





THUMBNAILS

School looted: Miscreants looted cash and electronic surveillance equipment from a government high school in East Burdwan on Wednesday night. The miscreants broke into the Pursa High School in Galsi took away Rs 20,000 in cash as well as CCTV cameras and the hard disk of the electronic surveillance system. Sheikh Azharuddin, headmaster of the school said: "Our staffs saw that the office room's locks were broken. They looted the money collected from school fees."

## Medical board confirms silicosis in Asansol village

ASANSOL, 9 JANUARY

The Special Silicosis Diagnostic Board formed at the Asansol District and Super Speciality Hospital has found four out of every five patients of Barabui village under Salanpur Block of West Burdwan district suffering from silicosis after check-up and screening.

These people will be provided identity cards as patients of silicosis. Their families will get a state government compensation of an amount of Rs 1 lakh, plus a monthly pension of Rs 4,000 as per the government directives. Besides social security, the children will also be provided support for higher education by the government.

Amamath Mahato, a private tutor of Salanpur block had lodged a written complaint with the National Human Rights Commission recently after which the district magistrate of West Burdwan was directed to submit a report within eight weeks. *SNS*

# CM to sit with doctors on 24 February

A section of doctors attached to different government healthcare facilities felt that the meeting was significant

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, 9 JANUARY

Chief minister Mamata Banerjee will sit face-to-face with doctors to hear their grievances at Dhano Dhanyo auditorium on 24 February.

All registered doctors and health workers are allowed to attend the programme

to be organised by West Bengal State Grievance Redressal Cell (WBSGRC).

Dr Sourav Dutta, chairman of the WBSGRC, while speaking to reporters on Thursday said that medics and health workers across the city and districts in the state could participate in the meeting.

A section of doctors attached to different gov-

ernment healthcare facilities felt that the meeting was significant.

Miss Banerjee had several times met with protesting junior doctors attached with government medical colleges and hospitals at her Kalighat residence and state secretariat, Nabanna to hear the medics' grievances in connection with alleged inadequate infrastructure, includ-

ing human resource strength, threat culture unleashed allegedly by a section of their colleagues and large scale corruption in state healthcare facilities.

"The proposed meeting titled '*chikitsar opar naam seba*' is significant because there has been a sharp division in the medical fraternity since the R G Kar incident," a senior medical

teacher of a premier government medical college said.

On the other hand, some political analysts in the city felt that the impressive attendance of around a lakh people at the Sebaashray medical camps, an initiative of Abhishek Banerjee, TMC national general secretary and MP, exposes inadequacies.



## Civil society demands safety for women



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, 9 JANUARY

Nagorik Chetona, a civil society collective representing diverse backgrounds released an open letter to chief minister Mamata Banerjee demanding that the government ensures the safety and dignity of all women and trans-queer persons in Bengal.

Filmmaker Aparna Sen, one of the founders of Nagorik Chetona, said at a press meet on Thursday: "The horrific incident at RG Kar Medical College has sent shockwaves through the state, bringing to light the urgent need for systemic

changes in the way the safety of women is addressed in West Bengal. Repeated occurrences at Newtown, Bankura, Jaynagar, Potashpur, Alipurduar, and many other places stand as shocking examples of the unacceptable circumstances that women are being subjected to in this society. Apart from the chief minister, we have also written to other authorities who have a role to play in the safety of women, and we will pursue this till it reaches its logical conclusion."

Avik Saha, founder of Nagorik Chetona, said: "There must be legal awareness and gender sensitisation in schools."

## 7-year-old swallows coin, gets relief at Sebaashray camp



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, 9 JANUARY

A medical emergency was averted when a 7-year-old child, who had swallowed a coin while playing, received timely medical intervention through TMC national general secretary & Diamond Harbour MP Abhishek Banerjee's Sebaashray initiative.

The camp, located in Basuldanga, provided crucial medical support, underscor-

ing the importance of accessible healthcare facilities and the commitment to offer life-saving assistance.

Expressing his relief for getting assistance Hossain Khan, father of the child, said: "My son swallowed a coin while playing. We brought him to the Basuldanga camp, where the doctors referred him to the Diamond Harbour Super Speciality Hospital. There, we received full support and

care."

Another patient, who had come for a check-up, collapsed at the camp. Narrating her experience: "I collapsed at the camp. They took care of me immediately and later ensured I was safely sent back home. They also provided me with medicines and administered saline at the camp. I wouldn't have survived if I had been at home," said Shyamoli Mandal.

## Trap cameras deployed as tiger pugmarks spotted in J'khand close to state border

KANCHAN SIDDIQUI  
DURGAPUR, 9 JANUARY

As people in the Bengal-Jharkhand border areas return to normal life after the capture of Zeenat, another big cat from Palamau Tiger Reserve in Jharkhand is inching closer to Bengal.

A fugitive tiger shuttling between Chandil and Dalma in Jharkhand has caused trepidation in Jharkhand-bordering stretches of Purulia, Bankura and Jhargram in the last five days as its pug marks were seen barely 16 km away from Barabazar and Balamarpur in Purulia on Tuesday.

"The fresh pugmarks on Thursday showed it's moving towards the Dalma Range forests from its recent hideouts in Chandil," Saba Alam Ansari, divisional forest officer, Jamshedpur in Jharkhand told The Statesman today. The DFO added: "Earlier, it was near Balidih in Chandil but we are seeing fresh pugmarks reflecting its move-

ments from time to time, but it's not spotted as yet." Dalma is 21 km away from Chandil.

Dalma in Jamshedpur is the elephant reserve in Jharkhand and 62 Dalma range elephants in Bankura and their 30 counterparts in Purulia have been ravaging farmlands during the harvest season. The intrusion of the feline animal into the elephant corridor has caused panic in Jhargram, Bankura and Purulia districts.

Bengal forest officials too are now following the developments. "We've already placed trap cameras and deployed substantial manpower in the jungle corridor to keep track on the tiger's movement," said SKulandaivel, chief conservator of forests (central) in Durgapur. The Jharkhand officials haven't sent any alert to their Bengal counterparts about the tiger's movement towards Bengal. The Jamshedpur DFO said: "Currently, it's just heading towards Dalma, I would say."

# TENDER

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.W.(Roads) DIRECTORATE  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
SE/WHC-II invites online tenders for e-NIT No. 07 of 2024-25 for the work of "Tana Baksa Krishnarampore Road from 0.00 kmp to 3.78 km, Strengthening Works under Hooghly Highway Division No. II in the district of Hooghly. (Balance Work)" [2nd call]. Tender ID: 2025\_WBPWD\_796052\_1. Bid Submission End Date: 31.01.2025 at 02.00 PM. Details may be obtained from the website <https://wbtennders.gov.in> & Office Notice Board, for any clarification regarding upload & download, bidder may contact PWD e-Tender Help Desk through Phone No. (033) 2223-6236. Corrigendum or Addendum if issued will be published only through Website Sd/- SE/WHC-II & PWR(D) Dte. ICA- T586(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
Executive Engineer-I, P.W.Dte., Central Kolkata Health Electrical Division, P-12, C.I.T Road (1st Floor), Kolkata-14 invites e-tender (online) for the work of (1) "Air conditioning arrangement of the 1st floor Office space of CMS, Kolkata" vide e-tender no. WBPWD/EE/CKHED/ENIT-93(R)/24-25 Tender ID: 2025\_WBPWD\_795920\_1. Bid submission end date (online) for the job is 22.01.2025 upto 15.00 PM. Detail information/download/upload will be available from the website: <http://etender.wb.nic.in>, <http://wbtennders.gov.in> & <http://pawwb.in> Sd/- A. Halidar, Executive Engineer-I, P.W.Dte. Central Kolkata Health Electrical Division ICA- T588(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
The Assistant Engineer, PWD, Kolkata East Sub-Division-IV invites NIQ on Item Rate basis vide NIQ No. WBPWD/AE/KESDIV/NIQ-03/2024-2025 for (1)one nos work vide. Last date of receipt of application seeking permission is 20.01.2025 upto 2.00 PM. Last date for submission of quotations: 24.01.2025 upto 2.00 PM. Date & time limit for opening of quotations 24.01.2025 after 3.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT or NIQ documents may be downloaded from <https://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- Assistant Engineer, PWD, Kolkata East Sub-Division-IV. ICA- T561(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
e-Quotation is invited by the Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Howrah Electrical Division, Oknarnal Jetia Road, Howrah-711103. NIQ No. WBPWD/EE/HQED/NIQ-18 of 2024-2025. Memo-28 Dt. 07.01.2025 Tender ID: 2025\_WBPWD\_796266-1. Name of Work: Supply of maintenance spare parts like Membrane, Booster pump, PP spun, Different type of Connector, CTO, GAC Filter etc for RO Water purifier units installed at Nabanna, Howrah. Last Date of bid submission: 21.01.2025. Intending bidder may download the Quotation documents from the website: [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://wbtennders.gov.in) Sd/- A.Das, Executive Engineer, PWD, Howrah Electrical Division, Govt. of WB. ICA- T571(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
EE/KNHED/PW Dte. invite online e-tender for the work SITC of A.C Machine including requisite E.J Work at the Indoor cum Emergency Pharmacy at R.G. Kar M.C.H.E. e-NIT No. :- WBPWD/EE/KNHED/NIQ-42/2nd Call/2024-25. Tender ID :- 2025\_WBPWD\_796250\_1. Bid Submission Start Date (online) 14/01/2025, 1.05 PM. Bid Submission Closing Date (online) 20/01/2025 upto 1.00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be Published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender Documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- S. Chakraborty/EE/KNHED/PW Dte ICA- T674(2)/2026

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
WB/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/NIT No. 32 of 2024-2025 (2nd Call of WB/PWD/EE/NBD/SS/NIT No. 26 of 2024-2025) EE, NBD, SS, PW, Dte. invites e-tender for the works of: Repair work of buildings and repairing and vertical extension of compound boundary wall at Matigara Polycyclic compound in the district of Darjeeling. Tender ID: 2025\_WBPWD\_796076-1. Bid submission start date (online) 12-Jan-2025 12:00 PM. Bid submission closing date (online) 26-Jan-2025 12:00 PM. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT & tender documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, NBD, SS, PW, Dte., Siliguri, Govt. of WB. ICA- T577(4)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
Executive Engineer, PWD, Alipurduar Division invites online e-tender for the work of NIET 23 of 2024-25 EE/PWD/APDD (2nd call) New Construction of R.O. Plant room for proposed 10 bedded Dialysis Unit (PPP Mode) over the roof of the Surgery Theatre at District Hospital, Alipurduar. Tender ID:- 2025\_WBPWD\_796434-1. Estimated Amount: Rs.6,95,990.00. Bid submission start date (online) 13.01.2025 from 02:00 P.M. Bid submission closing date (online) 20.01.2025 upto 04:00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIET & Tender documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- EE, PWD, Alipurduar Division. ICA- T585(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
WRIADD. e-NIT**  
Executive Engineer (A-M), Balurghat (A-M) Division invites e-tender for Supply and Delivery of UPVC Pipes & PVC Flexible Suction Hose Pipe for maintenance of different Major RI Schemes under Balurghat (A-M) Division in the FY 2024-25 vide e-NIT No. -18 of 2024-25. Tender ID- 2024\_WRDO\_797552-1 & 2, estimated value Rs.4,86,222.00 & Rs.3,90,780.00 respectively, and last date of bid submission-20.01.2025 upto 4 P.M. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website <http://wbtennders.gov.in> for details. Sd/- Executive Engineer (A-M) Balurghat (Agri-Mech) Division ICA- T698(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
TENDER ID: 2025\_WBP\_793963\_1 DATED -03/01/2025  
WORK TITLE: SUPPLY OF STATIONARY ARTICLES/ITEMS  
BID CLOSING DATE: 17/01/2025  
FOR MORE DETAILS, LOG ON TO: [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://www.wbtennders.gov.in) ICA- T543(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
TENDER ID: 2025\_WBP\_794165\_1 DATED -03/01/2025  
WORK TITLE: SUPPLY OF STATIONARY ARTICLES/ITEMS  
BID CLOSING DATE: 17/01/2025  
FOR MORE DETAILS, LOG ON TO: [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://www.wbtennders.gov.in) ICA- T541(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
HALDIA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
City Centre, P.O. Debhog, Haldia Dist. Purbia Medinipur, PIN-721657  
Toll Free No. 1800-345-3224  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
e-NIT No. 20/HDA/EC/2024-2025  
Online (E-Tender) tender in a two bid system is hereby invited for "CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE ROAD STARTING FROM RUPADAPUR PETROL PUMP TO PWD ROAD NEAR A TO MARBLE SHOP VIA ADBASI PARA, IRRIGATION BUNDH, WARD No. 16 UNDER PANSKURA MUNICIPALITY." Estimated Cost of work: Rs. 76,92,127/- (including GST and Labour Welfare Cess). Document downloading date: 11/01/2025 to 24/1/25 upto 3:30 p.m. Starting date of bid submission: 17/1/25 at 10:00 a.m. Last date of online bid submission: 24/1/25 upto 4:00 p.m. Information in details is available in the office and in the website of HDA: [www.hda.gov.in](http://www.hda.gov.in) Tender can be submitted through: [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://www.wbtennders.gov.in) Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, HDA. ICA- T814(3)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
Office of the Superintendent Mental Hospital  
Borhamore, Murshidabad  
Notice Inviting e-Tender (2nd Call)  
Niet Ref. No. BMM/2024-2025  
Tender I.D.: 2025\_HFW\_794740\_1  
Superintendent, Borhamore Mental Hospital, Murshidabad invites e-tender (2nd Call) for "providing Security Services of 19 (Nineteen) Nos of unskilled Security Guards against 19 (Nineteen) sanctioned vacant posts of "SECURITY GUARDS" at Borhamore Mental Hospital Murshidabad. Last date of submission of online bid is 29.01.2025 upto 2 P.M. For Detail, Please visit the website [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://www.wbtennders.gov.in) & [www.bhrraith.gov.in](http://www.bhrraith.gov.in) and [www.murshidabad.nic.in](http://www.murshidabad.nic.in) Sd/- Superintendent, Borhamore Mental Hospital, Murshidabad ICA- T552(3)/2025**

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Midnapur Division at Midnapore, district Paschim Medinipur invites e-Tender No.15 (3) of 2024-25 for 03 (three) nos. work related to Road & Building works - (1) Urgent repair and renovation of Motor Vehicles Building, Midnapore, in the district of Paschim Medinipur. (2) Repairing potholes and relaying of surface course of compound road at the premises of Collectorate Compound in the District of Paschim Medinipur (3) Repairing of (G+1) Institutional Building with a provision of (G+4) foundation of MAKAUT, W.B. at Harinagata campus through (RUSA) Component 3, Infrastructure grants to Universities under Nadia Construction Division (P.W.D.) during the year 2019-20 - Fire Fighting Part-e.N.I.Q-01 (2nd call) of 2024-25 of EE/NO/PWD/Dte. Tender ID: 2025\_PWD\_796376-1. Bid submission start date (online): 13.01.2025 from 11:00 A.M. Bid submission closing (online): 27.01.2025 upto 02:00 PM. Corrigendum, if any, will be published in website only. Details of N.I.e.Q. and Tender Documents may be download from <https://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, P.W.D. Construction Division, P.W. Dte. ICA- T581(3)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
Executive Engineer, Nadia Construction Division, PW. Dte. invites online e-Quotation for the work of: Construction of (G+1) Institutional Building with a provision of (G+4) foundation of MAKAUT, W.B. at Harinagata campus through (RUSA) Component 3, Infrastructure grants to Universities under Nadia Construction Division (P.W.D.) during the year 2019-20 - Fire Fighting Part-e.N.I.Q-01 (2nd call) of 2024-25 of EE/NO/PWD/Dte. Tender ID: 2025\_PWD\_796376-1. Bid submission start date (online): 13.01.2025 from 11:00 A.M. Bid submission closing (online): 27.01.2025 upto 02:00 PM. Corrigendum, if any, will be published in website only. Details of N.I.e.Q. and Tender Documents may be download from <https://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Nadia Construction Division, P.W. Dte. ICA- T581(3)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
1<sup>st</sup> Degree Corrigendum Notice Dates: 07.01.2025  
Tender ID :- [I] 2024\_WBSMB\_781887-1 [II] 2024\_WBSMB\_781968-1 [III] 2024\_WBSMB\_78284-1  
Authority of West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board has decided to extend the last date of bid submission on 17-01-2025 upto 12 Noon. Simultaneously technical bid opening date has been rescheduled on 20-01-2025 at 12 Noon for administrative reason. All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. The detailed information regarding e-NIT(s) will be available on the <https://wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board ICA- T536(1)/2025**

