Aprajita Sarangi on Friday. The Wayanad MP recently faced criticism from lawmakers of the saffron party for flaunting her bag in Parliament with "Palestine" emblazoned on it with a watermelon symbol. The BJP alleged that the inscription on the bag indicated her preference for Palestine over India's interests.

She was also seen carrying a cream-coloured handbag with the message "Bangladesh ke Hindu aur Isaiyon ke saath khade ho (Stand with the Hindus and Christians of Bangladesh)" expressing solidarity with minorities in Bangladesh.

embroiled in ethnic violence since May 2023, following tensions between the Meitei and Kuki communities over issues of land rights, reservation policies, and identity.

Public Notification Regarding Energization

LINE NO. 12 OF JHIL SIDING, HOWRAH

CORRIGENDUM

In reference to the above captioned advertisement published earlier, this is to be stated that the total length of electrification of line no. 12 of Jhil Siding, Howrah to be read as **571.50 Meter** instead of 582 Meter and date of energization shall be **23.12.2024**.

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD, Howrah

EASTERN RAILWAY

Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • **Fax:** (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • **Website:** www.iifl.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **24.12.2024** from **10:00 AM** at following district Centre **Hooghly-Bandel Street-Road-IIFL Finance Ltd, Bandel Street Road, Bandel Panjab Park, Po - Bandel, Ground Floor, Dist - Hooghly, Pin- 711213**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned here in or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No. : GL23167740, GL23232029, GL23289464, GL23385501, GL23920373, GL23996985, GL25690114, GL25996232, GL26191806, GL26191827, GL29367589, GL29651940, GL29660870, GL29804758, GL29819800, GL29859600, GL29872540, GL30196068, GL30211278, GL30370543, GL30434441, GL30494922, GL30497404, GL30517072, GL30521424, GL30555427, GL30586619, GL30600544, GL30620979, GL30623466, GL30654436, GL30662331, GL30684946, GL31037545, GL31125146, GL31145043, GL31190948, GL31193187, GL31943824, GL31962855, GL31278380, GL32000016, GL32211134, GL32212734, GL32231241, GL32241481, GL32264628, GL32304735, GL32307654, GL32309060, GL34014031, GL34305009, GL34318071, GL32308393, GL32309477, GL32327365, GL32375681, GL32388847, GL32420179, GL324015281, GL24761867, GL32672232, GL26906346, GL27648998, GL29320450, GL29412265, GL29543272, GL29657417, GL29938171, GL29958634, GL30261519, GL30276102, GL30358713, GL30359294, GL30434507, GL30434745, GL30526584, GL30542638, GL30550990, GL30560026, GL30608783, GL30611964, GL30676072, GL30779784, GL3092722, GL31098212, GL31152314, GL31172575, GL311334260, GL31343262, GL31358160, GL31366771, GL31633191, GL31984087, GL32359165, GL32425146, GL32442882, GL32667216, GL32688493, GL32720584, GL32995986, GL33016626, GL33302169, GL33320994, GL33366610, GL33372280, GL33381453, GL33946884, GL33969365, GL33373712, GL33003762, GL33005449, GL30536672, GL30644697, GL30675641, GL30675831, GL30687794, GL31661486, GL31786110, GL31911245, GL31933422, GL33291908, GL32407278, GL33183991, GL33415053, GL33492932, GL33975102, GL33975102, GL32168507, GL32233734, GL23359698, GL23419210, GL23499342, GL25611182, GL25949713, GL28042758, GL29856573, GL29871997, GL30405838, GL30422155, GL30433689, GL30433802, GL30442208, GL30470707, GL30516737, GL30551813, GL30552085, GL30521340, GL30521656, GL30549097, GL30671181, GL30677997, GL30698863, GL30734145, GL30747199, GL30749037, GL30761320, GL30761772, GL31133122, GL31144024, GL31387529, GL31390667, GL31510957, GL31511871, GL32078856, GL32761626, GL32274795, GL32372999, GL32447854, GL32463731, GL32473218, GL32473133, GL32500076, GL32643689, GL33217740, GL33174418, GL323730573, GL324253576, GL23467023, GL2926105, GL29882784, GL29903375, GL30495123, GL30495123, GL31174418, GL31472897, GL31493147, GL31734590, GL31748460, GL31756509, GL31786325, GL31796823, GL31804905, GL31970441, GL31991138, GL32071554, GL32089080, GL32131501, GL32146577, GL32263487, GL32286247, GL32357448, GL32351788, GL32528003, GL32541489, GL32563818, GL32585190, GL23094243, GL23231604, GL23273020, GL23871713, GL23884428, GL27620080, GL30684343, GL28833738, GL29755369, GL29771907, GL30282888, GL30023528, GL30536672, GL30084160, GL320203246, GL30215008, GL30414631, GL30424468, GL3051781, GL30518263, GL30521577, GL30522315, GL32110547, GL32668083, GL32722404, GL34026789, GL34059113, GL34119130, GL34249836, GL34270088, GL22945165, GL23270356, GL23319068, GL23334989, GL23363540, GL24082321, GL28697841, GL28986387, GL31885996, GL31902031, GL32156806, GL32174147, GL32230873, GL32228293, GL32351311, GL32184536, GL3187218, GL31930007, GL32790303, GL32818512, GL33980934, GL34170066, GL34297847, GL34319265, GL32272807, GL23407229, GL23407962, GL23471296, GL32746336, GL23852743, GL23936183, GL24191018, GL25007842, GL26750711, GL27036300, GL27734683, GL27746763, GL28512986, GL29139435, GL29264303, GL29273158, GL29758336, GL29789012, GL29805851, GL29820517, GL29923029, GL29929443, GL30080903, GL30408205, GL30441589, GL30585748, GL30675747, GL30669355, GL30706639, GL30731864, GL30737792, GL30859540, GL31022657, GL31090327, GL31094766, GL31150831, GL31259515, GL31274022, GL31313190, GL31314232, GL31318875, GL31326201, GL31343985, GL31474375, GL31489874, GL31667736, GL31943049, GL31960151, GL32013032, GL32124554, GL32209489, GL32373454, GL32408396, GL32435141, GL32465460, GL32472167, GL32489594, GL32938745, GL32956401, GL32320590, GL32354217, GL32364990, GL32367228, GL32451582, GL32952088, GL23525478, GL25983757, GL27725609, GL27775481, GL30645972, GL30716076, GL32302773, GL32681101, GL33063848, GL33059851, GL23414885, GL23796269, GL28297725, GL28304771, GL28350132, GL28438816, GL28948769, GL30358548, GL30644474, GL30658371, GL30879529, GL31296406, GL31322083, GL31358506, GL31367015, GL32296802, GL32311322, GL32314998, GL32390019, GL32408532, GL32424701, GL32439796, GL32465794, GL32467497, GL33173913, GL33703454, GL33400804, GL34169497, GL22511960, GL22551146, GL25059104, GL25578249, GL25766179, GL26052732, GL26057390, GL26327648, GL29420079, GL29763089, GL29771780, GL29785160, GL29797819, GL30687546, GL30408895, GL30423281, GL30420302, GL30459089, GL30579119, GL30590734, GL30600801, GL31873464, GL31874455, GL32267704, GL32285249, GL32592568, GL32592568, GL32697810, GL27813213, GL27831939, GL29184643, GL29201472, GL30287289, GL30378685, GL30533991, GL30570167, GL30599353, GL30677169, GL32424717, GL32306487, GL33520615, GL33541262, GL33639546, GL34118929, GL34142537, GL34162763, GL34186800, GL34327338, GL34204948, GL29371622, GL29491275, GL29496920, GL30502230, GL30523501, GL30543217, GL30727349, GL30739613, GL30956161, GL32472443, GL32567944, GL32568396, GL32725608, GL32743013, GL33241077, GL33267016, GL33556067, GL33567703, GL33731949, GL33920439, GL33944249, GL34093502, GL34112353, GL34306316.

