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FIRES PAGE 14

REQUEST CONVEYED BY MUTTAQI TO INDIAN DELEGATION IN DUBAI

## Grant visa to Afghan students, patients and businessmen, Taliban urge India

Aware of Indian security concerns, Taliban assure vetting of visa seekers

**SHUBHAJIT ROY** 

HOURS AFTER India and Taliban-ruled Afghanistan held their first high-level meeting, the Taliban announced that they had urged Delhi to issue visas to Afghan businessmen, patients and students.

Hafiz Zia Ahmad, deputy spokesperson for the Afghani-

government does not officially recognise the Taliban government; the Indian security and in-

telligence establishment has flagged security threat perceptions regarding visa seekers from Afghanistan; and the Indian government does not have a functional visa section at the Indian embassy in Kabul or functional consulates in Afghanistan.

To assuage Indian security concerns, Muttagi and the Taliban delegation, sources said, assured the Indian side that there would be no threat from those who would travel to India. The Taliban said they would ensure the vetting of those being granted visas.

But this is a very tricky issue for the Indian government since it has been very strict in issuing visas to Afghans after the Taliban takeover of the country in August 2021.

Following the capture of Kabul by the Taliban and the collapse of the Ashraf Ghani-led Afghan government on August 15 that year, the Indian government decided, four days later, to cancel all physical visas issued earlier to Afghan nationals, who were yet to arrive in India.

> Afghan nationals who had CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THEFT IN JHARKHAND PROJECTS

## BHEL faces queries from NTPC over delays, quality in thermal projects

Asked to seek expert help; BHEL attributes delays to law and order, shortage of labour, raw material

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

**AGGAM WALIA** 

AS INDIA'S baseload power capacity struggles to keep pace with surging demand, top Government officials told BHEL Ltd, which manufactures and installs critical thermal power equipment such as boilers and turbines, to seek third-party consultancy services and hire "financially sound" contractors to speed up project execution.

The direction came after NTPC Ltd, India's largest thermal power generating company that outsources commissioning to BHEL, urged "better project management" to address delays and quality issues in a September meeting, as per minutes obtained by The Indian Express under the RTI Act.

Both BHEL and NTPC are owned by the Central government and account for most of India's thermal capacity addition.

At the meeting, BHEL committed to commissioning 9 gigawatt (GW) of thermal capacity in the ongoing financial year, and top bureaucrats from the Union ministries of power and heavy industries "emphasised the national importance of achieving such a goal".

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thermal capacity addition has been only half of what was targeted, with net addition of just 13 GW; renewable capacity (minus large hydro) has more than doubled to 160 GW. But to balance the variability of renewable energy, the national grid is reliant on baseload capacities, like thermal, to meet rising demand.

however, only 60 megawatt (MW) of thermal capacity was added against the target of 7.4 GW (1 GW = 1,000 MW).

Delays have been on account of various reasons including theft and fire, slow civil works, and unavailability of raw material, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

> eena World omen's Special



Misri with Afghan acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttagi in Dubai. ANI

### 'NO INTERFERENCE WARRANTED'

## SC rejects review of its order that had said no to same-sex marriage

**ANANTHAKRISHNAN G** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE SUPREME Court Thursday dismissed petitions seeking review of its October 17, 2023 ruling that had rejected the prayer to grant legal recognition to same-sex marriages.

A five-judge bench of Justices B R Gavai, Surya Kant, B V Nagarathna, PS Narasimha and Dipankar Datta, which considered the petitions in chamber, found no error apparent on the face of the record of the majority view authored by Justice (retired) S Ravindra Bhat in the 2023 ruling.

Citing "institutional limitations", a five-judge bench, comprising then Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, S Ravindra Bhat, Hima Kohli and PS Narasimha, in four separate judgements, had declined to strike down or tweak provisions of the Special Marriage Act, 1954 (SMA), saying there was "no unqualified right" to marriage, and a same-sex couple could not claim it as a fundamental right under the

Constitution. Rejecting the CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### convention in Bhubaneswar on Thursday. Modi said the future does not lie in "yudh" (war) but in "Budh" (Buddha). ANI PAGE 6 Police probe involvement devotees, crowd mismanagement of second UK soldier in **ARUN JANARDHANAN** annual pilgrimage. TIRUPATI, JANUARY 9 Punjab attacks

PM Narendra Modi with Odisha Governor Hari Babu Kambhampati and CM Mohan Charan Majhi at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

**MANAMAN SINGH CHHINA** CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 9

INVESTIGATIONS BY Punjab Police into the series of grenade attacks and other acts of violence in the state have yielded clues pointing to the alleged involvement of a second British Army

soldier. Police had earlier named one Jagjeet Singh of the British Army as having been involved in acts of terror in the state but the UK government denied the allegation.

According to highly placed sources in Punjab Police, investigations have revealed the links of a second British soldier with Harwinder Singh Rinda of Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) while Jagjeet Singh is alleged to be involved with the Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF).

A police officer said there is credible evidence available linking these two British soldiers to terror acts in India and the involvement of more personnel in active or passive roles cannot be CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



FOR SATISH, the memory of his wife's last WhatsApp status — a cheerful announcement with a selfie that she had joined the queue for Vaikunta Ekadashi tokens – lingers like an unfinished conversation. Lavanya, 38, was among the youngest victims of the deadly stampede in Tirupati on Wednesday evening, a tragedy that has shaken the

'FUTURE LIES IN BUDH, NOT YUDH'



Andhra CM N Chandrababu Naidu with a person injured in the stampede. PTI

thousands who gathered for the

patnam, Lavanya left her home

## A homemaker from Visakha-

on Tuesday, eager to seek blessings at the revered Tirumala temple with her sisters-in-law. Her husband, Satish, an assistant at a private hospital, stayed back to care for their two daughters, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

**MORE REPORTS** 

## **ASSAM MINE TRAGEDY: DAY 4 OF RESCUE OPERATIONS**

## Water flow was so strong, swept men from one tunnel to another'

**SUKRITA BARUAH** UMRANGSO. JANUARY 9

WHEN RAJEEV Barman, 39, entered the ill-fated mine in Umrangso's coal reserves at 4:30 am on Monday with three others he was sharing a room with, he was hungry for work. He had been making several rounds to the coal reserves for the last month-and-a-half. but all work

was on hold because of water in

So, when their "sardar (head)" finally told them the previous night that work could begin in the mine since the water had been pumped out, Barman was relieved. Little did he know that he would be the only one from his room to make it out alive.

On Monday, the rathole mine in Assam's Dima Hasao district was flooded, trapping several men, including Barman and his roommates Khusi Mohan Rai, Sarpa Barman and Sanjit Sarkar. While Barman, a resident of Assam's Kokrajhar district, is among 25-odd miners who were rescued in time by other workers and supervisors, one **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2** 

**RELATED REPORT** PAGE 9

### Veena World Women's Special March The New Colour of Joy! Kashmir Break free from the everyday routine and embrace self-love, not as a trend but as a true Women's Day therapy. Sometimes, all you need is your own company to refresh and rejuvenate. Step out Special 5 to 8-day with Veena World's Women's Special Tours. Discover vibrant experiences, create colourful fun-filled tours memories, and let your life blossom like never before! Join us... It's your time to shine! Daily Departures! Chalo, Bag Bharo, Nikal Pado! Shimla Manali Kashmir Nainital Sikkim Assam 5 Days / 6 Days | 7 Days/8 Days | 6 Days Mussoorie Haridwar | Darjeeling Gangtok Meghalaya 6 Days - Mar 4 7 Days - Mar 3 Mar 5 7 Days - Mar 2 Mar 3 / Mar 2 65000-70000 32000 47000 64000 52000-59000 77000 Bhubaneswar Puri Rajasthan Gujarat Coorg Mysore Kerala Andaman Konark Chilika (6D/8D/9D) (5D/7D/10D) Bengaluru (6D) (6D/8D/10D) 7 Days 6 Days - Mar 4 Mar 6/Mar 2/ Mar 5/ Mar 3/ Mar 6 Mar6/Mar6/Mar6 Mar 6 52000 45000 70000 Mar 1-32K-47K Mar 2-30K-55K 30000-57000 Nepal / Bhutan Dubai Abu Dhabi Sri Lanka Thailand Singapore Singapore 7 Days 5 Days/7 Days 8 Days/9 Days 6 Days Malaysia Mar 6 7 Days - Mar 4 Mar 2 / Mar 2 Mar 5 / Mar 7 Mar 4 10 Days -

## Maha Kumbh goes digital: 2,700 CCTVs, AI to track crowd, underwater drones the Kumbh apps," he says.

PAGE 1 **ANCHOR** 

**ANAND MOHAN J** PRAYAGRAJ, JANUARY 9

VIJAYPURI BAPU, a naga sadhu, has nothing to his name except his smartphone. Residing in a small hut on the Maha Kumbh mela grounds in Prayagraj, he has been grappling with Internet connectivity. "I have been playing bhajans (hymns) and taking photos on my phone. Since there is no Internet, I cannot use any of



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at the Maha Kumbh venue in Prayagraj on Thursday. Vishal Srivastav

This year, the Uttar Pradesh government has made a huge technological push with its Digi Kumbh initiative. The sprawling mela ground is now underpinned by a robust digital infrastructure, a web of surveillance systems powered by artificial intelligence (AI), and an intricate

network of tools designed to

monitor, protect and serve. Surveillance has been elevated to unprecedented levels this time, say officials. The mela's Integrated Command and Control Centre is the brain of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## Days before Bastar journalist's murder, accused withdrew 'big amount' from bank

**JAYPRAKASH S NAIDU** RAIPUR, JANUARY 9

SURESH CHANDRAKAR, the prime suspect in the murder of 33-year-old Chhattisgarh freelance journalist Mukesh Chandrakar, had withdrawn "a big amount" from his bank account days before the killing, a 11-member Special Investigation

Team probing the case said

Thursday. This is the first time

that the SIT has hinted at a pos-

sible monetary angle to this case. According to a press statement SIT issued, 42-year-old government contractor Suresh had planned to murder Mukesh, a relative, with his brothers Ritesh and Dinesh days before the actual killing on January 1. Suresh, Ritesh, Dinesh and another suspect identified as Mahendra Ramteke, a supervisor working with the main suspect, were arrested on murder charges on January 4 and 5, days after Mukesh's body was found in a septic tank in Chhattisgarh's

Bijapur district. Police claim that Mukesh was killed over a news report he did on the alleged corruption in some road construction projects Suresh had undertaken. Suresh had allegedly been undertaking three government projects worth Rs 150 crore – including work on a section of still under construction Nelesnar-Gangalur road.

When asked how much money had been withdrawn from

Suresh's bank account, a senior police officer said it was a subject of investigation. "Revealing the amount would hamper our investigation at this stage but money trail is being investigated," he told The Indian Express.

According to Additional Bijapur SP Mayank Gurjar, the head of the SIT, Suresh had admitted that Mukesh's report had upset him.

The SIT also shared details on how they cracked the murder. According to the officer, after Mukesh was reported missing on January 2, a police team tracked the journalist's last known location through his Gmail account. was allegedly in Chhattanpara, Bijapur, where Suresh had a 17-room property built on half an acre of land.

When he reached his Chhattanpara property, Suresh was allegedly asked to show around a police team. When they couldn't find Mukesh there, the team began to trace his call records and found several calls had been made to Ritesh, the police said. Investigators also began sifting through CCTVs in the area and found Ritesh driving away from the house. Meanwhile, another team tracked down Dinesh to the Bijapur district hospital.

During questioning, police allegedly found that Ritesh and Ramteke had killed Mukesh with an iron rod and thrown his body into a nearby septic tank.

This led police to track down the others, police said.

### KARNATAKA

## **Surrendered Maoists sent to** judicial custody under UAPA

SC on same-sex marriage order

**AKRAM M** BENGALURU, JANUARY 9

ALMOST A week after Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah appealed to Maoists to shun violence and join the "democratic mainstream", six ultras surrendered before him on Wednesday and were sent to judicial custody till January 30 by a special NIA court in Bengaluru on Thursday. The custody was

prayer to grant legal recognition to same-sex marriage, the bench

had left it to Parliament to change

the law to validate such a union.

tions to review the ruling, the

bench said, "We have carefully

gone through the judgments de-

livered by Hon'ble Mr S Ravindra

Bhat (Former Judge) speaking for

himself and for Hon'ble Ms Justice

Hima Kohli (Former Judge) as well

as the concurring opinion ex-

pressed by one of us (Hon'ble Mr

Justice Pamidighantam Sri

Narasimha), constituting major-

ity view. We do not find any error

apparent on the face of the record.

We further find that the view ex-

pressed in both the judgments is

in accordance with law and as

such, no interference is warranted.

Accordingly, the review petitions

Chandrachud and Justice (since

retired) Kaul, who were part of the

five-judge bench, spoke in favour

of a civil union, but it ended up be-

ing the minority view. CII

Chandrachud said this right to civil

union or right to enter into an

abiding cohabitational relation-

ship could be traced to Part III of

the Constitution, and thus placed

a positive obligation on the State

fundamental right to marry, CII

Chandrachud also said "there is a

right or freedom to enter into a

union" as laid down in various

judgments of the court - Navtej

Johar, K S Puttaswamy, NALSA,

Shakti Vahini, Shafin Jahan etc –

"and that having regard to our

constitutional values, which en-

tail respect to the choice of a per-

son whether or when to enter into

While agreeing that there is no

to accord recognition to it.

In the 2023 ruling, the then CJI

are dismissed.'

On Thursday, rejecting peti-

granted based on a fresh FIR, in which provisions of the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act were invoked against them.

Wednesday's surrender came months after the anti-naxal force gunned down Vikram Gowda, another key figure in the naxalite movement, in an encounter in Udupi district.

Welcoming them the CM had handed them a copy of the

against the judgment said the ma-

apparent on the face of the record'

rights

enjoin the discrimination.

an enforceable social contract. The

right to so contract is available to

anyone capable of consenting.

Adults of any faith or no faith may

engage in it. No one group of peo-

ple may define for another what

marriage means. No contract, nor

forceful State action like impris-

onment, may curtail an adult's

ment "warrants review because it

summarily disregards" what was

said by the court in earlier deci-

sions "to make the chilling decla-

ration that the Constitution of

India guarantees no fundamental right to marry or form a civil

The judgment, they argued,

rights to equal protection, dignity

and fraternity are insufficient to

justify judicial intervention".

union".

The petitioners said the judg-

fundamental right to marry".

marital partner".

manifestly unjust".

## FROM PAGE ONE

FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

## Taliban seeks visas for certain groups

physical visas on their passports were no longer able to travel to India, All airlines concerned were notified about this decision with instructions not to allow Afghan nationals holding physical Indian visas to board India-bound flights.

The Indian government introduced a new category of 'e-Emergency X-Misc' visa for Afghans who wished to travel to India. So, those Afghan nationals were advised to apply for an Indian visa on the e-Visa portal. Only those Afghan nationals

who had the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) for e-Emergency X-Misc visa issued by the Bureau of Immigration – it comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs – were allowed to board Indiabound flights.

Scores of students, who wanted to pursue and continue higher education in India, were stuck and stranded at home, but the Indian government, at that

time, took the call of not granting visas.

Within the Indian establishment, security agencies had redflagged this issue and had outvoted the Ministry of External Affairs and Education who were keen to support this need of Afghan students.

The MEA, in coordination with the Education ministry and higher education bodies and universities where Afghan students were already enrolled, had asked universities to roll out online courses and classes for Afghan students in Afghanistan and overseas.

The Indian establishment was somewhat considerate in allowing some Afghans who wanted to come to India for medical treatment, but the numbers were nowhere near that before August

Some Afghan businessmen, who had been doing business for years and decades, especially of dry fruits, were coming to India regularly. That was a steady but a small number.

Now, the Taliban, facing difficulties in managing their healthcare system, are keen that Afghans be allowed to come to India for medical treatment. More so, after the Pakistan government has become so hostile to Afghans.

According to Hafiz Zia Ahmad, the "two sides agreed to facilitate visa and trade" when they met in Dubai. The Indian government's

statement on the meeting did not mention this. It only said Foreign Secretary Misri "conveyed India's readiness to respond to the urgent developmental needs of the Afghan people". Sources said Muttaqi had

come prepared for the meeting in Dubai, accompanied by officials from the ministries of Commerce and Transport, and that reflected Sources said the Taliban are

aware of the Indian hesitation in

granting official legitimacy to their regime, but want to move forward on "pragmatic" and "workable" solutions to their problems and challenges.

The Indian side, however, has to take a call based on the security dimension of the decision, as well as the political impact of such decisions. As visa issuance requires large manpower capacity in the embassy, and reopening of the Indian consulates, this would also be a political and diplomatic call. Currently, the Indian embassy

in Kabul is run by a small technical team which manages the delivery of humanitarian assistance and maintains contacts with the Taliban regime. Running visa services would require more manpower – officials and staff – at the embassy. This scaling would signal a higher diplomatic strength and presence on ground, which could tantamount to political signalling of upgrading the Indian diplomatic presence.

tribesmen in the NWFP. The involvement

 Police probe involvement of second UK soldier in Punjab attacks

ruled out. Many Sikh youth from

Punjab, the officer said, have ioined the British Army through their Foreign Commonwealth Entry scheme of recruitment. Under this scheme, a non-UK citizen can also join the British Army and is given a visa for the duration of his military service. He can also apply for naturalisation as a British citizen upon completion of service and can get a visa for his family members to join him in the UK while he is enrolled in the British Army.

According to police officers, the British Army has of late also been taking contingents of Sikh troops to Pakistan for commemorating the Saragarhi Day – the famous last stand by 21 Sikh soldiers defending their post in September 1897 against Afghan

Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI in recruitment of British soldiers as terror operatives is not being ruled out, one of the officers said.

"It is a matter of investigation by the British Army if there are more such individuals in their ranks. The ISI is known to keep an eye out in Canadian and British militaries for recruits to the Khalistan cause because Sikhs are present in these forces in substantial numbers," the officer said.

Referring to the denial of the UK government that there was no soldier by the name of Jagjeet Singh in the British Army, a police officer said the claim flies in the face of the fact that the father of the soldier has openly ac cepted that the man named by police and whose photo has been published is his son. "Why don't they (UK authorities) take an affidavit from him regarding the identity of Jagjeet Singh?" an officer said.

Meanwhile, police are also trying to piece together the money trail from abroad to three members of the KZF who were killed in Pilibhit in an encounter with UP Police in December. According to police sources

in many instances such terror attacks turn out to be low cost operations. "Most such cut-out modules of terror groups comprise impoverished youth. The money trail in such cases mostly results in these youth being asked to pick up cash from somewhere which may not be a very heavy amount," an officer said. It is also being ascertained why these three were in Pilibhit and whether they were trying to exfiltrate to Nepal. "The route is the same. Hence, we need to find out if they had been given instructions to lie low outside Punjab or were they asked to leave the country and head to Nepal," the officer said.

## officials were informed during the

BHEL faces queries from NTPC

meeting held on September 19, according to the minutes.

NTPC chairman and managing director Gurdeep Singh also cited quality issues like boiler tube leakages and equipment deterioration behind slow operationalisation of under-construction thermal projects. On average, it takes six years

to commission supercritical thermal projects, BHEL chairman and managing director Koppu Sadashiv Murthy told officials. He attributed delays "mostly to extrinsic factors, such as law and order, statutory changes, limited vendor base, skilled labour shortages, and raw material availability". To address some of these challenges, Murthy said BHEL has centralized procurement and empowered project directors for faster decisions.

BHELalso roped in Deloitte for project management consultancy (PMC) services at NTPC's underconstruction 1.3 GW thermal plant in Talcher, Odisha, and is "expanding this model to other projects based on the success achieved".

During the meeting, both Power and Heavy industries secretaries also directed BHEL to "introduce PMC in EPC (engineering, procurement, and construction) projects as required for improved project management and upskilling BHEL site personnel".

BHEL, NTPC, and the ministries of power and heavy industries did not respond to requests for comment.

Over the last five years, thermal capacity addition has only been half of what was targeted, with net addition of just 13 GW, according to data with the Central Electricity Authority. In comparison, India's renewable capacity excluding large hydro has more than doubled to 160 GW.

However, without grid-scale energy storage to counterbalance the variability of renewable energy, the national grid has become increasingly reliant on baseload capacities, like thermal, to meet rising demand.

While India's thermal capacity has only grown 6 per cent between 2019-20 and 2023-24 to 218 GW, generation by coal-fired thermal plants grew by 34 per cent from 960 billion units (BU) to 1,290 BU.

The average plant load factor (PLF), or capacity utilisation, also jumped from 53 per cent to 68 per cent, highlighting growing dependence on existing thermal capacities.

The combination of slow capacity addition and the time needed to ramp up generation at coal-fired plants puts grid stability at risk during periods of peak demand. This vulnerability was exposed on May 30 last year

when peak demand hit 250 GW, far exceeding the month's projected peak of 235 GW. Peak demand is expected to touch 270 GW next year.

As of November 30, underconstruction thermal capacity in India totalled 29.2 GW across 22 projects, with NTPC accounting for 9 GW. BHEL is commissioning boilers for 16 projects and turbines for 17. Only one private sector project is in the works: two units of 800 MW each in Madhya Pradesh by an Adani Power Ltd subsidiary, with Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd owning a minority stake. The contribution of the private sector over the last five years was just 1.7 GW, or 7 per cent of the total thermal capacity added. At two NTPC units in

Jharkhand – North Karanpura and Patratu – materials were "lost due to theft & fire," Singh told officials, requesting urgent supplies. Both face significant units delays–North Karanpura's trial run has been pushed from June 2019 to March this year, while Patratu has slipped from January 2022 to the same month.

"Delays in civil works and storage space development impact the project timeline. BHEL mentioned that it is addressing this with new contractors and ensuring proper material handling," the minutes noted.

"Quality issues like boiler tube leakages (especially in the first year of commissioning) make tar-

(OA), a challenge to achieve. BHEL stated that while OA of BHEL sets, in general, is more than 90%, efforts will continue to make the OA even better in the first few years of operation," they said. "Time taken for stabilizing

gets for operational availability

new technologies like supercritical boilers and turbines by BHEL is high. BHEL mentioned that it has acquired and assimilated these technologies gradually from the OEMs and now is fully capable to deploy them without any issues," according to the minutes. Officials directed BHEL to ex-

pedite supplies for the North Karanpura and Patratu units and prepare a white paper on "key learnings from the North Karanpura project, focusing on the 5 major issues affecting execution". "Engage financially sound contractors for material handling and civil works at sites," officials also told BHEL NTPC was directed to clear

pending dues to BHEL totalling Rs 5,000 crore and asked to consider BHEL's proposal to convert bank guarantees of around Rs 10,000 crore into corporate guarantees for old projects.