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
P.WD TENDER NOTICE**  
S.E.C.H.C., Public Works (Roads) Directorate, invites online e-bid for the work: 1. Nabaddip Municipal Link Road from 0.00 Kmp to 3.50 Kmp, Strengthening work under Nadia Highway Division No. I in the District of Nadia, Project ID: PD242527865000. Estimated Amount : ₹ 2,70,57,422.00, eNIT No. 02 of 2024-2025, Tender ID: 2025\_SH\_796761-1. Bid Submission end date (online) : 17.01.2025 from 11.00 A.M. Bid Submission of closing date (online) : 07.02.2025 upto 1.00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from : <https://www.wbtennders.gov.in> Sd/- S.E.C.H.C., GOVT. OF WEST BENGAL ICA- T560(3)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
TENDER ID: 2025\_WBP\_794028\_1 DATED -03/01/2025  
WORK TITLE: SUPPLY OF PRINTING ARTICLES/ITEMS  
BID CLOSING DATE: 17/01/2025  
FOR MORE DETAILS, LOG ON TO: [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://www.wbtennders.gov.in) ICA- T548(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, CUM VICE PRINCIPAL  
NORTH BENGAL MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL  
SUSHRUTANAGAR, DARJEELING  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
NO. NBMC/H/7507 Date 28/12/2024 [2nd call]  
E-Tender is invited for TENDER NOTICE FOR PROCUREMENT OF Dexamethasone 0.7 mg intravitreal implants (Med/73/2124) of the M.S.V.P., North Bengal Medical College & Hospital. For tender details, forms may be downloaded from: <https://wbhealth.gov.in> or <https://www.wbtennders.gov.in> Technical & Financial Bid Submission Closing Date: 10/01/2025 at 5:00 P.M. For Detail, Please visit the website [www.nbmc.ac.in](http://www.nbmc.ac.in) or the Office of the MSVP, North Bengal Medical College & Hospital, Sushrutnanagar, Darjeeling. ICA- T518(4)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
Online NIT is invited by the EE, BNWD, PW Dte., vide Tender No. WBPWD/EE/BNWD/NIET-18/24-25 for 5 (nos.) work of "Repairing and painting of 04 nos. officer's Quarters at NSATI, Block FC, Sector-III, Salt Lake & Urgent road treatment works of C1, C2,B1 & B2 Block by application of P U Roof coat in Bidhan Sishu, P.H.E. during the year 2024-2025." Estimated Amount put to Tender Rs. 6,90,207/- Rs. 7,42,510/- Rs. 7,49,882/- Rs. 7,47,255/- & Rs. 7,49,882/- (T/ID) 2025\_WBPWD\_796471-1-5). Bid proposal submission end date & time (Online)-14/01/2025 from 18:55 P.M. Bid proposal Submission end date & time (Online)- 30/01/2025 upto 02:00 P.M. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website: <http://etender.wb.nic.in> and this Office notice board. Sd/- EE, PWD, BNWD. ICA- T689(2)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
Notice inviting E-Tender**  
Online bids are invited by the Deputy Director, ARD & PO, Purulia, State Poultry Farm Campus, Belgura, Purulia, PIN 723101 for the following:  

Sl. No.	Description of item	Bid submission starts on	Bid submission closes on
1.	Supply of Cross bred Jersey / Upgraded Gr Heifer, Age-12 month, Sex- Female, Breed- Cross bred Jersey / Upgraded Gr. Body Weight- Min. 100kg; Other- Good Health, disease free and suitable for breeding purpose including payment of insurance premium with GST of the heifer for Purulia District	10.01.2025	24.01.2025

  
The detailed N.I.T. may be obtained from e-tender portal <http://www.wbtennders.gov.in>. Sd/- Deputy Director, ARD & PO, Purulia ICA- T528(3)/2025

**WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED**  
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)  
Regd. Office : Widyut Bhawan, Block-BI, Sector-II, Bithanagar, Kolkata - 700 091  
CN : 940199W8200756C113473, [www.wbsecl.in](http://www.wbsecl.in)  
WBSECL invites e-Tenders as follows:  
1) NIT No.: PM/RM/EE-Tender/CIVIL/24-25/16 (Sl. No.1) Dt: 03.01.2025 of the Project Manager, RHP, St-II, WBSECL. Estimated Cost: ₹ 39,73,798/- for the work of "Restoration of road bench at chainage 3.0 km and restoration of uphill side at chainage 20m, 1 km and 3.2 km from Palmapura Steel Bridge towards Dithary under Rammam Hydrel Project. Stage-II."  
2) NIT No.: PM/RM/EE-Tender/CIVIL/24-25/16 (Sl. No.2) Dt: 03.01.2025 of the Project Manager, RHP, St-II, WBSECL. Estimated Cost: ₹ 26,58,903/- for the work of "Restoration of road bench at 1.5 km from Palmapura Forest Guest House towards Dithary under Rammam Hydrel Project. Stage-I."  
For details, visit <https://wbtennders.gov.in> & [www.wbsecl.in](http://www.wbsecl.in)

**KMDA TENDER NOTICE**  
e-NIT No. 22/SEC-HLR&R/KMDA of 2024-25  
Online Bids are invited by The Superintending Engineer, Circle-III, R&B Sector, Kolkata, Block-D, 3rd floor, Unayan Bhawan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, from Govind, reliable, experienced & resourceful firms / individuals contractors, for the work, Sl no., Name of Work, Value of the work, Earnest Money, (1) Improvement of existing Concrete road at Antrapally, Harinagar, Malancha Road by lane in ward no 01 under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_1, Rs.22,08,013/-, Rs.44,160/-, (2) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Ramkrishna poly. Vivekananda poly, Balhara, Mathpara, Borpara Malancha Road by lane in ward no 2, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_2, Rs.54,71,161/-, Rs.1,09,421/-, (3) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Ishaque sandar, Patterson Road, Lala Baba Ghat Road, Banar Para by lane in ward no 3, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_3, Rs.22,53,293/-, Rs.45,066/-, (4) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Bauna Para, Mala para, K.D.Sen Road by lane in ward no 4, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_4, Rs.16,39,313/-, Rs.32,786/-, (5) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Roy pararoad,Kobarta para road and R.N Chatterjee, Chandra Bahu Bagan Road by lane in ward no 5, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_5, Rs.16,90,552/-, Rs.33,811/-, (6) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Musaham para and by lane of central Road, L.N.Kahing road, C.S.Roy road by lane /Roy para road by lane in ward no 6 & 7, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_6, Rs.21,59,843/-, Rs.43,197/-, (7) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at B.B. Mukherjee road, A.T.Ghosh road and Ghoshpara by lane in ward no 8, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_7, Rs.24,56,807/-, Rs.49,136/-, (8) Improvement of Concrete road area at Antrapally, Rajbhoji Ghor, Bori para, Lakgiri by lane in ward no 9, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_8, Rs.16,01,109/-, Rs.32,022/-, (9) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at R.B. Croad by lane, Telega para, K.D Road and Lichubagan by lane in ward no 10, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_9, Rs.22,07,686/-, Rs.44,154/-, (10) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Goshalpara, Utarayan, Hospital road, Anshidha poly, Shyamashree poly, by lane in ward no 11, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_10, Rs.44,61,917/-, Rs.89,238/-, (11) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Dosad para, Kaora para, Narkel Bagan and K.D.Road by lane in ward no 12, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_11, Rs.32,85,437/-, Rs.65,709/-, (12) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Munshi bagan, Sumpokar by lane in ward no 13, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_12, Rs.30,17,112/-, Rs.60,342/-, (13) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Banerjee Para road bye lane, S.C Pal road, Robertson road Gangaram pal bye lane in ward no 15, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_13, Rs.17,31,930/-, Rs.34,639/-, (14) Improvement of Concrete road at Abhay Ghosh road , G.G.Road, Matrapara road, Taran Bose , Mitrabagan and Bhoothagan bye lane in ward no 16, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_14, Rs.15,04,006/-, Rs.30,080/-, (15) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at Matrapara, Jan Md. Ghat, Monovola Tala, Bagan para bye lane, Mira para Branch Road in ward no 18, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_15, Rs.27,59,557/-, Rs.55,191/-, (16) - Same as Sl. No.-1 at 6 nos. Bhojyanagar, Central park, National park by lane in ward no 20, under Nabhati Municipality. Tender ID-2025\_KMDA\_795310\_16, Rs.16,13,121/-, Rs.32,262/-, Time of Completion : 90 days each for Sl. No., Last date & time of Online Bid submission: 24.01.2025 upto 14.00hrs, for details contact the above office or visit both websites. [www.kmda.wb.gov.in](http://www.kmda.wb.gov.in) & [www.wbtennders.gov.in](http://www.wbtennders.gov.in) (KMDA-1086) ICA- T524(3)/2025

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GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

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**Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel**  
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# Opposition hits out at NDA, TTD over Tirupati temple stampede

Nara Lokesh suggested that the TTD should have made better arrangements

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD, 9 JANUARY

The Opposition YSRCP has blamed the NDA government and the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) for the stampede resulting in the deaths of six people and several injured.

Andhra Pradesh minister Nara Lokesh too suggested that the TTD should have made better arrangements.

TTD chairman BR Naidu said there were more than 90 counters for token distribution.

Chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu has ordered an inquiry. He will visit the hospital to meet the injured today afternoon.

Although TTD had announced tokm distribution



would begin at 5 am on Thursday, people started thronging from Wednesday evening. A woman had fallen sick and gates were opened briefly to allow her inside but people at the back surged ahead, leading to the stampede.

Former TTD Chairman and ex YSRCP MLA Bhuma Karunakar Reddy slammed the coalition government over the stampede at Vishnu Nivasam, attributing it to

administrative failure.

He questioned the lack of proper arrangements for Vaikuntha Ekadashi Darshan, despite knowing that lakhs of devotees would attend.

Karunakar Reddy alleged that controversial individuals were given control of TTD, turning it into a political hub. He stated that such incidents had never occurred in the past five years, blaming the current government for neglecting devotees' safety.

He criticised the TTD Chairman for prioritizing political propaganda over serving devotees and demanded an inquiry into allegations of ticket mismanagement. Claiming there was a lack of coordination among officials he also called for action against the TTD Chairman, local SP, and other responsible officials.

He said the government must take responsibility for this tragedy and apologize to Lord Venkateswara's devotees.

Former minister for endowments Velampalli Srinivas also criticised the state government for its failure to manage the arrangements during a key religious event at Tirupati. He stated that lakhs of devotees were expected to attend.

## ACB grills KTR for 7 hours in Formula E race case

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD, 9 JANUARY

The Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Thursday interrogated BRS working president KT Rama Rao for seven hours in connection with the Formula E race case. After leaving the ACB office, the BRS cadre gave a rousing welcome to their leader at the party headquarters, carrying him on their shoulders. The former municipal administration and urban development (MAUD) minister has milked the opportunity thrown up by his legal hassles under the Congress government to charge up his party cadres. Meanwhile, special chief secretary Arvind Kumar appeared before the Enforcement Directorate.

After emerging from the ACB interrogation, Rao said



that he was repeatedly asked the same set of questions that had been framed by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. He further said that he also asked ACB officials if they had made any attempt to recover money after the contract was cancelled by the present government.

"Why did you suddenly feel the need to file a case after one year?" Rao asked. "I also asked them where the proceeds of the crime are, where the embezzlement is, and where the corruption is. Please show me. This case

is a joke, and so is the Chief Minister of Telangana... I will go back whenever they call me and answer all their questions," Rao said after coming out of the ACB headquarters at Banjara Hills. "They asked over 80 questions and recorded my statement. I kept answering," Rao said, adding that the Supreme Court will hear the quash petition on 15 January.

Before leaving for the ACB headquarters, KT Rama Rao addressed the media at his residence in Banjara Hills. "In the 10 years of BRS rule, I have not awarded contracts worth Rs 1,137 crore to my brother-in-law or misused power to benefit my son-in-law's company. Only Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and some of his ministers are capable of such wrongdoings," he remarked.

## Bobby Chemmanur denied bail, remanded for 14 days in sexual harassment case

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,  
9 JANUARY

The Ernakulam First Class Judicial Magistrate Court, on Thursday, refused bail to Bobby Chemmanur, who was arrested by the police in a sexual harassment complaint filed by actress Honey Rose.

The court sent him to 14-day judicial custody. He will be transferred to the district jail in Kakkanad after a medical examination.

Bobby's lawyer said he would file an appeal against the order of the denying bail to Bobby on Friday. SNS

# Guilty will be punished, but 'injustice must not be meted out' to Munde: Maha Deputy CM Ajit Pawar

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
PUNE, 9 JANUARY

Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said in Pune on Thursday that there is no truth in the allegations made against food and civil supplies minister Dhananjay Munde after he was asked about Munde's resignation.

"Many people have been accused, but there is no truth

in those allegations. Some resign because of allegations. Dhananjay Munde has clearly told me that he is not even remotely involved in the Santosh Deshmukh murder case. Three agencies are now investigating the case. Injustice should not be done to those who are not guilty while they are working. Even if Ajit Pawar is guilty, action will be taken against him," The Deputy Chief Minister

said. "The Chief Minister has also said that if anyone is proven guilty in this case, immediate action will be taken against him. I have also met Devendra Fadnis and told him that if there are any senior-level culprits working in this case, regardless of party, there is no question of sparing them. This is a murder committed in a brutal manner. We will not tolerate such incidents,"

Ajit Pawar said. When asked about the allegations made against Munde by BJP MLA Suresh Dhas, Ajit Pawar said: "Suresh Dhas should provide evidence. He should think while making allegations. We will not bring politics into this matter. We will not support anyone. Ask him who 'Badi Munnii' is. I will not talk about such trivial things. From now on, I will speak by name."

## Classified

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **MR. DHANU** Kumar Bhownick, S/o. Late Bhupendra Nath Bhownick, residing at G/F-25 Mainak Abasan, 1st Floor, Flat-A2, P.O.: Jyangra, P.S.: Baguiati, Kolkata-700059 hereby declare that in my PPO my wife name was wrongly recorded as Minati instead of her original name Minati Bhownick. That Minati Bhownick and Minati DOB is 10-02-1963 PAN BKGPB0921C W/o. Dhanu Kumar Bhownick is the same and one identical person, vide Affidavit No.165 in the Court of the Ld. Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class at Barasat on 07-01-2025.

CHANGE OF NAME

**VIDE** affidavit dt. 17-12-2024 before the Ld. Judicial Magistrate (1st Class) at Kolkata, Gouri Sarkar (wife of late Manabendra Kishore Sarkar, No. 629880K, Ex Naik, Indian Army) and Gouri Sarkar is one and same identical person.

**I, SHYAMALI** Chaudhuri, W/o. Sanjib Chaudhuri at 3/3/H Kamardanga Road, Gobinda Khatik Road, Entally, Kolkata-700046, have changed my name from Syamli Chauduri to Shyamali Chaudhuri vide an Affidavit No. 1028 sworn before the Judicial Magistrate at Calcutta dt. 08-01-2025 and both name Syamli Chauduri and Shyamali Chaudhuri is same person.

TENDER

**UTTAR** Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Pundibari, Cooch Behar – Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) – Online tenders and Offline EO are being invited from reputed agencies for supplying (a) Laboratory Instruments (b) Furniture (c) Farm Machineries (d) E-Rickshaw, Scotty and Bicycle & (e) Production of Documentary Film. For details please visit: [www.wbtenders.gov.in](http://www.wbtenders.gov.in) & [www.ubkv.ac.in](http://www.ubkv.ac.in) Registrar (Actg.)

PUBLIC NOTICE

**My clients, Shri. Ashit Kumar Chakraborty**, residing at Collage Para, PO & PS- Katwa, District Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, Pin - 713130, intend to purchase 12 cottah land comprised in L.R. Dag No. 802 under L.R. Khatian No. 2264/1 being Plot Nos. CAD – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 under a Project namely ROYAL ENCLAVE lying and situated at Mouza – Bhagabanpur, JL No. 10, under the jurisdiction of P.S. – Kasipur, Dist. – South 24 Parganas, West Bengal, PIN – 700135. Any person or persons having any right title or interest or claim against the said Dag/Plot should send their claims in writing to the undersigned along with the documentary evidence in support of the said claim within 15 days of publication of this Notice, failing which the claims, if any, shall be deemed to have been waived.

**Saurabh Chaudhuri**  
Advocate  
The Meridian Building  
Room No. 7B, 7th Floor  
Plot No. E-2/4 & 5  
Block - GP Sector - V  
Salt Lake City, PIN - 700091

PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE**  
AS PER ORDER OF LAND & LAND REFORMS DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF WEST BENGAL, VIDE MEMO No.: 1000-15/22/2024

That my clients Manick Lal Das, S/o. Lakshmi Narayan Das & Pampa Das, W/o. Manick Lal Das of 193, Andul Road Govt Quarters, Block-BH/3, Howrah-711109, purchased a land measuring about 2K-00Ch-00Sq.ft. from Legal heirs of Late Kartick Chandra Biswas alias Adhir Kumar Biswas v.i.z Sugata Kumar Biswas, Purnima Roy, Mira Biswas, Priti Paramanick, Pranab Kumar Biswas, Prodyut Kumar Biswas & Prabir Kumar Biswas vide Sale Deed No.: I-051310443 for the year 2023, Whereas Prabir Kumar Biswas executed a General Power of Attorney in favour of his wife Smt. Srabani Biswas, vide Book No.: I, Volume No.: 1607-2023, Page No.: 339443 to 339461, Deed No. 160711413 for the year 2023, Office of Additional District Sub Registrar Behala, for sale out the schedule mention property. Now my clients filed mutation of the aforesaid property before Town Survey Unit, Howrah vide Mutation Case No.: MN/2024/0515/5029, MN/2024/0515/5030.

**SCHEDULE**  
Mouza: Shibpur, Sheet No.: 109, L.R. Khatian: 2, L.R. Dag: 120, 33 P.S.: Shibpur comprised within H.M.C. Holding No.: 38/11, Dakshin Buxarah 1st Bye Lane, Howrah-711109, under H.M.C. Ward No.: 41, measuring about: 2K-00Ch-00Sq.ft. Land.