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

For detailed information, terms and conditions, contact the concerned branch office of IIFL Finance Limited.

Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Place: HOOGHLY
Date: 21.12.2024

The Auction shall be conducted on "AS IS WHERE IS", "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS" basis and IIFL does not make any representation or warranties regarding quality, purity, caratage, weight or valuation of the said gold ornaments. IIFL, at its absolute sole discretion, may either postpone or remove, any of accounts from auction list and any proceedings without prior notice and without assigning any reason therefor and to reject any or all the bids or offers without assigning any reason for the same. Details of defaulting borrower(s) pledged ornaments and other details have been displayed at the respective branch. The defaulter borrower(s) have an option to repay the entire dues including up to date interest and all applicable charges and close or regularize their loan account even after publication of this notice but in any case, till the date of auction, failing which the pledged gold ornaments will be sold and balance dues (if any) will be recovered with interest and costs. However, the defaulter loans which are closed or regularized on or after this publication, will have to bear the proportionate publication charge. Borrowers are requested to submit/update their latest bank account details to enable timely refund of excess auction proceeds, if any.

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Sd/
AUTHORISED SIGNATORY
IIFL FINANCE LIMITED

Indian Army to receive K9 VAJRA-T artillery under ₹7,628 crore contract

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

The Ministry of Defence has signed a 7,628.70 crore contract with Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T) for the procurement of 155 mm/52 calibre K9 VAJRA-T self-propelled tracked artillery guns

for the Indian Army. The contract was finalised in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh at South Block, here today. The acquisition of K9 VAJRA-T artillery guns marks a significant step in the Army's artillery modernization efforts, enhancing its oper-

ational readiness and fire-power across diverse terrains. Known for its cross-country mobility, precision, and high rate of fire, the K9 VAJRA-T is equipped with cutting-edge technology and can deliver long-range lethal strikes with exceptional accuracy.