India plans to add 80 GW of thermal power capacity by 2032. In September, Union Power Minister M L Khattar said that the country will develop thermal projects until 2035, after which it will begin phasing them down for net zero.

tion centre, occurred around 7.30

pm. Fifty-year-old R Malliga from

Salem in Tamil Nadu collapsed

amid a crowd surge near the to-

ken queue. Her husband,

Krishnan Chinna Govindan, said

they had reached Tirupati by train.

"We waited about 100 feet from

the entry point, surrounded by

other devotees. She tried to stand

## Water flow was so strong, swept men from one tunnel to another'

person's body has been re- chain pulley fell into the water trieved, and at least eight — including Barman's three roommates — continue to be missing.

The four of them were working in one of the tunnels — or rat holes — branching out from the bottom of the 310-foot-deep central pit of the mine when the incident occurred. He said they had gone around 250 feet into one of the rat holes that morning. Two hours into work there, they heard screaming.

"Because we had worked after such a long time, our arms were hurting and we were tired so we decided to stop and go back early. Just then, we heard people from another tunnel shouting that 'water is coming'. and could hear the sound of water gushing. We immediately started rushing towards the centre," he told *The Indian Express*.

In the pitch-darkness of rat holes — around 2 to 3 metres in height — miners have to crawl, their path illuminated by a torch tied to their head with a cloth carrying picks and shovels and with a cart to haul the coal they have mined. After crawling 200 feet in the tunnel, the group encountered gushing water.

"We took off our shoes to make it easier for us to move and we rushed to the centre... the water was already reaching our chest," he said.

Joseph Soren, a 40-year-old miner from Assam's Chirang district, was at the central pit when the flooding began. His role was to load the mined coal into two boxes at the bottom of the pit. which were then lifted out one at a time by a crane. He was on box 11 when a fellow miner came rushing out from one of the tunnels and jumped onto a box. Soon, gushing water fol-

"The water flow was so strong that some people coming out of one tunnel were being

swept into another one," he said. Then came the desperate scramble to leave the mine as workers began rushing out of different tunnels. In desperation, they wrestled each other to get onto a box and be lifted out of the mines. In the chaos, the lock attaching the box to the crane's and was lost. As the water rose rapidly,

people clung to whatever they could find: the wall, the pipe of the water pumping machine and the crane's chain. About a dozen clung to the chain and tried to climb it. Barman was one of them.

"Around 10-15 of us were clinging to the chain, one on top of another, and people outside had in the meantime realised what happened. They started lifting us with the crane. But after it rose a few feet, there was a jerk and we fell into the water Only two managed to hold on and got out of the mine," he said.

The water was acrid, burning their eyes. According to Jalalludin, 27, another miner who was not at work that day the boxes were submerged by then, so workers above ground attached a broken box to the crane and lowered it. It was on this box that over 20 workers were lifted out in four rounds,

Safe and above ground now, the men waited in their camps around the mine for their fellow miners to be pulled out Jalalludin, a resident of Assam's Darrang district who has worked in mines like this in Meghalaya for the last eight years, was one

among them Barman and Soren.

The work is dangerous, he said, but it pays better than other daily wage work: Rs 200 for every cart of coal they mine.

Most miners manage 10-15

carts on an average day. "I know that there is a lot of risk in this, but we do it. We are poor and oppressed, and this pays better than any daily wage work we can get in our villages which can be at the most Rs 450

a day," he said. Despite the dangers, Barman believes the work is as risky as

any other job. "For example, even being a driver comes with the risk of ac-

cidents. But I have escaped death and been given a second life now. I will not be going back to a mine, even if I earn only Rs 250 in a day working in the village," he said.

have been deployed, including

1,378 women officers, supported

## • Behind Tirupati stampede: Rush of devotees, crowd mismanagement

marriage and the right to choose a aged 11 and 13. "She had planned this trip for weeks and was look-The review petitions filed ing forward to it," Satish said on jority ruling suffered "from errors Thursday evening at his Vizag home, still waiting for Lavanya's and was "self-contradictory and body, which was on its way from Tirupati, about 750 kilometres

It said the majority judgment was erroneous because Lavanya joined the queue on while it found that the respon-Wednesday, around noon. It was dents (authorities) were violata bustling scene, and Lavanya couldn't resist sharing the moing the petitioners' fundamenment with her friends and family through discrimination, yet it failed to - a selfie with two others - posting a WhatsApp status from the The petitioners contended line with the caption: "Quee (queue) line in Tirupathi that "the majority judgment overlooks that marriage, at its core, is

Dharshanam.' Later that evening, around 8 pm, Lavanya made a hurried phone call to Satish. "She called to ask about the kids — if they had eaten, if everything was okay," Satish said. "She mentioned how crowded it was. She said she would call later.'

That call never came. He got the tragic news around 11 pm.

By Thursday evening, barely 24 hours after the tragedy and just hours after Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu's visit, the front gate of Padmavathi Park, where Lavanya and five others were killed, had been completely sanitised. The usual evening crowd had returned, except for a dozen policemen stationed at the iron gate, the site of the stampede. Chaos had erupted on

Wednesday when the gate was opened briefly to evacuate an elderly woman who reportedly required medical attention. A senior police officer said

that between 2,000 and 4,000 people were inside the park at the time. The crowd had been locked inside, with plans to release them in a controlled manner once token distribution began at a nearby school. A barricaded path had been set up leading from the main gate of the park to the school. While one officer claimed a dozen police personnel were stationed at the gate, another official said there were only six officers present when the stampede

"A family informed the officer at the gate that an elderly woman inside needed urgent medical attention as she was feeling suffocated," an officer said. "The officer sent two constables inside to verify. Once they confirmed, he ordered the woman's evacuation. The huge crowd inside mistook the gate opening as the start of token distribution."

According to the police FIR accessed by The Indian Express, the incident occurred around 8.20 pm. "Police personnel noticed an elderly woman experiencing breathing difficulties... They began escorting her out through the gate. However, during this time, rumours spread among the devotees that token distribution had started. Believing they needed to rush to secure tokens on the first day, the devotees surged toward the gates, pushing them open and rushing out in large numbers. This led to a loss of control, and many devotees fell to the ground during the commotion. Despite the police's efforts to manage the situation, the massive crowd could not be controlled. Around 40 people sustained injuries, and all were transported to the hospital via ambulances. Among them, five individuals were declared dead by doctors." the FIR said.

Just over an hour earlier, another stampede occurred at Vishnunivasam in Tirupati, killing a 50-year-old woman. This first fatality, at a different token distribu-

up but collapsed as the crowd unintentionally pushed her. I pulled her aside and arranged an auto to take her to the hospital, but the driver suggested calling an ambulance. By the time we reached Ruia Hospital, doctors said she was already gone," he said. Both incidents, caused by flawed crowd management, have

drawn sharp criticism. Evewitnesses described scenes of complete chaos. "It was unavoidable. People were screaming and falling as the gates gave way. The police were shouting at the crowd to stop, but there were not enough personnel to manage the situation once the stampede began. There were panicked announcements on the mike afterwards for families that found their loved ones missing," said a devotee who sur-

## Maha Kumbh goes digital: 2,700 CCTVs, AI to track crowd, underwater drones

"effectively compels young queer entire operation, where officials Indians to remain in the closet and sit behind high-end computing lead dishonest lives if they wish systems that give them a bird's eye the joys of a real family. It is fallaview of the ground. To facilitate cious that, under these facts, and real-time monitoring, four 52in the absence of a fundamental seater viewing centres have been right to marry or form a union, the established.

> Monitored by over 2,750 CCTV cameras bolstered by AI to track the movement of the anticipated 40 crore pilgrims, this Kumbh will be the largest face recognition exercise in the country thus far. Officials say 108 cameras are

dedicated to number plate recognition, while 268 AI-powered video analytic cameras will moncrowd movement. Additionally, 240 AI-based video analytics systems will count vehicles, ensuring efficient traffic flow and parking management, offi-

cials add. Allaying fears regarding the misuse of surveillance systems, mela officer Vijay Kiran Anand tells The Indian Express, "We have

released tenders for Indian companies. Their servers are based in the country. This ensures we have control over the data and a third party based in another country doesn't access that information." On the accuracy of AI models,

officer Anand says, "We have been employing machine learning techniques since last year. The model's accuracy is improving on a daily basis." However, the AI system may

still face challenges. A senior official says there may be "overlapping features" due to high crowd density, "making it difficult for AI algorithms to differentiate individuals". The officer adds, "A lot also de-

pends on the quality of cameras. Environmental factors like poor lighting and weather conditions can degrade image quality. Unpredictable movements in large crowds may hamper identigathering demands massive computational power for real-time data processing." At the Parade Ground police

lines area, officers use QR codes to join WhatsApp groups for mela work. Beyond that token nod to technology, their operations rely heavily on old-school walkietalkies and sporadic smartphone communication. At the cyber police station, housed in a makeshift tin, a team of officers is busy tracing lost mobile phones. Of the 25 thefts reported so far, only five phones have been recovered.

This is the first time a cyber team has been deployed at the Kumbh. The 14-member team is tasked with both surveillance and resolving cybercrime. A senior officer at the cyber police station says, "These are temporary police stations. Once the mela ends, we will leave for our districts and the cases will be taken over by the

commissionerate. We will do our

best to solve cases till then." Officials say cases of cyber

vived with injuries.

fraud are mounting, with reports of people being duped in the name of the tent city. Fraudsters have lured victims into transferring money to fake bank accounts, with even senior officials falling prey to such scams. "We have made an arrest in an extortion case, but cyber frauds are increasing. We have come across over eight cases so far. If people from Gurgaon are getting duped, how effective are these programmes really?" says the officer.

For the first time, the UP police have deployed underwater drones equipped with advanced imaging capabilities to patrol the riverbed. These drones, alongside remote-controlled life buoys, provide 24/7 aquatic surveillance, transmitting real-time data to the command centre.

Apart from AI surveillance systems, the government has also

launched its own AI-powered chat-bot, which supports over 11 languages and is integrated with Google Maps to help with naviga-

At the heart of this digital transformation is a determination to ensure that the vast logistical machinery of the Kumbh remains accountable. The authorities have divided the ground into 10 zones and 25 sectors, each mapped using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) integrated with Google Maps.

To streamline the event, the government has also deployed an automated ration supply system and drone-based monitoring for disaster management. "Additionally, a real-time software will track the progress of 530 projects, while an inventory tracking system and integration of all sites on Google Maps will provide detailed navigation," the official says.

Over 37,000 police personnel

by specialised cyber experts and intelligence squads. Articulating water towers have been put on standby in case of fires. These towers, equipped with thermal imaging, can reach heights of up to 35 metres, offering a protective shield for fire-fighters in high-risk situations, officials say. A GIS-based map has been utilised to design the mela's lay-

out. "We had undertaken drone surveys to create precise topographical maps of the land. We used the 2019 Kumbh data to make a better resource allocation plan," says a government official Meanwhile, at the Prayagra

Mela Authority campus, the problems of applicants who applied for land allotment online came to the fore, with multiple organisations alleging land remains to be allocated despite the mela starting on January 13. Some 15,000 people from three states claim that land is yet to be allotted to them.

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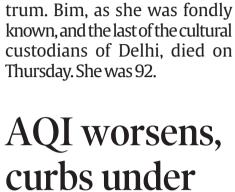
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## Bim Bissell, who shaped Fabindia, dies

**UPASIKA SINGHAL** NEW DELHI. JANUARY 9

LONG BEFORE fashion designers talked about textile revivalism, weaver collectives or sustainability of native weaves and craft, Bimla Bissell had laid the template for them at the Cottage Industries Emporium in New Delhi. As a fellow advisor there in 1958, she used that expertise in guiding her husband John Bissell to set up Fabindia, the fashion brand that would not only save India's textile heritage but restore the primacy of regional fabrics – be it Chanderi, Sanganeri, Kutchi or Banarasi – in the pan-Indian consciousness.

Not only that, she understood how tradition could be recast as modernity, with wearable, comfortable cuts and a minimalism that would find acceptability among Indians across the specknown, and the last of the cultural custodians of Delhi, died on



New Delhi: Calm winds and foggy conditions on Thursday worsened the air quality index (AQI) in the Capital, prompting Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) to invoke Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) Stage III anti-pollution curbs with immediate effect.

GRAP 3 back

While the AQI was 297 (poor category) on Wednesday, it increased to 357 in the 'very poor' category on Thursday. Restrictions under GRAP III entails hybrid model of classes for up to Class V in schools, ban on plying of BS III petrol and BS IV diesel vehicles, and a ban on all demolition works and mining activities in National Capital Region. The IMD has forecast rain in the weekend. **ENS** 



**Bimla Bissell** 

Mainline fashion designers, who worked on derivative ideas and justified creative excesses as originality, are now following Bim in contemporising traditions with an innate confidence that was missing before Fabindia made them fashionable, cool even.

It is because of Bim that Fabindia created its own pools of artisan communities, a model followed by today's weaver clusters. It is also because of her that the concept of design flowed from garments to furnishings, furniture and crafts, redefining Indian chic.

Art and textile historian Ivotindra Jain said that Bim was one of the pivots of the transition between a Western to an Eastern aesthetic. "Khadi was an instrument for struggle. So, when Sarojini Naidu went to attend the roundtable conferences on India's self-rule, she preferred to wear her temple silks... Bim and her husband John Bissell had an eye for this rich handloom heritage," he added.

While Bim was best known for her work on Indian textiles and being a part of the ethnic chic movement with cultural czarina Pupul Jaykar, she was also known to be a gregarious person. Recalling his 40-year friendship with Bim, journalist Sunil Sethi said, "Bim and John were an extremely committed and socially conscious couple. Christmas breakfasts at their Panchsheel Park house were an institution. It grew bigger every year. There would be a mix of both Indian and Western food."

Her acumen wasn't limited to textiles. As Social Secretary to US Ambassadors and working at the World Bank from 1975 to 1996, she developed an idea of what worked with expats and how she could co-opt Indian design elements to globalise Indian fashion.

Although Fabindia took off, Bim did not rest easy. In 1992, with the help of Japanese government funds and the World Bank, she founded Udyogini, an NGO that works with assetless and landless women in India.

Bim's boundless joie de vivre left an impression on social worker and craft activist Laila Tyabji Months before her passing, Bim arrived at a scheduled lunch as radiant as ever, wearing her signature bangles and bracelets. "After lunch, she informed us she was off to a dentist's appointment, later to a lecture at the IIC, and then would squeeze in a friend's book release before going on to the farewell dinner for a diplomat. All of us, well over a decade or two vounger, were duly put to shame...,"Tyabji reminisced on social media.



Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi makes cold coffee for customers at a Keventers outlet in Patel Nagar, in New Delhi on Thursday. During his conversation with its co-founders, Gandhi delved into the journey of the iconic establishment and uncovered how the brand evolved from its pre-independence roots to a consumer powerhouse with over **200 stores across 65 cities.** X/@INCIndia

## Court pulls up Delhi Police: Investigating officer 'acting like Godfather of criminals'

**SAKSHICHAND** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

OBSERVING THAT the investigating officer (IO) in an attempt to murder case is "acting like a Godfather of criminals", a Delhi court Wednesday came down heavily on the police and directed the Joint Commissioner of Police concerned to take action on the "deliberate defective investigation".

The observations came in the case of an attempt to murder and Arms Act lodged at Jahangirpuri police station. The court was hearing the anticipatory bail plea of

one of the accused. Of the seven accused in the case, two were juveniles. The police had filed chargesheet against only one accused, Gaurav.

Jahangirpuri Station House Officer (SHO) submitted that co-

accused Suraj Bhatia, Gagan Bhatia and Govinda Bhatia and their family members are notorious people and two of them are referred to as "bad characters" from the area in police records.

Dhirendra Rana, ASJ/Special Judge, Rohini Court, said the case is a blatant example of how the IO can misuse his power under the garb of exercising his discretion.

"As per the complaint, seven accused were involved in the incident and the victim suffered a bullet injury on his head. The present accused/applicant and co-accused Gagan Bhatia... approached the sessions court for anticipatory bail and (it) was dismissed vide order dated June 1. When the co-accused approached the HC for anticipatory bail, the application was

dismissed," the order stated. Despite the dismissal of the anticipatory bail applications,

the court said the IO, Sub-

Inspector(SI) Medha Lal, did not investigate the matter against any of the accused. "The reason is apparent that he is trying to become a shield for the accused," the order noted.

The judge added that since the accused are residents of Jahangirpuri, and some of them are "bad characters" of the area, identifying and tracing them should not have been a difficult task for the IO. "If SI Medha Lal has not taken any action against the accused, then the court is not hesitant to say that it is a stage of complete lawlessness where IO is acting like a Godfather of criminals," the judge said.

The order further directed the office of the Joint CP to share an ac-

tion taken report in 15 days. It also stated that after the lapse of more than 10 months, only one accused, Gaurav, has

been chargesheeted. Along with

the current application, an affidavit of the complainant has been annexed to support the fact that he has already settled his matter with the accused.

"If the IO is hell-bent on safeguarding the accused... then there is no option left with the complainant but to accede to the pressure of the accused and to settle the matter. It is a matter of record that accused Suraj Bhatia, Govinda Bhatia and Gagan Bhatia are involved in several other criminal cases of murder and other heinous offences," the judge said.

"Since the DCP and ACP concerned and the SHO have failed to supervise the conduct of the SI, this court has no option but to bring the matter to the knowledge of the Joint CP concerned, so that such kind of erring official may be held countable for his malpractice and deliberate defective investigation," the judge said.

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Extract of the audited consolidated interim financial results for the three months and nine months ended December 31, 2024 (₹ crore)						
	Three months ended December 31, 2024	Nine months ended December 31, 2024	Three months ended December 31, 2023			
Revenue from operations	63,973	1,90,845	60,583			
Profit before exceptional item and tax	16,666	48,929	15,787			
Profit before tax	16,666	48,929	14,829			
Profit after tax	12,444	36,504	11,097			
Total comprehensive income for the period	11,624	36,531	11,734			
Paid up equity share capital (Face value: ₹1 per share)	362	362	362			
Total reserves (including non-controlling interests)*	90,957	90,957	90,840			
Earnings per equity share:- Basic and diluted (₹)	34.21	100.40	30.29			

\* Balances for three months and nine months ended December 31, 2024 represent balances as per the audited consolidated balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 2024 and balances for three months ended December 31, 2023 represent balances as per the audited consolidated balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 2023 as required by Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

Extract of the audited standalone interim financial results for the three months and nine months ended December 31, 2024 (₹ crore)							
	Three months ended December 31, 2024	Nine months ended December 31, 2024	Three months ended December 31, 2023				
Revenue from operations	53,883	1,60,717	50,844				
Profit before exceptional item and tax	15,509	47,976	15,004				
Profit before tax	15,509	47,976	14,046				
Profit after tax	11,832	36,941	10,753				
Total comprehensive income for the period	11,784	37,167	10,652				

- 1. The audited consolidated financial results and audited standalone financial results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on January 9, 2025. The statutory auditors have expressed an unmodified audit opinion on these results.
- 2. The Board of Directors at its meeting held on January 9, 2025, has declared an interim dividend of ₹10.00 per equity share and special dividend of ₹66.00 per equity share.
- 3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of financial results filed with Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format for three months and nine months ended December 31, 2024, are available on the Company's website (URL: www.tcs.com/investors). The same can be accessed by scanning the QR code provided below.



Mumbai

January 9, 2025

For and on behalf of the Board of Directors

K Krithivasan **CEO** and Managing Director DIN: 10106739

## **NEW DELHI CONSTITUENCY**

## EC orders probe into AAP claims against Verma, voter deletion

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE ELECTION Commission (EC) on Thursday asked its Delhi chief electoral officer (CEO) to probe AAP's complaints against BIP leader Parvesh Verma and allegations of additions and deletions in the electoral roll of the New Delhi Assembly seat. This was after a delegation of AAP, led by Chief Minister Atishi and party convenor Arvind Kejriwal, met with the commissioners.

The CEO was asked to "ascertain actual facts and take immediate appropriate action in accordance with the provisions of model code of conduct, electoral laws and the extant guidelines of the Election Commission of India". The EC also asked the CEO to submit an action taken report.

Kejriwal and Verma are contesting from the New Delhi seat in the February 5 poll.

After the meeting, Kejriwal told mediapersons, "Our main concerns were irregularities in voter deletions, suspicious additions to the voter list, violation of model code of conduct by BJP candidate Parvesh Verma, and collusion by local election officials."

CM Atishi with AAP convenor Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann in New Delhi on Thursday. Amit Mehra

He alleged that in New Delhi constituency, of the total one lakh voters, over 5,500 have been removed from the electoral rolls in the last three weeks. "...applications for deletions (submitted) are fraudulent. During a hearing by lower-level election officials, people whose names have been deleted have denied having submitted such applications."

He also alleged that around 13,000 new voters have been added in the constituency. "Where did these 13,000 people come from in just 15 days? This is a clear indication that fake voters are being registered, likely brought in from states like Uttar

Pradesh and Bihar...," said Kejriwal. Hitting back, Delhi BJP presi-

dent Virendra Sachdeva and North East Delhi MP Manoj Tiwari accused Kejriwal of harboring "hatred" towards Purvanchalis referring to the people from eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar — living in the city. "Over time, Kejriwal has in-

sulted the people of Purvanchal, terming them a burden on healthcare and education, and now he has gone too far by calling them fake voters," said Sachdeva.

Tiwari said, "...I ask, how dare you call Purvanchalis fake... Purvanchalis come to Delhi to work hard and never compromise

on their self respect... he (Kejriwal) facilitates illegal Bangladeshi and Rohingya immigrants to become voters, and now, as they are being

removed, he is panicking." Tiwari added that Purvanchali voters constitute 42% of the total

voting population of Delhi. AAP MP Sanjay Singh hit back. "The BJP, which calls our brothers from UP, Bihar and Purvanchal Rohingyas and Bangladeshis, has forgotten that Arvind Kejriwalji gave the maximum number of tickets to our brothers from Purvanchal (in elections). He made a Purvanchali an MP, a minister built hundreds of chhath ghats

for them and did work worth

thousands of crores in slums."

Kejriwal, meanwhile, accused Parvesh Verma of violating model code of conduct and distributing money to voters. The party demanded that investigating agencies should raid Verma's house to "uncover how much money he is distributing" among voters. "He is openly uploading posts and boasting about his actions, much like how characters in movies openly challenge authorities... the local elections officials have surrendered to BJP and are facilitat ing their illegal activities...," he said

## **RAMJAS COLLEGE**

## Prof accused of sexual harassment suspended, says principal

**SOPHIYA MATHEW** NEW DELHI. JANUARY 9

A DAY after a professor at Delhi University's Ramias College, accused of sexual harassment and misconduct, resigned from his post as the Joint Dean of Students' Welfare at DU, the college principal said the professor had been suspended for six weeks in December. He also said the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) is investigating the matter and the administration will implement its recommendations.