If anyone want to contest they can appear before Town Survey Unit, Howrah, Address: 3, Kartick Dutta Road, Howrah-711101 within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

**Dipayan Saha**  
Advocate  
Howrah Judges' Court

The Statesman

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## Stampede: AP CM N Chandrababu Naidu orders judicial inquiry

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
HYDERABAD, 9 JANUARY

Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu ordered a judicial inquiry, suspended two officials, and transferred three others including the superintendent of police Subbarayudu and joint executive officer of TTD Gouthami following the stampede that resulted in six fatalities at Tirupati. The DSP Ramana Kumar and Goshala director

of TTD, Harinath Reddy who were in charge of the fateful site of the stampede were suspended after Naidu held another review meeting during his visit to Tirupati. Blaming the previous YSRCP government he said: "This incident is also a legacy problem. Never in my lifetime tokens were given in Tirupati for darshans. For the past five years, a new practice they had brought." The chief minister said that families of the deceased will receive

Rs 25 lakhs and a job will be given to a member of the family. The injured will receive Rs 2 lakhs. The chief minister ordered the transfer of SP Subbarayadu, joint executive officer Gouthami, and chief security officer of TTD, Sridhar.

Thousands of devotees, mostly from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka had gathered to collect the tokens on the occasion of Vaikuntha Ekadashi which is a ten-day long festival

but the devotees prefer to visit on the first two days. The TTD had earlier said that token distribution would begin at 5 am but later advanced it to midnight after heavy crowds thronged the distribution centres. Devotees complained that arrangements were poor with no water, food and rest-room facilities. Apprehensive of large crowds most people had gathered from Wednesday evening for the token distribution.

TENDER

**CENTRAL POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE**  
(A Government of India Society)  
P.B. No. 8066, Bangalore-560080  
Advt. No. CPRI/R&D/EOI/2024  
CPRI/01/2025

Central Power Research Institute (CPRI) — an Autonomous Society under the Ministry of Power, Government of India — invites "Expression of Interest" from entrepreneurs, start-ups and industries for licensing CPRI patented technologies at a no cost basis. For details and application format, please refer website ([www.cpri.in/en/content/patents](http://www.cpri.in/en/content/patents))  
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Abridged Tender Notice for Paper Publication

Executive Engineer, HMC invites tender for 1 (one) No. Electrical Work at different Ward of HMC. Intending tenderers are to submit offers along with PAN Card, Trade License, Contractor License, Supervisor Certificates & up to date GST Certificate & Return (Current Quarter), PTCC, ITCC & Credentials.  
Bid submission (online) start date: 08-01-2025 from 6-00 p.m.  
Bid submission (online) closing date: 27-01-2025 upto 6-00 p.m.  
Please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in>  
137(3)/24-25  
09-01-25

Secretary  
Howrah Municipal Corporation

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**  
PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION, AKOLA  
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 32 / 2024-2025  
No. 185 / TC / E-TN-32 / 2024 / Date: 08-01-25  
Online E-Tenders

Online tender are invited by Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Akola (Telephone No. 0724-2435195) e-mail: [akola.ee@mahapwd.com](mailto:akola.ee@mahapwd.com) for following works No 1 to 3 for B-1 from the competent and interested contractors E-Tender can be downloaded from the <http://mahatenders.gov.in> Other instructions can be seen in the e-tender form. Competent Authority reserve the right to reject all or any one of the tender. Conditional tender will not be accepted.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Category
1.	Construction of Ghat by the Bay of Purna River at Lakhpuri Tq. Murtizapur Dist. Akola	14500492	Open
2.	Construction of Various works in Ward No. 10 of Balapur Nagar Parishad under Nagari Sthanik Swarajya Sanstha Tq. Balapur Dist. Akola	14472904	Open
3.	Construction of Various works in Ward No. 10 of Balapur Nagar Parishad under Nagari Sthanik Swarajya Sanstha Tq. Balapur Dist. Akola.	1468125	MKSS

**Note:**  
1. All eligible / interested tenderer are required to be enrolled on portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in>  
2. Above Work No. 1 to 3 form B-1 Tender download & preparation of Bid from Dt. 10.01.2025 at 10-00 hrs. to Dt. 24.01.2025 at 18.00 hrs. & E-Tender Opening Date 27.01.2025 (Further tender timetable as on Online)  
3. E-Tender above work No. 1 & 2 Superintending Engineer, P.W. Circle Akola Open.  
4. E-Tender above work No. 3 Executive Engineer, P.W. Division, Akola Open  
7. Please note the further changes regarding above work will not be published through corrigendum by press notice the changes will be available only on electronic tendering system of Govt. of Maharashtra which is available on the portal <https://mahatenders.gov.in> & Notice  
8. All detail information is available on following websites & Office Information Board. Visit web site for details: <http://mahatenders.gov.in>  
9. Other instructions can be seen in the tender form. All or any one of the tender may be rejected by the competent authority.  
10. For the above works the contractor should inspect the site along with the engineer and submit the e-tender and no additional claims will be accepted.  
11. Online Schedule in Applicable and Final.

Prasad Patil  
Executive Engineer  
DGIPR-ROC/5544/24-25  
Public Works Division, Akola

**S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER**  
Divisional Railway Manager/Engg., Chakradharpur acting For & On behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Open Tender. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Sl. No., Tender Notice No. & Name of work are as follows: 1. CKP- WEST-24-25-42. Repairing of existing colony FOB at Rourkela West Yard under ADEN/Rourkela. Tender Value : ₹ 40,41,198.90. EMD : ₹ 80,800/- 2. CKP- WEST-24-25-43. Replacement of old dilapidated and overaged steel tank by RCC Over Head Tank at Rourkela, Jharsuguda and Rajgangpur station (Capacity 3,50,000 liter each station). Tender Value : ₹ 6,97,95,162.18. EMD : ₹ 4,99,000/- 3. CKP-EAST-24-25-38. Manufacturing, supply and stacking of machine crushed Track Ballast conforming to RDSO Specification (IRS-GE-1) with latest correction slips issued up to date of inviting of tender at all yard/Bridge approaches/nominalated places for section of ADEN/II/ITATA as per direction of Engineer in charge under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/East/Chakradharpur. Tender Value : ₹ 2,11,69,872.60. EMD : ₹ 2,55,900/- Cost of Tender form : ₹ 0 for each. Date of opening : 31.01.2025 for each. The tender can be viewed at Website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> The tenderer/ bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered under on IREPS Portal. Only registered tenderer/ bidder can participate on e-tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. Note : a Tender Form shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers. (Authority-Rty. Bd.'s letter No. 2020/CE-I /CT/SE/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020). (PR-999)

**EASTERN RAILWAY**  
The following E-tenders are invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ (General), Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd floor, Remote Control Building, Kolkata-700014 for the following works: Sl. No. 1, Tender No. : ELEG-OT-1096-2024-25-R2 dtd. 06.01.2025. Particulars of the Work : Annual Maintenance Contract of 7.5 TR x 2 units Air-conditioning package unit in modular OT of B.R. Singh Hospital/ SDAH for 3 years. Sl. No. 2, Tender No. : ELEG. OT-1178-2024-25 dtd. 06.01.2025. Particulars of the Work : Electrical Work in connection with: At Ghoshapur, JJC through repairs, colour washing, painting etc. and repairs to heavily damaged sunshade, lintel, beam etc. Tender Value: Rs. 2,88,502/- (for Sl. No. 1) & Rs. 92,11,550/- (for Sl. No. 2). Earnest Money : Rs. 5,800/- (for Sl. No. 1) & Rs. 1,84,200/- (for Sl. No. 2). Cost of Tender document: Nil for each. Completion period : 36 months (for Sl. No. 1) & 12 months (for Sl. No. 2). Tender closing date & time: 28.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs. for each. Tender bid opening date & time : 28.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs. for each. Tender bidding start date: 14.01.2025 for each. Details of tender notice and corrigendum issued from time to time are available at website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) (SDAH-312/2024-25)  
Tender Notices are also available at Website [www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ee.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)  
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# 'INDIA bloc only for general elections, Cong building momentum for Delhi'

Pawan Khera's statement came in response to remarks by RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav

AGENCIES  
JAIPUR, 9 JANUARY

Congress leader Pawan Khera on Thursday reiterated that the INDIA bloc was formed exclusively for the Lok Sabha elections and asserted that the party is gaining significant momentum ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections. Khera's statement came in response to remarks by RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav, who had also emphasised that the INDIA bloc was designed for the general elections at the national level.

Tensions within the INDIA bloc have surfaced as the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Congress, two major constituents,



prepare to contest the Delhi Assembly elections independently.

Significantly, several INDIA bloc partners have extended their support to AAP National Convenor and Delhi Chief

Minister Arvind Kejriwal. Commenting on this, Khera told IANS: "The INDIA bloc was formed for the Lok Sabha elections at the national level. Based on the situation in different states, whether it is the

Congress or regional parties, they decide independently, whether to fight together or separately."

With less than a month remaining for the Delhi Assembly elections, the political landscape is heating up, with the ruling AAP and Opposition BJP and Congress all vying for dominance in the 70-member Assembly.

Former Maharashtra Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Prithviraj Chavan predicted a third-consecutive victory for the AAP. His statement followed the Election Commission of India's announcement that polling would take place on 5 February, with vote counting scheduled for 8 February.

During an interaction with IANS, Chavan also expressed disappointment over Congress and AAP parting ways after contesting the Lok Sabha polls together last year.

Responding to Chavan's assertion, Khera clarified: "I spoke with him. He meant that had we contested as an alliance, we would have undoubtedly won. However, now that we are contesting separately, it's hard to predict the outcome."

Khera also expressed confidence in the Congress' performance, stating, "The momentum of Congress is continuously building. It would not be surprising if the Congress emerges as a major force in Delhi."



## Sambhal mosque panel moves SC for direction to district magistrate to ensure status quo

PARMOD KUMAR  
NEW DELHI, 9 JANUARY

The Sambhal Shahi Jama Masjid Management Committee, on Thursday moved the Supreme Court seeking direction to the District Magistrate to ensure that status quo is maintained with respect to the private well situated near the stairs/entrance of the mosque.

The mosque committee



has also sought direction to the DM not to take any steps/actions with regard to the investigation of the well, and open the well-located at the entrance of the mosque structure without due per-

mission from the top court.

The application seeking the direction to the DM has stated "District Administration, Sambhal is conducting a purported drive to revive old temples and wells in the city with reports indicating that at least 32 old unused temples have been revived and 19 wells have been identified which are being made operational for public prayers/use."

## Railways to introduce snow cutters for clearing tracks in J-K under Make-in-India initiative



NISHAT NIZAMI  
SRINAGAR, 9 JANUARY

As the countdown begins for massive rail expansion in the Kashmir Valley, the railways is taking all measures to enable year-round connectivity in the region while considering plans to introduce snow cutters for clearing tracks under the Make-in-India initiative.

Kashmir is going through the coldest times of the year named 'Chilla-e-Kalan' or the harshest period when the thick sheets of snow stay for some time before being removed. The Chilla-e-Kalan starts from 21 December and is to last till 31 January. After 31 January, even as there are spells of snowfalls, the snow can be easily removed because of higher temperatures.

However, the Chilla-e-Kalan makes for a tough time in maintaining connectivity. Considering the background, the Indian Railways has procured three snow cutters from the United States for removal of snow from the tracks and keeping train movements on.

Interestingly, the Swiss Railway, in the recent past restored a 1,913 steam rotary snow plough which was restored after hardships of 18 years. In the Budgam Railway network, three snow cutters used by the Northern Railway have been imported from the US having a capacity of removing 3,000 tonnes per hour. The machine costing around Rs 3 crore generally runs at a speed of five to ten kmph and is deployed to remove thick snow sheets of one foot or more.

The Railway is now exploring options of introducing two more snow cutters for Budgam Shed manufactured within the country. The idea is at the planning stage now and the Railways is now mulling over floating tenders for the project.

Notably, the DEMU coaches run in the region are different from the ones being used in other parts of the country. As Kashmir experiences summer mainly for three months from June to August and extreme cold weather from November to March, the DEMU trains being operated here are

equipped with blowers for heating the coaches.

As learnt during a recent visit to Budgam Shed, the ICF DEMU trains operated and maintained here are specially curated to sustain temperatures upto -10 degree Celsius. In absence of gaps in rail connectivity till Budgam, the bogies of ICF DEMU coaches were removed and fitted with road trolleys to enable transportation by road till the Budgam car shed. However, the water pipelines or under-gear parts of DEMU coaches are not insulated.

Now, with the enormous expansion of the rail infrastructures in the Jammu Kashmir region, one of the primary areas of focus for the Railways is keeping operations running in extreme weather conditions as well. With this aim, the Railways has tailored the rakes of Vande Bharat train with insulators for the extreme climatic conditions of the Kashmir Valley.

The VB coaches have been provided with silicone heating pads to prevent freezing of water tanks and bio-toilet tanks, with overheat protection sensors ensuring safety and reliability. In addition, self-regulating heating cables have been installed to prevent water freezing, ensuring smooth operations even in sub-zero temperatures.

Toilets have been installed with heaters to provide warm air for vacuum systems and lavatories and plumbing lines have been equipped with draining systems to prevent freezing during stabling. The coaches have been equipped with air dryer system heating that ensures the air brakes system functions optimally in freezing conditions along with 5 kVA transformers installed in underframes for dedicated heating systems in critical components.

Keeping the loco pilot's comforts in mind, the driver's front lookout glass has been provided with heating elements for defrosting, ensuring clear visibility in harsh winter conditions while anti-spall layers have been added to protect the driver from impacts during extreme weather or unforeseen events.

**Schools in Bihar's Araria closed for classes up to 8 till 12 January:** Amid severe cold wave conditions, the authorities have suspended classes up to 8th standard in all schools of Bihar's Araria district till 12 January. Issuing an order, District Magistrate Anil Kumar suspended classes up to 8th standard in all schools and coaching institutes across Araria district until 12 January. AGENCIES



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## First HMPV case detected in UP

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, 9 JANUARY

China's virus HMPV has reached Uttar Pradesh, as after testing a woman from the city, a private lab has declared her HMPV positive.

The woman was admitted to a private hospital from there she was shifted to a

government Hospital at 11 pm last night. In the investigation of private lab, the reports have been found positive. The sample has been sent to KGMU for further investigation. Sources said here on Thursday that the woman has been kept in isolation in ward number 11 of the hospital. The 60-year-old woman is a resident of Cantt area of Luc-

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Political Misogyny

The prevalence of misogyny in Indian politics reflects a troubling reality that undermines the progress of women in public life. Across party lines and ideological divides, sexist rhetoric and objectification of women have been normalised, revealing a patriarchal mind-set deeply ingrained in the political discourse. Despite India's claims of progress in women's empowerment, the male gaze remains a powerful force, reducing women leaders like Priyanka Gandhi and Mamata Banerjee to mere objects of derision and ridicule. Over the years, sexist remarks targeting women politicians have been made with impunity, eliciting snickers from peers and muted outrage from the public. From former Bihar chief minister Lalu Prasad Yadav's infamous comment comparing roads to Hema Malini's cheeks to Nationalist Congress Party leader Sharad Yadav's "parkati auratein" jibe and Delhi BJP leader Ramesh Bidhuri's recent slur aimed at Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, these remarks not only demean individuals but also perpetuate the marginalisation of women in politics. Worse, these statements often find acceptance in the cultural milieu, normalised by a society conditioned to tolerate casual sexism. Political parties frequently tout their commitment to women's empowerment through various schemes and programmes, seeking to position themselves as champions of gender equality. While initiatives like the Ladli Behna and Pyari Didi schemes aim to uplift women, they ring hollow when juxtaposed with the lack of accountability for misogynistic behaviour within party ranks. A party that launches financial assistance schemes for women cannot simultaneously tolerate members who demean and objectify women in public forums. The disconnect between words and actions is glaring and undermines the sincerity of these initiatives. This persistent misogyny is not merely a political issue; it is a societal problem. From childhood, Indians are often conditioned to focus on regulating women's behaviour rather than challenging the injustices they face. This leads to a cultural tolerance for sexism, where inappropriate remarks are dismissed as harmless banter or political theatrics. The impact, however, is far from benign - it reinforces the idea that women in leadership must endure public scrutiny of their appearances and choices rather than being evaluated on their contributions and governance. For meaningful change, political parties must take a firm stand against sexism - Bidhuri, for instance, ought to have been suspended from the party, ensuring swift and decisive action against offenders, regardless of their stature or influence. Voters, too, have a role to play in holding politicians accountable, prioritising respect for women as a key criterion for leadership. Simultaneously, the media and civil society must amplify instances of sexism in politics, refusing to let such behaviour go unnoticed or unchallenged. As India moves forward, it must embrace a vision of equality that respects women as leaders, thinkers, and decision-makers. Misogyny has no place in a democracy that aspires to represent and empower all its citizens. The time has come to consign sexist rhetoric to the past and create a political culture that values women. Only then can India truly claim to be a progressive, inclusive democracy.