CIN: L67100MH1995PLC093797
Regd. Office: IIFL House, Sun Infotech Park, Road No. 16V, Plot No.B-23, Thane Industrial Area, Wagle Estate, Thane - 400604
Tel: (91-22) 41035000 • **Fax:** (91-22) 25806654
E-mail: reach@iifl.com • **Website:** www.iifl.com

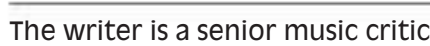
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS

It is hereby notified to all concerned borrower(s) in specific and the public, in general, that we, IIFL Finance Limited ("IIFL") are auctioning gold ornaments of defaulted customers who neither regularized their loans nor paid the outstanding amount despite being informed through registered auction notices and repeated reminders. Public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the following loan accounts will be conducted on **24.12.2024** from **10:00 AM** at following district Centre **Burdwan-Balurghat-GI - IIFL Finance Ltd, G. T. Road, Bhanga Kuti, 1st Floor, Po - Rajbati, Ps - Burdwan Sadar, Dist. - Purba Burdwan, Near Mahazara Bank, Pin- 713104, West Bengal**. Any change in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at the auction center. If for any reason the auction cannot be held on the date mentioned here in or the auction does not get completed on the same day, IIFL reserves the right to conduct or proceed with the said auction on any subsequent date with same terms and conditions. If the customer is deceased, then all the conditions pertaining to auction will be applicable to nominee/legal heir.

Gold Loan A/C No. : GL22747688, GL23506126, GL23586448, GL23652305, GL23822009, GL23975079, GL25593064, GL25933848, GL26053103, GL27822017, GL27830321, GL27922355, GL28676924, GL29533820, GL29538030, GL29546127, GL29546244, GL29857943, GL29871869, GL29913469, GL29929203, GL30249425, GL30352957, GL30409708, GL30416756, GL30519619, GL30530803, GL30582569, GL30592704, GL30592722, GL30611706, GL30638361, GL31104430, GL31122685, GL31565634, GL31582596, GL31817218, GL31897481, GL31975632, GL32317682, GL32343436, GL33004480, GL33016647, GL33100979, GL33120364, GL33166787, GL33254575, GL33342930, GL33351863, GL33357439, GL33372948, GL33492347, GL33513371, GL33581186, GL33630301, GL33664032, GL33674362, GL33827704, GL33961264, GL33992949, GL34006014, GL34084272, GL34106134, GL34175930, GL34198504, GL34299466, GL34318921, GL342723482, GL23493912, GL25670251, GL27264774, GL29329555, GL29758204, GL29770899, GL30073396, GL30084493, GL30219068, GL30396127, GL30437836, GL31331667, GL31342676, GL31481627, GL31486005, GL31808563, GL32061612, GL32268745, GL32388577, GL32463565, GL33090425, GL21673054, GL23398015, GL23398291, GL25699058, GL28482704, GL30404538, GL30422293, GL30691334, GL30715818, GL31355130, GL33042966, GL33054336, GL33242085, GL33265785, GL33964132, GL34154240, GL34178689, GL29938138, GL29959353, GL30469247, GL30520613, GL30537476, GL30587096, GL30599482, GL30614222, GL30638945, GL30640428, GL30645068, GL30661794, GL30703000, GL30719113, GL30737258, GL32432681, GL32441570, GL32560468, GL32584229, GL3304961, GL33233319, GL33402869, GL33430737, GL34168618, GL2864039, GL29503357, GL29523533, GL30475490, GL32901405, GL32925576, GL34077531, GL22903808, GL28281688, GL28301672, GL30445801, GL30537770, GL30541085, GL30575530, GL30605500, GL30628131, GL30643638, GL30685001, GL32418305, GL32442422, GL32518826, GL32522097, GL32935913, GL32958971, GL33188027, GL33606679, GL34149102, GL23302653, GL25190280, GL29366666, GL30563139, GL33342461, GL33352129, GL33579249, GL34034593, GL22632188, GL22641924, GL22666602, GL23263294, GL23459386, GL26378435, GL26575931, GL26880038, GL29516840, GL29523968, GL29564089, GL29569209, GL29603788, GL29614112, GL30259375, GL30275439, GL30464174, GL30483390, GL30540319, GL30578995, GL30608536, GL30639537, GL30748731, GL30761963, GL31111068, GL31380553, GL31657451, GL31673568, GL31738194, GL31756415, GL32266407, GL32285510, GL32421530, GL32441143, GL32522323, GL32527379, GL32678210, GL33156999, GL33252058, GL33267349, GL33298456, GL33318102, GL33722944, GL33764938, GL33961532, GL34091131, GL34115038, GL34332271, GL20983488, GL23250886, GL23291956, GL23302205, GL23395421, GL28630985, GL28800593, GL28800808, GL29936030, GL29959473, GL30316489, GL30505753, GL30516491, GL30520085, GL30521176, GL30521326, GL30523036, GL30530927, GL30544959, GL30582161, GL30732670, GL30732670, GL30740754, GL31171214, GL31236648, GL31866227, GL32364464, GL32383326, GL32399138, GL32476862, GL32500901, GL32508043, GL32519587, GL32556631, GL32558002, GL32587233, GL2978079, GL32983413, GL3218950, GL32302702, GL33207974, GL33226702, GL33227081, GL33231425, GL33232173, GL33307401, GL33336074, GL33476040, GL33692819, GL33757671, GL33988444, GL33988673, GL22463463, GL23307388, GL29362627, GL2938040, GL30433006, GL30468551, GL30486090, GL31794881, GL31798493, GL32156676, GL32156891, GL32172870, GL34181894, GL30139792, GL30211186, GL30578208, GL30602338, GL30654206, GL30734110, GL32558071, GL32582691, GL33421910, GL33459820, GL33468767, GL336