Following day-long protests

by the Left-backed student bodies and the ABVP, the accused professor wrote to the DU Vice-Chancellor on Wednesday, saying, "... Due to these allegations, I am finding it extremely challenging to continue my additional duties as Joint Dean, Students' Welfare University of Delhi."

Principal Ajay Arora said he first learnt of the incident on December 17 last year. "I went to the class and had a friendly talk with the students, asking them about their problems... and so on. On the 19th, the female student approached me... I consoled her and assured her of support."

A complaint was lodged with the ICC on December 23, said the principal. "The Committee... convened a meeting. In the same week, we (administration) verbally communicated to him (professor), suspending him from his teaching duties and restricting him from entering the classroom or reaching out to students." The accused professor entered

the campus twice after the restrictions, causing a huge uproar among the students, added the principal.

According to a faculty member, the professor approached the victim's classmates demanding that they go to the administration to request that he be allowed to take classes. The member also said the professor's six-week suspension was officially formalised and signed only by January 3.

Sources said this was the fourth complaint against the professor; similar concerns of misconduct were raised by students in 2016, 2020 and 2023.

Asked about inaction by the administration despite the ac cused being a 'repeat offender' Arora said, "I've been made aware of the complaints but I don't know what happened in these cases because of their confidential nature.'

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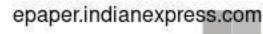
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The Congress has fielded many

new candidates in its second

to push their campaign?

list. How is the party planning

They might be new to the

media but they are popular in

the areas from where they have

been fielded. We had this chal-

lenge — there were a lot of old

faces; they used to fight the elec-

tions again and again. People

were sick of the same old faces

every time. And we wanted to

infuse some new blood into the

party as well. It's a very calcu-

lated move wherein we have in-

troduced these new faces. All of

the organisation... Those who

have worked with the cadre, the

NSUI, the Youth Congress, and

eventually, most of them are in

the PCC also. So, connecting

them in their particular con-

stituency is not an issue. Rather,

they have a clean image... They

are working harder and results

are visible. Regular surveys and

feedback we are getting are

When can we expect the next

list? There's speculation that

for the remaining seats...

there aren't enough candidates

shortlisting very good faces. It's

becoming really difficult to short-

list the best among the people

who have come forward to con-

test the remaining seats. There is

a process in place... Anytime next

week, we can expect that the fi-

Mahila Bhagidari is something

We've been facing this chal-

lenge of organisation in the Delhi

unit for the last few years... since

there was no Delhi Congress rep-

resentation in Vidhan Sabha and

Lok Sabha for the last two terms.

So, yes, it was really a big chal-

lenge to keep the leadership in-

tact and infuse new faces. In the

coming list, there will be ample

representation of women as well.

spect women... It's more because

when the Congress was in trou-

ble, for the party's women, the

challenges which are normally

there for women in politics un-

der normal conditions had in-

creased even more. So, we put

the best of the best that we had.

In Narela, which is a general seat,

we fielded a young Dalit woman.

Certain events cancelled by the

It doesn't mean we don't re-

the party emphasised during

the Delhi Iodo Yatra but

female candidates remain

few and far. Why is that?

nal list will also be out.

That's a joke. We've been...

pretty good.

them are educated.



## CONG LEADERS DENY AMBIGUITY IN PARTY ON HOW FAR TO GO AGAINST KEJRIWAL

## INDIA bloc parties with AAP, Congress says ready to step up its game in Delhi

**MANOJCG** 

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

AS INDIA bloc parties come out one by one in favour of fellow member AAP, the Congress again behind its demise in the Capital.

campaigning for the Assembly Arvind Kejriwal. Targeting then home of a terrorist and that no CM of the Congress would ever

Cut to 2025. Recently, the

ners, Congress and AAP have been toying with the idea of being poll allies as well. So, even afthe Assembly polls in Haryana in the AAP's outreach for a tie-up.

finds itself in a bind over how far to push against the party that is

In 2022, for example, while

elections in Punjab, Rahul Gandhi was unusually scathing against Delhi Chief Minister, he said the AAP chief could be found at the do so. He was referring to Kejriwal's stay at the house of former Khalistan Commando Force militant Gurinder Singh in Moga ahead of the 2017 elections.

Delhi Congress cancelled at the last minute a press conference to be addressed by AICC treasurer Ajay Maken where Kejriwal was to be targeted as "deshdrohi (traitor)". Sources in the Congress said the leadership — some say Gandhi himself — was not comfortable with this line of attack. Apart from being INDIA part-

ter the AAP trounced the Congress in Punjab in the 2022 Assembly polls, the two had a seat-sharing arrangement in Delhi as well as Haryana for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. But come November, the Congress rejected Now, the same is being re-

Plea challenges

AAP cash sop

for women, HC

maintainability

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court

Thursday questioned the main-

tainability of an election plea that

sought its directions to stop AAP

workers from registering benefici-

aries under the party's Mahila

Samman Yojana. The petitioner,

Vijay Kumar, alleged AAP was lur-

ing voters with false announce-

ments as the Delhi government

Kumar. "How is it maintainable as

an election petition? You go and

file a PIL," the court said, posting

nounced it would raise the

monthly allowance under the

scheme from Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,100

if it returned to power in the

Assembly polls. On December

23, it started registering eligible

beneficiaries. On December 25,

however, the WCD department

issued a public notice, distanc-

Ianuary 6, seeking directions to

the ECI to dispose of the com-

plaint he had filed with the poll

body on January 3 over AAP's al-

leged false announcement.

Kumar moved the HC on

ing itself from the scheme.

Last December, AAP an-

the next hearing on January 10.

Justice Jyoti Singh questioned

denied having such a scheme.

questions its



A meeting of the INDIA bloc in June last year. Archive

peated in Delhi, with the central Delhi, they should call all the al-Congress leadership, at least for liance members for a meeting. If a while, seen as being keen on an alliance but stonewalled by state leaders.

**POLITICS** 

With the AAP seen as the only force likely to hold back the BJP in Delhi, the Congress's INDIA bloc allies have started lining up behind it. If the TMC and Samajwadi

Party have openly backed the AAP, the Shiv Sena (UBT) has said the AAP, and not the Congress, is in a better position to take on the BIP. The RJD's Tejashwi Yadav

stirred the waters further saving the INDIA bloc was an arrangement made only for the Lok Sabha

Thursday, National On Conference leader and Jammu and Kashmir CM Omar Abdullah went one step further, saying IN-DIA should be wound up if it was meant only for the parliamentary polls. "After the Assembly polls in

this alliance was only for the parliamentary elections, it should be wound up... But if it is meant for Assembly polls as well, we'll have to sit together and work collectively... As far as I remember, no time limit was set for this. The is-

sue is that no meeting of the IN-DIA bloc is being convened." Omar said.

that there was

no clarity regarding main leadership, the parties, or the future strat-

egy of the INDIA bloc. This brings further pressure on the Congress, which is already at its lowest ebb in the Capital, but still the presumptive leader of INDIA so far. In the past two elections held in the Capital. across the Assembly and Lok Sabha, the Congress did not win

a single seat. Its vote share

dipped from 40.31% in 2008 to 24.55% in 2013, to around 9% in 2015, to a meagre 4.26% in 2020.

There is also an impression among Congress supporters that the party is "not serious" about the Delhi elections. It is a common practice for the party to set up a campaign committee and poll-related panels before every election. In Delhi, where elections are now less than a month away, the party is yet to set up a campaign committee. There are no senior central observers in place either.

However, sources said the party is very much in the game, with observers appointed for every Assembly constituency, a concerted campaign in the works, and no ambiguity about the stand on AAP.

"We have roped in MPs, MLAs, former MLAs and ministers from other states and two each have been assigned per seat. For instance, Lok Sabha MP Tanuj Punia is in charge of Timarpur seat, former Maharashtra minister Nitin Raut is in charge of Gokalpur, Ajay Kumar Lallu is in charge of Wazirpur and former Union minister Pradeep Jain Aditya in charge of Chandni Chowk," a senior leader said.

The other observers include Hisar MP Jayprakash for Bawana, Bharatpur MP Sanjana Jatav for Kasturba Nagar, and Churu MP Rahul Kaswan for Najafgarh.

For the creatives, the Congress has hired Gurgaon-based XPLUSD Events Pvt Ltd, while another company is looking at media distribution. A leader in charge of the campaign said: "It will be an aggressive campaign against the AAP government and

Kejriwal. We will roll it out in the next few days. Soon you will see outdoor spots, jingles on the radio, advertisements on digital media and newspapers."

A leader said the Congress is clear the only way the party can bounce back in the Capital, where it ruled for 15 straight years, was the weakening of AAP. "Whatever our friends in the INDIA bloc say, it is the AAP that has taken away our votes," the leader said, pointing out that the BIP vote share has not increased much.

"Their vote share was around 36% in 2008 and was 38% in the last elections. On the other hand, we went down from 40% to 4%... So we have to attack AAP. Yes, there may be a difference of perception on the line of attack, but there is no difference of opinion in the party that the AAP and its governance record has to be targeted."

The leader said the Congress would, in fact, highlight a "Congress model" to counter the "AAP model". "Instead of namecalling, we plan to run a positive campaign," another leader said. "Karnataka Deputy CM D K Shivakumar announced our first guarantee — monthly financial assistance of Rs 2,500 to women under the Pyari Didi Yojana... (Former Rajasthan CM) Ashok Gehlot announced our second guarantee universal health insurance up to Rs 25 lakh. We are planning to get former CMs Bhupesh Baghel and Charanjit Singh Channi, and Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, to announce promises on education, power... We are going to tell Delhi our governments have implemented welfare schemes we promised."

### infuse some new blood...' THE DELHI Congress has decided to go it alone in the Assembly polls on February 5, with its chief **DEVENDER YADAV** categorically stating there will be no tie-up with the AAP. In an interview with **SAMAN HUSAIN**, he says the decisions to bring in new faces to contest the polls as well as the party's guarantees for the capital were calculated moves. He also dismisses speculation on differences with the central leadership. Excerpts:

'People were sick of same

old faces... we wanted to

Renuka Puri

when it came to an alliance with the AAP.

There is no such thing. You must have observed we have launched two guarantees. In one of those, the Karnataka Deputy CM had participated. Another scheme was intro-

duced by one of our tallest national leaders and the Rajasthan ex-CM. In the coming days, you They are also connected to will see the same trend. Apart from that, Rahul Gandhi ji is also coming on (January) 13th. So, he is also in the mood to fight the election. Be it Priyanka ji or Kharge *ji*, they will all be seen very soon.

> But why did the senior leadership not show up during the Delhi Nyaya Yatra?

> > There were elections in

Maharashtra. Iharkhand and most of our leaders were occupied there. Ajay Maken *ji*, our Himachal CM, presidents of different states - Raja Warring and Karan Mehra... Whoever got time, participated... not just participated, but they actually encouraged people to be there in the Nyaya Yatra.

The party has announced a cash scheme for women and then a healthcare scheme... Was there a feasibility check?

Definitely. You must have observed one thing behind every guarantee — there is a successful example of its implementation in another state. When we announced the Rs 2,500 scheme for women, it was backed by Karnataka's scheme of Rs 2,000 to every woman in the state... It's been a year now and the women of Karnataka are benefitting from it. The health insurance of Rs 25 lakh... was again backed by one of our state's policies which we implemented and is still on. But yes, with the change in government, they (BIP) have stopped giving money to that scheme... For us, the guarantee of Congress means we will stick by our promises. Before announcing a guarantee, we carry out a lot of checks to ensure we will be able to deliver it.

There is speculation that the party will announce five big guarantees. Would it be possible to implement them all in a single state?

Not precisely, but yes, around five. We have calculated everything before announcing these schemes. It is not without keeping in mind Delhi's fiscal situation. Fiscally, Delhi is one of the

strongest states in India. The only issue is that a lot of corruption has taken place in the last 10 years. If you remember, our budget in 2013 was Rs 37,000 crore... and at that time, you saw the number of flyovers, metro, underpasses and CNG buses that

had come up. Along

THE EXPRESS

**INTERVIEW** 

**DEVENDER YADAV** 

**DELHI CONGRESS CHIEF** 

with infrastructure development, we were also giving almost Rs 2,000 crore to pensioners... we were fund-sufficient.

What we see today is a lot of mismanagement... the budget has increased to Rs 77,000 crore, but we do not see any development in infrastructure.

In the schemes that they (AAP) announced, corruption is clearly visible. These were people who used to say the electricity distribution companies were not getting audited and they would get them audited. Since they came to power, the money for Rs 200 (free) units has been given to distributors to give electricity for free... if the consumer gets it directly, it could have been very beneficial..

All our promises are vetted by a panel under the All India Congress Committee... only then are we allowed to announce them.

### How does the Delhi Congress view the controversial statements made by BJP leader Ramesh Bidhuri on CM Atishi?

It is not just about CM Atishi or Priyanka Vadra ji. It is about insulting women... this is not the first time he has made such comments...You must remember how he insulted a minority MP in Parliament. So, such people can't be spared. He should immediately be expelled from the party but we have minimum expectations from them because BJP has always been against women...

### SP and TMC announced their support for AAP in the Delhi polls. Considering all three parties are India bloc

partners, how do you see this? No, there has not been a formal announcement of such kind as far as I know. Once a formal an nouncement is made, I would def initely comment on that. We are in an alliance at the national level In Delhi, we mutually decided whether it was AAP or Congress we would go our own way... And when we are fighting for an election, we will get support from some and not from others.

www.indianexpress.com

**FULL INTERVIEW ON** 

## Kejriwal seeks inclusion of Jats in Centre's OBC list, BJP's Verma says playing caste card

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

DELHI'S IAT community has become the latest AAP-BJP flashpoint in the run-up to the Delhi Assembly polls on February 5. On Thursday, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor Arvind Kejriwal accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah of "betraying" the community by not including it in the Centre's Other Backward Classes (OBC) list. Hitting back, BJP's Parvesh Verma said the AAP chief has never remembered the Jat community in the past 11 years.

The two leaders are facing off against each other from the New Delhi constituency.

Speaking at a press conference during the day, Kejriwal said he wrote to PM Modi demanding the inclusion of Delhi's Jat community in the Central OBC list. "In Delhi, we have an OBC list that includes the community but it is not in the Central government's list. Interestingly, the Jat community in Rajasthan is included in the Centre's list, allowing them to avail reservation in Delhi colleges and during Delhi Police job recruitment. nificant influence in the Capital,

'Delhi polls will be between AAP

and BJP... Cong can only file cases'





AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal and ex-BJP MP Parvesh Verma are facing off against each other from New Delhi seat. Amit Mehra

However, students from the Jat community in Delhi do not receive these benefits for admissions and jobs," Kejriwal said.

Attacking the BIP-led Centre, the former Delhi CM said grave injustice was being done to "brothers and sisters" from the Jat community. "PM Modi called Jat leaders and met them three times at his house in the last 10 years. Shah also met them, but they have yet to deliver the promises they made. They only remember Jat *bhais* (brothers) during polls; after that, they (Centre) forget them," he said.

The lat community holds sig-

comprising an estimated 8-10% of the electorate.

Keiriwal also said there are five other communities — Rawat, Roniyar, Raitanwar, Charan, and Ode — included in the Delhi list but not in the Centre's OBC list.

"There are seven central universities in Delhi and DU has several colleges. Additionally, there are government sectors like the Delhi Police, New Delhi Municipal Council, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi Development Authority, and several hospitals where people from these communities do not benefit from reservation. I urge the Prime Minister and ing the OBC inclusion for Jats.

He added, "I also assure you Kejriwal will fight for his Jat sisters and brothers and get them

Home Minister to honour the

promises they made to the peo-

ple of these communities."

added to the Centre's list." Verma, the former BJP MP from West Delhi, said Kejriwal's political ground is slipping. "This

is the same Kejriwal who found the Jats repulsive, who refused to let them and the people of rural Delhi enter his house. But now, as elections approach and rural Delhi — be it Jats, Gurjars, Yadavs, Tyagis or Rajputs — stand united against Kejriwal, he suddenly remembers the Jats..." Accusing Kejriwal of playing

caste-based politics in Delhi, Verma added, "He once spoke of secularism... today, he is dividing Delhi along caste lines... If anyone has given constitutional recognition to the National OBC Commission, it is PM Modi."

He also said for Jats or any caste to be included in the OBC list, the state government must first approve the proposal and send it to the OBC Commission: "Kejriwal's government held special (Assembly) sessions but used them only to criticise the Centre and the L-G, never pass-

### senior leadership have led to speculations on there being differences between the central and state leadership

## EC NOD AWAITED

## BJP to roll out mini 'Sheesh Mahals' to go around Delhi

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

AAM AADMI Party national convenor Arvind Kejriwal Thursday said the upcoming Delhi elections will primarily be a battle between AAP and BJP, indirectly stating that the Congress is not a contender.

He made the statement at a press conference while responding to a question on Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit filing a defamation case against AAP and its leaders for saying he takes money from BJP. "Delhi assembly elections are going to be between AAP and BIP... they (Congress) can only file cases... They are just pawns of the BJP. They follow the BJP's directions like in a chess game. If the BJP asks him to take one step, he will take one, if it asks him to move two steps ahead, he will do that... If BJP asks them to go

दिल्ली का CM कौन? Herecondern) गाली गलीज पार्टी आम आदमी पार्टी

The AAP pasted posters across Delhi, asking the BIP to reveal its CM candidate. Express

file cases they do...," said Kejriwal. Dikshit did not respond to calls

and messages seeking comment. AAP also pasted posters across Delhi, asking the BJP to reveal its CM candidate. "Our CM face is Kejriwal; now the 'Gali Galoch Party' (BIP) should also reveal its CM face...," the party said. Hitting back, Delhi BJP presi-

dent Virendra Sachdeva said Kejriwal is trying to mislead people by projecting himself as the CM face though legally he can't work as one: "His face is blackened by charges of corruption and misgovernance... He should note that every BIP worker is toiling as if he/she is CM of Delhi to make the lotus bloom on February 8..."

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

TO GIVE a push to its charge against AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal of spending "lavishly" to renovate the Delhi Chief Minister's residence, the BJP has ordered 14 model "replicas" of 6, Flagstaff Road, Civil Lines, one for each district in the Capital — with plans to go up to 70, for each of the Capital's Assembly constituencies.

Sources said the models depicting the three-storey white bungalow and its alleged luxuries, with human figurines thrown in, cost around Rs 50,000 to Rs 1 lakh a piece — with the cost falling, now that there is a template.

One such model titled 'Sheesh Mahal – Keiriwal's Museum of Corruption' – occupies a prominent place just inside the gate at the Delhi BJP's Pandit Pant Marg office, visible to passersby.

Made of PVC and plywood, the model, enclosed in glass and placed on a 6X4ft table, has detailing such as balconies, windows, doors, a terrace, a swimming pool, a badminton court, a pergola with seating, trees, and five toy luxury cars. There are three female figures on one balcony and two on the badminton court.

Says Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva: "Earlier, we placed a WagonR model, the car Kejriwal used to travel in. But we removed it as the so-called aam aadmi does not travel by that car anymore. As per people earlier with the AAP who visited the house, Kejriwal only has luxury cars now... So, we placed toy luxury cars."

As for the gym, jacuzzi, spa and other such luxuries that a Comptroller and Auditor General report — yet to be tabled, and accessed by The Indian Express — has said the house is equipped with, the BJP has got around the com-



A model of the 'Sheesh Mahal'. Praveen Khanna

plexity of depicting them by pasting general pictures of a jacuzzi, spa, sensor-based toilets, chandeliers, recliner sofas, massage chairs, TVs etc around the table. Asked how they accessed de-

eral people, including former AAP leaders who are now with the BIP, who have visited the house. So, we sourced videos and pictures from them... We tails regarding the bungalow, a shared them with an architect,

BIP source says: "We know sev-

who then made the model using a Computer Numerical Contro machine and other techniques.

The BIP is mum on the name of the architect, only saying he is Haryana-based.

Sachdeva is confident the 'Sheesh Mahal' models will be a hit now that campaigning is gathering steam. "The models will be taken for rounds in all constituencies, and placed in markets, colonies, and streets. Volunteers will tell people about Kejriwal's 'Museum of Corruption' and how he used

public money for a lavish life." One hurdle remains. With the Model Code of Conduct now in force, Sachdeva says they plan to get the Election Commission permission to showcase the 'Sheesh Mahals'. "Once the approval comes, the campaign will be launched in a day or two."