Reigniting Growth

India's economic trajectory, once celebrated for its resilience and rapid growth, is now encountering significant headwinds. With GDP growth projected to slow to 6.4 per cent in the upcoming fiscal year, the lowest in four years, policymakers face the daunting task of reigniting momentum amid global uncertainties and waning domestic confidence. The moment demands a recalibration of India's economic playbook to navigate these challenges while laying a foundation for sustainable growth. A key concern is sluggish domestic consumption. Despite robust infrastructure spending in recent years, wage stagnation and limited job creation have hampered household spending, a critical driver of India's economy. This stagnation has placed the economy in a state of limbo, where cautious consumer behaviour inhibits demand and recovery. Addressing this requires a two-pronged strategy: stimulating short-term consumption while fostering long-term income growth through employment opportunities. Boosting rural demand must also be a priority, as it remains a vital pillar of India's economy. Strengthening agricultural incomes and enhancing rural infrastructure can significantly spur broader economic recovery. India's policymakers must consider loosening monetary and fiscal policies to reinvigorate the economy. Lowering interest rates could encourage borrowing and investment, while targeted fiscal measures - such as tax cuts or direct cash transfers - could put more money into consumers' hands. However, this should not come at the expense of fiscal discipline. Policymakers must strike a delicate balance between stimulating demand and maintaining macroeconomic stability, particularly as global economic uncertainties loom large. One of India's unique opportunities lies in its potential to enhance its trade profile. With global trade dynamics likely to shift in the coming years, India can position itself as an attractive alternative in global supply chains. Proactive tariff rationalisation and deeper integration into global value chains are crucial steps in this direction. Furthermore, adopting measures that anticipate and address potential global trade challenges, such as tariff wars, can help India safeguard its economic interests. The exchange rate is another lever that requires careful management. A competitive rupee can bolster exports, but policymakers must mitigate inflationary risks associated with a weaker currency. This balance will be essential as India seeks to strengthen its export-oriented sectors while supporting domestic economic stability. Leadership changes in key economic institutions like the Reserve Bank of India signal a renewed focus on growth-oriented policies. These shifts must translate into actionable reforms that address structural bottlenecks. Investments in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, and renewable energy could unlock new growth avenues and create jobs, while sustained emphasis on infrastructure development can drive long-term economic resilience. Ultimately, India's path forward requires a concerted effort to restore confidence among businesses and consumers. Rebuilding the economy's "animal spirits" will depend on decisive and well-calibrated policy actions. As the government prepares to unveil its annual budget, it has a critical opportunity to set a clear, growth-oriented agenda that not only tackles immediate challenges but also lays the groundwork for a more resilient and inclusive economic future.

Jobs Challenge

India should focus more on high-skill, high-pay employment opportunities. India has one of the world's most significant numbers of graduates in STEM — science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — fields. Closer connections between India's technical colleges, employers, and investors can help support better job-matching, continued skills development, and start-up growth — which can turn job seekers into job creators



The wealth of a nation lies in its people, and in India, 1.4 billion aspirations drive the country's progress. Over the past decade, the Government of India has made job creation a central focus of its governance, yielding transformational results. However, as with any significant endeavour, there is much to celebrate, but there are challenges that require greater attention in the years to come.

India is at a remarkable crossroads. With the largest population in the world and one of the youngest workforces globally, the nation enjoys a unique advantage. Approximately 68 per cent of its population is of working age. India's median age is 29.5 years, which starkly contrasts with China's 39.8 years and the United Kingdom's 40.6 years. This emphasizes the tremendous potential of a dynamic, innovative, and youthful workforce. This demographic dividend presents a fleeting opportunity that, if effectively harnessed, could propel the country into unprecedented economic growth.

Job creation has been a central focus of the government over the past decade, driven by an explicit acknowledgement of its importance for economic development and social stability. The statistics highlight this progress: between 2014 and 2024, India created 17.19 crore more jobs, compared to the previous decade's creation of just 2.9 crore jobs (2004-14). Notably, 4.6 crore jobs were added in the year 2023-24 alone, demonstrating the scale and ambition of the government's policies.

These initiatives have been transformative in terms of numbers and their impact on reducing unemployment and increasing workforce participation. The unemployment rate fell from 6

per cent in 2017-18 to 3.2 per cent in 2023-24, while the labour force participation rate rose from 49.8 per cent to 60.1 per cent during the same period. Notably, progress has been significant at the sectoral level. A 19 per cent increase in agricultural employment between 2014 and 2023, reversing a 16 per cent decline in the previous ten years (2004-14). In manufacturing, employment rose by 15 per cent (2014-23), more than double the growth in the prior decade. These outcomes are indicative of the effectiveness of targeted policies.

But these are not both sides of the same coin. Manufacturing, for instance, is a sector with enormous job creation potential. But its share of GDP has persisted at around 15 per cent - a far cry from the target of 25 per cent that the National Manufacturing Policy had set. In contrast, manufacturing accounts for 28 per cent of China's GDP and 25 per cent of South Korea's.

Though the Rs 1.97 lakh crore-outlay under the Production Linked Incentive scheme has ensured sizeable investments in electronics manufacturing and \$15.6 billion in exports of mobile phones in FY 2022-23 - employment generated remains well below expectation. The PLI scheme needs recasting to align the incentives more directly with job generation.

Fiscal stresses are another inhibiting factor. The tax-to-GDP ratio in India stands at 11.7 per cent, limiting its investment in job-generating sectors. Al-

though GST collections have consistently crossed Rs 1.5 lakh crore every month, structural reforms are needed to widen the tax base and reach the 20 per cent tax-to-GDP ratio of peer economies. Improvement in tax compliance, modernisation of property taxes, and use of AI in GST analytics can bring in much-needed fiscal space.

The MSME Sector represents the most significant opportunity for achieving inclusive growth in this decade. To put this in perspective, with 63.4 million enterprises contributing 30 per cent to GDP and employing over 100 million

people, the MSME sector's economic footprint is much larger than the entire economy of countries like Thailand or Sweden. MSMEs have a Rs 20-25 lakh crore credit gap. Access to credit for this sector should be ensured as it has immense employment generation potential.

At the same time we should also focus more on high-skill, high-pay employment opportunities. India has one of the world's most significant numbers of graduates in STEM - science, technology, engineering, and mathematics - fields.

Closer connections between India's technical colleges, employers, and investors can help support better job-matching, continued skills development, and start-up growth - which can turn job seekers into job creators.

What the government needs to do now is future-proof the Indian workforce through

recalibration of the PLI scheme, scaling up investments in green energy, and fostering innovation in emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, automation, and electric mobility. For instance, India's ambitious target of achieving 500 GW of non-fossil fuel energy by 2030 is good for the environment and will become one of the biggest job generators. Likewise, the Indian space economy, valued today at \$8.4 billion, is supposed to reach \$44 billion by 2033 and would create thousands of specialised roles in that field.

In the long term, India needs to invest in better education and support women in entering the formal workforce to shift more of its population away from precarious work. That will support income growth and, in turn, drive further job creation. Partnerships will be necessary to achieve this. Public-private collaborations, community engagement, and citizen feedback may help refine their strategies and bring inclusive growth in their wake.

Global disruptions - the Covid-19 pandemic, geopolitical tensions, and economic slowdowns - have tested India's resilience. But more importantly, they brought home the message that the strategic policy to create employment has to be strong and responsive.

And this is why we, reflecting over the past ten years, must realize that this journey for a prosperous India has just about begun. The government has laid the foundation, and it laid the right direction.

Sustained effort, strategic reforms, and collective will can ensure that India converts the demographic dividend into a demographic boon and an opportunity for every citizen, fulfilling the promise of a truly "Viksit Bharat" by 2047.

A MEMBER OF THE

ANNASIA NEWS NETWORK

ASIAN VOICES

Intellectual deprivation of Dalits

Over the centuries, the Nepali state has treated Dalits as a sort of an 'enemy within' and excessively abused and deprived them into submission. The politics of the deprivation of Dalits, as it may be called, has occurred in at least two forms: Physically limiting their access to their basic needs, including food, water and clothing, and then denying them education, thus crushing their intellect.

Gone are the days when Dalits were severely tortured for reading and writing and even for listening to the chants of sacred Vedic verses by the Brahmins.

However, intellectual deprivation has persisted, rendering even highly educated Dalits quite incapable of independent thinking.

Dalit politics relies on the thoughts and ideologies of upper-caste politicians and intellectuals. Dalits themselves haven't been able to develop their own ideologies and philosophies. This intellectual deficit in the Dalit movement results from what Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak famously called "epistemic violence".

Until recently, the traditional patron-client system was in full force nationwide. One can understand the damaging impact of this highly exploitative economic and cultural system by reading American Professor Mary Cameron's monograph, On the Edge of the Auspicious, published in

THE KATHMANDU POST

1998. Under this system, Dalits were required to serve upper-caste clients for generations for very little returns, mostly in kind.

Dalits barely survived on little grains and old clothes handed to them by their clients in exchange for their relentless service as tailors, blacksmiths, shoemakers, drummers, entertainers, street and toilet cleaners, and so on.

That extreme form of physical deprivation in the form of the patron-client system ensured that Dalits remained subjugated for their survival. The supply of limited and poor-quality food and water also contributed to their physical and mental underdevelopment. The patron-client system is losing ground, and the contemporary Dalit community is much less dependent on the upper caste financially. This newfound economic independence has allowed many Dalits, especially those living in urban areas, to gather wealth and get educated. The Dalit middle class is evidently on the rise.

In their 2016 research article "Dalit identity in urban Pokhara, Nepal", published in the reputed international journal Geoforum, Bishnu Pariyar and Jon Lovett demonstrate an impressive upward social mobility amongst Dalits in the town of Pokhara (even as economic progress has not eroded the basic principles of untouchability). Some other studies and our observations also reveal the same trend.

Many scholars worldwide have argued that the middle class's growth is a key driver of social reform movements. Strangely, however, the impressive rise of the Dalit middle class in urban Nepal has not translated into a robust and powerful Dalit liberation movement. On the contrary, Dalit freedom struggles have lost steam over the years. Many factors contribute to the Dalit movement's fall, one of them being intellectual deficit.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

editor@thestatesman.com

Arrest rightist trends

SIR, In his article "Right on a roll" (5 January), Ash Narain Roy expresses serious concern over the rapid rise of the radical right in Europe and its adverse political and economic implications, and emphasises the need to counter the reactionary populism it promotes. The past three decades have seen a significant shift in Europe's political landscape.

The multiple economic, social, cultural, political and security problems triggered by the Great Recession of 2008 and the Covid-19 pandemic, technological advancements, large-scale immigration from non-European countries, freeloading off welfare benefits and healthcare services, and increasing unemployment, inflation and crime rates have led to public disenchantment with the mainstream political parties.

Exploiting this popular sentiment, the political far-right that experienced a decline after World War II has regained popularity, securing representation in local, regional and national govern-

ments in a third of European countries, including Austria, Italy, Hungary, France, Germany, and the European Parliament.

Led by charismatic leaders, the right-wing populist parties embody exclusive nationalism, racism, counter-Enlightenment dogmatism, anti-immigration xenophobia, anti-establishment populism, anti-elitism, anti-intellectualism and political authoritarianism; favour traditional family and religious values and gender policies, and defend globalism; dismantle judicial independence, media freedom and civil rights; oppose supranational European integration, advocate for an exit from the EU and reject its fundamental democratic values and principles; and take hard stand on sensitive topics as climate and the rule of law.

Though the far-right continues to gain ground, it is still in a minority and remains divided. In the changing geopolitical climate, the moderate right, centre-left and left parties must improve co-

ordination to arrest the current democratic decline and make the EU more resilient.

It is imperative to sustain multi-polarity and create a peaceful and harmonious world.

Yours, etc.,  
D S Kang,  
Hoshiarpur, 8 January.

PROVOCATIVE

SIR, This refers to today's article, "Trump isn't the President of Canada," in *The Statesman*. President-elect Donald Trump has once again turned heads with his latest comments about Canada - this time suggesting the country should join the US as its 51st state.

Trump went on to elaborate that such a union wouldn't involve military action but rather "economic force," implying that a more integrated North American economy could be a win for both nations.

He emphasized the potential benefits, touting a union as a way to eliminate tariffs, lower taxes, and protect Canada from external threats, particularly from Russian

TRANSPARENCY

SIR, Apropos the news report "Supreme Court to hear petitions challenging law on selection of CEC and ECs" (January 9), I am confident that the apex court will certainly weigh the disastrous effects of excluding arbitrarily the Chief Justice of India from a panel for the selection of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

The apex court must also examine if by adopting this modus operandi the ruling party at the Centre intends to take away the transparency in the selection of CEC and ECs.

Yours, etc., Arun Gupta,  
Kolkata, 9 January.

and Chinese naval forces.

While this is all part of Trump's ongoing trolling of Canada, the idea of it becoming the 51st state has sparked some serious hypothetical questions.

If Canada did somehow become part of the United States, the political ramifications could be significant.

With a population of over 40 million, Canada would immediately become the largest state in the Union, surpassing California. But the political shift might be even more profound.

Canada has a history of left-

leaning governments, with the Liberal Party in power for much of the last century.

As a result, political analysts believe Canada would likely lean toward the Democratic side, boosting the party's influence in the US Congress and presidential elections.

While the idea remains far-fetched, it's believed that Trump's bold statements are part of a larger strategy aimed at negotiating with Canada.

Yours, etc.,  
N Sadhasiva Reddy,  
Bengaluru, 9 January.





# A land-grab agenda for modern times

SANTHOSH MATHEW

As the world enters 2025, former U.S. President Donald Trump, now preparing for his second term, has reignited the flames of territorial ambition with rhetoric that harks back to America's imperial past. Proclamations about annexing Canada, reclaiming the Panama Canal, and purchasing Greenland have sent ripples through the global political landscape.

Trump's statements signal a bold, and perhaps dangerous, revival of expansionist policies reminiscent of the Monroe Doctrine, this time rebranded for the 21st century. Trump recently unveiled a revised map of North America on Truth Social, merging Canada into the United States under the caption "Oh Canada." At a press conference held at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida, Trump elaborated on his plan, claiming that Canada would benefit more as America's 51st state than as an independent nation.

Though dismissed as outlandish by many, including Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Trump's remarks underline a calculated strategy to project American dominance. The rhetoric surrounding Mexico follows a similar pattern. Trump's insistence that Mexico must bear the costs of its perceived failures to control immigration and drug trafficking comes with veiled threats of military intervention. "If they can't solve their problems, we'll solve them for them," Trump declared, reinforcing a narrative steeped in the history of U.S. intervention in Latin America.

Perhaps most provocative is Trump's stance on the Panama Canal. Calling it a "global treasure mismanaged by Panama," Trump accused Chinese interests of exerting undue influence over the vital waterway. His rhetoric - and the suggestion of reclaiming the canal by force - evokes the United States' century-long control of the

canal, which ended in 1999. "It's time to restore American authority over what rightfully belongs to us," he said, signaling potential friction with Panama and its regional allies.

Trump's 2025 plans extend to the icy north, with renewed proposals to purchase Greenland from Denmark. Dismissed as absurd during his first tenure, Trump's proposition is underpinned by the island's strategic location and vast untapped resources. Melting ice caps have made Greenland a focal point in the emerging Arctic geopolitical race, with its reserves of minerals and hydrocarbons attracting global attention. Trump's transactional framing of the deal - "Denmark gains nothing, America gains everything" - aligns with his characteristic approach to foreign policy. While Denmark has categorically rejected the notion, the U.S.'s strategic interests in Greenland remain a point of concern for European and Arctic nations.

At the heart of Trump's declarations lies a revival of the Monroe Doctrine, articulated in 1823 to establish the Western Hemisphere as a U.S. sphere of influence. Trump's modern reinterpretation prioritizes economic and strategic dominance, reflecting a departure from diplomacy in favour of unilateralism. The doctrine's historical echoes can be heard in Trump's call for a consolidated North America and his ambitions in Latin America.

While critics argue that Trump's rhetoric borders on neo-imperialism, his policies during his first term revealed a similar ethos. The assassination of Iranian General Qasem Soleimani, the arming of Ukraine, and economic sanctions on Venezuela and Cuba demonstrated an interventionist streak cloaked in nationalist rhetoric. Trump's vision, as evidenced by his comments on Canada, Mexico, Greenland, and Panama, signals a continuation of this approach.

Trump's rhetoric is not limited to grandiose proclamations but is



backed by a strategy of economic coercion. During his press conference, he suggested imposing sanctions on Canada if it resists annexation. "They'll come around," he quipped, emphasizing America's leverage as Canada's largest trading partner. Similarly, he hinted at tariffs and aid freezes for Mexico, reiterating his belief that economic pressure can achieve what diplomacy cannot.

The Panama Canal's significance to global commerce and American interests cannot be overstated. Handling 5 per cent of global maritime trade, with a large portion benefitting U.S. markets, the canal's control has symbolic and strategic value. Trump's accusations of Chinese influence provide a convenient pretext for intervention, though experts argue that his claims lack substance.

Another striking aspect of Trump's rhetoric involves the Gulf of Mexico. Rebranding it as the "Gulf of America," he proclaimed that the

renaming would symbolize America's dominance over its maritime borders. While seemingly superficial, the gesture underscores his vision of a reinvigorated American identity, projecting control over geographical and economic spheres.

Trump's ambitions are not without historical precedent. The Louisiana Purchase, the annexation of Texas, and the acquisition of Alaska were all met with skepticism in their time but later became cornerstones of American territorial expansion. Trump's framing of Greenland as "a business deal" reflects this legacy, albeit in a contemporary context. However, the global order has evolved since the days of Manifest Destiny. Nations like China and Russia present formidable challenges to American supremacy, and unilateral land grabs risk alienating allies and sparking international conflicts. Critics caution that Trump's vision, while appealing to a segment of his base, could destabilize the geopolitical balance.

Domestically, Trump's rhetoric galvanizes his supporters, who view territorial expansion as a pathway to restoring America's greatness. His calls for reclaiming the canal, annexing Canada, renaming the Gulf of Mexico, and purchasing Greenland resonate with voters nostalgic for an era of unquestioned American dominance. However, such ambitions risk deepening divisions at home and straining international relations.