Srijit Mukherji's Bhuswargo Bhoyonkawr is a cinematic reverie that pivots on razor's edge of morality

Eventually, Mukherji deftly underscores the ominous spectre of terrorism in the series, culminating in Feluda's haunting final words: "Nothing seems right, Topshe. It will only get worse."



Carabao Cup: Newcastle fancy their chances vs Arsenal, Reds face Spurs

Newcastle looking forward to 'difficult' semifinal against Arsenal, defending champions Liverpool eye 2nd consecutive title

AGENCIES
NEWCASTLE, 20 DECEMBER

Newcastle United stormed through to the semi-finals of the Carabao Cup with a 3-1 win over Brentford. The Magpies will be facing Arsenal in a two-legged tie in hopes of reaching their second consecutive League Cup final.

Newcastle head coach Eddie Howe claims he is looking forward to face the Gunners in the tie but would have preferred if they were playing their home game in the second leg of the clash.

"I think we were guaranteed a tough game, whoever we got. When you get to this stage of the competition, you know the quality is very high. We play Arsenal and we've had some good games against them in the last couple of years, so I look forward to that. I don't think there's a whole lot in it but I think that (playing at home in the second leg) would've been our preference. Any game against Arsenal, home or away, is difficult. We've had some really competitive games and they've been really tight.

"That's something on the horizon for us to really look forward to and we're really excited by those two games. It's unique that they're separated so far apart but the



focus, very quickly after the game against Brentford, is on Ipswich," said Howe in a press conference
Newcastle United's 0-2

loss in the final of the 2023 Carabao Cup final will certainly play in the minds of the players as they look to overcome one of the longest

droughts in English football. The Toons, who are considered to be a club of rich heritage, have not won a major trophy since winning the

1955 FA Cup final after defeating Manchester City 3-1.

The date for the games against Arsenal has not been announced yet but the semi-

final first leg will be played in the week commencing 6 January, 2025, and the second leg in the first week of February.

In the other semi-final, defending champions Liverpool will face Tottenham Hotspur.

Liverpool have won the title a record 10 times and will fancy their chances of continuing their superb run in this season's tournament.

Liverpool kept their title defence alive by winning 2-1 at Southampton, with Darwin Nunez and Harvey Elliott the scorers in the first half for the leaders of the Premier League and Champions League. Liverpool has now gone 20 games unbeaten within a single season in all competitions for the first time since 1996, according to Premier League stats supplier Opta. Things could hardly be going any better for Arne Slot, who fielded a weakened, heavily rotated team—featuring Japan midfielder Wataru Endo at center back—that still had too much for Southampton.

Nunez particularly enjoyed his goal, which came after he had been jeered by Southampton fans for missing an early chance. After putting Liverpool ahead, he put his finger to his mouth in a "shush" gesture to the home crowd.

Liverpool coach Slot is a 'fan' of Tottenham's Postecoglou



AGENCIES
LIVERPOOL, 20 DECEMBER

Tottenham Hotspur moved into the semifinals of the Carabao Cup with a 4-3 victory over Manchester United on Friday (IST) following which they were drawn to face Liverpool in the next stage, the side they face in the Premier League on Sunday.

Ahead of the matchup Liverpool head coach Arne Slot claimed he is a fan of Spurs head coach Ange Postecoglou and claimed he 'hopes' they were drawn to face Liverpool in the next stage, the side they face in the Premier League on Sunday. "I hope, hope, hope he wins a trophy. Not the League Cup but I am completely a fan of his team for

the Europa League. People talk about trophies, trophies, trophies and that is so important. For me his brand of football is more important and if he can combine it with winning something that would be so good for football in general because then people can stop talking about 'Is it too attacking?' How on earth can you play too much attacking football?," said Slot in a press conference.

Liverpool still sit at the top of the Premier League table with a two-point advantage, with a game in hand, over Chelsea.

However, Slot will be hoping his side recovers their form as they look to win their last league win coming on 24 November with two consecutive draws and the Merseyside Derby being postponed.

ISL: Jamshedpur FC eye league double against East Bengal

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 20 DECEMBER

Jamshedpur FC will aim to register their first-ever league double over East Bengal FC when they face off in an Indian Super League (ISL) clash at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Kirirangan in Kolkata on Saturday.

The Men of Steel secured a 2-0 victory in the first leg on 5 October and another clean sheet this weekend would mark the first time they achieve back-to-back shutouts against the Red and Gold Brigade in the competition.