> **FULL REPORT ON** www.indianexpress.com

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			PUBLIC NOTICE			
	Gener	al Elections to	the Legislative Assembly of NC	Γ of Delhi	- 2025	
		•	that Election Commission of India has designated I Territory of Delhi. The details of these Return		_	•
nomination pap	pers are as under:					
Number & Name	Name of Returning	Designation	Office Address ( where nomination papers will be	Land Line No. (O) &	Mobile	E-Mail. Address
of the Assembly Constituency	Officer	Designation	received/accepted and scrutiny to be conducted	Fax No.	No.	E-Wan. Address
DISTRICT- NORTHN 01- NERELA	ame of District Election Offic Ms. Mahima Tomar	er:- Sh. Yash Chaudhary, IAS SDM (Narela)	Landline:- 011-27203048 Mobile No. 7837540106 , E-Mail:- dcnorth@ MPCC Building, Naya Bans, Iradat Nagar, Delhi-110082	011-27844214	8588076580	roacnarela@gmail.com
04- ADARSH NAGAR	Sh. Rajesh Kumar		Office of the Assistant Commissioner (North), Food & Supply Department, 23-27, Gulabi Bagh, Shopping Complex, Delhi-110007	011-23652715	9212006628	roac04adarshnagar@gmail.com
05-BADLI	Sh. Rajeev Kumar Sinha	SDM (Model Town)	Office of the Sub Divisional Magistrate (Model Town), near NDPL Office Azadpur Flyover, Azadpur, Delhi-110033	011-27681530	9810880942	modelsdm@nic.in
07-BAWANA (SC)	Sh. Ankur Meshram	ADM (North)	Office of ADM, Room No. 23, DM North Office Complex, GT Karnal Road, Alipur, Delhi-110036	011-27708716	8446967004	ankur-meshram@nic.in
13-ROHINI	Sh. Rajat Mehrotra	SDM (HQ), O/o the Dy. Commissioner, North	SDM HQ, DM North Office Complex, GT Karnal Road,	011-27206727	8851838816	roac13rohini@gmail.com
15-SHAKUR BASTI	Sh. Aman Singh Lohan	SDM (Alipur)	SDM Alipur, DM North Office Complex, GT Karnal Road, Alipur, Delhi-110036	011-27203773	9315240619	roac15dlae2025@gmail.com
17- WAZIRPUR	Sh. Arvind Kumar		Nigam Utkrast Vidyalaya, Delhi Municipal Corporation, Nimri	011-27305087	9999065096	roac17wazirpur2025@gmail.com
18- MODEL	Sh. Lokesh Prasad Sinha	Commissioner, North SDM (HQ-III), O/o the	Colony, Delhi-110052  Aryabhatt Polytechnic Institute (DSEU) near Shakti Nagar	011-27426263	9868572321	roac18modeltown@gmail.com
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68- Gokalpur (SC)	Sh. S.C.Vashishtha	SDM (HQ), O/o the Dy. Commissioner,	Office of SDM (HQ) North East, K-Block, 1st Floor, D.C.		9958876468	sdmhqne.delhi@gov.in
		North-East	Office Complex, Nand Nagri, Delhi-110093  Chamber of SDM (Karawal Nagar), Ground Floor, J-Block, D.C.	011 22574460		
69- Mustafabad	Sh. Amod Barthwal	SDM (Karawal Nagar)	Office Complex, Nand Nagri, Delhi-110093 Office of the Addl. District Magistrate, District North East,	011-22574469	9810102995	sdmkarawalnagar@gmail.com
70- Karawal Nagar	Sh. Vaibhav Rikhari	ADM (North East)	Room No. 2, Block-K, D.C. Office Complex, Nand Nagri, Delhi-110093	011-22815490	9910435178	admne2024@gmail.com
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31- Vikaspuri	Sh. Naveen Mediratta	Food & Supply (South-West)	Vikaspuri, New Delhi-110018  Room No. 12, Chamber of Additional District Magistrate			rovikaspuri31@gmail.com
32- Uttam Nagar	Sh. Balram Meena	ADM (South-West)	(South-West), O/o District Magistrate (South-West), Old Terminal Tax Building, Kapashera, New Delhi-110037	011-25069485	9560504176	swadm@nic.in
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34-Matiala	Ms. Shelly	SDM (Kapashera)	Room no 39, Chamber of SDM Kapashera, First Floor, O/o District Magistrate (South-West), Old Terminal Tax Building,	011-25069185	8168343066	romatiala.ac34@gmail.com
35- Najafgarh	Ms. Mamta Yadav, IAS	SDM (Najafgarh)	Kapashera, New Delhi-110037 Office of the SDM (Najafgarh), Room No. 3, Tura Mandi,	011-25325036	9811000058	najafgarhsdm@gmail.com
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36-Bijwasan	Sh. Abhineet Sapra	Dy. Commissioner, South-West	Magistrate (South-West), Old Terminal Tax Building, Kapashera, New Delhi-110037	011-25069486	9811256665	91001jwasanac30@gman.com
37-Palam	Sh. Gulshan Kumar Ahuja	BDO (South-West)	Room No.106, Ist Floor, Office of SDM (Najafgarh), Tura Mandi Tehsil, Najafgarh, Delhi.			returningofficerac37palam@ gmail.com
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56-Kondli (SC)	Sh. Sanjay Kumar	SDM (Mayur Vihar)	Room No. 20, Block-A, DM (East) Office Complex, L.M.			ro.ac56.mcd@gmail.com
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58-Laxmi Nagar	Agarwal  Ms. Praveen Singh	1	Bundn Road, Snastri Nagar, Deini-110031	011-21210853		ac58aro@gmail.com
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39-Rajinder Nagar	Sh.Prateek Raj Yadav	SDM (Vasant Vihar)	Office of SDM Vasant Vihar, 6th Floor, Palika Bhawan, Sector-13, R K Puram, Delhi-110066	011-20862369	8900916004	eroac39@gmail.com
40-New Delhi	Sh. OP Pandey	SDM (Chankya Puri) Assistant Commissioner,	, , , , ,	011-23386844	9654009701	roac40newdelhi2025@gmail.com
44-RK Puram	Sh. Hari Narayan Meena	Food & Supply (New Delhi)	Office of the Deputy Director of Education (District South) Sector-3, RK Puram, New Delhi-110022	011-26182716	8920816494	roac44.dlae2025@gmail.com
50-Greater Kailash  DISTRICT - CENT	Sh. Nishant Bodh  FRAL Name of District F	ADM, (New Delhi)	12/1, Jam Nagar House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-11 udhakar, IAS Landline:- 011-23282903, Mob. No.98119906	011-23071144 <b>96, E-Mail:- dcce</b> n		newdelhiadm@gmail.com
02-Burari	Sh. Ramesh Kumar	SDM (Civil Lines)	Room No. 12, Sir C.V. Raman, ITI, Dheerpur, Delhi-110009	011-79657775	9868946703	aroac2burari@gmail.com
03-Timarpur	Sh. L. K. Gautam	Food & Supply (East)	DDA Shopping complex, Dayanand vihar, Delhi-110092  SDM (Kotwali) chamber 14 Padam Chand Marg, Dayagani	011-22373112		ro03DLAE@gmail.com
19-Sadar Bazar 20-Chandni Chowk	Sh. Alok Kumar Sh. Manoj Kumar	SDM (Kotwali)  Assistant Commissioner,	New Delhi-110002	011-23284931	9162860848 9818442278	alokkumar.and@gov.in roac20chandnichowk2025@
21-Matia Mahal	Dr. Atul Pandey	Food & Supply (Central)  ADM ( Central)	110054. (ID No. 1207108)	011-20924249		gmail.com centraladm@nic.in
22-Ballimaran	Ms. Neeraja R Kumar	SDM (HQ), O/o the	Sarvodya Bal Vidyalaya (SBV). Zeenat Mahal, Kamla Market	011-20832472	9313998929	sdmhqcentral.delhi@ delhi.gov.in
23-Karol Bagh (SC)  DISTRICT - WES	Sh. Shakti Bangar <b>F Name of District Elect</b>	SDM (Karol Bagh)		011-23259400 -Mail:- dcwest@do	9654922354	roac23kb2025@gmail.com
11-Nangloi Jat	Sh. Deepak Pundir	SDM (Punjabi Bagh)	SDM Office, Rohtak Road, Nangloi, Delhi-110041	011-20850591		roac11nj@gmail.com
25-Moti Nagar	Sh. Arun Gupta		Room No. 408, Fourth Floor, O/o District Magistrate (West), Plot No. 3, Shivaji Place, Raja Garden, New Delhi-110027	011-25170144		arun24gupta@gmail.com
26-Madipur (SC) 27-Rajouri Garden	Sh. C. S. Sharma Smt. Iti Agarwal	BDO (West)  SDM (Rajouri Garden)	New Rohtak Road, Nangloi, Opp. Nangloi Police Station, Delhi-110041 Room No. 204, Second Floor, O/o the District Magistrate (West),	011-27395675	-	bdosunil@gmail.com rajaurisdm@nic.in
28-Hari Nagar	Sh. Vinay Kumar Jindal	ADM (West)	Room No. 404, Fourth Floor, O/o the District Magistrate (West),	011-25107117		westadm@delhi.gov.in
		1	Plot No. 3, Shivaji Place, Raja Garden, New Delhi-11002/	011-25170141		
29-Tilak Nagar 30-Janakpuri	Sh. Nitin Shakya Smt. Sushila	SDM (Patel Nagar)  Assistant Commissioner,	Plot No. 3, Shivaji Place, Raja Garden, New Delhi-110027 Room No. 3, Ground Floor, World Class Skill Centre, ITI, Hari	J., 201/0141		patelsdm@nic.in roac30janakpuri@gmail.com
•			Nagar, Delhi-110064 Chaitanya Prasad , IAS Landline:- 011-29535025 , Mob.N	o. 7005636466, E-	4	3 1 35
43-Malviya Nagar	Dr. Mukesh Kumar	SDM (Hauz Khas)	Room No.5, Office Of SDM (Hauz Khas) O/o The District Magistrate (South) M.B. Road, Saket, New Delhi-110068	011-29536904	8900984021	hauzkhazsdm@nic.in
45-Mehrauli	Ms. Mahima Madan	SDM (Mehrauli)	Room No. 1, O/o Sub-Divisional Magistrate Office (Mehrauli), Old Tehsil Building, Seth Sarai, Mehrauli, New Delhi-110030	011-26641772	9610449318	sdmmehrauli.delhi@nic.in
46-Chhatarpur	Ms. Anita Yadav	SDM (Saket)	SDM (SAKET) Room No. 1, New Building, O/o Sub-Divisional Magistrate Saket SDM Saket, M.B. Road, New Delhi-110068	011-29535190	9711221481	sdmsaket@gmail.com
47-Deoli (SC)	Sh. Wairokpam Punshiba Singh	SDM (HQ), O/o the Dy. Commissioner,	Room No. 104, First Floor, O/O DM South, M.B. Road Saket, New Delhi-110068	011-29531082	X44/334577	returningofficer47deoli@gmail.com
48-Ambedkar	Sh. Rahul Saini	South  ADM (South)	ADM (South), Room No-20, O/o District Magistrate (South),	011-29536774		southadm@nic.in
Nagar (SC)  DISTRICT - SHAI	HDARA Name of Distric	· · ·	M. B. Road, Saket, New Delhi-110068 shita Gupta, IAS Landline:- 011-22126636, Mob.No. 98216		4	, and the second
59-Vishwas Nagar	Sh. Devendara Singh Tomar	Sdm (Vivek Vihar)	110093	011-20824926	8826262323	sdmvivekvihar@gmail.com
62-Shahdara	Sh. Ranjeet Kumar Singh	ADM (Shahdara)	Nagri, Delhi-110093  F-Block Ground Floor DC Office Complex Nand Nagri	011-22127540		admshahdara@gmail.com
63-Seemapuri (SC)	Sh. Mohan Kumar	SDM (Seemapuri) SDM (HQ), O/o the	Delhi-110093	011-22132077	9717445149	sdmseemapuri@gmail.com
64-Rohtas Nagar	Sh. Mangal sain	Dy. Commissioner, Shahdara	D-Block, Ground Floor, DC Office complex, Nand Nagri, Delhi-110093	011-22114005	9910641121	sdmhq12345@gmail.com
67-Babarpur	Sh. Tapan Kumar Jha	SDM (Shahdara)	A-Block, 1st Floor, DC Office Complex, Nand Nagri, Delhi-110093	011-20824916	9560026886	sdmshahdara12@gmail.com
DISTRICT - SOUT	TH EAST Name of Distr	ict Election Officer: Sh. A	Anil Banka, DANICS Landline:- 011-26476402, Mob.No. 97. Office of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (HQ), Room No. 105,	17677177 E-Mail:	- dcse.rev.dell	ni@nic.in,
41-Janonura	Sh. Ajay Chaturyedi	Dy Commissioner	First Floor Old Gargi College Building Lainat Nagar-IV	011-26471503	8368506332	acianonura?@omail.com

Office of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Defence Colony),

Old Gargi College Building, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New Delhi-110024

Office of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (Sarita Vihar), Room

Office of the Assistant Commissioner South, Food & Supplies

Date and time for receiving nominations papers: 10.01.2025 to 17.01.2025 (except public holidays as per section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments

Institutional Area, M. B Road, Delhi-110044

Sector-3, Pushp Vihar, New Delhi-110017

New Delhi-110024

New Delhi-110024

Saket, New Delhi - 110068

First Floor, Old Gargi College Building, Lajpat Nagar-IV, 011-26471503

Room No. 14, Old Gargi College Building, Lajpat Nagar-IV, 011-26476405

O/o Block Development Officer, Room No. 17, M.B. Road, 011-29536566

O/o Additional District Magistrate (South-East), Room No. 13, 011-26476404

Office of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate , 37, Tuglakabad 011-29956500

No. 17, Old Gargi College Building, Lajpat Nagar-IV, New 011-26476406

Consumer Affairs, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Asian Market, 011-29554441

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olice (Special Cell) Manoj Sahil was first arres				er accused in Illings, Vijay	13-ROHINI	Sh.
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crore (US\$ 9.5 billion) for activities span hydrocart	bon expl	oration and pro	duction	n, petroleum	39-Rajinder Naga	r Sh.Pr
refining and marketing, composites, renewables	petroch	emicals, advar	nced m	aterials and	40-New Delhi	Sł
services. Currently ranke company from India to	ed 86th, F	Reliance is the la	argest p	rivate sector	44-RK Puram	Sh. Ha
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A) For All Oil & Gas					DISTRICT - CEN	-
Reliance Industries Limit co-venturers invites Exp	and the second s			the state of the first of the state of the s	02-Burari	Sh. I
experienced Contractor	s/ Vendo				03-Timarpur	Sh.
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Category Number	Supply	of Cementing			20-Chandni Chow	k Sh.
DRL/COMN/2025/1		d related service		billinge	21-Matia Mahal	Dr
B) For Block No. K	G-DWN	-98/3 (KG-D	3)	45	22-Ballimaran	Ms. N
Reliance Industries Limit co-venturer BP Explora					23-Karol Bagh (SC)	

### UK-based gangster Kapil Sangwan alias Nandu was the al-

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

**PANCHKULA HOTEL MURDERS** 

TWO SHOOTERS, suspected to be members of the Kapil Sangwan gang, were arrested by the Delhi Police Special Cell from Bengaluru early Thursday for allegedly gunning down three persons at the parking lot of The Sultanat hotel at Pinjore in Panchkula on December 23 while they were

leaving a birthday party. The police identified the shooters as Sahil alias Poli (27) and Vijay Gehlot alias Kali (37).

Earlier, the police had said that

leged mastermind behind the Panchkula shooting, leading to the death of Vineet alias Vicky (30), and his nephew Tirth (17) — residents of Mitraon in Delhi's Najafgarh — as well as a woman from Haryana.

Sangwan was allegedly avenging the death of his brother-in-law, who was killed in December 2015 by Vineet's elder brother, a member of the Ashok Pradhan gang, the police had said.

According to the police, while Vineet and his minor nephew were the real targets, the woman,

## Nadda assesses BJP's preparations for elections

New Delhi: Confident that the people of Delhi "would make the right choice" of ridding the Capital of "AAP-induced disasters", BJP national president J P Nadda on Thursday assessed the party's preparations for the February 5 elections.

According to sources, Nadda asked the party to "unite to take the BIP to victory" and focus more on outreach over the coming days.

Nadda participated in election management meetings held at the BJP state office to gather updates on electoral arrangements and "provided guidance for improvement", sources said, adding that a meeting of the BIP's state core committee is sched-

uled to be held at Union Home Minister Amit Shah's residence on Friday.

This, sources said, will be followed by a meeting of the Central Election Committee chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi where the final decision regarding the BJP's remaining candidates for the polls will be taken.

In the meeting, Nadda reportedly said that the Delhi election "offers an opportunity to choose between Arvind Kejriwal's falsehoods and corruption and BJP's truth and development". "He expressed confidence that the people of Delhi would make the right choice and free the city from AAP-induced disasters," a party leader said. **ENS** 



## GRAMEEN BHARAT MAHOTSAV



the following:

NATIONAL FERTILIZERS LIMITED (A Govt. of India Undertaking) Phone - 0120 2412294, 2412445, Fax: 0120 2412218 E-Application/E-Procurement Notice

Date: 10.01.2025 Applications / bids are invited from the prospective suppliers / bidders fo

Hrs on 31.01.2025

Last date of Bid Ref No. / submission / Description E Tender No. Opening of Technica Bid document Empanelment of Fermented Ref No: NFL /Mktg- 15.30 Hrs on

Organic Manure (FOM) D/FOM/2024- 30.01.2025/15.30 Hrs on 31.01.2025 units for supply and further | 25/01 Marketing in different E-Tender no. 2025 NFL 223412 1 Carrying and Forwarding Ref No: NFL/Mktg- 15.30 Hrs on C&F) Agent and D/AgroChem./C& 30.01.2025 / 15.30

Transportation from C&F F/05/2024

to Dealer's locations for E-Tender No: Agrochemicals in Punjab, 2025\_NFL\_22340 Haryana & Rajasthan. Procurement of Micronutrient | Ref No : NFL/Mktg- | 15.30 Hrs on Fertilizers (Zinc Sulphate D/MN/2024-25/02 | 20.01.2025 / 15.30 Monohydrate 33%) for E-Tender no. Hrs on 21.01.2025 further marketing in various 2025 NFL 22338

For details visit website: https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app e-tendering) & www.nationalfertilizers.com (Homepage). Any Corrigendum (s) to these tenders shall be published only on our websites. Dy. General Manager-(Mktg-D)

## पुलिस अधीक्षक का कार्यालय, सिमडेगा

(सर्वसाधारण के लिए सूचना)

लापता महिला इलिजाबेथ केरकेट्टा वर्तमान उम्र- करीब 25 वर्श, पे0-स्व0 जुएल केरकेट्टा, सा0-दुमकी चरीटांड, थाना-टी0 टांगर, जिला-सिमंडेगा, राज्य-झारखण्ड, जो वर्श-2010 में दिल्ली काम करने चली गयी है, जो अबतक वापस घर नहीं आयी। गुमशुदा महिला की बरामदगी अभी तक नहीं हो पायी है, जिनका विवरणी

निम्नवत है:-हुलिया की विवरणी:-:- स्त्रीलिंग लिंग :- करीब 25 वर्ष शरीर :- सामान्य रग :- गेहेंआ चेहरा :- गोल :- काला :- 5 फीट 02 ईंच उँचाई



:- सादरी एवं हिन्दी अतः सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त महिला इलिजाबेथ केरकेट्टा के बारे में पता चलता है तो नीचे अंकित

दरभाष नं0 पर अविलंब सचित करेंगे। पलिस अधीक्षक सिमडेगा मोबाइल नं0-9431116444 पुलिस उपाधीक्षक, (मु0) सिमडेगा – मोबाइल नं0-9431706227 थाना प्रभारी, ए०एच०टी०य० मोबाइल नं0—9608015596 पुलिस नियंत्रण कक्ष, सिमडेगा — मोबाइल नं0-9262998531 मानव तस्करी संबंधी टोल फी नं0—मोबाइल नं0—1800—3456—256

PR.NO.343939 Simdega(24-25):D

पुलिस अधीक्षक, पुलिस अधीक्षक का कार्यालय, सिमडेगा।

## (सर्वसाधारण के लिए सूचना)

लापता बालिका लीलावती कुमारी, उम्र-करीब 19 वर्ष, पिता-स्व0 जीवन नायक, ग्राम-भ्ईयाटोली, बीरू, थाना-सिमडेगा, जिला-सिमडेगा, राज्य-झारखण्ड जो वर्ष-2019 में दिल्ली काम करने चली गयी है, जो अबतक वापस घर नहीं आयी । गुमशुदा बालिका की बरामदगी अभी तक

नहीं हो पायी है. जिनका विवरणी निम्नवत है:-हलिया की विवरणी :--

लिंग:-स्त्रीलिंग उम्र:-करीब 19 वर्ष शरीर:-सामान्य रंग :-सॉवली चेहरा :-गोल बाल:-काला उँचाई:-4 फीट 06 ईच

भाषा:-सादरी एवं हिन्दी ।



अतः सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि उक्त बालिका लीलावती कुमारी के बारे में पता चलता है तो नीचे अंकित दूरभाष नं0 पर अविलंब सुचित करेंगे।

पुलिस अधीक्षक, सिमडेगा-मोबाइल नं0 - 9431116444 पुलिस उपाधीक्षक, (मु0) सिमडेगा-मोबाइल नं0 - 9431706227 थाना प्रभारी, ए०एच०टी०यू०-मोबाइल नं० - 9608015596 पुलिस नियंत्रण कक्ष, सिमडेगा–मोबाइल नं0 - 9262998531 मानव तस्करी संबंधी टोल फी नं0-मोबाइल नं0 - 1800-3456-256 पुलिस अधीक्षक, PR 343941 (Simdega) 24-25 (D) सिमडेगा।

## blocks acquired under NELP-I:

(KG-D6) in East coast of India.

0-1-----

Category Number	Category Description
DRL/COMN/2025/1	Supply of Cementing Hardware, Bridge Plug and related services

B) For Block No. KG-DWN-98/3 (KG-D6) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), as operator, on behalf of itself & its co-venturer BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputed and experienced Contractors/ Vendors for following categories, for Deep-water Block No. KG-DWN-98/3

Category Number	Category Description				
OAM/KGD6/2025/1	Supply of Multipurpose fire tender with built-in water, foam and DCP tanks and high-pressure hose reel				
OAM/KGD6/2025/2	Design, Engineering, Installation, commissioning, testing and charging of 132 kV power grid as per specifications of the local and central electricity board rules				
OAM/KGD6/2025/3	Design & Supply of ROV operated Subsea deployable Hydrate Remediation Skid for Hydrate removal from deep- water flowlines / XMTs / Umbilical for water depth up to 2200m.				
OAM/KGD6/2025/4	Design & Supply of ROV operated Subsea deployable Bolt Replacement Tooling system for Bolt retrieval / installation from deep-water Subsea Asset with water depth up to 2200m.				
OAM/KGD6/2025/5	Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of FPSO and Operation of Subsea Production Facilities				
OAM/KGD6/2025/6	Mooring Services for Condensate Offtake Operations from FPSO				
OAM/KGD6/2025/7	Provision of Tug and Hawser & Hose Handling Boat for Condensate Offtake Operations from FPSO				

Interested Contractors/Vendors are requested to visit our website www.ril.com (eB2B> For Suppliers> E&P Notice for EOI) for further details on the above and submit their EOI through e-mail on deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com, on or before 31 January 2025. Subject of the mail should mention "RIL/E&P/EOI/2025/01" along with category number. For documents size beyond 10 MB, Contractors/Vendors should request RIL through e-mail to provide FTP link for uploading EOI documents.

## Address for Communication

Chief - Supply Chain Management, Reliance Industries Limited, Petroleum Business (E&P), Reliance Corporate Park (RCP). Building No 11, 'A' Wing, Second Floor, Thane-Belapur Road, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai - 400 701, India. Email: deveoiresponse.eandp@ril.com



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Ms. Manju Singh

Kalshain

Sh. Tanuj Bhanot

Sh. Shailendra Kumar

Sh. Anuj Kumar Bharti

Ms. Ambika Ratnoo

Sh. Vinod Kumar

Act, 1881), Between 11:00 AM to 03:00 PM.

41-Jangpura

42-Kasturba Nagar

49-Sangam Vihar

51-Kalkaji

52-Tughlakabad

53- Badarpur

54-Okhla

Dv. Commissioner.