Globally, Trump's statements have drawn sharp criticism. Canadian leaders have dismissed his remarks as "absurd posturing," while Denmark's officials reaffirmed Greenland's autonomy. Latin American nations, wary of U.S. interventionism, have expressed concerns over the implications of Trump's rhetoric. Even traditional allies in Europe and Asia have questioned America's commitment to multilateralism under Trump's leadership.

As Trump prepares for his second term, his vision of an expanded America remains a focal point of his political narrative. Whether through economic pressure, military intervention, or rhetorical theatrics, his statements reflect a broader ideological shift toward asserting American primacy in an increasingly multipolar world. The question is not merely whether Trump's ambitions are feasible but what they reveal about America's evolving identity and its role in the global arena. Trump's rhetoric encapsulates a vision of American imperialism reimagined for the modern era. While these ambitions may never materialize, their implications for global geopolitics and America's international standing are profound. As 20 January approaches, the world watches with bated breath to see how Trump's vision unfolds, and what it means for the future of American power.

(The writer is Associate Professor, Centre For South Asian Studies, Pondicherry Central University.)

# An ear open for echoes of the past

MAHIR ALI

One of the more thought-provoking movies to emerge in the past couple of years, from a western film industry that thrives on pointless fantasies, redundant remakes and superfluous sequels, was Jonathan Glazer's remarkable recreation of a milieu that is both distant and ever-present.

The Zone of Interest focuses on the family life of Auschwitz-Birkenau's SS commandant, Rudolf Höss. They occupied an idyllic villa on the periphery of the death camp in Poland, and wallowed in luxury, turning a deaf ear to the barked commands, howls of despair and grinding machinery of mass extermination echoing from across the boundary wall, and a blind eye to the smoke from chimneys located within sniffing distance.

Amid the contrasting clamour of vibrant life and unavoidable death, Höss and his Nazi confederates gather to discuss how the elimination process could efficiently be sped up. That's among the more chilling scenes in a film that only hints at atrocities it does not actually depict. The protagonists' insouciance has echoed across human history for eight decades. And the director, Jonathan Glazer, was clear from the outset that his product was as much about the present as about the past.

A couple of weeks ago, the Haaretz columnist Gideon Levy, in an article titled "The IDF's own sickening 'zone of interest' in the heart of Gaza", citing a resort set up in the 'cleansed' north of the destroyed enclave where Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) troops could recuperate over a steak and a beer and a massage before returning to the killing fields. Once upon a time, there were many such facilities in Vietnam and neighbouring countries for the American troops tasked with eliminating communists in Southeast Asia. Somehow, as in Gaza — and in so many other war zones in recent decades — that included babies.

Auschwitz was liberated 80 years ago this month, on 27 January 1945, by the Red Army. The camp's website describes as a paradox the idea of "soldiers formally representing Stalinist totalitarianism brought freedom to the prisoners of Nazi totalitarianism". It acknowledges nonetheless that the Soviet forces rapidly set up field hospitals to salvage the weakened survivors, and recorded footage of what they had witnessed, which helped to bolster the concept of 'never again'. That was a universal idea, never intended to be restricted to Jews.

It has been violated time and again, but perhaps never so comprehensively as in the past 15 months. In a column published a few days before

the aforementioned screed, Levy notes that the prime minister of the state built on the ashes of Auschwitz will not be able to travel to the commemorative ceremony because of his status as a wanted criminal. Nor, presumably, will Vladimir Putin attend the commemoration. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz might attend, on his way out of the chancellery, despite heading a government that has stood by the Gaza genocide while slandering and persecuting its critics, including German Jews.

The term 'zone of interest' was used by the Nazis to refer to areas adjacent to death camps, possibly among other parts of conquered lands. The Israelis have Areas A, B and C in the West Bank, and intend to capture them all in due course. They should rest assured, however, that the resistance will never cease, perhaps taking into consideration that Hitler's defeat across almost every jurisdiction was facilitated by anti-fascist activists who refused to give up.

The 1971 events ought not to be overlooked in the context. Where did West Pakistan stand when their military was perpetrating killings in East Pakistan in 1971? Quite a few of those who may inwardly have disapproved nonetheless looked on in silence. And the naked truths of the events of '71 remain covered up in Pakistan.

In a broader sense, meanwhile, there will be plenty of zones of interest



across the globe in the year ahead, from Sudan and the Congo to freshly 'liberated' Syria, to Australia, Canada, Germany and France. American oligarchs are not the only ones kissing the ring of the jolly good felon waiting to be sworn in later this month in Washington. Giorgia Meloni was among the guests at Mar-a-Lago in recent days, and the excitement extends from the likes of Viktor Orbán to Narendra Modi, the fans of Imran Khan and, not least,

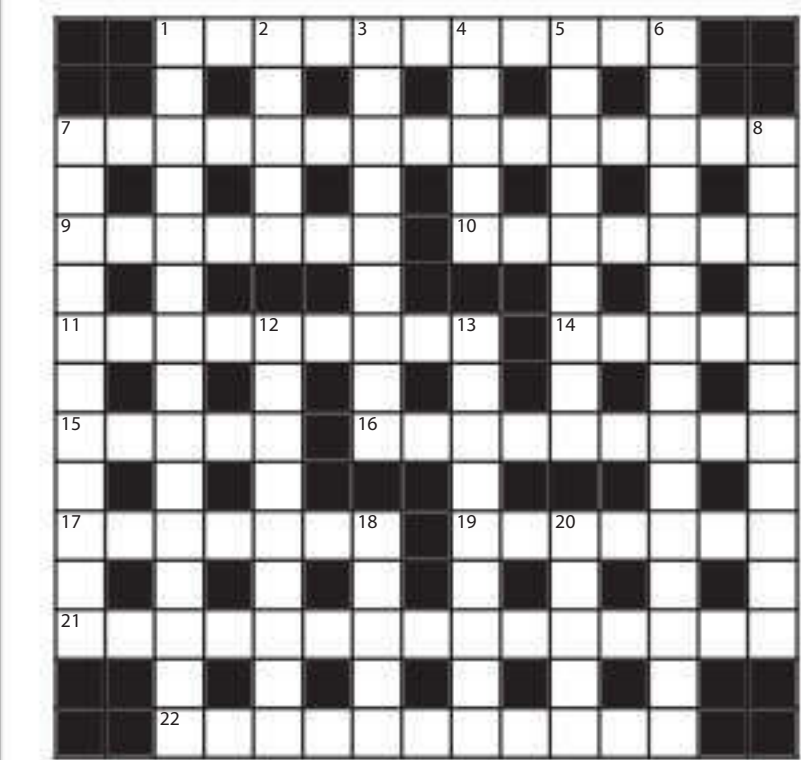
Javier Milei of Argentina. They may well be joined by others, but even before that any number of purported centrists are making overtures to the criminal who is about to enter the White House.

The Nazi regime did not last after a cross-ideological alliance took it to task on the battlefields of Europe. History isn't about to repeat itself, but keep an ear out for the echoes.

Dawn/ANN.

## CROSSWORD

NO-293016



### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

DOUBLEBARRELLED  
JGOAEECEU  
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UEWOVITTO  
SILENTTREATMENT

### ACROSS

- Immediately taking on economy, without any fancy trimmings (8-3)
- Style regarding publication clear: it's always attractive (9,6)
- Trouble? It's brought in a crowd (7)
- Stop limiting church in extra large religious region (7)
- Still activity at sea when the nights are drawing in (9)

- Sorcerer retreated, having kidnapped husband in Surrey town (5)
- Laundry accessory increasingly just not opening (5)
- Yielded, returning personnel before important meeting for major part of body (9)
- Requested change to divine right, ultimately (7)
- Scoundrel's attorney receiving a rap (3-1-3)

- Conservative unfortunately meddled with learning (6,9)
  - Regret introducing stupid new article in trial - not fully thought through (11)
- DOWN
- Host for www.churchofengland.org? (7,8)
  - A sailor getting upset about one stock controller (5)

- Popular composer presented in edition? There's a surprise (1,5,3)
- Was very much against a horrible death (5)
- Cooked each short Passover meal (9)
- The trendy dealer works with great care (6-9)
- Sign of gratitude after aircraft takes one into curious view of the sky (11)

- Doctor satisfied in there, getting right item used in diagnosis (11)
- Strangled the Duke, suppressing corruption before heartless trial (9)
- Exotic fish goes and swims around right area (3,6)
- Imagine 500 sheets of paper (500) (5)
- Revolutionary skill taking care of excellent item of jewellery (5)

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

## 100 YEARS AGO

### OCCASIONAL NOTES

THE Ladies' Golf Championship of India for 1925 was decided on the Royal Calcutta Golf Club course yesterday afternoon, when, in the final match, Mrs. T. G. Evers, the holder, successfully defended her title against Mrs. H. W. Carr, whom she defeated by 4 up and 3 to play. Mrs. Evers is to be heartily congratulated upon her plucky win against a redoubtable opponent who had defeated last year's runner-up in the opening round. The champion's consistency is indicated by the fact that, in all the three matches she has been called upon to play she has won by the same margin. It would be interesting to know why, in the case of the Ladies' Championship, as in that of the men's, there has been so conspicuous an absence of outside talent this year.

## NEWS ITEMS

### INTER-ALLIED DEBTS

### PROBLEMS FOR THE "BIG SIX"

PARIS, JAN. 8.

DURING the week-end an intense but inscrutable activity is likely to follow the decision of the Finance Ministers' Conference that the proceedings shall be private till January 12. The scheme discussed by Mr. Churchill and M. Clementel this morning was later approved by a plenary meeting of the Conference under which questions before the Conference have been classified into major and minor problems.

The former include the American reparations claim, Ruhr occupation and priority to Belgium, and these questions will be discussed by the "Big Six" viz: Great Britain, France, Belgium, America, Italy and Japan, during the week-end with a view to submitting proposals for a compromise to plenary meetings of the conference on Monday and Tuesday.

M. Clementel is optimistic, and expects the conference to finish its labours by January 13. British quarters refuse to disclose anything regarding the Churchill-Clementel talk on Inter-Allied debts, but there is ground for stating that a settlement on the lines of the French proposals to America will be unacceptable to Great Britain.

### BENGAL COUNCIL

### COMMENT ON VOTING ON CRIMINAL LAW BILL

ALLAHABAD, JAN. 9..

THE Leader congratulates the Bengal Legislative Council on having done the right thing in throwing out the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, and says no one could have pleaded for it more earnestly or eloquently than Lord Lytton did in a speech which was marked by evident sincerity and worded in temperate language.

The Pioneer says the decision will render it necessary for the Government to act independently of the Council. The authorities have no alternative in the matter. Terrorism must and will be suppressed whether the representatives of a limited electorate support the Gov-ernment or refuse their co-operation.

### TECHNICAL TEACHING

### URGENT NEED OF INDIAN EDUCATION

BOMBAY, JAN. 8.

HIS Excellency the Governor presided to-day, at the celebration of the centenary day of the Elphinstone High School.

In course of his speech, His Excellency said he entirely agreed with the remarks made by the Principal, that what was needed in Indian education was not quantity but quality.

"I should urge as I have urged before," continued His Excellency "the vital importance of a technological college for Bombay and technical teaching throughout the Bombay presidency. The quality of Indian education will not and cannot reach that standard it should until the urgent need of technical education in India is appreciated at its full value."

### EGYPTIAN ELECTIONS

### NEW UNION PARTY BEING FORMED

CAIRO, JAN. 8.

A NEW Union Party is rapidly forming, consisting of secessionists from the Zaghlulist party, who are already opposing the Zaghlulists in the elections. The party includes Nationalists, Liberals and Independents.

### MURDER OF SIRDAR

### HOPE OF TRACKING THE ASSASSINS

CAIRO, JAN. 8.

DESPITE insuperable difficulties in the investigation of political crime in Egypt, the conviction is growing in British and Egyptian circles that the assassins of the Sirdar will be run to earth. This conviction is strengthened by the surrender to the police of Mohammed Amin Mohammed, the alleged gunman, who disappeared after the crime. It is thought likely that he will assist the police in connection with certain lines of inquiry now proceeding.





# Assam coal mine disaster: Efforts continue to rescue trapped labourers

One body was recovered by para-divers and sent to Haflong for post-mortem, with Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma confirming the development

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
GUWAHATI, 9 JANUARY

Efforts to rescue eight labourers trapped in a flooded coal mine in Assam's Dima Hasao district are on as specialised navy divers work alongside the army and the National Disaster Response Force personnel.

Harmeet Singh, Special DGP of Assam Police over-seeing the operation, provided

updates on the progress.

Navy divers, equipped with advanced technology, including Remote Operating Vehicles (ROVs), entered the tunnels on Thursday morning.

Despite their efforts, visibility inside the tunnels remains limited, and the trapped individuals have yet to be located.

"The dewatering of the tunnel was completed, but water continues to pour in

from channels. We are deploying small pumps to manage the situation while the divers search the tunnels," Singh said.

One body was recovered by para-divers and sent to Haflong for post-mortem, with Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma confirming the development.

CM Sarma expressed his condolences on microblogging site X, saying: "21 Para divers have just recovered a



lifeless body from the bottom of the well. Our thoughts and

prayers are with the grieving family."

The Chief Minister also confirmed that the rescue operation is proceeding with full force, involving Navy, Army, and NDRF teams working in tandem.

Of the nine trapped labourers, one is a Nepali national, one hails from West Bengal, and the remaining seven are residents of Assam. They have been identified as Ganga Bahadur Shrestha (Nepal), Hus-

sain Ali, Jakir Hussain, Sarpa Barman, Mustafa Seikh, Khushi Mohan Rai, Sanjit Sarkar, Lijan Magar, and Sarat Goyary.

The coal mine in Umraungso has long been an area of concern due to its hazardous conditions and unregulated operations. The accident occurred when water unexpectedly flooded the tunnels, trapping the workers inside.

This tragedy has once again raised questions about the safety standards and

enforcement mechanisms in small-scale and illegal mining operations across the region.

Dima Hasao district, a picturesque yet resource-rich area in Assam, has seen a surge in mining activities, often conducted under precarious conditions.

Activists and local residents have called for stricter oversight to prevent such incidents, but challenges remain in balancing economic activity with safety regulations.

Government of West Bengal

NOTICE

Memo No. 10 /MA & MED Date 09.01.25  
Walk-in-interview will be held on 27.01.2025 for the post of Group-C staff at Paschim Medinipur Model Madrasah (English Medium). Retired Govt. Employee/ School Employee/ Madrasah Employee between the age group of 60-65 years. Details may be seen in District Collectorate Website [www.paschimmedinipur.gov.in](http://www.paschimmedinipur.gov.in)

Sd/-  
Additional District Magistrate (Pan)  
Paschim Medinipur  
Memo No.- 40(2)/Adv/L/ICA/Paschim Medinipur Dated - 09.01.2025

Government of West Bengal

NOTICE

Memo No. 11 /MA & MED Date 09.01.25  
Walk-in-interview will be held on 27.01.2025 for the post of Group-D staff at Paschim Medinipur Model Madrasah (English Medium). Retired Govt. Employee/ School Employee/ Madrasah Employee between the age group of 60-65 years. Details may be seen in District Collectorate Website [www.paschimmedinipur.gov.in](http://www.paschimmedinipur.gov.in)

Sd/-  
Additional District Magistrate (Pan)  
Paschim Medinipur  
Memo No.- 41(2)/Adv/L/ICA/Paschim Medinipur Dated - 09.01.2025

Metro Railway, Kolkata

E-Tender Notice No. 13/24-25 dt: 08.01.2025 for procurement of stores. E-Tenders for following items have already been uploaded in [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in) with all details. Manual bid will not be accepted. Corrigendum/Amendment, if any, would be uploaded only in the aforesaid website.

Tender No.	Brief Description	Quantity	Closing date & time
02241985	Set of Cylindrical Roller Bearing for Traction Motor.	96 Sets	17.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs.
02245228A	Erection & Commissioning of high-performance low maintenance traction battery 200 Cell, 400 V, 1200 AH	01 Set	17.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs.
01235178B	Supply of Bogie Frame & Bolster	04 Numbers	17.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs.
02245251	Aluminium Conductor, Armoured Cables	6500 Metre	22.01.2025 at 14.00 hrs.