Jamshedpur FC snapped their three-game losing streak and will come into this game on the back of consecutive victories in their last couple of encounters.

They have, however, given away the second-most goals in the ISL 2024-25 (21), only behind the 10th-placed Kerala Blasters FC.

A strong start and recent recovery mean that they find themselves within the playoffs spots (6th) right now, but the visitors will have to be at the top of their game since the tables can turn around



immediately given the slim margins separating teams in the table.

East Bengal FC have conceded multiple goals in each

of their last two home matches. If they repeat that trend, it will be their longest such streak in ISL history. The Red and Gold Brigade will have

to be wary of the same, since Jamshedpur FC have found the back of the net five times in their previous two games.

East Bengal FC come into

this match with momentum, having won three of their last four ISL games, a sharp turnaround from their winless start to the season.

Another win would mark their joint-highest tally of wins (4) after 12 games in a season, matching their record from 2023-24.

Jamshedpur FC have faced struggles on the road, failing to score in each of their last two away games.

They have never gone three consecutive away games without scoring in ISL history, and the Red and Gold Brigade will aim to avoid this unwanted record. Jamshedpur FC have permitted an average of 26.8 touches per game in their own box, the highest of any team this season.

Additionally, they have conceded eight goals from outside the box, the most by any side this season, highlighting a vulnerability to long-range strikes.

In their nine matches so far, East Bengal FC and Jamshedpur FC have won two and four times respectively. Three matches have resulted in a draw with an average of two goals being scored per game.

East Bengal FC head coach Oscar Bruzon has asserted that he wants his team to approach matches with an offensive outlook.

Kalinga star Sanjay looking forward to HIL

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

India and Kalinga Lancers defender Sanjay Rana is excited to play for the defending champions in the upcoming Hockey India League (HIL) 2024-25 season, commencing on 28 December.

Sanjay, who has risen through the ranks of the junior team, has become a consistent feature in the Indian men's hockey team in the recent years. The 2024 has been an instrumental year for the defender as he went on to win the highest accolade of his career—the bronze medal in the Paris Olympics—along with the title finish at the Asian Champions Trophy in China. He was also part of the team that won the gold medal in the Asian Games 2022 in Hangzhou, China. Sanjay who first tasted success with a silver medal in the Youth Olympic Games 2018, has established himself as a reckoning force among India's strong defence line-up consisting of captain Harmanpreet Singh, Amit Rohidas and Jarmanpreet Singh.

Jaipur qualify for PKL playoffs: The Jaipur Pink Panthers fought hard and came back from behind to defeat the Bengal Warriors, in a Season 11 match of the Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) and

confirmed qualification for the Playoffs in the Badminton Hall of the Balewadi Sports Complex here on Friday. The Jaipur are the fifth team to progress to the playoffs. AGENCIES

AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

!!! CAUTION: BE AWARE OF FAKE RECRUITMENT !!!

It has been reported to AAI that unscrupulous elements / fraudsters / touts / agents have created false identity for themselves and have tried to deceive by pretending themselves as recruiters of Airports Authority of India, offering fictitious job opportunities through fake recruitment notices / messages / mobile phone calls for lucrative career in AAI.

Airports Authority of India urges potential job seekers to exercise caution and due diligence by verifying the authenticity of any job advertisement / messages / call letters / appointment letters on the careers section of AAI website: www.aai.aero and no other website.

All details regarding recruitment such as detailed advertisement, Application Verification / Interview Schedule, Final results, etc. are published on AAI's website: www.aai.aero

Application fees is payable only at the time of online application submission which is clearly mentioned in the advertisement and is payable only by male candidates belonging to Unreserved and OBC (NCL) categories. No other payments are sought at any stages of recruitment by AAI.

Any person dealing with such unscrupulous elements / agents / messages / mobile phone calls will be doing so at his / her own risk and cost. Airports Authority of India shall in no way be responsible for the consequences thereof.

If anyone falls prey to such fraud / fake recruitment racket, they are advised to file an FIR against the fraudsters with the local Police Station. For Hindi version please click on undermention web link: https://www.aai.aero/sites/default/files/aaiupload/AAI_NIT_%20No-03_Hindi_Dec_12_2024_0.pdf

NIT No.-03/2024-25
CBC 0311/12/0003/2425

Executive Director (HR)

Regulation of Trains for Traffic & Power Block over Sealdah Division

In connection with placement of R.C.C. box & base slab across the Railway tracks for Limited Height Subway, Traffic & Power Block for 06 hours 30 minutes (from 10.15 hrs. to 16.45 hrs.) will be required on both UP & Down lines at Level Crossing Gate No.113/E (at Km. 169/17-19) in Krishnanagar City Jn. - Lalgola section over Sealdah Division on **22.12.2024 (Sunday)**. Consequently, the following trains will be regulated as under:-