South-East

SDM (Defence Colony)

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(RAJESH KUMAR) Special Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi

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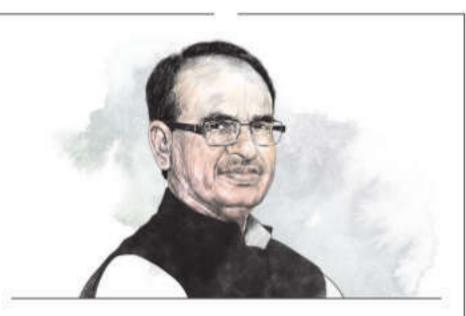
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2 Kapil Sangwan gang members held from Bengaluru An officer said that Sahil and

# GOVT & POLITICS



## **DELHI CONFIDENTIAL**



## BUDGET PLAN

UNION AGRICULTURE Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who held pre-budget meetings with multiple stakeholders over the last few days, met his Cabinet colleague, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, on Wednesday. Chouhan, also the Rural Development Minister, was accompanied by the secretaries of his two ministries. After the meeting, Chouhan said "extensive discussions" were held with the FM regarding the decisions to be taken for farm and rural sectors in the forthcoming budget. "The suggestions which we received from MGNREGS workers and farmers were presented to the FM," he said.

## SURPRISE VISIT

AFTER OVERSEEING the preparations for the shifting of the Congress headquarters from 24, Akbar Road, to 9A, Kotla Road, Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra paid a surprise visit to the Akbar Road office on Thursday. The premises were mostly empty when she arrived at 6.30 pm. Party leaders Gurdeep Singh Sappal and Netta D'Souza were among the handful of people present. Priyanka spoke to some staff members about shifting essential items from the existing office to the new building, which has been named Indira Gandhi Bhawan. It will be inaugurated on January 15 by Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi.

## POLL RUSH

RIGHT AFTER the announcement of the Delhi Assembly election schedule on Tuesday, the Aam Aadmi Party reached out to the Election Commission for a meeting to discuss their concerns about electoral rolls. On Thursday, party bigwigs marched straight to the EC's doorstep, led by Chief Minister Atishi, AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann and the party's Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh. The leaders, however, could meet only two commissioners as CEC Rajiv Kumar was away on official work in Lakshadweep. The EC had initially suggested a Monday meeting with the full commission, but with Delhi voting just weeks away, the AAP delegation wasn't keen on any delay. The commission then offered a sit-down with the two available election commissioners — Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu.

## Himachal to include families with no adults, those headed by women in BPL category

**SAURABH PARASHAR** SHIMLA, JANUARY 9

THE HIMACHAL Pradesh Cabinet Thursday decided to include families with no adult members between 18 and 59 years, those headed by women, or whose head has a disability of 50 per cent or more in the Below Poverty Line (BPL) category.

Families that worked for at least 100 days under the MGN-REGA in the previous financial vear and families whose earning members are suffering from chronic diseases such as cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, muscular dystrophy, thalassemia or any other condition resulting in permanent disability will also be included in the BPL category, as per the decision approved in the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief

Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. Himachal Pradesh currently has 2.66 lakh BPL families. The inclusion of families in the category is based on the guidelines set by

the Union Ministry of Rural Development. The criteria approved by the Himachal Cabinet is in addition to the Centre's list.

The Ministry of Rural Development says a family owning less than one hectare of land; not having a large permanent house; not paying income tax; not owning any vehicle; having no regular income from salary, pension, or wages; having no member employed in a regular or contractual government or private job can be included in the BPL list. The ministry also adds that such families' income should not exceed ₹2,500 per month.

State Rural Development Minister Anirudh Singh said that the state has revised the criteria of annual income: "Now families with annual income upto Rs 1.11 lakh will be included in the BPL category. The earlier criteria, as per Centre, was ₹30,000 per annum... At present, there are approximately 2,66,304 BPL families in the state. The number will remain around the same.'

## AGENCY ALLEGES LIQUOR COMPANY, VC FIRM MADE 'SUSPICIOUS' TRANSFERS TO CONG MP

## **CBI books Karti Chidambaram in corruption case**

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE CBI has registered a corruption case against Congress MP Karti Chidambaram, the son of former finance minister P Chidambaram, accusing him of receiving "suspicious" fund transfers from liquor company Diageo as well as venture capital fund Sequoia Capital, the agency said in a statement.

It also booked Advantage Strategic Consulting Pvt Ltd (AS-PCL) — an entity controlled by Karti and his aide S Bhaskararaman – besides

Diageo Scotland, Sequoia Capital Mauritius and Vasan Healthcare Pvt Ltd on January 1 after receiving a complaint from CBI inspector Ravi Raj Khatik.

Karti was unavailable for comment.

"A preliminary enquiry was registered on May 29, 2018 against M/s Katra Holdings Ltd, Mauritius, M/s Advantage Strategic Consulting Pvt Ltd, Karti P Chidambaram, Ravi Vishwananthan, Padma Vishwananthan,

Bhaskararaman, unknown public servants of Foreign **Investment Promotion Board** (FIPB) and unknown others to

**Congress MP Karti** Chidambaram

probe into the processing and approval of FIPB," Khatik alleged in the complaint, which is a part of the FIR.

The FIR said Diageo and Sequoia Capital were found to have "suspiciously transferred funds to ASPCL".

"Enquiry revealed M/s Diageo Scotland, UK used to import duty free Johnnie Walker whisky and, the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC), which had a monopoly over sale of imported duty-free liquor in India, in 2005 had put an embargo on the sale of the Diageo Group's duty-free products in India which resulted in huge loss to M/s Diageo Scotland as 70% of its business in India pertained to the sale of Johnnie Walker whisky," it said.

The complaint alleged that to lift the ban, Diageo Scotland approached Karti and paid him \$15,000 through ASCPL "for influencing public servants for lifting the ban imposed on M/s Diageo Scotland for sale of dutyfree liquor and not for any con-

sultancy work". Separately, according to the FIR, Sequoia Capital, Mauritius, had submitted an application for FIPB approval on October 13, 2008 for investing up to 26% in the share capital of Platinum Power Wealth Advisor Pvt. Ltd. The FIPB approval for FDI inflow of ₹9.52 crore was approved by P Chidambaram, the then the Finance Minister, in 2008, the agency said.

"Enquiry also revealed that at the time when the FIPB proposal of Sequoia Capital for FDI was moved, some suspicious share transactions at exorbitant price took place between Sequoia Capital and ASCPL through Vasan Health Care Pvt. Ltd Instead of directly acquiring the shares of M/s Vasan group, the shares were routed through AS-CPL in order to benefit Karti as a total of ₹22.50 crores was paid by Sequoia to M/s ASCPL (Rs 7,500 per share) in lieu of these shares as against the purchase price of ₹30 lakh," the FIR said.

Genome data

of 10k Indians

available for

research, PM

**ANONNA DUTT** 

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

says milestone

THE GENOME sequencing data

of 10,000 Indians, sequenced

from 99 distinct populations,

will now be available for re-

searchers to develop medicines

tailored to the local population

dataset — 8 petabytes of data

stored at the Indian Biological Data

Centre – Prime Minister Narendra

Modi Friday hailed the "milestone"

the Genomics Data Conclave in New Delhi: "The Genome India

project is an important step in

the country's biotech revolution.

With this project, we will create

He said in a filmed address at

in biotechnology research.

Launching the mammoth

## PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS IN BHUBANESWAR

## Saudi royals' doctor, Japan CEO among 27 to get awards

**DIVYA A** 

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

FROM A former pharma CEO in Japan to a Spanish politician, a medical practitioner empanelled with the Saudi royals to a businessman in Malawi — the honours for overseas Indians this year typify the range and reach of the 35.4 million diaspora. The 27 individuals and or-

ganisations chosen for the 2025 Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA), to be honoured by President Droupadi Murmu Friday, hail from 24 countries, including Malawi in East Africa, Fiji, Spain, Romania, US and the UK.

Among the awardees is Lekh Raj Juneja, 72, who was born in Haryana's Gharaunda and travelled to Japan four decades ago to study fermentation science. Juneja, who headed a Japanese

pharmaceutical firm earlier, now helms a snack company. He is being honoured in the 'science & technology' category.

In a recent interview to a Japanese daily, Juneja said the formula for global success was an integration of the best of Indian and Japanese working styles. "Indians are very aggressive when it comes to creating strategies and moving forward, but Japanese people are great at completing things properly," he said.

Robert Masih Nahar, 50, to be

awarded in the 'community service' category, is a politician from Catalonia who became a member of the Senate of Spain in 2017 – the first person of Indian origin to do so. Born in Punjab's Gurdaspur, he got a degree in chemistry and moved to Barcelona in 2005. A few years later, he started to promote cricket in Catalonia and founded the Catalonia Cricket Club. He is known as the "godfather of local cricket" in Catalonia.

Syed Anwar Khursheed from Saudi Arabia is being honoured in the 'medical services' category. "As I was working in King Faisal Hospital, Taif, I had the privilege to help people... Then I moved to National Guard Hospital, Riyadh. I am the royal protocol physician there... it is a great privilege for me to work for the royal family in Saudi Arabia," told reporters Bhubaneswar on Thursday.

The PBSA is the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians (Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian Origin or an organisation established and run by them), as part of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention. A jury headed by the Vice President finalises the names of the recipients.

## PM pitch for peace: World's future is in Buddha, not yuddha



Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi greets PM Narendra Modi at the Pravasi Bharatiya convention on Thursday. PTI

**SUJIT BISOYI** 

BHUBANESWAR, JANUARY 9

IN A message to the global community, Prime Minister Narendra Modi Thursday said the future is not in 'yuddha' (war) but in Buddha (Lord Buddha, who symbolises peace).

Addressing the diaspora at the inaugural session of the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention at Bhubaneswar, Modi said: "When there was a race to conquer the world with the power of swords, Emperor Ashoka chose the path of peace at Dhauli in Odisha (the host for convention). Dhauli in the state is the symbol of peace. This inspires India to tell the world that the future is not in yuddha (war) but in Buddha".

"The world listens carefully to India.India strongly raises the voices of Global South. We havebeen expanding our global role with a focus on 'humanity first'. Modi said.

Hailing the Indian diaspora and their achievements, Modi said their history is a reminder of India's legacy. An exhibition has been organised at the convention venue on spread and evolution of the diaspora.

Modi also emphasised on exploring the journey of Indian diaspora that migrated to various countries centuries ago, citing the example of the Girmitiyas, the indentured labourers who left India in the middle and late 19th centuries. "Why not create a database on Girmitiyas. Their journey from India's villages and cities is need to be studied. The places where they settled should also be identified," said the Prime Minister.

He said films and documentary can be made to bring this (journey of Girmitiyas to the fore) and suggesting having studies on their legacy.

a diverse genetic resource... India is not only diverse in geography, food, and culture, it is also diverse in genetic make-up. So, knowing the genetic identity of

> the country is important." Union Science Minister Jitendra Singh said the project will boost the biopharma sector and ensure that Indian diseases are treated with Indian remedies

> Importantly, the Department of Biotechnology also released a framework for sharing the highly sensitive dataset. "The data will be made available only through managed access meaning it would be available only to research institutes that partner with us for the study,' said Dr Suchita Ninawe, senior

Biotechnology. Researchers wishing to utilise the data will have to respond to a call for proposals and collaborate with the department. The research will be

scientist from Department of

funded by the government. On anonymising the data, Dr Ninawe said. "After the samples from different regions are collected and sequenced by one of the partner institutes, it would be encoded before being uploaded to the central database. When the data is shared further with those wishing to study it, it would be encoded once again. This is to ensure that there is no way for the

hensive catalogue of genetic variations found in the Indian population.

### **SUJIT BISOYI** Legacy of Ramayana — that BHUBANESWAR, JANUARY 9 showcases the influence of the Ramayana on art, culture and spirituality across the world.

Ramayana's global connect on display

A LIFE-SIZE piñata of Ravan procured from Mexico; a Ravanhatta, the musical instrument said to be played by the mythological figure, brought from Sri Lanka; Ramayana puppets and paintings from Indonesia; and idols of Ram and Hanuman from Fiji.

An exhibition at the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention in Bhubaneswar attempts to showcase the Hindu epic Ramayana to the Indian diaspora



PM Modi at the Ramayana exhibition in Bhubaneswar

Modi visited the exhibition —

tural legacy.

to remind them of a shared cul-

Prime Minister Narendra

80 artefacts such as paintings, puppets and masks from about 17 foreign countries, are on display at the exhibition, which is drawing significant attention. There are displays of

Vishwaroop Ram: The Universal

Nearly 150 exhibits, including

Ramayana texts in Persian, Arabic, Russian, Chinese and Mongolian, besides artefacts and literature from countries such as Cambodia, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, and Malaysia.

## Better amenities or freebies? Can pick one, says Panagariya

**PAVNEET SINGH CHADHA** PANAJI, JANUARY 9

CITIZENS ELECTING governments have to decide whether they want better civic amenities or "freebies", said Arvind Panagariya, the Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, on Thursday.

The commission was in Goa capital Panaji to meet Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, members of the cabinet and government officials. Responding to questions after the meeting, Panagariya said that if funds have been allocated to states for

a project, they have to be used for that project and not "freebies".

"That cannot be used for freebies. Freebies come from the general budget, to which funds can come from state's own tax revenues, but they can also come out of the devolution that the Finance Commission makes. In the end in a democratic society, the elected government makes those decisions. Those decisions are not made by the Finance Commission," he said.

"The Commission... cannot control... obviously, it should not control how the state governments choose to spend their



16th Finance Commission chair Arvind Panagariya with

Goa CM Pramod Sawant.

money. In the end, you all as citizens have to take that particular stand when you vote a govern-

ment in. If the citizens vote for governments based on freebies, then they are asking for freebies. So, ultimately the citizens have to decide whether they want better amenities, better roads, better sewage, [better] access to water or they want these cash transfers... freebies." he said.

Goa has asked the commission for a grant of ₹32,706.45 crore for 13 projects and a fourfold hike in its share from the divisible pool of taxes. The state also asked the commission to raise the share of states in the divisible pool of taxes from 41 to 50 per cent. Panagariya said:

the museum's offerings, the

'Ram Darbar' section will offer a

holographic depiction of Lord

"This is a common recommendation that has been made by states. We have visited 14 other states and 14 out of the 15 states have said raise it to 50 per cent."

On horizontal devolution, Goa proposed some changes, he said. "The objective of the income distance criterion is to promote equity. On income distance criterion, the 15th FC had divided 45 per cent of the divisible pool. Goa has asked to reduce that to 30 per cent. Goa has also suggested a new sustainable development goals criterion and proposed that 12.5 per cent of the divisible pool should be based on it."

## anonymity to be breached." Approved by the government in 2020, the Genome India project looks to create a compre-

## After Ram Temple, another landmark for Ayodhya in pipeline: Ram Katha Museum

**DIVYA A** 

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

A HOLOGRAM that brings Lord Ram to life, an immersive journey into the events of the Ramayana, and a section that chronicles the 200-year-long Ram Temple movement. Days ahead of the first anniversary of Ram Mandir's inauguration, a plan has been firmed up for another landmark in Ayodhya — the Ram Katha Museum, which will be housed at the erstwhile sangrahalaya (archives) building, 4 kilometres from the temple site.

The museum, which will also showcase the findings from archaeological excavations to offer "concrete evidence of the temple's ancient roots", will span over 40,000 square feet and become the second-largest attraction in Ayodhya once completed,

The Indian Express has learnt,

The project is in the concept and design stage, after which a detailed project report (DPR), including architecture drawings, will be finalised. While the state government owns the building, the temple trust will fund the project, which is estimated to be completed in the next two years. "The focus will be on getting

the right design, content and technology that caters to visitors of all ages," Saurav Bhaik, CEO of Tagbin, tasked with implementing the project, told *The Indian* Express. During the excavations at the

temple site conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) under the supervision of the Supreme Court, numerous artefacts and objects related to the ancient temple were unearthed. "Over 100 objects, including fragments of statues, pil-

lars, and wall panels, were discovered. These findings provide substantial evidence of the existence of an ancient temple at the site. The museum will have a few of these on display," Bhaik said.

Besides showcasing findings from archaeological excavations that will provide "concrete evidence" of the temple's ancient roots, it will also hold archival records documenting the movement's evolution. "Through these elements, the museum will not only present the historical and cultural importance of the Ram Temple but also capture the emotions and dedication of those who contributed to this monumental legacy," Bhaik said.

Spanning three floors – lower ground, ground, and first – the museum will be organised into 26 sections, each offering a unique perspective on the life and legacy of Lord Ram, as per



An artist's impression of the museum at Ayodhya which will include immersive technologies like AR, VR and AI.

epaper.indianexpress.com

the plan. Complementing these sections will be a projection mapping display on the mu-

seum's facade. After an introductory segment providing an overview of

Ram's court; followed by 'Ikshwaku Vanshavali', the family tree of his dynasty; 'Sabke Ram', showcasing his time through a series of stories; a section on Ram Katha in different countries: 'Ram Van Path', a ramp adorned with images of places he visited during his exile; and 'Maharshi Valmiki's Holobox', featuring the Ramayana and Yog Vasistha through interactive 3D displays. Coming to the present time,

an entire section is devoted to the architecture of the new Ram Temple; 'Sri Ram Janmabhoomi Sangharsh Yatra', chronicling the journey of the Ram Janmabhoomi movement; a section on Ayodhya's history through a holographic show; 'Odyssey of Hanuman' by IIT-

traces a 200-year-long journey, Hanuman's journey; and a realtime view of Ram Lalla from the Garbh Griha of Shri Ram Mandir. Besides, there will be temporary exhibitions from time to time.

Madras, showcasing Lord

The project aims to transport visitors through time with immersive technologies like AR, VR and AI. "The highlight will be a hyper-realistic statue of Lord Ram that not only showcases intricate hand movements but also speaks, offering an interactive experience. The goal is to provide visitors with an immersive journey through the Ramayana as if they are witnessing the events

unfold in real time," Bhaik said. On the sources for the temple movement, Bhaik said that the movement is a fully documented case of the Supreme Court, which involved the Nirmohi Akhara, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad and the Sunni

beginning in 1822, encompassing legal, cultural, and historical milestones," he said. "The storyline of this movement will have input from experts across various fields to ensure historical accuracy and sensitivity and will go through thorough review and approval." Meanwhile, as per the tem-

Wagf Board. "This movement

ple construction committee, the construction of the first and sec ond floors including the shikhar of the temple along with other significant temples has entered the last phase, with a likely completion schedule by June this The temple was inaugurated

on January 22 last year, and the trust is celebrating the first anniversary of the pran pratishtha ceremony on January 11, as per the Hindu calendar.

## SC gives interim relief to Telugu actor in journalist assault case

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday granted Telugu actor M Mohan Babu interim protection from arrest in a case where he has been booked for allegedly assaulting a TV journalist. The court also directed that no coercive measure should be taken against him till the next date of hearing.

The top court was hearing Babu's plea challenging a Telangana HC order dismiss-

ing his anticipatory bail plea. The veteran actor was booked on charges of attempt to murder after he allegedly attacked journalist M Ranjith Kumar outside his farmhouse at Jalpally on the outskirts of Hyderabad on December 9. Kumar suffered a fracture on his cheekbone when Babu allegedly hit him in the face after grabbing his microphone. The incident occurred when several journalists and Babu's son

MINISTRY OF

Manchu Manoj, who is involved in a dispute with his father, were entering the farmhouse.

Kumar lodged a complaint and an FIR was registered under Section 118 (voluntarily causing hurt or grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means) of the Bharativa Nyava Sanhita.

Kumar said the mike had a steel pipe and metal logo and that caused him very serious injuries and severe loss of blood.

## UTTAR PRADESH EXPRESSWAYS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (UPEIDA) C-13, 2nd Floor, Paryatan Bhawan, Vipin Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER

UPEIDA invites online bids for "Construction of 02 Unit Fire Station at Defence Industrial Corridor Aligarh & Kanpur Node (UP)" the eligible and approved Contractors/firms having requisite experience of construction of similar nature of works and registered in Centre / State Government Department / Organization / PSU / Autonomous body.

Tender documents can be downloaded from E-tender portal viz https://etender.up.nic.in. The last date of Bid submission is up to 12:30 hrs on 31.01.2025 and Bid opening date is 15:30 hrs on 31.01.2025.

All further notices, corrigenda, and clarifications, if any, shall be hosted on the above e-tender portal only. Addl. Chief Executive Officer



BHARATIYA RESERVE BANK NOTE MUDRAN (P) LIMITED Corporate Office, No. 3 & 4, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 029, Karnataka, India Tel: +91 80 66602000, Fax: +91 80 66602039

OPEN TENDER ENQUIRY (OTE)/NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB) Bids are invited under Two-Part bidding system for the following e-Tender through MSTC Portal MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLY OF CATIONIC UV CURING OVERPRINT VARNISH SUITABLE FOR APPLICATION ON BANKNOTES: MSTC EVENT NO BRBNMPL/CORPORATE OFFICE/TECHNICAL/2/24-25/ET/82 [PROCUREMENT-

OVERPRINT VARNISH]; BRBNMPL TENDER NO. 006/CO/NCB/2024-25. Last date of lender submission - 24.02.2025 by 15:00 Hrs. For downloading tender documen and other details, kindly visit website www.mstcecommerce.com. Tender details are also available at our website www.brbnmpl.co.in. Further extension or amendment/s, if any, shall be uploaded on the above websites. General Manage



Ref. No. 997/Admission/Academic/25

## GURU GHASIDAS VISHWAVIDYALAYA

(NAAC A<sup>++</sup> Central University established by the Central Universities Act, 2009, No.25 of 2009)

KONI, BILASPUR-495 009 (C.G.) INDIA Tel.+91-7752-260342, Fax +91-7752-260154 website - www.new.ggu.ac.in

Bilaspur, Date- 08.01.2025

### **ADMISSION NOTICE (2025-26)**

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur invites online applications for admission to the various PG level programmes for the academic session 2025-26 through **Common** University Entrance Test CUET (PG) 2025 to be conducted by NTA. (a) Programmes available for admission:

(B.P.Ed.), Bachelor of Library & Information Science (B. Lib. & I. Sc.), Postgraduate programme: M.Sc. Botany, Chemistry, Bio-technology, Microbiology, Forensic Science, Computer Science, Rural Technology, Forestry, Physics, Mathematics, Zoology, M.A. Economics, Political Science, Hindi, English, History, Journalism & Mass Communication, Hindu Studies. Tribal Studies. Master of Education (M.Ed.), Master of Physical Education (M.P.Ed.), Master of Social Work (MSW), Master of Computer Applications (M.C.A.), M.A./M.Sc. in

Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.), B.Ed. Special Education (Learning disability), B.Ed. Special Education (Hearing Impaired), Bachelor of Physical Education

Anthropology, M. Lib. & Inf. Sc., M. Com., LLM, MBA, M. Pharm., (b) For admission procedure, eligibility, number of seats, reservation policy, Entrance Test provisions, fees and mapping of programme- subject for test, please refer to

"CUET PG Admission 2025" available on university website www.new.ggu.ac.in and https://exams.nta.ac.in/CUET-PG/for CUET (PG). c) As the entrance test will be conducted by NTA, therefore, the University will follow the admission procedure and syllabus for entrance test as notified by the NTA for CUET (PG). Interested candidates have to visit the links provided above for all updates regularly.