Principal CMM, Metro Railway, Kolkata

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CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

The following e-tenders can be accessed under the link [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in). Offers for such e-tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in) -login->E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following offices to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any, Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. Office Address: Office of the PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. [A] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162 Date: 02.01.2025. SL No.: [H]. Tender No.: 75245094. Brief Description of Item: Supply & Installation of Sun Visonis (2265x700 mm) to Drp no. 1211-01.330-220 for Wind Shield of WAP-5 Aerodynamic Push Pull Loco and Specn. no: CLW/MS/3/035 ALT-4. [Warranty Period : 30 Months after the date of delivery]. Quantity: 110.00 Set. Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees): ₹ 137590.00. Tender Closing Date & Time (IST): 24.01.2025 at 11:00 AM. [B] No. COS/CRJ/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162 Date: 04.01.2025. SL No.: Tender No.: Brief Description of Item: Quantity: Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees): Tender Closing Date & Time (IST) are as follows: [I]: 70241149: (i) Distributed Power Wireless Control System (DPWCS) for 3-Phase Freight Locomotives to CLW/S. Spec. No: CLW/AMC/C-D&D2 issued on August 2016. [Warranty Period: 5 years, AMC Period: 3 years. Rate of Discounting: 10%]. (i) 228.00 Set.; (ii) 228.00 Set.; ₹ 500000.00; 29.01.2025 at 11:00 AM.; [D]: 70245018: (i) Brake System Items- End Cook 1 inch (1 Set Consist of 02 items, Annexure-I) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (ii) Brake System Items- End Cook 1 and 1 1/4 inch (1 Set Consist of 02 items, Annexure-II) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (iii) Brake System Items Air Line Sieve 3/8 inch as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (iv) Brake System Items- Gauge (1 Set Consist of 05 items, Annexure-III) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (v) Brake System Items- Hose & Coupling (1 Set Consist of 04 items, Annexure-IV) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (vi) Brake System Items- Dummy Coupling (1 Set Consist of 02 items, Annexure-VII) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (vii) Brake System Items (1 Set Consist of 02 items, Annexure-VI) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (viii) Brake System Items- Dummy Coupling (1 Set Consist of 02 items, Annexure-VII) as per Spec. CLW/MS/10/031 ALT.10 [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (i) 110.00 Set, (ii) 50.00 Set, (iii) 10.00 Set, (iv) 5.00 Set, (v) 66.00 Set, (vi) 77.00 Set, (vii) 17.00 Set, (viii) 99.00 Set; ₹ 439060.00; 24.01.2025 at 11:00 AM. [PRS/765] PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan. Like us on: [www.facebook.com/clwrairways](https://www.facebook.com/clwrairways)

E-AUCTION FOR THE CONTRACT OF LEASING OUT OF VPH & SLR COMPARTMENT

E-Auction for the contract of leasing out of VPH & SLR Compartment through e-Auction by various train on round and single trip basis for a period of 2 years. **Description:** Seq No. AA/1 to AA/28 ; Parcel Space in SLR Coach (Single Compartment) and Seq No. AB/1 to AB/4; Parcel Space in Parcel Van. **Auction Start Date & Time: 10:00 hrs. on 23-01-2025. Auction Close Date & Time : 15:40 hrs. on 23-01-2025. Rate Unit:** Seq No. AA/1 to AA/28: Per Trip Licensing Fee; Seq No. AB/1 to AB/4 : Per Round Trip (Two Way).

Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Trips/Days
AA/1	22502-SLR-F1-NTSK-SMVB-23-1(Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/2	12423-SLR-F1-DBRG-NDLS-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/3	15968-SLR-R1-LEDO-RNY-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	313
AA/4	15946-SLR-F1-DBRG-LTT-23-1 (Parcel-SLR)	209
AA/5	15670-SLR-F2-DBRG-GHY-24-1 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/6	15962-SLR-F1-DBRG-HWH-24-1 (Parcel-SLR)	209
AA/7	15604-SLR-F2-LEDO-GHY-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/8	15642-SLR-F2-NTSK-SCL-23-1 (Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/9	15642-SLR-F1-NTSK-SCL-23-1 (Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/10	20505-SLR-F1-DBRG-NDLS-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	209
AA/11	15670-SLR-F1-DBRG-GHY-24-1 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/12	15928-SLR-F2-NTSK-RNY-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	418
AA/13	15604-SLR-F1-LEDO-GHY-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/14	15933-SLR-F1-NTSK-ASR-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/15	15968-SLR-F1-LEDO-RNY-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	313
AA/16	15928-SLR-R1-NTSK-RNY-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	418
AA/17	15909-SLR-F1-DBRG-LGH-23-1 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/18	15670-SLR-R1-DBRG-GHY-24-1 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/19	15960-SLR-F1-DBRG-HWH-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	521
AA/20	15930-SLR-F1-NTSK-TBM-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/21	15642-SLR-F1-NTSK-SCL-23-1 (Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/22	15968-SLR-F2-LEDO-RNY-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	313
AA/23	20503-SLR-F1-DBRG-NDLS-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	522
AA/24	15928-SLR-F1-NTSK-RNY-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	418
AA/25	22504-SLR-F1-DBRG-CAPE-23-1 (Parcel-SLR)	418
AA/26	15604-SLR-R1-LEDO-GHY-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	730
AA/27	13281-SLR-F1-DBRG-RJPB-22-2 (Parcel-SLR)	105
AA/28	15903-SLR-F1-DBRG-CDG-22-1 (Parcel-SLR)	209
AB/1	15960-15959-VP-1-DBRG-HWH-24-2 (Parcel-Parcel Van)	521
AB/2	20505-20506-VP-1-DBRG-NDLS-22-1 (Parcel-Parcel Van)	209
AB/3	13281-13282-VP-1-DBRG-RJPB-22-1 (Parcel-Parcel Van)	105
AB/4	15930-15929-VP-1-NTSK-TBM-22-1 (Parcel-Parcel Van)	105

The Auction catalogue has already been uploaded on 03-01-2025 on IREPS website.

Divisional Commercial Manager (IC), Tinsukia

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

MORE TENDER ADS ON PAGE 2 & 4

KOLKATA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION e-TENDER

ABRIDGED NIT

The Director General (ELTG), KMC invites e-tender online percentage rate two bid system for the following work:

**NIT No. : KMC/LTGV/120/24-25/DECO (1st Call)**

Name of the work: Improvement of existing lighting system by installing new LED decorative fittings at Bliss Park, Polly Rakshya Samity, behind and beside of Khayali Sangha and others area in Ward No.-120 under BR-XIII. Estimated amount: ₹ 9,88,927.36. Earnest money: ₹ 19,800.00. Period of completion: 30 days. Last date & time for submission of bid: 22.01.2025 (4 P.M.). The bid forms and other details are available on and from 10.01.2025 (4 P.M.) from the website <https://etender.wb.nic.in>

The Director General (Mechanical/Roads), KMC invites e-tender online percentage rate two bid system for the following work:

**NIT No. : KMC/ASPH/GACHA/BN-12/2024-25 (1st Call)**

Name of the work: Development of road surface by lowering the existing surface and allied civil works at D.P.P. Road from Premises No.-12D/4 to 7D, Ward No.-100, BR-X, under Roads (M) Department. Estimate amount (including GST, Contingency & CESS): ₹ 5,67,412.22. Earnest money: ₹ 12,000.00. Period of completion: 25 days. Last date and time of submission of bid: 24.01.2025 at 12 Noon. The bid forms and other details are available on and from 15.01.2025 after 12 Noon from the website <https://wbenders.gov.in>

The Director General, Water Supply, KMC invited e-tender for the following work:

**NIT No. : KMC/WS/JOKA/34/2024-25**

Name of the work: Development of water supply network by laying of new 100 mm dia D.I. pipe at Nabapally 22 Bigha from Premises No. 24/8/1 to 24/4/12 & 24/4/4, 24/1 to 24/1/4, 23/4/1 to 23/1/3 & more 12 feet (Fakir Danga), Yen Sarani in Ward No.-143, BR-XVI. Estimated cost of the work: ₹ 8,18,268.89. Earnest money: ₹ 16,400.00. Period of completion: 36 days. Last date of submission of bid: 27.01.2025 5 P.M. Tender will be opened on: 30.01.2025 - 1 P.M. The bid forms and other details are available on and from 16.01.2025 - 5 P.M. from the website <https://wbenders.gov.in>

The Director General (Bustee), KMC invites e-tender online percentage rate two bid system for the following work:

**NIT No. : KMC/D.G.(B)/IX/080/038/2024-2025/BUSTEE**

Name of the work: Renovation of Bustee passage by concrete at Sonai Bustee in Ward No.-80. Estimated amount (including GST & CESS): ₹ 5,99,849.00. Earnest money: ₹ 12,000.00. Period of completion: 30 days. Last date and time of submission of bid: 20.01.2025 - 12 Noon. Tender will be opened on: 22.01.2025 - 12 Noon. The bid forms and other details are available on and from 10.01.2025 (5 P.M.) from the website <https://etender.wb.nic.in> (1193/24-25)

EASTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. O-AC-T-187-24-25 (Open), dated 08.01.2025.

E-tenders (Open) are invited by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Asansol, Station Road, Pin-713301 for the following work : **Case No. : O-AC-T-187-24-25. Name of the Work :** Open tender for Provision of connecting road from LC No. 18/C/E to adjacent LHS 19 in lieu of closing of LC No-18/C/E at Km 47/5-7 in between KOX-SURI in A.S. Chord Line under the jurisdiction of Sr.DEN/4/Asansol. **Tender value:** Rs. 1,36,69,486.20. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 2,18,400/- **Completion period for the work :** 9 months. **Date and time of closing :** 06.02.2025 at 12.00 hrs. Complete details can be seen in the Railways website [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in) (ASN-296/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in)

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UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

University of Calcutta invites the e-tenders vide Ref. No. (CU / CH / SSM / DST / E-Tender / 24-25 / 01 & Tender ID: 2025.CU.795821\_1), (E-Tender No.: E-tender / Eng / EQ-379 / 24-25 & Tender ID: 2025.CU.796656\_1), (E-Tender No.: E-tender / Eng / EQ-380 / 24-25 & Tender ID: 2025.CU.796693\_1), Dt. 08-01-2025, (E-Tender No.: E-tender / Eng / EQ-382 / 24-25 & Tender ID: 2025.CU.797494\_1), (E-Tender No.: E-tender / Eng / EQ-383 / 24-25 & Tender ID: 2025.CU.797514\_1), DL 09-01-2025. For details please visit: [wbenders.gov.in](http://wbenders.gov.in)

EASTERN RAILWAY

CANCELLATION OF TENDER

Open E-Tender No. SDSE-ALT-BWNR-24-25 dated 19.12.2024 to be opened on 13.01.2025, published earlier by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-1, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway station, Howrah-711101. Due to some technical reason the above tender is hereby cancelled.

(HWH-537/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in)

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NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Divisional Engineer/Mechanical Workshop for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur-for and on behalf of President of India invites open tenders through on line (E-Tendering) for the following work:

**S.No.-1, E-Tender Notice No. & Name of the work:** DEN-MWS-2025-01, Structural Stability Test for the entire buildings & Super Structures of Store Depot & Mechanical Workshop at Gorakhpur., Estimated Cost: ₹ 11,69,717.04, Earnest Money: ₹ 23,400/-, Tender submission last date & Time: 05-02-2025 at 11:00 hrs.

The Details of above tender are also available on Indian Railway website [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in)

Chief Workshop Manager/M.W., CPRO/Yantrik-102, Gorakhpur.

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THE JUTE CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED

(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

Kolkata RLD, 15 N Nellie Sengupta Sarani, 7th Floor Hudco Building, West Bengal, Kolkata-700087

Expression of Interest in Jute ICARE Phase – XI Project under Kolkata RLD, JCI

Kolkata RLD, JCI is inviting application for submitting Expression of Interest (EOI) from Registered Co-Operatives / Apex Bodies of Co-Operatives / Self Help Groups / Farmers' Clubs / SC & ST Co-Operatives / PACS / NGO & Others for maximizing the reach to Jute growers and provide functional support for implementation of Jute ICARE Phase-XI Project on behalf of 'The Jute Corporation of India Limited' Kolkata RLD. The Interested Outsourcing Agencies / Parties may download the EOI documents from the website: <https://www.jutecorp.in>

Last date of submitting EOI is till 31-01-2025 up to 6-00 P.M.

Sd/-  
Regional Manager  
JCI, RLD Kolkata

CBC 41122/12/0031/2425

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय

ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

ई- निविदा सूचना संख्या – RDD/SD/CHAIBASA/13/2024-25(5th Call) (MMGSY)

1. कार्य की विस्तृत विवरणी:

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	प्राकक्षित राशि	अग्रघन की परिमाण विवरण	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	पश्चिमी सिंहभूम जिला के मनोहरपुर प्रखण्ड अनर्गत दिशा पंचायत के ग्राम मारंगपोगा एवं होलौंगउली गाँव के बीच नदी पर पुल का निर्माण।	30719400.00	615000.00	10000.00

2. वेबसाइट में निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि – 13-01-2025

3. ई-निविदा प्रारंभ की तिथि एवं समय-दिनांक 13.01.2025 से दिनांक 20.01.2025 को अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक

4. ई-निविदा खोलने का स्थान – कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

5. ई-निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय –21.01.2025 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे

6. ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले पदाधिकारी का नाम एवं पता – कार्यपालक अभियंता, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा

7. ई-निविदा प्रकोष्ठ का दूरभाष सं० – 8709623131 (संबंधित कार्यपालक अभियंता का दूरभाष नम्बर)

8. परिमाण विवरण की राशि पत्र-बद्ध सकती है तदनुसार अग्रघन की राशि देय होगी।

9. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि केवल Online Mode द्वारा स्वीकार्य होगी।

10. निविदा खोलने की तिथि से 5 दिनों के अन्दर निविदादाता द्वारा अपनी आपत्ति/ दावा दर्ज करायें अन्यथा अवधि बीतने के पश्चात् कोई भी आपत्ति/ दावा मान्य नहीं होगा।

11. निविदा शुल्क एवं अग्रघन की राशि का ई-मुद्रातम जिस खाता से किया जायेगा, उसी खाते में अग्रघन की राशि वापस होगी। अगर खाता को बंद कर दिया जाता है तो उसकी सारी जवाबदेही आपकी होगी।

विस्तृत जानकारी के लिये वेबसाइट [www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://www.jharkhandtenders.gov.in) एवं कार्यलय की सूचना पट्ट पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता  
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल,  
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

PR.NO.343906 West Singhbhum(24-25):D

EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. : EL-79-24, dtd. 07.01.2025. E-Tenders are invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G), Eastern Railway, Asansol, Pin-713301 from reputed tenderers having valid Electrical contractor licence and capable to complete the following work financially : **Name of the work with its location :** (a) Asansol Division - Improvement of old Quarters at Damodar South Colony including door & window, sanitary work & road work at Andul. (b) Asansol Division - Construction of 6 unit Type-III quarters for engineering & operating staff at PAW colony on replacement basis. **Tender value:** Rs. 47.74,073.45. **Earnest Money:** Rs. 95,500/- **Cost of tender documents :** Nil **Date & time of closing & opening :** 31.01.2025 at 11.00 hrs. **Completion period for the work :** 9 months. Complete details can be seen in the Railways website [iimps.gov.in](http://iimps.gov.in) (ASN-295/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in)

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EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. 222-S/1W-II, dated 07.01.2025. Following e-tenders are invited online by the Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Sealdah, DRM Building, Kaizer Street, Kolkata-700014 for the following works : **Sl.No.1, Tender No. : TN-203-24-25. Name of the Work :** Different track maintenance work along with all ancillary work in Sr. Section Engineer (P. Way)/Nahai under the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer/ Kancharpara. **Tender Value :** Rs. 1,25,76,781.64. **EMD:** Rs. 2,12,900/- **Sl.No.2, Tender No. : TN-204-24-25. Name of the Work :** Different track maintenance work along with all ancillary work in Sr. Section Engineer (P. Way)/ Kancharpara under the jurisdiction of Assistant Engineer/Kancharpara. **Tender Value :** Rs. 94.49,137.08. **EMD:** Rs. 1,89,000/- **Sl.No.3, Tender No. : TN-228-24-25. Name of the Work :** Budget Budge-Construction of new goods office, merchant room, drainage system and sufficient illumination at Budge Budge under Sr. Divisional Engineer /1/Sealdah. **Tender Value :** Rs. 4,58,43,822.40. **EMD:** Rs. 3,79,200/- **Completion period for the work :** 12 months for each. **Date & time of closing of tenders :** 31.01.2025 at 15.00 hrs. **Date & time of opening of tenders:** 31.01.2025 at 15.30 hrs. The tender document and other details are at [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in) The bidding for the tender is to be submitted through e-tendering on above website. Manual offers will be summarily rejected. (SDAH-314/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in)

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EASTERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No. : EL/HWH/25/21(Notice)/634, dated 08.01.2025.

Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Howrah, DRM Building near Railway station, Howrah-711101 invites open e-tenders for the under mentioned electrical work : **Sl. No. 1, Tender No. : EL-HWH-25-21-3409. Name of Work:** Electrical (G) work in connection with Provision of Staff Quarters (2 x 4) unit Type-II Gang Hut (04 nos.), Deep Tube Well, Water supply arrangement and other ancillary works in Rampurhat-Dumka Section. **Tender Value:** Rs. 21,78,870/- **Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit):** Rs. 43,600/- **Completion period :** 120 days. **Sl. No. 2, Tender No. : EL-HWH-25-21-3368. Name of Work:** Electrical (G) work in connection with Construction of single storied RPF Office at Nabadwipham in the section of SSE/WINDAE under AEN/NDAE. **Tender Value:** Rs. 8,47,674/- **Bid Security (Earnest Money Deposit):** Rs. 17,000/- **Completion period :** 90 days **Closing date and time of tender :** 29.01.2025 at 15.00 hrs. In case the date of closing mentioned in the Notice Inviting Tender is declared a holiday/bandhs/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 any convenient day after closing date and time of the tender. The details of tender are available at website: [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in) Tenderers are requested to submit their offer online on the above website. (HWH-536/2024-25)

Tender Notices are also available at Website [www.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in) / [www.iimps.gov.in](http://www.iimps.gov.in)

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epaper.thestatesman.com



# The body of an Israeli hostage is found in Gaza

Israel says about a third of the remaining 100 hostages have died

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
JERUSALEM, 9 DECEMBER

Israeli soldiers recovered the body of a 53-year-old hostage in an underground tunnel in southern Gaza, the military said Wednesday, and the army was determining if another set of remains belongs to the man's son.