- CANCELLATION OF TRAINS: On 21.12.2024 (Saturday):** Sealdah-Lalgola: UP 03191, On 22.12.2024 (Sunday): Krishnanagar City Jn.-Lalgola: UP 31861/DN 31864, Lalgola-Sealdah: DN 03190, Azimganj - Krishnanagar City Jn.: DN 03020/ UP 03019
- SHORT TERMINATION AND SHORT ORIGINATION OF TRAINS ON 22.12.2024 (Sunday):** (i) 31773 UP Ranaghat-Lalgola Passenger will be short terminated at Rejinagar and 31770 DN Lalgola-Ranaghat Passenger will be short originated from Rejinagar instead of Lalgola. (ii) 31769 UP Ranaghat-Lalgola EMU Passenger will be short terminated at Rejinagar and 31774 DN Lalgola-Ranaghat EMU Passenger will be short originated from Rejinagar instead of Lalgola. (iii) 03115 UP Sealdah-Lalgola MEMU Passenger will be short terminated at Plassey and 03196 DN Lalgola-Sealdah MEMU Passenger will be short originated from Plassey instead of Lalgola at 14:15 hrs. (iv) 31819 UP Sealdah-Krishnanagar City Jn. Local will be short terminated at Ranaghat and 31840 DN Krishnanagar City Jn.-Sealdah Local will be short originated from Ranaghat instead of Krishnanagar City Jn. • **RE-SCHEDULING OF TRAINS ON 22.12.2024 (SUNDAY):**(i) 03183 UP Sealdah-Lalgola Passenger will be re-scheduled for 20 minutes i.e. will leave Sealdah at 13:00 hrs. instead of 12:40 hrs. and controlled en-route up to Rejinagar till cancellation of Block. (ii) 03192 DN Lalgola-Sealdah Passenger will be re-scheduled for 75 minutes i.e. will leave Lalgola at 16:00 hrs. instead of 14:45 hrs. and will be controlled en-route up to Berhampore Court. There may be delay in train running during block period. Inconvenience is regretted.

Divisional Railway Manager, Sealdah

EASTERN RAILWAY

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EASTERN RAILWAY

NIT No. : 291/2024-25, dated 18.12.2024. Following e-Tender is invited online by Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building, Near Railway Station, Howrah-711101 for the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/1(Howrah) from Tenderers having experience of similar nature of work and required financial capabilities including those registered with Irrigation/CPWD/ SEB/MES or any public sector undertaking for the following work: Description of work : Strengthening of multiple span arch Bridge No. 6 in between Nalhati-Bandel by conducting RCC jacking and other repair work in the jurisdiction of AEN/Bandel. Approx. Cost : ₹ 3,21,45,555.47; Earnest Money : ₹ 3,10,700.00; Cost of Tender Form : Nil. Completion Period : 12 (Twelve) Months. In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holiday/bandh/ strike on any account, the date of closing tender online will not be changed as the application in the website of IREPS does not permit submission of any offer after closing date and time of the tender. However, opening of tenders online will be done on the next working date. Closing date and time of tender : 07.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs. The detail of tender are available at website www.ireps.gov.in Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. Payment of EMD and TDC - Payment of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender document cost (TDC) in respect of E-Tendering should be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. No manual offer will be accepted.

HWH-496/2024-25
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in
Follow us at : [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)

TENDER

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-Tender are invited vide NIT Memo No: 4033/IM/2024 Dt-20/12/2024 of the undersigned intending bidders may participate through <http://wbttenders.gov.in> or may contact this Office for details.

Sd/-
Chairman
Islampur Municipality

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Dated: 20/12/2024

E-Tender Notice

E-tender is invited, from reputed and experienced contractor by the undersigned, for and on behalf of the president of India, for the following:-
Tender No.: ELECT-GEN-BPL-T-68-2024
Name of Work: Part (A) Guna: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (B) Ashoknagar: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (C) Biyavara Rajgarh: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (D) Shajapur: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (E) Sorali: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (F) Salamatpur: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (G) Sukhiswaniya: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (H) Mandideep: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (I) Timarni: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. Part (J) Harda: Upgradation of infrastructure at Goods shed. (Electrical work) Completion Period: 4 Months. Estimated Cost: Rs. 3,09,26,174.80/- Earnest Money in Rs. 3,04,600/- Date and Time for closing of tender: 10/01/2025, 11:00 hrs. The details of complete tender documents and its related information may be seen at <https://www.ireps.gov.in> and notice board of this office. Manual offer, for above said tender is not acceptable and if any manual offer submitted, will not be considered. Corrigendum/Updating, if required, will be uploaded on website, it may be seen at above said URL and notice board of this office, till the date of closing of tender. If cost of tender is above Rs. 50 lakhs then as per para 10 of GCC eligibility criteria will be applicable. Before participation in tender, contractor first read this condition. Documents for same should be uploaded on the IREPS website, by the contractor. Uploaded documents will be considered for finalization of tender. The brief of same has also been given in the special condition attached with the tender. For Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (General) DRM's Office, West Central Railway, Bhopal Near Rani Kamalapati Railway Station Any Food Related Complaint, Please Call Toll Free Helpline 1800111321

HOWRAH MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

4, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, HOWRAH-71101

Abridged Tender Notice for Paper Publication

E-Tenders in prescribed form are being invited by Executive Engineer, Howrah Municipal Corporation for the works of Park & Garden Department of H.M.C. Area, from reputed resourceful & bona fide contractors who have sufficient experience in related nature of work. Related information in detail will be available from the E-Tender Notice & the Dept. of Executive Engineer <https://www.wbtender.gov.in> Bid submission closing date: 19-01-2025 up to 6:00 P.M. HMC authority reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason.