(d) Important dates: Start of Online Application Process : 02.01.2025

Closing date of Online submission of Application forms : 01.02.2025 (e) Admission notice for M. Tech. programme will be notified separately. Candidates interested in M. Tech. programmes need not apply against this advertisement.

Registrar (Acting)

### GOVT. OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINNER, PWD (ROADS), ASSAM, CHANDMARI, GUWAHATI-3.

No. CE/STBR/II/32/2024-25/5

### **CORRIGENDUM-1**

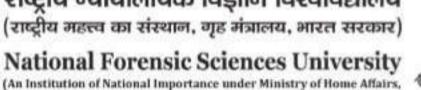
In partial modification of the Short Notice Inviting Tender published vide this office no. CE/STBR/11/32/2024-25/01, dated 24/12/2024, the total amount of "Rs.9034.26 Lakh" shall be read as "Rs.9156.17 Lakh" for the work "Construction of Flyover at Amolapatty Junction on Old NH-37 in Dibrugarh District of Assam (ROB at LC Gate No. 2 DD)". Other terms and conditions shall remain same.

Details may be seen at the website http://assamtenders.gov.in and also at the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads) Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati-3

JANASANYOG/C/6435/24/10-Jan-25

राष्ट्रीय न्यायालयिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय





## **National Forensic Sciences University**

The manufacturers who are engaged in manufacturing of Forensic Analytical & Testing Equipments / Kits are hereby informed to submit the details including name of equipments, specifications, product brochure, best quote offers, etc. to the under signed by 27th January 2025.

Indigenous Development of Forensic Science Equipments / Kits

Government of India)

The manufacturers who are presently not manufacturing but intend to manufacture such Forensic Equipments/Kits may also submit details.

This information is sought in respect of promotion of "Make in India" initiatives of Government of India.

Postal Address: Campus Director, National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU), Sector - 09, Gandhinagar, Gujarat - 382007.

Email: director@nfsu.ac.in; NFSU Website: https://www.nfsu.ac.in/

Campus Director **Gandhinagar Campus** 

### ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (APCRDA) Lenin Centre, Governorpet, Vijayawada - 520 002 (A.P.)

NAME OF THE WORK: WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Development multi storied quarters of 1140 apartment units in 12 towers of S+12 floors pattern buildings for Contract (% tender) including Defect Liability of 2 years", Est. Cost - Rs.607.50 Crores

NIT No. 66/PROC/MAU61-USI0HB(BG)/19/2024-HB, Dated 09.01.2025

NIT No. 70/PROC/MAU61-USI0HB(BG)/10/2025-HB, Dated.09.01.2025 NAME OF THE WORK: Engaging Project Management Consultancy for "WORLD BANK & ADB inanced Amaravati Capital City Development Program related to "Completion of balance works viz., Architectural Finishes, Internal & External Electrical, Plumbing & Sanitary Fixtures, Fire Fighting Provisions, Lifts, DG, HVAC, Security Systems, External Development & Land Scaping etc., for Multi-Storeyed Quarters of 432 Apartment units in 18 towers of (S+12) Floors Pattern Buildings for Hon'ble MLAs & Hon'ble MLCs and All India Services Officers near Nelapadu Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh\* on Lumpsum Contract (% Percentage Tender) System with the DLP

The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from 10.01.2025 to 01.02.2025 up to 14.00 Hrs. Due date for submission of Bid is 01.02.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs, Technical bid opening

NIT No.67/PROC/MAU61-USI0INFR(CW)/1/2025-TT, Dt.09.01.2025 APCRDA invites the bids for the work - Engaging Project Management Consultancy for WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Development Program related to "Construction of Roads, Drains, Water Supply, Sewerage, utility Ducts for Power & ICT, Reuse waterline & Avenue Plantation, compatible with trunk infrastructure in Layouts for Land Pooling Schemes for Zone-2 (2A & 2B) including DLP of 2 Years for the estimate amount of Rs. 1085.68 Cr".

Roads, Drains, Water Supply, Sewerage, utility Ducts for Power & ICT, Reuse waterline & Avenue Plantation, compatible with trunk infrastructure in Layouts for Land Pooling Schemes for

Bid Document Downloading Start Date: 10-01-2025, Bid Document Downloading Close Date 31-01-2025 @ 14:00 Hrs, Pre-Bid Meeting Date : 20-01-2025@ 11:00 Hrs @ APCRDA Office, Vijayawada. Bid Submission Due Date and time : 31-01-2025 @ 15:00 Hrs, Due date for Submission of hardcopies of uploaded BG/ Insurance Surety Bond for Bid security: 31-01-2025 @ 16:00 Hrs, Opening of Technical Bid : 31-01-2025 @ 16:00 Hrs, Opening of Financial Bid 04-02-2025 @ 16:00 Hrs. For further details please refer to www.apeprocurement.gov.in and Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA, Vijayawada

## **E PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

NAME OF THE WORK: WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Developmen Program related to "Completion of Balance works, Vtz., Architectural finishes, Internal and external electrical, plumbing and sanitary fixtures, firefighting provisions, lifts, DG sets, HVAC Systems, Building security systems, internal roads, Street lighting, (Including Internal Wardrobes, Podium Hardscaping, Landscaping for 21 Towers) etc., for multi storied quarters of 855 apartment units in 9 towers of S+12 floors pattern buildings for Housing of Non gazette officers near Nelapadu, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh on Lump sum Contract (% tender) including Defect Liability of 2 years". Est. Cost - Rs. 594.36 Crores

## BIHAR SCHOOL EXAMINATION BOARD

### NOTICE INVITING TENDER Re-Tender Notice No.- PR 07/2025

Bihar School Examination Board, Patna invites e-tenders under two bid systems from the reputed Suppliers/ experienced Firms /Companies/ Agencies/ Societies for "Comprehensive Maintenance of Lifts at BSEB Main Building & Academic Building, Patna and Nine (09) Regional Offices (Patna, Gaya, Bhagalpur, Muzaffarpur, Purnea, Kosi, Saran, Darbhanga and Munger)." Detailed tender document containing eligibility criteria, other terms and conditions are available on the website https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in and https://biharboardonline.bihar.gov.in

Tender Schedule

Particulars	Date/Time: Duration
Online Sale/Download date of Tender documents	From: 11/01/2025 (11:00 Hrs.) to 01/02/2025 (14:00 Hrs.) (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Pre-Bid Meeting	17/01/2025 at 12:30 Hrs. (Bihar School Examination Board, Sinha Library Road, Patna-800017)
Last Date/ Time for submission/ uploading of offer/Bid	01/02/2025 up to 14:00 Hrs. (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Last Date and Time for Submission of EMD (Only in case of BG)	04/02/2025 up to 14:00 Hrs.
Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid	04/02/2025 at 15:00 Hrs (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid	Date to be announced later by competent authority.
Cost of the Tender Document	₹3,540/- (Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty Rupees Only) (Non-Refundable)
Tender Processing Fee	₹3,540/- (Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty Rupees Only) (Non-Refundable)
Earnest Money	₹1,00,000/- (One Lakh Rupees only) (Refundable)

Contact Details: Sh. Vinod Kumar Singh, Nodal Officer, Mobile No.: +91 62999 23095, E-Mail ID: eproc-bseb-bih@gov.in/ eproc.bseb@gmail.com

Note: Bihar School Examination Board reserves the right to accept cancel/ reschedule tenders without assigning any reasons. Prospective bidders are advised to regularly visit https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in for Corrigendum/ Amendments etc., if any, it will be notified on this portal only and no separate advertisement will be made.

Name of A/c/

Guarantor/Mortgagor

Industrial Plot No. C-1, 2, 3 &

4, Mauza-Hasauli, Near FCI,

Aurangabad, Bihar-824102,

Director & Guarantor - Sri

Sanjeev Ranjan Kumar

Singh S/o Sri Rajendra

Prasad Singh & Smt. Usha

Singh W/o Sri Sanjeev

Ranian Kumar Singh, Both

residing at Near Durga

Mandir, Satyendra Nagar,

Aurangabad, Bihar-824101

Agrotech Rice Mill Pvt. Ltd. 26,33,38,655.65

1. ARM Branch, Borrower: M/s. Pawansut

s. Name/Address

Contact No.

of the Branch

Patna

Mob.:

8102916048

### STRESSED ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH (SARB) PATNA 2nd Floor, Patna Main Branch Building, West Gandhi Maidan, Patna-800001

Annexure-6 Specimen of contents of the notice u/s 13(2) of Act to be published in newspaper when the same is returned undelivered.

S/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar and Guarantor Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar (Deceased) have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower Guarantor/ Legal Heirs	Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	NPA	Notice	Amount Outstanding (As on 25-11-2024)
1.	M/s Nirankar Fruit Co.	All that part and parcel of property vide Deed No. 3930	29.08.2024	26.11.2024	Rs. 42,31,282.82
2.	Proprietor/ Borrower Sri Ramjanam Sonkar Guarantor Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar	dated 23.03.2011 at Alamganj Cha Rasulpur, Mohalla-Kabirganj, Mada Municipal Survey Ward No10, Prese Municipal Survey Khata No-1, Hal Mu Plot No95 in Rakba-1/2 Katha, Area-	rsa Road, The ent Ward No1 unicipal Survey 1.562 decimal,	ana No135, 14, Municipal S Plot No-109, DisttRohtas,	savik Ward No01, Survey Plot No. 749 in CS Khata No79, CS (Bihar), Pin-821115.

Prasad, S/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar, 3. Sri Pampu Sonkar, S/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar, 4. Sri Ramjanam Sonkar S/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar, 5. Smt. Gudiya Devi D/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar, 6. Smt. Shaalu Devi, D/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar, 7. Smt. Amrita Devi, D/o Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower(s) and/or their Guarantor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB, PATNA

## NIT No. 65/PROC/MAU61-USI0HB(BG)/19/2024-HB, Dated 09:01.2025

Program related to "Completion of Balance works, Viz., Architectural finishes (Excluding Internal Wardrobes), Internal and external electrical, plumbing and sanitary fixtures, firefighting provisions, lifts, DG sets, HVAC Systems; Building security systems, internal roads, Street lighting etc., for Housing of Non-Gazetted officers near Nelapadu, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh on Lump sum

The above bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal with following schedule. NIT No.68/PROC/ MAU61-USI0INFR(OTH)/3/2025-IFR1, Dt.09.01.2025 APCRDA invites the bids for the work - Engaging Project Management Consultancy for WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Development Program related to "Construction of

Zone-6 including DLP of 2 Years for the estimate amount of Rs. 530.83 Cr". The above bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal with following schedule.

## STATE BANK OF INDIA

Phone: 0612-2999140 | E-mail: sbi.05176@sbi.co.in

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/s M/s Nirankar Fruit Co., Prop. Sri Ramjanam Sonkar (Borrower)

No.	Guarantor/ Legal Heirs	Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	NPA	Notice	(As on 25-11-2024
1.	M/s Nirankar Fruit Co.	All that part and parcel of property vide Deed No. 3930	29.08.2024	26.11.2024	Rs. 42,31,282.82
2.	Proprietor/ Borrower Sri Ramjanam Sonkar Guarantor Late Vijay Prasad Sonkar (Deceased)	Sonkar, West: Kisan Lai Sonkar,	rsa Road, Thent Ward No1 unicipal Survey 1.562 decimal, Chaura Rasta	ana No135, 4, Municipal S Plot No-109, DisttRohtas, Bikreta Dwara	savik Ward No01 Survey Plot No. 749 ir CS Khata No79, CS (Bihar), Pin-821115. a, East: Ashok Kuma
3.	Legal Heirs of the	he (Deceased) 1. Smt. Krishnawati D	evi, W/o Late	Vijay Prasad	Sonkar, 2. Sri Sanjay

Sd/- AUTHORISED OFFICER Date: 26.11.2024 Place: Patna

डंडियन बैंक

## बैंक ऑफ इंडिया **Bank of India**

Asset Recovery Department, Gaya Zone

### STAR MEGA E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

E Auction sale notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the securitization and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest act 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Notice is hereby given to public in general & in particular to following Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) that the below mentioned Immoveable properties mortgaged/hypothecated to bank of India (Secured Creditor), the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Bank of India will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of respective dues as detailed hereunder against the secured assets Hypothecated/Mortgaged to Bank of India from the respective borrower(s)/Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposit is shown there against each secured assets. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided hereunder.

DATE & TIME of Action: 10.02,2025 between 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM (With auto extensions clause in case of bid in last 10 minutes

bef	ore closing) (in lakt	h)			180200011008110		
Sr No	Name of the borrower/Guarant or/Owner/Partner/ Mortgagor of the Property	Lot No	Details of Immovable properties to be sold	Details of banks dues	Possession	Minimum Reserve Price in lakhs	Date & Tin of E Auctio
	To the second se	100	The second of the second of the second	and the second of the second of the second	and the same and		

BANK OF INDIA, SAGAHI BRANCH, DIST-GAYA

Phone: PREM RAJ, Authorized Officer: Mrs Ruchi Kumari, Chief Manager, Gaya Branch, Mobile No. 9110069596 Equitable mortgage of the Contractual Dues: 10" Feb property in the name of Mrs Girja Rs. 7.88 lakhs

KUMAR 2025 Devi w/o Binod Mistry, situated at plus uncharged **MISTRY & SMT** Khata No 124(N), Plot No 519(N), interest and other From 10.00 GIRJA DEVI Thana No 351, Mouza Dhanawan, applicable charges Symbolic 12.06 1.21 AM to 5.00 from the date of Thana Bodhgaya, Dist Gaya, area 1.35 Decimal, Deed no 11056 dt 29.04.2024

### TERMS & CONDITIONS of E Auctions are as under:

1. E-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and will be conducted online.

2. For downloading further details, process compliance, terms & Conditions please visit

a) https://bankofindia.co.in b) Website address of E Auction service provider is- https://BAANKNET.com .Bidder may visit https://BAANKNET.com where guidelines for bidders are available with educational videos. Bidders have to complete following formalities well in advance in order to participate in E Auction.

Step-1: Bidder Registration-Bidder to register on E Auction platform (link given above) using his mobile number and Email ID. Step-2: KYC Verification-Bidder to upload requisite KYC Documents. KYC documents shall be verified by the E Auction service

Step-3: Transfer of EMD amount to bidder Global EMD wallet: On-line/Off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer using challan

generated on E Auction platform. Step-4: Bidding Process & Auction Results: Interested bidders can bid online on E Auction platform after completing Step 1,2 & 3.

Please note that Step 1 to 3 should be completed by the bidder well in advance, before E Auction date. 3. To the best of knowledge & information of the authorized officer, there is no encumbrance on the properties. However the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrance, title of properties put for E-Auction and claims/rights/dues affecting the property prior to submitting their bid. The E Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not deemed to constitute any commitment or any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to bank. The Authorized Officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for third party claims/rights/dues. No claim of whatsoever nature will be entertained after submission of On-line bid regarding properties put for sale. 4. It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The bidder inspect the property in consultation with the dealing official as per the details provide. Date of Inspection of Immovable Properties: 11.01.2025 to 07.02.2025 from 11.00 AM to 4:00 PM with prior appointment with above mentioned respective branches on the contact numbers given against respective branches. 5. Bids shall be submitted through online procedure only. 6. Bidders shall be deemed to have read & understood the terms & conditions of sale & be bound by them. 7. The bid price to be submitted shall be above the Reserve Price & bidders shall improve their further offers in multiples of Rs.10, 000/- (Rs. Ten Thousand only) 8. The Earnest Monet Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and EMD of the unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded. 9. The Earnest Monet Deposit (EMD) shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price inclusive of EMD already paid, immediately upon same day or next working day as the case may be. The balance of the purchase price shall have to be paid within 15 days of acceptance / confirmation of sale conveyed to them failing which Bank is at liberty to forfeit the amount deposited by the successful bidder. 10. Neither the Authorized Officer/ Bank nor E Auction service provider will be held responsible for any Internet Network Problem/ Power failure any other technical lapses etc. In order to ward off such contingent situation the interested bidders are requested to ensure that they are technically well equipped with adequate power back up etc. for successful participation in E Auction event. 11. Payment of sale consideration by the successful bidder to the bank will be subject to TDS under Section 194-1A of Income Tax Act 1961 and TDS is to be made by the successful bidder only at the time of deposit of remaining 75 % of the bid amount/full deposit of BID amount. The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties, registration charges and other incidental charges and also the statutory and non-statutory dues, taxes, assessments etc. 12. The Authorized Officer/bank has the absolute right & discretion to accept or reject any or all offers or adjourn/postpone/ cancel the E Auction or withdraw any property thereof from the auction proceedings at any stage without assigning any reason therefor. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorized Officer, but the Authorized Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. 13. The sale certificate will be issued in the name of purchaser(s)/applicant(s) only and will not be issued in any other name(s). 14. The sale shall be subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002. For further details / enquiries, if any, of the terms and conditions of sale, can be obtained from the respective branches on the contact numbers given. 15. While inspecting the properties, preventive measures such as social distancing, compulsory wearing of mask at

properties will be handed over to successful bidders strictly after obtaining permission for physical possession from district magistrate SALE NOTICE TO BORROWERS/GUARANTORS

This Notice is also to be treated as Statuary sale notice to borrower and Guarantor (L/Rs) Under Rules 8(2) Security Interest (Enforcement), Rule 2002.

places of social gatherings and all other rules prescribed by State & Central administration must be followed to contain the spread of COVID19 pandemic. 16. For the properties where symbolic possession is taken and put for E Auction, actual possession of the

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bank of India is having full powers to issue this notice of sale and exercise all powers of sale under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the Rules framed there under. You have committed default in payment of the outstanding dues and interest with monthly rests, costs and charges etc. in respect of the advances granted by the bank mentioned above. Hence the bank has issued a Demand Notice to all of you under section 13(2) to pay the above mentioned amount within 60 days. You have failed to pay the amount even after the expiry of 60 days. Therefore the Authorized Officer, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4), took symbolic/physical possession of the secured assets, more particularly described in the schedule mentioned above. Notice is hereby given to you to pay the sum as mentioned above before the date fixed for sale, failing which the immovable properties will be sold and balance due, if any, will be recovered with interest and cost from you. Please note that all expenses pertaining to demand notice, taking possession, valuation and sale etc. shall be first deducted from the sale proceeds, which may be realized by the undersigned and the balance of the sale proceeds will be appropriated towards your liability as aforesaid. You are also at liberty to participate in the sale to be held on the terms and

Place-Gaya

Ahmad, resident at Saraiyaganj, Muzaffarpur 842001.

Indian Bank

ALLAHABAD

Date- 08.01.2025

Appendix IV (Rule-8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)

Corporate Office: 254-260, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Chennai - 600014. Zonal Office, Muzaffarpur, Om Shanti Complex Opposite Zila School, Muzaffarpur-842002

**Authorised officer** 

Bank of India

NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002

## केनरा बैंक Canara Bank 📣 Fifficial Syndicate

Mobile No.: 8102916048, Email: cb17415@canarabank.com (15-Days Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties)

ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT BRANCH (D.P.- 17415)

GROUND FLOOR, LUV KUSH TOWER, EXHIBITION ROAD, PATNA-800001,

SALE NOTICE E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) / Guarantor (s) / Director (s) / Mortgagor (s) that the below described

Immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is". Details are as under Date & Time of Auction: Auction: 31.01.2025 Time: 11:00AM to 1:00 PM with Unlimited Extension of 5 Minutes duration each till the conclusion of the sale

EMD Last Date & Time: EMD: 29.01.2025, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Outstanding

as on

31.12.2023

together with

future Interest

and charges

from

01.01.2024.

Reserve Price /EMD/Bid **Details of Properties** Multiplier Amt. Details and full description of the immovable property (Lease hold ₹ 97,00,000/property allotted by BIADA for 90 years, lease registered on

registration Sub-District Aurangabad and District Aurangabad. Extent-39,000 Sq.Ft., Mauza-Hasauli, Ajrakbe, Industrial Area, Thana-Aurangabad, Property bounded as:- North- Industrial Road 50 Feet, South-Industrial Boundary Line, East-Industrial plot No. M-2, West-Industrial plot No. C-5, There are following encumbrances to the knowledge of the bank.

18.07.2012) with known encumbrances, if any: All that part and

parcel of the leasehold Property standing in the name of

M/s. Pawansut Agrotech Rice Mill Pvt. Ltd. Consisting of Plot No.

C-1, 2, 3 & 4 in Survey No. 96 (P), 97 (P), 17 (P), 19 (P) with in

Dues of Rs. 9,00,585/- pertaining to BIADA, HO-1st floor, Udyog Bhawan, East Gandhi Maidan, Patna-04. For Detailed Terms and Conditions of the Sale, Please refer to the link provided in www.canarabank.com/pages/bihar & www.baanknet.com

Notice is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement (Security) Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise he powers conferred under section 13(2) and 13(12) read with Rules 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer issued a Demand Notice on the date noted against the account as mentioned hereinafter, calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the

date of receipt of the said Notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the under noted Borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property/ies described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against the Account. The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned to deal with the property/ies and any dealing with the property/ies will be the subject to charge to Indian Bank (Erstwhile Allahabad Bank) for the amounts and Interest thereon mentioned against the account herein below. Name of the Borrower / Description of the Charged/Mortgaged Date of Amount outstanding Date Property (All the part & parcel of Mortgagor/Guarantor as on the date of Printing No. Branch (Owner of the Property) the property consisting of) Demand Notice All that part & parcel of property land and building M/s Babar Vegitable (Firm) Prop. Mr. Babar Alee, situated at Kanhauli Bishundutt, Rambagh Chouri, 2. Mr. Babar Alee (Borrower Cum Mortgagor) S/d Rs. 84,54,474/- 1000 Ward-46, Mithanpura, Muzaffarpur, Property 1.: Mohammad Jahir Hussain, 3. Mr. Abdul Khalid (Guarantor Cum Mortgagor) S/o- Mohammad Jahir Hussain, 4. Mr. Deed No. 25290 dated 02/09/2013, Khata No. 741, Abdul Khalik (Guarantor Cum Mortgagor) S/o- Mohammad RSP No. 2745, 2765, Thana No. 411, Area- 3.00 and legal expenses 5 Jahir Hussain, above (2,3 & 4) resident at Ward 46, Decimal, Book No. 01, Zild/Vol. No. 353, Page No. there upon Rambagh Chauri, Kanhauli, Mithanpura, Muzaffarpur 72-80 in the name of Mr. Babar Alee, Boundary

842002, 5. Mr. Dilshad Ahmad (Guarantor) S/o- Shamshad : North: Md Razi, South: Md Khurshid, East: Md

conditions thereof including deposit of earnest money or may bring suitable buyers.