The discovery of Yosef AlZayadni's body comes as Israel and Hamas are considering a ceasefire deal that would free the remaining hostages and halt the fighting in Gaza. Israel says about a third of the remaining 100 hostages have died, but believes as many as half could be dead.

Yosef and his son Hamzah AlZayadni were thought to still be alive before Wednesday's announcement, and news about their fate could ramp up pressure on Israel to move forward with a deal.

The military said it found evidence in the tunnel that raised "serious concerns" for the life of Hamzah AlZayadni, 23, suggesting he may have died in captivity. Lt. Col. Nadav Shoshani, an Israeli military spokesperson, said the circumstances behind Yosef AlZayadni's death were being investigated.

AlZayadni and three of his children were among 250 hostages taken captive after Hamas-led militants stormed into southern Israel, killing 1,200 people. AlZayadni had a total of 19 children and had worked for 17 years at the dairy farm of a kibbutz that was among the communities attacked,



said the Hostages Families Forum, a group representing the relatives of captives. AlZayadni's teenage children, Bilal and Aisha, were released along with about 100 hostages in a weeklong ceasefire in November 2023.

The bodies of around three dozen hostages have been recovered in Gaza and eight

hostages have been rescued by the army.

The Hostages Families Forum said the ceasefire deal being negotiated "comes far too late for Yosef—who was taken alive and should have returned the same way."

"Every day in captivity poses an immediate mortal danger to the hostages," the

group said in a statement. The deaths of previous high-profile hostages have sparked large protests in Israel calling for a deal.

Yosef AlZayadni's name appeared on a list of 34 hostages shared by a Hamas official with *The Associated Press* earlier this week, who the militant group said were slated for release. Israel said this was a list it had submitted to mediators last July, and that it has received nothing from Hamas.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Wednesday that a ceasefire and hostage deal between Israel and Hamas is "very close" and he hopes "we can get it over the line" before handing over U.S. diplomacy to President-elect Donald Trump's administration later this month.

## Los Angeles wildfires burn thousands of homes and other structures



AGENCIES  
LOS ANGELES, 9 JANUARY

A fast-moving fire broke out in the Hollywood Hills on Wednesday night, threatening one of Los Angeles' most iconic spots as firefighters battled to get under control three other major blazes that killed five people, put 130,000 people under evacuation orders and ravaged communities from the Pacific Coast to inland Pasadena.

The sunset fire started Wednesday evening as officials were holding a news confer-

ence to update residents on efforts to fight massive fires in Pacific Palisades and Altadena and to warn that fire danger remained high. Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Kristin Crowley made a hasty exit after announcing the new fire and soon after an evacuation order was issued.

The Hollywood Walk of Fame was bustling and the streets around the TCL Chinese Theatre and Madame Tussauds were packed with stop-and-go traffic as sirens blared and low-flying helicopters flew overhead to dump water on

the flames, which were only about a mile away. People toting suitcases left hotels while some onlookers walked toward the flames, recording the fire on their phones.

Within a few hours, firefighters had made major progress. Los Angeles Fire Department Capt. Erik Scott said they were able to keep the fire in check because "we hit it hard and fast and mother nature was a little nicer to us today than she was yesterday." A day earlier, hurricane-force winds blew embers through the air, igniting block after block in the coastal neighborhood of Pacific Palisades as well as in Altadena, a community near Pasadena that is about 25 miles (40 kilometres) east.

Nearly 2,000 homes, businesses and other structures have been destroyed in those blazes – called the Palisades and Eaton fires – and the number is expected to rise. The five deaths recorded so far were from the Eaton fire.

## A Russian missile attack in southern Ukraine has killed at least 13 civilians, officials say

AGENCIES  
KYIV, 9 JANUARY

A daytime Russian missile attack on the southern Ukraine city of Zaporizhzhia killed at least 13 civilians and wounded about 30 others on Wednesday, officials said.

Footage posted on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's Telegram channel shows civilians lying in a city street littered with debris. The post shows them being treated by emergency services and taken away on gurneys.

Russian has frequently launched aerial attacks on civilian areas during the almost three-year war. Thousands of civilians have been killed in Europe's biggest conflict since World War II.

Zelenskyy and regional Gov. Ivan Fedorov said

Wednesday's attack killed at least 13 civilians. Minutes before the attack, Fedorov had warned of a threat of high-speed missiles and devastating glide bombs being fired at the Zaporizhzhia region. Russian troops started launching the glide bombs at Zaporizhzhia in the middle of the afternoon, and at least two bombs struck residential buildings in the city, Fedorov said. He announced that Thursday would be a day of mourning in the region. "There is nothing more brutal than aerial bombing of a city, knowing that ordinary civilians will suffer," Zelenskyy wrote on Telegram.

Zelenskyy said earlier Wednesday that countries wanting to end the war should offer Ukraine assurances about its future defense. Kyiv officials fear that any ceasefire or peace

deal will just give the Kremlin time to rearm and invade again unless it is deterred by military force.

"To be honest, I believe that we have a right to demand serious security guarantees from ... the countries that aim for the peace in the world," Zelenskyy said.

Zelenskyy was responding at a news conference in Kyiv to comments the previous day by President-elect Donald Trump that he understood Russia's opposition to neighboring Ukraine joining NATO.

The United States, Germany, Hungary and Slovakia have stood in the way of Ukraine immediately joining the 32-nation alliance, Zelenskyy noted. The alliance has said only that the country is on an "irreversible path" to membership.

## An Italian journalist is freed from detention in Iran and returns home



AGENCIES  
ROME, 9 JANUARY

An Italian journalist detained in Iran for three weeks was freed Wednesday and returned home, after her fate had become intertwined with that of an Iranian engineer arrested in Italy and

wanted by the United States.

A plane carrying Cecilia Sala, 29, (photo, left) landed at Rome's Ciampino airport, where Premier Giorgia Meloni was on hand to welcome her alongside Sala's family members. Sala descended from the plane and ran to embrace her boyfriend,

Daniele Raineri, who later posted a photo of a smiling Sala greeting Meloni at the airport on social media.

Sala's liberation marked a major diplomatic and political victory for Meloni, whose recent visit to President-elect Donald Trump at his Mar-a-Lago retreat greatly enhanced her stature internationally at a time when Italy was negotiating Sala's release.

In announcing that Sala was flying home, Meloni's office said the premier had personally informed Sala's parents and credited the release to the government's "intensive work on diplomatic and intelligence channels."

Iranian media acknowledged the journalist's release, citing only the foreign reports. Iranian officials offered no immediate com-

ment.

Sala, a reporter for the *Il Foglio* daily, was detained in Teheran on 19 Dec, a week after she arrived on a journalist visa. She was accused of violating the laws of the Islamic Republic, the official IRNA news agency said.

Italian commentators had speculated that Iran detained and held Sala as a bargaining chip to ensure the release in Italy of Mohammad Abedini, who was arrested by Italian authorities at Milan's Malpensa airport three days before, on 16 Dec, on a U.S. warrant.

The U.S. Justice Department has accused Abedini and another Iranian of supplying the drone technology

to Iran that was used in a January 2024 attack on a U.S. outpost in Jordan that killed three American troops.

Abedini remains in detention in Italy but has asked a Milan court to grant him house arrest pending an extradition hearing.

Sala's release was met with cheers in Italy, where her plight had dominated headlines. Lawmakers from across the political spectrum praised the outcome, with the opposition Democratic leader Elly Schlein thanking the government specifically.

It came after Meloni made a surprise trip to Florida last weekend to meet Trump at his Mar-a-Lago estate.

## Attack on Chad's presidential palace leaves 19 dead

AGENCIES  
N'DJAMENA, 9 JANUARY

An attack on Chad's presidential palace left 18 assailants dead and six in custody, with one soldier killed and three wounded, state media reported Thursday. The attack on Wednesday night occurred while Chadian President Mahamat Debyltno was inside the palace, but authorities said the situation was quickly brought under control.

"The situation is completely under control. There is no fear," Foreign Affairs Minister Abderaman Koumalla said while surrounded by soldiers in a live Facebook broadcast filmed inside what appeared to be a quiet presidential palace late Wednesday.

In an interview with state TV, Koumalla praised the vigilance of the palace guards, describing the attackers as disorganized and intoxicated by alcohol and drugs.

**Central Zoo Authority**  
(A statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change)  
F.No. 3-1/2024-CZA

**Corrigendum**  
Refer CZA's earlier vacancy notification for the post of **Member Secretary** in the office of Central Zoo Authority on deputation basis published in this newspaper **26.11.2024** on the last date for receipt of application for the said post is further extended till **20.01.2025**.  
For further details please visit our website <https://cza.nic.in> and <https://moef.gov.in>

**Member Secretary**

**SILIGURI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**  
Baghajatin Road, P.O.: Siliguri, Dist.: Darjeeling, PIN-734001  
Website: [www.siligurismc.in](http://www.siligurismc.in)  
E-mail: [smcgen48@gmail.com](mailto:smcgen48@gmail.com) / [smcwb2@gmail.com](mailto:smcwb2@gmail.com)  
Memo No. 525/SMC/G Date: 09-01-25

**NOTICE**  
Sub: Claims and Objections in respect of naming or changing of Public Street, Square etc. within SMC area.  
As passed in the meeting of Advisory Committee for naming or changing of public street, square etc. within Siliguri Municipal Corporation area dt. 21-11-2024 & subsequently passed in the Mayor-in-Council meeting dt. 22-11-2024 & considered in the Board of Councillors meeting dt. 30-11-2024, this is to inform that the names of road proposed to be changed as follows:

SL.NO.	PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM	PROPOSALS	DECISION
1.	Sri Pratul Chakraborty, Councillor, Ward No. 24, Siliguri Municipal Corporation	Changing the name of the road between Sachin Biswas's house and Purnendu Talukdar's house in South and North respectively at Ward No. 24 to its erstwhile name Ma Sarada Sarani instead of Kalidas Roy Sarani	Decided to publish the draft notification to invite claims and objections, if any, from the Ward Councillors as well as from the Public in general residing under SMC area.

All the Ward Councillors / Citizens of Siliguri are requested to submit their claims & objections in writing regarding changing of names of Road, if any, within **24-01-25 by 4-30 P.M. sharp.**

Sd/- Commissioner  
Siliguri Municipal Corporation

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Registered Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390 007  
Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex Mumbai 400051  
GOLD E-AUCTION CUM INVITATION NOTICE

The below mentioned borrowers have been issued notice to pay off their outstanding amount towards the facility against gold ornaments. ("Facility") availed by them from ICICI Bank Limited ("ICICI Bank"). We are constrained to conduct an E-Auction of pledged gold ornaments on Jan 20, 2025 as they have failed to repay the dues. ICICI Bank has the authority to remove auction (change the E-Auction date without any prior notice. Auction will be held online - <https://jewel-auction.procuretiger.com> between 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm. For detailed Terms and conditions, please log into given website. In case of deceased borrower, all conditions will be applicable to legal heirs.

Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Loan A/C No.	Customer Name	Loan A/C No.	Customer Name				
Branch Name: Alipurduar			Branch Name: Hilli			Branch Name: Kulti			
089805003001	Prasanta Kumar Roy	205005006030	Mukta Mohanta Sarkar	249205000797	Sanjida Khatoon				
Branch Name: Andal, West Bengal			Branch Name: Islampur - Sonamati Road			Branch Name: Malbazar			
332005000618	Charmendra Kumar Jain	205005006060	Purabi Sarkar	203705001696	Balraj Das				
Branch Name: Asansol - Hutton Road			205005006379	Tanmay Das	203705001702	Madan Das			
332005001019	Chowdhury Raju Khan	205005006731	Tanmay Das	203705001716	Madan Das				
Branch Name: Asansol - Chowdhury Road			Branch Name: Maldah			Branch Name: Tusi Ghosh			
332005001007	Raja Khan	271705010772	Mofizuddin	047205015841	Tusi Ghosh				
332005001019	Gobinda Das Bouri	271705008706	Mujbir Alam	047205015914	Nojima Bibi				
332005001024	Amar Kumar Shaw	271705009405	Mossteki M	047205017666	Chumki Khatun				
Branch Name: Asansol - Agar Garden			271705009399	Sahabuddin N	047205017674	Sannu Sekh			
192605001711	Bikas Kumar Dutta	271705009415	Rizwan Alam	047205019166	Abdul Bari				
Branch Name: Aurangabad-West Bengal			Branch Name: Jalgapur			Branch Name: Karmakar			
201905021782	Matahar Hossain	089905002336	Tenuram Roy	047205019218	Rumeli				
201905024850	Najimuddin Mamin	089905002333	Atul Anand	047205019818	Tasem Ali				
Branch Name: Baharampur			089905001712	Piyali Roy	Branch Name: Matigrahat-Shiv Mandir				
201905025255	Sanjit Kumar Chowdhury	089905001784	Sanatan Pal	089905002172	Sanatan Pal	728305000337	Laxman Tanaji More		
Branch Name: Beldanga			Branch Name: Jangipur			Branch Name: Moynaguri			
201905025409	Chainara Khatun Bibi	201505019258	Mad Abdul Mokit	201505019258	Mad Abdul Mokit	262105002427	Rana Saha		
201905027126	Anikul Mamin	201505022453	Salman Sk	201505022453	Salman Sk	262105002836	Rana Saha		
201905026587	Obaidur Rahman	201505021798	Mamlat Ali	201505021798	Mamlat Ali	262105002847	Rana Saha		
201905027164	Abida Sultana	201505022374	Kajal Khatun	201505022426	Pintu Sk	262105002860	Rana Saha		
201905027202	Abul Kalam	201505022451	Doly Ghosh	201505022451	Doly Ghosh	262105002878	Rana Saha		
201905027224	Rafik Sk	Branch Name: Jaygaon			262105001885	Sujay Kr Nandi			
201905027260	Sanjida Khatun	217405000844	Arup Choudhury	262105002522	Biswajit Roy				
Branch Name: Bankura			Branch Name: Jhalda			Branch Name: Memari			
090205024667	Bachhu Mandal	401005000335	Gopi Kishore Bhattacharjee	100205008646	Sekh Kudus Ali				
090205028614	Moumita Ghosh	401005000342	Rekha Rani Mahota	Branch Name: Murshidabad	502705013565	Abdul Jabbar Ali			
090205028690	Moumita Ghosh	401005000376	Om Prakash Kumar Mahto	502705043384	Moumita Ghosh				
090205027177	Rajkumar Haldar	401005000370	Krishna Mandal	502705053457	Kajla Bibi				
090205027869	Sujay Sarkar	Branch Name: Kalna			502705057406	Sujit Holder			
090205027874	Robiul Islam	089405006562	Abid Hossain Sk	Branch Name: Naxalbari	464105000036	Subham Ghosh			
090205027911	Hasem Ali Reja	089405006643	Molaykumar Ghosh	464105000064	Subrata Kundu				
090205027919	Lekjan Bibi	Branch Name: Kalyani	042105005631	Raja Nandi	Branch Name: Raniganj	192805001385	Khusbu Singh		
090205027933	Mursalin Sk	Branch Name: Karimpur	271205012883	Dwalipayan Biswas	192805000650	Rina Behara			
Branch Name: Baharampur - Tagore Road			271205013456	Nishipada Pal	192805000926	Rina Sinha			
333105005511	Sudip Kumar Biswas	271205013468	Sulekha Khatun Bibi	271205014451	Subraton Bibi Mandal	Branch Name: Santipur	387805001742	Bidhan Das	
Branch Name: Balurghat			Branch Name: Karnajora			387805002214	Ashok Kumar Bala		
089605012080	Sampa Barman	053605002784	Sujauddin Ahamed	053605003915	Paran Chandra Roy	387805002560	Subrata Khan		
Branch Name: Bankura			053605003749	Janai Roy	387805002934	Subrata Khan			
192505001255	Sujit Mukherjee	053605003750	Janai Roy	387805002934	Subrata Khan	387805002934	Subrata Khan		
Branch Name: Beldanga			Branch Name: Ketugram			387805002757	Soma Haldar		
444305000315	Intadul Sk	271005003217	Eajal Sk	271005003502	Sachita Das	Branch Name: Siliguri	020805007383	Abinash Roy	
444305000146	Intadul Sk	271005003502	Sachita Das	271005003502	Sachita Das	020805007417	Abinash Roy		
444305000514	Shov Seikh	271005003502	Sachita Das	271005003502	Sachita Das	020805007632	Abinash Roy		
444305000400	Farazun Nahar	271005003502	Sachita Das	271005003502	Sachita Das	020805007647	Abinash Roy		
444305000914	Abdul Akib	Branch Name: Kochbihar			Branch Name: Siliguri-Collegegate	387005000926	Susmita Rathi		
Branch Name: Chakdaha			067005002465	Sudip Das	Branch Name: Siliguri-SF Road	192905001655	Laxmi Sarkar		
256205002231	Amrita Debnath	067005006428	Biswajit Barman	067005008585	Joy Chanda	Branch Name: Ukhra	752705000512	Khokan Ruidas	
256205002493	Uttasob Bhownick	067005007222	Manayara Bibi	067005007944	Rejina Bibi	752705000577	Arko Mukherjee		
Branch Name: Dinhat			067005007954	Mehebub Alam	Branch Name: Ballia	066105004085	Suman Devi		
160905007515	Bijan Kanti Das	067005007969	Aktor Miya	247405002063	Subhendru Chakraborty	Branch Name: Jamshedpur - Galmuri	066105004085	Suman Devi	
160905005834	Tukin Barman	Branch Name: Durgapur			Branch Name: Madhubani	132805004449	Ramakant Roy		
160905006647	Sujan Kumar Barman	018805007035	Nilanjana Josh	089505006200	593055160	Branch Name: Bolpur	089505006200	593055160	
160905006683	Sovuk Jamal Hossain	Branch Name: Ghoskara	180105011626	Somnath Chatterjee	089505006738	598751377	Branch Name: Rampurhat	463505000224	592470246
160905006703	Chandan Kumar Roy	Date: 10.01.2025			Place: Nadia, Uttar Dinajpur, Darjiling, Murshidabad, Maldah, Paschim Bardhaman, Purba Bardhaman, Koch Bihar, Dakshin Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri, Bankura, Purulia, Alipurduar	Branch Name: Suri	052805005414	592661250	
160905006726	Chandan Kumar Roy	Sd/ Authorised Officer For ICICI Bank Limited							

**SHARE CERTIFICATE**  
Notice is hereby given that (A) Share certificate no: 24481, Dist no: 187450552-187452006, Folio no: TIL0024481 of Tube Inv of India Ltd, and (B) Share certificate no: 24481, Dist no: 187450552-187452006, Folio no: TIF0024481 of TI Financial Holdings Ltd, both in the name of Rajat Ray, have been reported lost at Haridevpur police station vide GDE no.586 dated 7.1.2025. Whoever finds the same documents may please send them to Tower-3 Flat 16G, 58 MG Road, Kolkata-700041

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**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT JUDGE**  
UTTAR DINAJPUR AT RAIGANJ  
Staff Recruitment Examination, 2025  
Judgeship of Uttar Dinajpur  
Ref: Employment Notification No. 01/D.R.C. dated Raiganj the 10th day of January, 2025

Online applications are invited for recruitment to the existing and expected vacancies in the Judgeship of Uttar Dinajpur.  
For Details of Vacancies, Pay Scales, Eligibility, Mode of Examinations, Application Fees and submission of online application, please log on to  
<https://uttardinajpurcourtreruitment2024.in> /  
<https://northdinajpur.dcourts.gov.in> /  
[www.uttardinajpur.nic.in](http://www.uttardinajpur.nic.in) /  
[www.calcuttahighcourt.gov.in](http://www.calcuttahighcourt.gov.in)  
or see Office Notice Boards of Judgeship.