Tender Notice No. ED/05/P&G/24-25 Dated: 19-12-2024
125(3)/24-25
20-12-24

Secretary
Howrah Municipal Corporation

EASTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE INVITING E-AUCTION

E-Auction Notice No. COM/PUB/HWH/DIGICHART-8/2024, Dated : 19.12.2024. E-Auction is invited by Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, 4th Floor, Rail Yatri Niwas Building, near Howrah station, Howrah-711101 for awarding contract of Commercial Publicity Rights. Catalogue No. : HWH-DIGICHART-8. Auction Start Date & Time : 03.01.2025 at 12.00 hrs. Seq. No. : AA/1. Lot No. : ADVT-HWH-HWH-OSD-130-24-1 [Advertising - On Station Premise (Digital)], Description : Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Digital Passenger Reservation Chart Board Kiosk at Howrah Station Platform - 8 with scope of commercial advertisements on 50:50 time/space sharing basis. HWH-497/2024-25
Tender Notice is also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in / www.ireps.gov.in
Follow us at : [@EasternRailway](https://twitter.com/EasternRailway) [@easternrailwayheadquarter](https://facebook.com/easternrailwayheadquarter)



Dubai Princess fancied: . Just four runners are in the fray for the 1,600m Police Commissioner's Cup, the feature event in a seven race card framed for tomorrow here. To be ridden by A Sandesh, Patrick Quinn trained Dubai Princess is fancied to prevail.

Selections:

1.00 pm: VICTORIA CROSS 1. 1.30 p.m.: BANKSY 1, Lucretius 2.

2.00 p.m.: ZUMA 1, Laurus 2.

2.30 p.m.: KANYA RASHI 1, Silver Sapphire 2.

3.00 p.m: DUBAI PRINCESS 1, Raffaello 2.

3.30 p.m.: GOOD DEEDS 1, Zarafat 2.

4.00 p.m.: LINE UP AND COLLECT 1, Vinalia 2.

Day's best: Dubai Princess.

Gautam Banerjee

THUMBNAILS

Sri Lanka Cricket amends constitution to foster good governance, transparency, inclusivity: Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) has carried out amendments to its constitution to foster good governance, transparency, inclusivity, and efficiency in its management structure. The SLC membership carried out the amendment at an extraordinary general meeting held on Friday. Among the notable changes is a substantial reduction in the total number of voting members from 147 to 60. The new voting structure ensures that voting rights are determined solely on the level of cricket played by each member club, with all qualified clubs and associations being entitled to only one vote.

Oz replace McSweeney with Konstas, Richardson recalled

Australia make changes to squad for last two Tests of Border-Gavaskar Trophy against India

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

Australia made a couple of changes to their squad ahead of the final two Tests of the Border-Gavaskar series against India by adding teenaged opener Sam Konstas at the expense of Nathan McSweeney, besides drafting in pacer Jhye Richardson after a three-year hiatus as a cover for injured Josh Hazlewood although Scott Boland is expected to come into the XI at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Ever since the retirement of David Warner in January, Australia have struggled to sort out their top order conundrum, and had tried Steve Smith for sometime before opting for McSweeney in the lead-up to the Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

However, McSweeney's struggles against India's pace ace Jasprit Bumrah in his debut series has led to his ouster from the squad, and opened the doors for teen sensation Konstas as the only other specialist opener alongside Usman Khawaja (with auxiliary batter Josh Inglis regarded a middle-order option). Allrounder Beau Webster is also retained in the 15-player group. Brendan Doggett, who was called in as cover when Hazlewood



was first injured in Perth, did not make this squad but Sean Abbott was retained.

If the right-handed Konstas, who turned 19 on October 2 this year, receive a Baggy Green cap on Boxing Day he would become Australia's youngest Test debutant since current skipper Pat Cummins when he took the field against South Africa at Johannesburg in 2011.

Konstas has made a blazing start to his first full summer in senior career cricket after

starring at the under-19 World Cup in South Africa early this year. He posted 152 and 105 in New South Wales' Sheffield Shield opener against South Australia, then made an unbeaten 73 for Australia A at the MCG against an India A attack that included incumbent Test allrounder Nitish Kumar Reddy.

Selection chair George Bailey believes Konstas will perform well if he wins selection and thinks the inclusion of Webster, Abbott and

Richardson provides the team with better balance for the final two Tests of the series.

"Sam gets a call up to the Test squad for the first time. His style of batting offers a point of difference and we look forward to watching his game develop further. The squad provides options as to how we structure the XI for the final two Tests of the series. In the absence of Josh Hazlewood, Jhye provides further options in the fast bowling space. It has been

pleasing to see his successful return throughout the early part of the domestic summer," Bailey said.