Property 2.: Deed No. 20673 dated 11/10/1999, Khata No. 1022, RSP No. 2769, Thana No. 411, Area- 1.2 Decimal, Book No. 01, Zild/Vol. No. 374, Page No. 193-202 in the name of Mr. Abdul Khalik, Mr. Mohammad Khalid & Mr. Babar Alee, Boundary : North: Abdul Hamid, South: Garibnath Prasad, East: Road, West: Father of Purchaser Property 3.: Deed No. 22781 dated 19/11/1999, Khata No. 1022, RSP No. 2769, Thana No. 411, Area- 0.8 Decimal, Book No. 01, Zild/Vol. No. 403, Page No. 247-254 in the name of Mr. Abdul Khalik, Mr. Mohammad Khalid & Mr. Babar Alee, Boundary :North: Nij Vendor, South: 3 Feet Road, East: 8 Feet Road, West: Father of Purchaser. Property 4.: Deed No. 22785 dated 19/11/1999, Khata No. 1022, RSP No. 2769, Thana No. 411, Area- 0.8 Decimal, Book No. 01, Zild/Vol. No. 403, Page No. 277-284 in the name of Mr. Abdul Khalik, Mr. Mohammad Khalid & Mr. Babar Alee, Boundary : North: Nij Vendor,

Mustafa, West: 8 Feet Wide Road.

in the name of Smt. Nisha Saran,

South: Nii Vendor, East: 8 Feet Road, West: Father of Purchaser, Rs. 28,43,258/-Intt. & other Banking 50 and legal expenses there upon 1. Smt. Nisha Saran (Borrower) W/o Sri Anand Mohan EM Land and building situated at Mouza Lalbagh, Sinha, 2, Sri Anand Mohan Sinha (Co-Borrower) S/o- Saifullahganj under town Darbhanga, Pargana Late Kedar Prasad Sinha, both (1 & 2) resident at G.M. Haveli, Anchal Sadar, Naka No. 8, Ward No. 12, Tauzi No. 3334, Thana No. 473, District Darbhanga, Road, PO Lalbagh, Dist. Darbhanga, Bihar-846004.

South: Rasta, East: Road, West: Niz Bhu Swami. Property 2.: Sale Deed No. 16088 dated 25/09/2012, Khesra No. 9458 & 9459(Old) 898 (New), Area 1 Dhur. Boundary: North: Dr. S.K. Sinha, South: Rasta, East: Niz Lekhyadhary, West: Gaytri Jha. Place: Muzaffarpur & Darbhanga **Authorised Officer** 

Property 1.: Sale Deed No. 4991 dated 30/03/2012, Khesra No. 9458 & 9459(Old) 898 (New), Area 6 Dhur. Boundary: North: Niz Bhu Swami,

Date: 10.01.2025 Date: 08.01.2025 Authorized Officer Indian Bank (Erstwhile Allahabad Bank) Place: Patna Canara Bank epaper.indianexpress.com

EMD-

₹ 9,70,000/-

10,000/-

## Month after return to power, Maharashtra govt struggles to meet Ladki Bahin promise

**ALOK DESHPANDE** MUMBAI, JANUARY 9

FROM A delay in the promised increase in allotment to ₹ 2,100, to complaints of duplicity and nonadherence of norms, to a minister admitting that the financial burden will hit other promises, the Majhi Ladki Bahin Scheme has hit issues a month after the Mahayuti swept to power largely riding on its popularity.

Having announced the cash handout for women below poverty line in last year's budget, the Mahayuti government had ensured its implementation and the successful transfer of three monthly installments of ₹1,500 each by the time of the elections. Even the Opposition parties, which were riding high on the Lok Sabha poll success, had admitted to being blindsided by the popularity of Ladki Bahin. However, even before the

polls, the estimated annual expenditure of ₹46,000 crore had

been a matter of concern. Given that there are 2.5 crore registered beneficiaries, the total annual expenditure would go up to ₹63,000 crore if the allocation is raised to ₹2,100 per month.

Soon after he took over as Chief Minister, Devendra Fadnavis made it clear that the promise to increase the allocation had a rider. "We are going to increase the amount to Rs 2,100. We will consider it at the time of the Budget, but we can do it only if our finances are channelised properly," he said. A month later, no one from the Mahayuti is talking about when the raise can be expected. While sources within the Women and Child Welfare Department said a raise can happen only after "scrutiny", officials in the Finance Department said an increase was unlikely in the ongoing fiscal. "If a decision is to be taken at all, it will be in the next fiscal as the state can hardly afford it," an official said.

Last week, Agriculture Minister Manikrao Kokate said in



Maharashtra Chief Minister **Devendra Fadnavis** 

Pune: "The expenditure on schemes like Ladki Bahin means that the farm loan waiver announcement will have to wait."

Farm loan waiver was another pre-poll promise of the Mahayuti government. Besides this, the Mahayuti had guaranteed an increase in the annual payment to farmers under the Shetkari Sanman Scheme from Rs 12,000 to Rs 15,000, and payment of 20% above the MSP for agri produce.

Kokate has said that women under Ladki Bahin can anyway not get the benefits of the Shetkari Sanman Yojana. "They have to decide the scheme whose benefits people) if the complaints and issues raised by the local administration are addressed. In one such incident in Dhule

district, the government recalled the money sent to the account of Bhikubai Khairnar. The department says that the action was taken based on Khairnar's application that the money was getting deposited into her son's bank account linked to Aadhaar, instead of hers. Senior Congress MLA Vijay Wadettiwar asked whether the earlier list of Ladki Bahin beneficiaries was merely for votes. "How did four people from one family receive benefits?... Why are you doing the verification now? This just shows how fake this government is and how it played with the emotions of women for the sake of votes," he said.

Women and Child Welfare Minister Aditi Tatkare said: "There will be no blanket scrutiny. We will scrutinise only the cases where the local administration has received complaints... or where there is violation of rules."

## Amid Sambhal row, UP seeks 1978 riots details: Cases, land transfers

DM says details sought by government are being collected

**MANISH SAHU** LUCKNOW, JANUARY 9

THE UTTAR Pradesh government has begun collecting details about the cases registered during the Sambhal riots of 1978 which left many dead and injured.

According to the Sambhal police, 162 cases were registered at the Kotwali police station in the district during the violence. Of these, one case, which involved multiple deaths, was handed over to the UP Police's Crime Branch CID for investigation, while the remaining cases were investigated by the local police. Sources said most of the accused in these 162 cases were Muslims.

Sambhal was a part of Moradabad district until 2011, when the Mayawati-led BSP government carved it out as a separate district. Hence, cases related to the 1978 violence were heard in the Moradabad district court.

According to police, the violence began on March 29, 1978, when a man from the Hindu community killed a cleric inside the Jama Masjid. The assailant was beaten up by the public, but by then, the tension had spread to a significant portion of the district. Sources said tensions had been simmering for a month prior to the violence. The Janata Party government in the state was then headed by chief min-



Pensiya

Sources said directives had been issued to the Moradabad prosecution department and a police team from Sambhal district to compile information about the cases registered during the violence. The Sambhal

ister Naresh Yadav.

while the prosecution department is gathering case details from various courts in Moradabad. Sources said the police, in coordination with the district administration, are also investigat-

ing those who allegedly acquired

police team is reviewing records

from the relevant police stations,

the properties of the victims. Sambhal District Magistrate Rajender Pensiya told The Indian Express that details requested by the government were being collected. The government initiated the process after MLC Shrichand Sharma reportedly sought details of the riots, prompting Deputy Secretary (Home) Satendra Pratap Singh to issue a letter to Sambhal officials, direct ing them to take "appropriate action" on the matter, said a senior

official posted in Sambhal. MLC Sharma told *The Indian* 

Express that he raised the issue of the 1978 Sambhal violence in the Vidhan Parishad on December 17. During his address, he mentioned that 184 people were killed in the violence, many were burned alive, and their houses and shops were forcibly seized. He further demanded that the properties that were allegedly wrongfully acquired from the victims be returned to them. Sharma also sought clarification on the actions taken against those responsible for the violence, urging that appropriate legal action be taken against the accused. Sources said that, so far, nei-

ther the police nor the prosecution department has found any evidence indicating that anyone was convicted in connection with these cases. "We are gathering details of the cases registered during the violence and their current status from both the court and police records. From court records, we are also examining the basis on which the accused were acquitted,' said an officer.

Amid the current row over Sambhal's Jama Masjid, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on December 16 referred to the 1978 Sambhal riots to target the Opposition, saying the violence had "exposed their true nature" while asking, "Why have those responsible for the massacre in Sambhal not been punished to

this day?"

## Centre links farmer ID to PM-Kisan, makes it a must for new applicants

**HARIKISHAN SHARMA** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE CENTRE has made it mandatory for new applicants to obtain a farmer ID for enrolment into the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) to get benefits under the scheme.

The move by the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare to make farmer ID mandatory for registering new beneficiaries under the PM-Kisan is significant as it receives about 2 lakh new applications monthly. "This farmer ID guarantees that the applicant-farmer owns the land, and thus, the PM-KISAN registration process would be vastly simplified," said a source, adding that it will ease the process for farmers to avail themselves of the benefits of the Central scheme.

applicants for the PM-Kisan scheme will have to get registered with the Farmers' Registry and provide their farmer ID in the application form. This system has come into force across 10 states for any new applicant with effect from January 1, 2025, said the sources.

The agriculture ministry has sent a communication to these 10 states, said the sources. In the remaining states, it will be made mandatory at a later date, they added. The 10 states in which farmer ID has been made mandatory for registration of new beneficiaries under the PM-Kisan are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. These 10 states account for about 84 per cent (9.25 crore) of 11 crore PM-Kisan beneficiaries.

### Social, regional balances in mind, Nitish may rejig Cabinet after January 15 According to sources, all new

**SANTOSH SINGH** PATNA, JANUARY 9

WITH BIHAR Chief Minister Nitish Kumar debunking ru mours of shifting alliances and a joint event of the NDA scheduled for next week, the expansion of the state Cabinet is likely to take place after January 15 after the 'inauspicious' month of

Kharmaas concludes. Sources within the JD(U) and BJP said that the Cabinet rejig, ahead of the upcoming Budget session of the Assembly, will address multiple issues like striking a regional and caste balance and also ensure political stability in the state which will go to the polls later this year.

"Regional and caste balances could be the top priorities. We representation for Seemanchal (areas comprising Katihar, Purnia, Araria and Kishanganj), especially after (state BJP chief) Dilip Jaiswal quits as minister. We also need representation for Shahabad (Bhojpur, Kaimur, Buxar and Rohtas), Magadh (Aurangabad, Jehanabad and Arwal), Champaran (East and West Champaran) and Saran," a BJP leader said. A JD(U) leader did not rule out some surprise inductees. Currently, the Cabinet has 30 ministers including the CM. The expansion is likely to see the induction of four BIP and two JD(U) MLAs. The BJP has 15 ministers while the JD(U) has 13 including Nitish. The Bihar Cabinet can have a maximum strength

## India & US working on de-radicalisation of vulnerable communities to fight terror: Garcetti

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU** MUMBAI, JANUARY 9

INDIA AND the US are united in the fight against terrorism but the relationship between both the countries extends further to nipping the threat in the bud through 'de-radicalisation' of vulnerable communities, US Ambassador to India Eric Garcetti said on Thursday. "...Our collaboration extends

beyond fighting terrorism...but also how we can de-radicalise communities by investing in opportunities in some of our poorest areas, reaching out to communities who feel like they are on the grip and ensure that those who threaten peace and stability will face accountability," Garcetti said in his address on 'Peace and the role of the US-India defence and security partnership'. The ambassador's tenure in India will end on January 20. In March last year, the US and India held the 20th meeting of the counterterrorism joint working group, wherein both share intelligence, he said.

"Our cooperation includes increased information sharing, capacity building and coordinated efforts to bring perpetrators to justice. I hope you will see in the (Tahawwur) Rana (a key conspirator in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack) case in a matter of weeks, if not just a few months from now, who is responsible for the attacks here," Garcetti said.

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday

referred to the Allahabad High

Court not taking up a matter for

hearing despite its direction to

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9



**US Ambassador to India** Eric Garcetti in Mumbai on Thursday. Amit Chakravarty

The ambassador highlighted that India and the US are major defense partners and both the countries are developing and coproducing weapons together.

"From Apache helicopters to C130 transport aircrafts, US defense exports to India have grown to near zero in 2008 to over \$25 billion in 2023," he said.

Garcetti said that the US and

India relationship is not additive but is multiplicative. To a question on the US President-elect Donald Trump's plan to raise tariffs and its impact on India, he said that the idea was not to launch a trade war but to ensure fair trade. Asked about the indictment of Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani and seven others in a bribery scam in the US, he refused to comment but said that America has an "independent criminal justice system". "It's different from a lot of countries," he said. On whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi would be invited for the swearing in ceremony of Trump, he said he does not have any information.

politician Mukhtar Ansari have

staked a claim. Justice Surya Kant

flagged the working of some high

courts and said, "Some of the high

courts, we don't know what will

happen...this (Allahabad High

Court) is one of the high courts

which one should be worrisome

'Filing has collapsed, listing has collapsed': SC

flags working of Allahabad HC as 'worrisome'

## UP govt planning joint meeting of both Houses at Maha Kumbh site **MAULSHREE SETH**

they want to take." Opposition

NCP-SP MLA Rohit Pawar ques-

tioned the logic, when the two

schemes have different motives.

"How can women farmers be de-

nied the benefit of one?" said

Pawar. The government, mean-

while, is fighting charges by the

Opposition that it is trying to cut

down expenditure by pruning

Ladki Bahin beneficiary list. The

government recently announced

that there would be cross-verifi-

cation of beneficiaries, followed

by deletion of names, if needed.

those with annual income of

more than Rs 2.5 lakh, or owners

of four-wheelers, or those who

have shifted out of the state, or do

not have a domicile certificate, or

don't have bank accounts linked

to Aadhaar, or those who are al-

ready taking the benefit of an-

other government scheme cannot

Child Welfare Department said

the beneficiary list may come

down by up to 10% (or 24 lakh

An official of the Women and

be its beneficiaries.

As per the scheme's rules,

LUCKNOW, JANUARY 9

IN A first-of-its-kind development, the Uttar Pradesh government is considering holding a joint meeting of both Houses of the state legislature, comprising more than 500 members, besides a meeting of the state Cabinet at the Maha Kumbh venue in Prayagraj. Minister Yogi Chief

Adityanath is learnt to have expressed a desire for the same and the officials concerned have been tasked with looking into the possibility and logistics for this.

More than the cabinet meeting, which took place during the 2019 Kumbh as well, the bigger task before the authorities is to make the arrangements for the meeting of the two Houses since the state has 403 members of the Assembly and 100 of the Legislative Council.

Sources said the government is aiming to create a record of sorts by holding such a joint meeting, which is likely to be addressed by President Droupadi Murmu along with state Governor Anandi Ben Patel. "Officials have been directed to look into the logistics as the members participating in the meeting will also take a bath in the holy waters at the Sangam. Since both Houses of the Legislature have more than 500 members, aspects such as their security and accommodation etc will have to be taken care of," said a senior government official. As soon as logistics are looked into, the state government is likely to invite President Murmu

there on last Saturday" and "had

long interaction with some of the

concerned judges and Registrar".

Development Authority demol-

ished a bungalow built on the land

by Ansari and his sons, including

Abbas Ansari, with plans to use

In 2020, the Lucknow



A police patrol team in Prayagraj on Thursday. Vishal Srivastav

to address the joint meeting in Prayagraj, he added. The dates for the same are being finalised between two of three shahi snanas i.e. from January 14 (Makar Sankranti) and January 29 (Mauni Amawasya) for a smooth crowd management as over 5 crore pilgrims are expected on the shahi snan days.

"While the final call is yet to be taken on the dates, it is likely to be in the third week of January," the official claimed.

Meanwhile, the holding of a joint meeting of both the Houses of the state legislature is likely to put the Opposition parties in a tough spot like it did during the consecration of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya last year.

While all members of the state Assembly were invited for

Sibal said that though his plea re-

garding possession of the said

land was listed before the division

bench of Allahabad HC repeatedly,

no interim stay had been granted.

Supreme Court had on October

21 last year asked the high court

Sibal submitted that the

a visit to the Ram Temple after the consecration by the government, the Samajwadi Party (SP) had decided to boycott the programme. Some Opposition MLAs, including those from the Congress had, however, decided to be part of the programme, calling it their personal decision. If at all the joint meeting of

both Houses is held at the Maha Kumbh site, the Opposition parties will have to take a call on whether they will join the rest of the legislators or not.

In the 403-member state Assembly, the BIP has 257 legislators, the Samajwadi Party 107, NDA allies Apna Dal 13, Rashtriya Lok Dal 9, SBSP 6 and the NISHAD party 5. Also, the Jansatta Dal Lok Tantrik has two members and the BSP one.

## SC: Parents can be legally compelled to offer education money to daughter

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

DAUGHTER HAS an indefeasible. legally enforceable and legitimate right to secure educational expenses from her parents, who

ter of the estranged couple, who was studying in Ireland, refused to accept Rs 43 lakh given by her father towards her studies as a part of the total alimony being paid to her mother.

"She, being the daughter, has an indefeasible, legally enforcenecessary funds within the limit of their financial resources," said the bench's January 2 order.

The daughter of the parties, it said, to maintain her own dignity had declined to retain the amount and asked him to take the money back but he refused.

### consider it expeditiously and the property to build flats under The daughter was legally enabout. Unfortunately, filing has to take up the application for incan be compelled to provide necable, lawful, and legitimate right the PM Awas Yojana. terim stay expeditiously but this essary funds within their means. to secure educational expenses titled to the amount, the court termed the situation "worricollapsed, listing collapsed...nobody knows which was yet to be done. The senior from her parents. All that we obsome". The court made the obser-On Thursday, the Supreme the Supreme Court recently said. said. The father was said to have matter will be listed." counsel's arguments as to why vations while hearing a plea re-Court bench ordered a status quo The remarks of a bench comserve is that the daughter has a spent the money without any the high court had not taken it for garding the ownership of a Pointing out that the on the construction of the housprising Justices Surva Kant and compelling reasons, indicating he fundamental right to pursue her was financially sound to provide Allahabad HC is the largest in the ing units till the high court decides education, for which the parents property over which the sons of hearing, however, did not im-Ujjal Bhuyan came in a matrimocould be compelled to provide the late UP gangster-turnedcountry, Justice Kant said he "was the matter. Senior Advocate Kapil press the bench. nial dispute in which the daughher with the assistance. of 36. Parties on Chandigarh admin rule change: Bid to dilute Punjab claim

## Executive, legislature to take call on exclusion from reservation: SC

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE SUPREME Court on Thursday said it had already given its views on the question whether persons, who had benefited from quota, should be excluded from availing further reservation, and that it is now up to the legislature and executive to decide whether it should be implemented.

"We have given our view that taking into consideration the past 75 years, such persons who have already availed benefits and are in a position to compete with others, should be excluded from reservation. But it is a call to be taken by the executive and the legislature,"

Justice B R Gavai presiding over a two-judge bench stated. The bench also comprising Justice AG Masih was hearing a plea which referred to the August 1,2024 ruling of a 7 judge constitution bench which by 6:1 majority held that Scheduled Castes (SCs) can be sub-classified on identifiable and demonstrable data for the purpose of reservation. Thursday's plea said the states

were yet to frame such a policy though six months have passed since the judgment. The bench also comprising Justice AGMasih however said it is not inclined to entertain the matter. It allowed the petitioner's counsel to withdraw the plea to file a representation before the convened author-

ity that could decide on the issue.

**KANCHAN VASDEV** CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 9

BY ABOLISHING the post of advisor to the administrator of the Union Territory of Chandigarh and replacing it with the office of a chief secretary, the Central government has weakened Punjab's claim on Chandigarh and reiterated it would never be "restored as Punjab's capital". This is the takeaway of non-BJP parties in the state after the Union Ministry of Home Affairs issued a notification on the matter late on Tuesdav.

This comes months after suspicions were raised in Punjab after reports of separate land being allotted to Haryana in Chandigarh to set up its Assembly complex. However, Punjab Governor Gulab

Chand Kataria stepped in at the time to defuse the tension by saying no environmental clearance had been granted to Haryana for the land. Following the latest notification, the UT administration will now have the posts of chief secretary, home secretary, finance secretary, urban planning and smart city secretary, deputy commissioner, joint commissioner for finance, excise commissioner, additional deputy commissioner, two secretaries, and an additional secretary. Hitting out at the Union gov-

ernment, Congress general secretary and Rajya Sabha MP Randeep Singh Surjewala said no Prime Minister had ever interfered with the administrative arrangement in Chandigarh. "But the Modi government came to power with the intent of destroying Haryana's rights, traditions, and institutions and is moving forward with this agenda.'

"In the first attack of 2025 on the shared heritage of Haryana and Punjab, the Modi government has approved the position of Chief Secretary for Chandigarh instead of an administrative adviser. According to the Central government's official notification, 11 officers will work as secretaries instead of the earlier nine, and these officers will belong exclusively to the UT cadre rather than being deputed from Haryana or Punjab. With this notification, the claim of Punjab and Haryana to administrative positions in Chandigarh, including finance, home, DC, and municipal commissioner, has

ended," he added.

The ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab said that the move exposed the Centre's "anti-Punjab attitude". Senior AAP spokesperson Neel Garg said a Chief Secretary is appointed in a state. "Chandigarh is not a state, nor does it have a Chief Minister. Then why was there a need for the appointment of a Chief Secretary? The People of Punjab will never tolerate this decision. The Centre should reconsider and withdraw the decision."