**Sd/-**  
District Judge-cum-Chairman  
District Recruitment Committee  
Uttar Dinajpur Judgeship at Raiganj  
Dated: 09th day of January, 2025

**इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक**  
India Post Payments Bank  
(A Government of India Undertaking)  
Corporate Office, Speed Post Centre Building, Bhai Veer Singh Marg, New Delhi - 110001

**RECRUITMENT OF VACANCIES IN SCALE III, V, VI & VII**

**Advt. No. IPPB/CO/HR/RECT/2025-25/05**  
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 Posts	Vacancy reserved for				
				UR	OBC	EWS	SC	ST
Finance	VI	DGM-Finance/CFO	1	-	1	-	-	-
	VII	General Manager-Finance/CFO	1	-	1	-	-	-
Technology	V	Assistant General Manager (Program/ Vendor Management)	1	-	1	-	-	-
Product	III	Senior Manager (Products & solutions)	2	-	1	-	-	1
Internal Audit	III	Senior Manager (Information System Auditor)	1	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
Compliance	Chief Compliance Officer	1	-	1	-	-	-
Operations	Chief Operating Officer	1	-	-	-	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	10.01.2025: 10.00 AM
(ii) Last date of On-line Submission of Applications with Fee	30.01.2025: 11.59 PM

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 10.01.2025  
CBC-06346/12/0013/24-25

**Sd/-**  
Chief HR Officer



**Capacity expansion in solar manufacturing:** Jupiter International, manufacturer of photovoltaic solar cells and provider of solar power solutions, will be investing Rs 6,500 crore over the next three years, in a step to become a fully integrated solar manufacturing leader. With planned capacities of 3 GW for wafers, 9.4 GW for cells, and 6 GW for modules, Jupiter aims to meet the growing market demand with cutting-edge, reliable solar solutions.

Shares of Tata Motors fell following Jaguar Land Rover's third-quarter sales update while Tata's IT wing, TCS, shares tumbled over 1.5 per cent ahead of its earnings show for Q3.

According to AMFI data, about 174 open-ended schemes were added in 2024 (till November). Apart from this, 19.42 lakh folios were added to hybrid mutual funds in 2024. At the same time, 1.87 lakh folios were added to solution-oriented mutual funds.

performing due to a sluggish recovery in overseas demand. Although rural demand is showing signs of improvement, urban consumption remains subdued. "While growth remains robust, downgrades matter because India's earnings multiples are high. As earnings stall and markets recalibrate their earnings expectations, we see muted market returns in 2025," Herald van der Linde, Premra Garg, Adam Qai and Varun Pui of HSBC said in a note. Pranjul Bhandari, HSBC's Chief Economist for India and Indonesia, expects further monetary easing, predicting two repo rate cuts of 25 basis points each in February and April 2025.

While in the State Government of Odisha, he served as administrative head in the Departments of Health, General Administration, Commercial Taxes, Transport and Finance. He also served as Executive Director of Odisha State Finance Corporation and Managing Director of Odisha Small Industries Corporation. Before serving as Secretary in the DIPAM, Pandey has held many significant positions in Union Government and State Government of Odisha, in addition to serving a stint in the Regional Office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO).

In short, a second Trump term could offer new opportunities for South-east Asia and emerging markets but create risks for export-driven economies and industries reliant on international talent.



# Barca beat Bilbao to enter Super Cup final

the important thing," the teenaged Spanish sensation told reporters during an interaction with the media after the clash against Athletic Bilbao on Thursday.

For Liverpool, the loss marked only their second defeat of the season.

"The final will be tough and we want to win it, that is

"Don't feel much pressure because I am young, and this is all a great experience for me. The coach and my senior players have motivated me from the beginning and I hope to continue playing well and contribute to the team. The dressing room spirits are high and we are confident a win tomorrow," Pramveer said while talking to the media.

# Jal Marg se Navnirman; Desh ki Nayi Udan

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of

# INLAND WATERWAYS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (IWDC)

Launch/Announcement of Projects costing more than Rs.1400 Cr.

**Narendra Modi**, Prime Minister

Our Government has given special impetus to the development of Inland Waterways which has eased traffic pressure on roads, helped cut logistic costs and furthered ease of doing business.

### Inauguration of

## Quick Pontoon Opening Mechanism at two locations

### Launch of

## Central Database Portal for Registration of Vessel/Crew- 'Digital India' National River Traffic and Navigation System Guidelines

### Andhra Pradesh

- Setting up of 6 floating steel jetties on River Godavari
- Detailed Project Report of NW-4 for its development
- Feasibility of River Penna (NW-79)

### Assam

- Refurbishment of Heritage Building, Dibrugarh
- Development of Tourist Terminal at 4 locations
- Regional Centre of Excellence (RCoE), Dibrugarh
- Link Road between Pandu Ship Repair Facility to Pandu Port
- Procurement of 2 Steel pontoons for NW-16 terminals
- Procurement of 12 Vessels for NW-2 and NW-16
- One Survey Vessel for Barak River (NW-16)

### Bihar

- Quick Pontoon Opening Mechanism (QPOM) at 4 locations

### Chhattisgarh

- River cruise tourism facilities at Bhadrakali on NW-4

### Delhi

- 2 jetties on River Yamuna (NW-110) for cruise tourism

### Goa

- 10 community jetties in Goa on River Mandovi (NW-68), Cumberjua Canal (NW-27) and River Zuari (NW-111)
- 1 jetty on River Sal (NW-88) and 2 jetties on River Chapora (NW-25)
- Fairway maintenance in National Waterways of Goa
- Setting up of VTMS in National Waterways of Goa

### Gujarat

- 2 jetties for cruise tourism on River Narmada (NW-73)
- Fairway maintenance & setting up of river cruise jetties in River Tapi at Surat Castle and Dumas Beach

### Himachal Pradesh

- Feasibility study for operationalisation of River Sutlej (NW-98)

### Jammu & Kashmir

- 10 jetties on River Chenab (NW-26), River Jhelum (NW-49) and River Ravi (NW-84) for tourism/transportation
- Fairway development and navigation aids on River Jhelum

### Karnataka

- 1 Jetty on River Kabini (NW-51) and 2 jetties on River Sharavathi (NW-90)
- 4 jetties on River Gurupura (NW-43) and River Netravati (NW-74)
- River Cruise at Almatti Dam (River Krishna)
- Operationalisation of NW-105 and NW-76
- Navigation aids and terminal on River Kali (NW-52)

### Kerala

- Widening of service road connecting to IWT Maradu terminal
- Maintenance of fairway and bank protection at 4 location in NW-3

### Ladakh

- 2 jetties on River Indus (NW-46) and Green Vessels for cruise tourism

### Maharashtra

- Fairway maintenance in the Dahhol Creek-Vashishti River (NW-28)
- Induction of Navigational Aids in Dahhol Creek-Vashishti River (NW-28) and Kalyan-Thane - Vasai Creek-Ulhas River Mumbai Waterway (NW-53).
- Opening of Regional Office at Mumbai

### Mizoram

- Preparation of DPR for development of IWT in River Tlawng & Chhimtuipei
- Construction of 2 jetties and 2 passenger boats on River Khawthlangtuipei - Tuichawng in Lunglei District

### Nagaland

- DPR for development of IWT in Doyang Lake
- DPR for Promotion of Water Sports & Tourism at Nouné and Shilloi Lake

### Odisha

- 2 floating jetties for Musadia-Bahakuda ferry service on River Mahanadi (NW-64) and 1 floating jetty on River Baitarni (NW-14).
- Construction of fixed jetty on behalf of IFFCO on River Mahanadi (NW-64)
- Fairway maintenance and navigational aids of River Mahanadi (NW-64)
- Update of DPR for development of NW-5

### Punjab

- Feasibility of River Beas (NW-17) and River Sutlej (NW-98) for navigation

### Rajasthan

- Mathematical modelling of River Jawai-Luni-Rann of Kutch (NW-48) for navigation

### Tamil Nadu

- 8 jetties & 2 vessels for river cruise planned in Buckingham Canal (constituent of NW-4), River Bhavani (NW-20) and River Pazhyar (NW-77).

### Telangana

- Setting up of 3 floating jetties on River Krishna (NW-4)

### Uttar Pradesh

- Prayagraj - 6 jetties and 5 vessels for Mahakumbh
- 8 jetties in Mathura, 2 jetties and 1 catamaran in Ayodhya
- Ship Repair Facility at Ghazipur
- QPOM at 4 locations
- Development of IWT tourism circuit in Agra

### Common for NWs - 1, 2 and 16

- 8 Amphibian Dredgers
- 4 Cutter Suction Dredgers with ancillary units

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Shri Sarbananda Sonowal

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Government of India

In the August Presence of

In the August Presence of

**Shri Shantanu Thakur**

Hon'ble Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways  
Government of India

**Shri B.C. Janardhan Reddy**

Hon'ble Minister of Roads & Buildings Infrastructure and Investment  
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Government of Mizoram

**Shri Dayashankar Singh**

Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) Transport  
Government of Uttar Pradesh

Viksit **JALMARG**, Viksit **BHARAT**

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

Kaziranga, Assam

CBC 37211/15/0005/2425



THUMBNAILS

Formula 1 announces multi-year extension with Belgian Grand Prix: Formula 1 has agreed to a multi-year extension with the Belgian Grand Prix that will see the sport race at the iconic Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps in four of the next six years. The extension includes the 2026, 2027, 2029 and 2031 grand prix seasons which follows significant investment at the circuit in recent years, including the addition of two new grandstands - increasing capacity by 10,000 - and enhancement of the off-track entertainment and fan experience. Last year, the Belgian Grand Prix welcomed 380,000 Fans across the race weekend in a gripping three days of action, which saw Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton claim his second win of the season and his fifth at Spa. Built in 1921, Spa-Francorchamps was one of just seven circuits to be part of Formula 1's maiden championship in 1950 and has since hosted 57 Grands Prix. The Wallonian circuit is celebrated by fans and drivers alike for its mixture of long straights and challenging fast corners, including one of the most famous sections of the racetrack in the world as drivers power through Eau Rouge and Raidillon, then on to the Kemmel straight. Spanning 7.004km, it is the longest circuit on the Formula 1 calendar and has seen some of the sport's most decorated drivers, including Ayrton Senna, Michael Schumacher, Niki Lauda, and Sebastian Vettel, win there.

# After BGT, Team India shift focus to white-ball cricket

Men-in-Blue gear up for busy schedule ahead, including series against England, ICC Champions Trophy

TRIDIB BAPARNASH  
NEW DELHI, 9 JANUARY

As the focus shifts to white-ball cricket, starting with the bilateral limited-overs series against England later this month at home, and the ICC Champions Trophy next month in Pakistan and the UAE, all eyes will be on the composition of the Indian side, more specifically in the 50-over format, with the men-in-blue only featuring in three ODIs last year, and a total of six post that 19 November, 2023 World Cup final in Ahmedabad.

As such, when the Ajit Agarkar-led senior selection committee meets later in the week to pick the squads, they can't bank on recent international form. With retirements of Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja, the T20I side has already witnessed a revamp, and the Test side is already in a transition phase, and thus all eyes will be on the make-up of the ODI squad, both in terms of form and fitness of certain players.

Despite battling a lean patch, veterans Rohit and Virat will continue to form the batting core of India's ODI squad, with KL Rahul



and Shubman Gill, the obvious choices in the top order. It remains to be seen whether Yashasvi Jaiswal, touted as an all-format player, qualifies as a top-order option for the format in which he is yet to make his debut.

However, with Rohit and Shubman proving to be a successful opening combination during the 2023 ODI World Cup, the selectors might be tempted to have the pair back at the top of the order. Following the World Cup, Rohit and Shubman were rested from India's subsequent ODIs in South Africa in December that year, and India tried the likes of Ruturaj Gaikwad, B Sai Sudar-

shan and Rajat Patidar during that period.

With Rohit set to lead the ODI squad and open the innings, and Virat at No. 3, Jaiswal could be an option if India want to bring a left-hander into the top order. The 23-year-old has been in red-hot form and ended as India's highest run-scorer in the recently-concluded Border-Gavaskar Test series against Australia, Down Under, and his domestic 50-over numbers are impressive: 1511 runs at an average of 54 and strike rate of 86.19 with five centuries and seven fifties in 32 innings.

The middle order remains an interesting puzzle to be

solved with the previous regime under Rahul Dravid preferring specialists Sanju Samson, Tilak Varma and Rinku Singh featuring in the middle order during the series against the Proteas in December 2023. But since Gautam Gambhir took over the reins of the side, India have played only a solitary ODI series against Sri Lanka, where the preference has been more for all-rounders, who could add that depth in the batting, and roll their arms.

During the series against the Islanders, India opted for the likes of Axar Patel, Shivam Dube, Washington Sundar and Riyan Parag while

## 'Gambhir is a hypocrite': Manoj Tiwary slams Team India coach

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, 9 JANUARY

In the aftermath of India's 3-1 series loss to Australia that led Rohit Sharma's men to concede the Border-Gavaskar Trophy for the first time in a decade, former India batter Manoj Tiwary criticised current national team head coach Gautam Gambhir, terming him a 'hypocrite,' and went on to suggest that the ex-India opener does not walk the talk.

"Gautam Gambhir is a hypocrite. He doesn't do what he says. Where is the captain (Rohit) from? Mumbai. Where is Abhishek Nayar from? Mumbai. The got a chance to put a Mumbai player in the forefront. There is no one to speak for Jalaj Saxena. He performs well but keeps quiet," Tiwary was quoted as saying by News18 Bangla.

"Morne Morkel came from Lucknow Super Giants. Abhishek Nayar was at Kolkata Knight Riders with Gambhir and the Indian head coach has a comfort zone with him. They have to be yes men to the coach. That's why they were brought," he added.

Tiwary also said that Gambhir wasn't the only one to guide Kolkata Knight Riders to a title in 2012 but it was a collective effort from the team.

"Gambhir's captaincy didn't guide KKR to the title single-handedly. We all performed as a unit. Jacques Kallis, Manvinder Bisla and I performed with the bat and Sunil Narine

bowled exceptionally well. That is why we won the 1st IPL title. But who took the credit?"

"There is an environment and PR that allows him to take all the credit," he said.

India have lost six of the 10 Tests since Gambhir took over from Rahul Dravid as head coach.

His next big assignment is the 2025 Champions Trophy in Pakistan and the UAE which begins in February.

As such, Gambhir has been under the scanner after historic whitewashes against New Zealand and Sri Lanka, and the loss in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy has only added to his worries. With the bilateral series against England later this month, and the Champions Trophy, coming up next month, the two-time World Cup winner will be desperately pushing his side to deliver the results.

Meanwhile, reacting to Tiwary's sharp attack on Gambhir, KKR fast bowler Harshit Rana and former captain Nitish Rana strongly refuted the claims, voicing their support for Gambhir. "Criticising someone due to personal insecurities is not good. Gauti bhaiya (brother) is someone who thinks more for others than himself. He always backs players when they are down and puts them in the limelight when things go our way. He has shown this on multiple occasions. He has a lot of knowledge on how to turn games in your favour," Harshit wrote on social media.



54<sup>th</sup>

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