Bailey also sympathised with McSweeney after the rookie right-hander was axed from the squad, and expressed confidence on the right-hander's ability to succeed at the Test level in the future. McSweeney, who had never opened in professional cricket before this season, has made 72 runs at 14.40 in the first three Tests.



India to host Para Athletics World Championships 2025

AGENCIES
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

The world's largest single Para sport event will take place from 26 September to 5 October 2025 at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, which will also host a World Para Athletics Grand Prix for the first time next March.

Next year's Para Athletics World Championships will take place in New Delhi, marking the first time the event will be hosted in India. The Para Athletics World

Championships, the world's largest single Para sport event, will be held at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium from 26 September to 5 October 2025. New Delhi 2025 will mark the 12th edition of the championships and the fourth time it is hosted in Asia, following Doha 2015, Dubai 2019 and Kobe 2024.

The WPA also announced that New Delhi will host a World Para Athletics Grand Prix for the first time next year, scheduled to take place from 11 to 13 March.

What stands out was Ashwin wanting to evolve all the time, says Ravi Shastri

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

Former India head coach Ravi Shastri said that the recently-retired Ravichandran Ashwin's constant drive to evolve was one of the reasons that made him stand out. Ashwin called time on his prolific career at the end of the Gabba Test, leaving a rich legacy as one of India's finest match-winners.

Shastri was on hand to witness many of those match-winning efforts in his role as India's head coach and the 62-year-old opened up on the tweaker's penchant to develop his game, working on new deliveries and his action even in the later stages of his career. "I think what stands out for me was his wanting to evolve all the time. He wasn't the kind of guy



satisfied as to where he started. He wanted new tricks to be learned. He pursued it, practiced hard at it and continued to look for new things as his career progressed, to keep up with the times," Shastri said at the ICC Review.

Ashwin's record, being the second-most successful India bowler in international cricket

with 765 wickets (537 of those in Tests), standing only behind Anil Kumble (953), spoke for itself as per Shastri.

"His legacy will be of being a terrific match-winner, a fabulous record, 537 sticks. I mean anyone over 500 (in Test cricket) is special," Shastri noted.

The former India all-

rounder also marked out Ashwin's improved numbers this decade, with the bowler picking up 175 Test scalps at an average of 21.18 (better than his career average of 24).

"And for him to do it in his span and the way he has done it, especially when it came to bowling in the last four or five years, I think in India, along with (Ravindra) Jadeja, I think they were a terrific pair, the real spin twins," Shastri said while also explaining how the spin pairing with Jadeja, meant that the duo supported each other in their quest for wickets.

"They complemented each other well and they spurred each other on you know so I would say a lot of Jadeja's wickets in the last you know five-six years have come because of Ashwin and vice-versa," Shastri added.

Rewind 2024: India's bittersweet campaign in Paris - Olympics and Paralympics

TRIDIB BAPARNASH
NEW DELHI, 20 DECEMBER

Last minute preparations, exposure camps abroad, TOPs funding, overlooking administrative mess-ups to pick the crème de la crème of Indian sports for the biggest show on earth that unfolded in Paris three years after Covid-19 pushed the Tokyo edition of the Olympics by a year.

It turned out a hectic year for the Indian athletes dreaming of a podium finish in the French capital but only a handful, to be precise six, went all the way to script history.

In fact, the number could have swelled to double digits for the first time in Indian Olympic history, if only the six fourth-place 'near-misses' were converted but only "ifs and buts" had a place in sporting outcomes!

Among those six heart-breaks, the one that would



take some time to sink in was wrestler Vinesh Phogat's utterly dramatic disqualification, which snatched what appeared to be a certain silver medal, if not gold.

The Paris Games gave India more than one reason to cheer as the shooting contingent broke a 12-year medal drought, with a rare double from shooter Manu Bhaker, making up for the missed opportunity in Tokyo.

The 22-year-old came up with a remarkable show to


pick a bronze in women's 10m air pistol before teaming up with Sarabjot Singh to take the 10m air pistol mixed team bronze. Swapnil Kusale claimed another bronze in the 50 metre rifle three positions to complete the shooting success story.


Star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra went into the Paris Games as the defending champion, and the only sure-shot medal contender from the Indian track and field contingent. The Panipat lad

didn't disappoint his millions of fans worldwide even though he had to settle for a silver after his friendly adversary Arshad Nadeem conjured an otherworldly performance with a monster 92.97m throw for the gold.


The rest of India's track and field contingent were reminded that they were hardly any match to the top athletes from across the globe.

The Indian men's hockey team brought back days of glory with a second consecutive Olympic bronze, for the first time in 52 years. Placed in the 'pool of death', Harmanpreet Singh's men displayed resilience by breaking the Australia jinx with a statement win and went on to punch above their weight against the other opponents to achieve back-to-back Olympic podium finishes for the first time since 1972, and mark a perfect send-off for their grand old custodian PR Sreejesh.





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