The AAP leader said "it was clearly stated" during the division of Punjab in 1966 that until Harvana built its new capital, Chandigarh would remain a Union Territory and after it would be handed back to Punjab. "In 1970, Rs 10 crore was also given to Haryana to build its

Instead of advisor to administrator, Chandigarh to now have Chief Secretary; move follows other changes such as cadre rules Capital. Several states in India have been divided, and they all established their respective capitals, but Punjab continues to face discrimination," Garg added. Former Deputy CM and Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Sukhbir Singh Badal also criticised the Centre's decision saying it was "another discriminatory step of the GOI (Government of India) to further dilute Punjab's rightful claim on Chandigarh" and warned it would have "longterm consequences". A retired IAS officer said:

"Gradually, the message is turning loud and clear that Chandigarh will continue to be a UT. There will be no claim of Punjab. It shows that they are trying to bring UT Chandigarh on par with other UTs. All UTs have

Lieutenant Governors, administrators, and chief secretaries. They are trying to make it uniform." While the BIP did not of ficially comment on the matter, party vice-president Fateh Jung Singh Bajwa, the brother of Leader of Opposition Partag Singh Bajwa, said, "I want to tell the parties opposing the move that the Chief Secretary's post is a part of administrative reforms. My emotional demand is that the Chief Secretary should be a Punjab-cadre IAS officer Chandigarh is rightfully ours. We should get Chandigarh back as it is our capital." For parties in Punjab, espe-

cially the AAP, another contentious issue has been the alleged increase in the number of non-Punjab cadre IAS officers in the UT.

## THE INDIAN EXPRESS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025 EXPRESS NETWORK

## Heads roll after Tirupati stampede — Dy SP, two others suspended, 3 shifted, big changes at TTD

rush out, which caused the

stampede. Any mistake, done

knowingly or unknowingly, which results in deaths, cannot

He also suggested measures

– such as issuing tickets for the

Vaikuntha Ekadasi festival at dis-

trict levels – to help ensure

there's no repeat of such an inci-

dent. Meanwhile, Deputy Chief

Minister K Pawan Kalyan, who

also visited Tirupati, accused the

TTD and the police of "failing" to

appropriately assess the situa-

tion in light of the increase in

The visit comes at a time

devotees ahead of the festival.

when the Opposition Yuvajana

Sramika Rythu Congress Party

(YSRCP) government is trying to

corner the Naidu government

over the stampede. In a state-

ment, YSRCP leader and former

Andhra Pradesh minister

Velampalli Srinivasa Rao de-

scribed Wednesday as a "black"

day in the history of the TTD, oth-

erwise "well-known" for man-

aging huge crowds.

**RAAKHIJAGGA** 

LUDHIANA, JANUARY 9

A 54-YEAR-OLD farmer, protest-

ing at the Shambhu border, al-

legedly died by suicide Thursday.

farmers at the protest site said.

Police are yet to register an FIR in

the matter — the second such in-

cident at Shambhu and third at

the two protest sites on Haryana-

Pahuwind in Tarn Taran district

consumed pesticide at Shambhu

border point, where farmers

have been protesting since

February 13 last year, pressing

the Centre for a law guarantee-

claimed Resham was a member

of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh

Committee and was upset with

the Center for not resolving their

issues. Farmers claimed that he

took the extreme step as "he was

fed up with the (Narendra) Modi

sarkar as they are not listening to

the farmers despite the pro-

tracted protest". "(Jagjit Singh)

Dallewalji is sitting on a hunger

strike and he (PM) is not both-

ered about it," farmers quoted

Resham was taken to Rajpura

Resham as saying.

Tuk tuk tales: When Hungarian PM took an auto ride

Viktor Orbán poses with

tuk-tuk, "because it is very good

"Several tourists go by auto

for sightseeing in Fort Kochi".

auto drivers in Kochi.

Facebook/Saleem Ibn Majeed

Farmer leader Tejvir Singh

ing MSP for crops.

from

Punjab border in five months.

Resham Singh

be forgiven," he said.

**SREENIVAS JANYALA** HYDERABAD, JANUARY 9

A DAY after six people died in a stampede at the Sri Venkateswara Swami Temple in Tirumala, heads rolled within the Tirupati district administration and the Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Thursday after the Andhra Pradesh government under Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu suspended two officials and transferred three others.

Naidu, who visited the site of Wednesday's stampede, announced the suspension of Deputy Tirupati's Superintendent of Police Ramana Kumar and Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) SV Dairy Farm director Harinatha

Tirupati's SP L Subbarayudu, Ioint Executive Officer M Goutami, and TTD's Chief Vigilance and Security Officer (CVSO) S Sreedhar have been

transferred. The Chief Minister also ordered a judicial probe into Wednesday night's stampede, caused when the gates of for the upcoming Vaikunta

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 

ISRO ON Thursday said it has arrested the drift between satellites

during its ambitious Space

Docking Experiment (SpaDeX)

and put the spacecraft in a slow

drift course to move closer to each

other. According to the space

agency, the experiment is ex-

pected to reach initialisation con-

drift has been arrested and space-

crafts put in a slow drift course to

move closer to each other. By to-

morrow (Friday), it is expected to

reach initialisation conditions,"

which was earlier scheduled for

Thursday, had to be postponed af-

ter the two satellites drifted more

than expected during a manoeu-

vre to reduce the distance be-

tween them. For the experiment,

the two small satellites — SDX01

(Chaser) and SDX02 (Target) —

launched by ISRO on December

30 were to be progressively

**SHAJU PHILIP** 

JANUARY 9

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,

WHEN SIDDIQUE Hussain, a 53-

year-old auto driver in Kochi's

Calvathy got a call this month

from Kochi's Fragrant Nature ho-

tel for rickshaws, he thought noth-

ing of it. It wasn't unusual for him

to get such calls for tourists who

wanted cheaper modes of trans-

port in and around Fort Kochi. But

when he was asked to undergo se-

curity checks, he realised who his

The docking experiment,

ISRO said in a statement.

"SpaDeX Docking Update: The

dition on Friday.

NEW DELHI. JANUARY 9

Drift between satellites

arrested, conditions

for docking may be

achieved today: ISRO

Ekadasi festival were being distributed were opened. Six people were killed and scores were wounded in the rush.

Deputy SP Ramana Kumar was in-charge of crowd control and security at Padmavathi Park, the site of the stampede. Reddy, meanwhile, has been found responsible for deciding where the ticket counters had to be set up.

The CM's move comes at a time when his government is taking flak for crowd mismanagement at the temple ahead of the Vaikunta Ekadasi festival, which begins January 10.

While making the announcements, Naidu observed that some of the places where the ticket counters were set up were not suited to handle large crowds, and that the IAS and IPS officers at TTD and Tirupati Police took their jobs casually. He also said there was a failure at "various levels".

While Subbarayudu and Sreedhar are IPS officers, Goutami is an IAS officer.

"Deputy SP Ramana Kumar displayed utter lack of responsibility when he asked the gates at Padmavathi Park to be opened to evacuate a woman suffering Padmavathi Park where tickets from breathing problems," the CM said.

brought closer in the orbit, halting

at 5 km, 1.5 km, 500 m, 225 m, 15

m, 3 m, and finally joining to-

gether. During a manoeuvre initi-

ated on Wednesday evening to

move the Chaser satellite from a

distance of 500 metres to 225 me-

tres, the satellites drifted more

than expected during a non-visi-

bility period (a period during

which the satellites cannot be

docking was postponed; it was ini-

tially planned on January 7 but was

delayed to run more ground sim-

ulations to "improve the accuracy".

For docking, the extended rings on

both satellites will come together,

before joining, and rigidization to

secure the connection between

the two. Then electrical power will

be shared, with researchers also

experimenting with giving com-

mands to both as one. Space dock-

ing is essential for missions that re-

quire big payloads that can't be

carried in a single launch. India

would need the technology for its

future plans of bringing samples

back from the moon and setting

guest was: Viktor Orbán, the

Hungarian PM, who's on holiday

in Kerala with his wife and two

daughters. On January 4, Orbán

and his daughters went around

a call from a hotel at Fort Kochi.

The hotel manager told me that

the prime minister, his wife and

two daughters, will be coming

and they want three-wheelers for

sightseeing. The hotel asked for

tel, the European leader wanted a

According to sources at the ho-

four auto-rickshaws," he said.

"Two days before the trip, I got

Fort Kochi in Hussain's auto.

up a space station.

This was the second time the

tracked from ground stations).

Among victims, mothers who "He is a senior police officer. He should have assessed the situation better... What happened waited for hours in queue was that devotees who were at the back thought the gates had been opened and tickets were being issued, and they tried to

**SREENIVAS JANYALA** HYDERABAD, JANUARY 9

FIVE OUT of six victims of the Wednesday night stampede at Tirupati were women – mothers who had gone with their families, hoping to have darshan of Lord Venkateshwara during the auspicious Vaikunta Ekadasi.

were from Visakhapatnam: Lavanya Swati (37) of Thatichetlapalem, Kandipilli Santhi (35) of Kancharapalem, and Rajini (47) of Maddilapalem. They were part of a group of devotees who had gone to Tirupati on Tuesday and joined the queues early on Wednesday to get free darshan coupons.

They waited patiently for over 12 hours in the long queues while their husbands and children stood in other queues. Santhi's husband is an autorickshaw driver while their son is pursuing secondary education. After collecting the coupons, the three women along with their families were planning to climb the steps the following

2nd in a month: Farmer dies by

suicide at Shambhu protest site

Farmers attend a Kisan Mahapanchayat called by the SKM at

**Grain Market in Moga, Thursday.** Gurmeet Singh

civil hospital, Resham, and was

referred to Patiala's Rajindra

Medical College and Hospital but

ical officer at Rajpura civil hospi-

tal, said, "The patient was critical.

We don't have a functional ICU

here. We had no choice but to re-

fer him to the tertiary care hospi-

tal after administering first aid".

covered a suicide note on

Resham's person. The purported

note, written in Punjabi, read, "In

order to wake up the central and

state governments, we need to

sacrifice ourselves and I have

Farmers claimed to have re-

Dr Sonia Jangwal, senior med-

died on the way.

Bereaved family members of the victims in Tirupati. PTI day to reach the temple at Tirumala. Two other women – Malliga (50) of Salem, Tamil Nadu, and Nirmala from Karnataka –

succumbed to injuries while be-

ing taken to the hospital at night. The sixth victim, Babu Naidu (51) of Narasipatnam, who was injured in the stampede at a ticket counter at Bairagipatteda, also died an hour later at a hospital. The counter was one of many set up to distribute darshan coupons.

On Thursday, rescue teams and volunteers were busy collecting mobile phones, purses, and bags that had been scattered in the stampede and trying to return them to their owners.

At least 25 persons who were injured in the stampede were released from hospitals after they received treatment. An official said that 12 people with broken ribs or bones were under treatment, but all are out of danger.

While police took measures to control the crowds at the ticket counters, the rush continued despite the stampede.



## Court sends businessman to judicial custody for 14 days

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. JANUARY 9

**A MAGISTRATE** 

court in Kochi

on Thursday

remanded

Boby

businessman

Chemmanur



**Boby** 

to judicial cus-Chemmanur tody for 14 days after he was booked on charges of making alleged obscene remarks about

Malayalam actor Honey Rose. Chemmanur was arrested on Wednesday hours after he was taken into custody from his estate in Wayanad. Police had booked him under Section 75 (4) (sexual harassment) of the BNS and Section 67 (publishing or transmitting obscene material in elec-

tronic form) of the IT Act. Chemmanur was produced before the Ernakulam Judicial First-Class Magistrate Court II on Thursday afternoon. Seeking bail for Chemmanur, his counsel argued that he had not committed any wrongdoing. However, the prosecution strongly opposed the plea, stating there was substantial evidence to suggest he had committed a serious offence.

After hearing the arguments, the court sent the businessman to

a 14-day judicial remand. Rose had named 30 people who had made alleged sexist comments against her on social media. On Tuesday, she filed the complaint against Chemmanur, who is also known as BoChe. Police acted upon the complaint and rushed a team to Wayanad to nab the jewelry chain owner. Besides, they took the actor to a magistrate court to record her statement under Section 183 of the Bharativa Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.

'Curtain falls on melodic wonder': Singer Jayachandran dies



**SUKRITA BARUAH** UMRANGSO, JANUARY 9

ZERO VISIBILITY, lack of a blueprint, and water from an unknown source refusing to subside - these are the key challenges rescuers face as they try for the fourth consecutive day to retrieve the men trapped in a rat hole mine in Assam's Dima Hasao district.

The remotely located mine in the coal reserves of Umrangso in Dima Hasao district is now the site of a 24-hour operation involving around 200 personnel from different forces and the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA).

At least nine men got trapped in the mine after it was flooded on Monday morning.

After at least six search and rescue attempts by divers from the Indian Navy, the National Disaster Response Force, the State Disaster Response Force, Special Forces and the Army on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the body of only one of the miners, Ganga Bahadur Srestho, was retrieved by divers from the 21 Para Special Forces on Wednesday.

Divers from the Special Forces who retrieved the body told *The Indian Express* that the first challenge was the depth of the water – approximately 100 feet – inside the 310-foot-deep central pit of the mine, besides the complete lack of visibility. "We cannot see anything, and we have no map, scale or blueprint of the mine. We have to feel our way inside. The pit is conical and narrows as we go

further down. On Tuesday, divers

had searched half of the area at the bottom of the pit. On the first dive on Wednesday, while searching the second half, I felt a body with my right hand," said the diver who retrieved the body.

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At the bottom of the pit, tunnels or 'rat holes' branch in different directions, where the miners work. "The body we retrieved was in the central pit... But there are no other bodies there now. Neither can we enter the tunnels. nor do we know how many such tunnels are branching out from the central pit," said another diver.

While the divers' efforts are at an impasse, the other crucial element of the operation – pumping out water from the mine - has not yielded any result. Since Monday, two local motorised pumps have been working to drain out water from the pit. However, the water level has remained at approximately 100 feet. In fact, a member of the Special Forces said that after a night of dewatering, when the water level was measured on Thursday morning, it had in-

creased by 6 inches. On Wednesday, a heavy-duty motor pump from ONGC was brought to the site to aid in the dewatering, but it could not be deployed because it was not submersible. On Thursday, an even more powerful pump – capable of pumping out 2,250 litres of water per minute – from Coal India Limited was airlifted from Nagpur

CEO of the ASDMA Gyanendra Dev Tripathi, said diving operations will be suspended to conduct 24 hours of uninterrupted dewatering.

and brought to the site.

## R G Kar case verdict expected on January 18

**TANUSREE BOSE** KOLKATA. JANUARY 9

THE TRIAL in the rape and murder case of a woman junior doctor at R G Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata in August last year is complete and the verdict is likely to be pronounced on January 18 by a Sealdah court.

The parents of the victim had moved the Calcutta HC in December last year, seeking a fresh probe. Their counsel told the court that they "do not have confidence" in the current probe, being led by the CBI. The agency's lawyer Partho Sarathi Dutta said on Thursday, "The CBI has asked for the maximum punishment... The investigation is still on."

The lawyer of the victim's parents said, "We have just one demand that whoever or all who are involved in the case should be brought forward, they should get the maximum punishment. We

want justice. The supplementary chargesheet has still not been submitted. The investigation is not yet over... We are hoping that the truth will come out. The CBI and we have demanded for the maximum punishment (for the accused, Sanjay Roy)," he said.

The victim's father said, "We are not happy with the investigation, which is why there should be a further probe into the case. We have asked for the maximum punishment.'

"What the police had done in

five days, the CBI has done in five months," said the victim's mother, adding, "There will be further investigation, we are not happy with the probe. We know that Sanjoy Roy is the culprit but he alone could not have committed such a crime in a 24x7 hospital. When all involved are punished, we will be satisfied. We did not want a CBI investigation... It was the court that decided that the CBI would probe the case."

## 2017 Walayar rape case: CBI books victims' parents for abetting crime

**SHAJU PHILIP** THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, JAN 9

A 2017 case of rape and alleged suicide of two minor girls in Palakkad has taken a curious turn with CBI arraigning the victims' parents as accused on charges of abetting sexual abuse and suicide.

In the supplementary chargesheet filed in Kochi's CBI court Wednesday, the agency said the parents were aware of the sexual abuse of the girls but did not report the matter to police. The parents were charged under IPC section 109 (abetment of a crime) and POCSO Act.

The girls, aged 9 and 13, were found hanging in their house at Walayar in Palakkad a few weeks apart in 2017. Police found that the girls had died by suicide after allegedly being subjected to sexual abuse over several months by five persons, including a juvenile.

In 2019, a special POCSO court acquitted four accused, citing no scientific evidence to connect them to the offences. The forensic surgeon who conducted the postmortem of the elder sister said that the victim's anal injuries could be due to piles infection.

This went in favour of the accused. Of the four accused, two were relatives of the victims. Two of the

four accused later died by suicide. Following appeals by the state and the girls' mother, a sessions court in August 2022 ordered the CBI to probe the case further.

Police probe found that the accused had easy access to the girls' house and one of them was staying with the family.

The case caused a political storm in Kerala after the victims' mother alleged that the police had sabotaged the probe. She contested in the 2021 Assembly polls against CM Pinarayi Vijayan from Dharmadam as an Independent candidate, saying it was a protest against the "injustice committed against her daughters".

rickshaw, but this is the first time such a VVIP had opted for the three-wheeler. We followed all protocol and security measures," a source at the hotel said.

The security protocols included a thorough check by a bomb squad, inspection of the vehicle's documents and a thorough vetting of the drivers.

On January 4, the four autos dutifully lined up at Calvathy, along with other escort vehicles and ambulances. Viktor and his two daughters boarded Hussain's auto, while his security team fol-

**SHAJU PHILIP** 

JANUARY9

THIRUVANANTHAURAM.

RENOWNED PLAYBACK singer P

Jayachandran, affectionately

called 'Bhava Gayakan' for his

soulful renditions that beautifully

expressed emotions such as love,

longing, and devotion, died in

Thrissur on Thursday. He was 80.

7.55pm while undergoing treat-

ment at a private hospital here,

hospital sources said. He was

taken to the hospital after collaps-

ing at his residence on Thursday,

they said. He had been unwell for

16,000 songs in Malayalam, Tamil,

The singer recorded over

quite some time.

The singer died around

lowed in the other three. "I told Viktor 'Welcome to my Ferrari'." Hussain said. "He wanted

started it. I am a member of the

Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh

Committee and even in the next

birth, I will serve it. Considering

Dallewalji's will power, where he

is ready to sacrifice his life, I am

Tiwana, however, said police

have have no information about

any suicide note. "They (farmers)

didn't hand over any such note

to the police. We are yet to lodge

any FIR. Resham Singh's family

will meet police and administra-

tive officials on Friday morning.

We will proceed based on the

outcome of the meeting."

Patiala DSP Jaswinder Singh

sacrificing myself before that".

to drive the auto but since it's illegal, I allowed him to merely sit in the driver's seat. I took them to the Dutch Palace at Mattancherry, the **Jews Street and the Santa Cruz** Cathedral Basilica. Then, we had lunch at a restaurant. He invited us auto drivers for lunch too, and we sat near his table.'

For Hussain, who has been driving his auto for the last 28 years, this was his most memorable experience.

Telugu, Kannada, and Hindi in a

career spanning over five decades.

came out in the 1970s and 80, still

remain evergreen for generations

award for the best male playback

singer in 1986. In 2020, he was

conferred with the I C Daniel

Award in recognition for his con-

tributions to Malayalam cinema.

He had also won state film awards

in Kerala five times and two times

Thampuran, who belonged to the

Cochin Royal Family, was a musi-

cian. During school days,

Jayachandran studied mridan-

gam. In the state school youth fes-

father

Kochaniyan

He had won the national

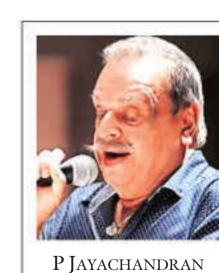
of music lovers.

in Tamil Nadu.

Ravivarma

Jayachandran's

Many of his songs, which



1944-2025

tival held in 1958, Jayachandran got the prizes for the best light music singer and mridangam performance. After obtaining a degree in Zoology, he got a job in Chennai, where he met then film director A Vincent, who gave him an opportunity to sing in cinema. Jayachandran's debut into playback singing was in 1966 for Malayalam movie Kalithozhan.

The song 'Manjalayil Mungi thorthi', delivered by a combination of Jayachadran, composer G Devarajan and lyricist P Bhaskaran, remains an evergreen song even after six decades. Since then, he has worked with leading composers and renowned lyricists in South Indian languages, mainly in Malayalam and Tamil.

In 1972, he got the first state award for a hit song 'Neelagiriyude' in the movie Panitheeratha Veedu. He created a wave in Tamil film music with the song 'Raasaathi unna' in the 1984 film Vaidehi Kaathirunal.

Jayachandran has left behind songs for all ages from young to old, for all emotional moments

He is survived by wife Lalitha,

daughter Lakshmi and son Dinanathan, who is also a singer. The funeral will be held later. Kerala Governor Rajendra

Vishwanath Arlekar and Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan condoled the demise of Jayachandran.

The Governor said, "His endearing voice that charmed audience for six decades will go on to soothe people's hearts." Vijayan said the journey of the

song that transcended time and space has come to a halt. "The curtain falls here on a melodic wonder that has captured the hearts of generations," the CM said.

### WORDLY WISE

AGE HAS NO REALITY EXCEPT IN THE PHYSICAL WORLD.

— Gabriel Garcia Marquez

## The Indian EXPRESS

∽ FOUNDED BY ∽ RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

## ENGAGING TALIBAN

Drift towards normal relations with Kabul points to enduring geopolitical realities. But Delhi must underline concerns

OVERNMENTS MIGHT COME and go in Kabul, but India's ties with Afghanistan have largely retained their strategic character. India's stepped-up engagement with the Taliban — marked by the recent meeting of Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri with the acting Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Amir Khan Muttaqi in Dubai — underlines this basic geopolitical reality of the Subcontinent. When the Taliban stormed back into power in August 2021, it was widely lamented as a major setback to India's regional policy. After all, India had been a strong partner for the government led by anti-Taliban forces. The return of the Taliban was also viewed as a major gain for Pakistan, which was deeply hostile to the regime that fell in Kabul. Yet, since its return, the Taliban consistently signaled its eagerness to improve relations with India. Delhi has been cautious in its interaction with the Taliban. That policy has changed now with the elevation of the engagement to the level of foreign secretary. Delhi has responded to requests from Kabul for Indian support for humanitarian assistance and developmental cooperation.

The slow but certain drift in Delhi towards normal relations with Kabul underlines an enduring geopolitical reality of the Subcontinent. Irrespective of the nature of the regime in Kabul — monarchical, communist or Islamist of different kinds — there has been a natural warmth between Delhi and Kabul. That India and Afghanistan do not have any bilateral dispute is one factor; that they share cross-border problems from Pakistan is another. Kabul has long resented the Pakistan army's brazen meddling in its internal affairs and its treating Afghanistan as its backyard. Kabul has looked to Delhi to balance the pressures from Rawalpindi. Pakistan has sought to break this paradigm by conscious efforts to promote radical Islam in Afghanistan and groom the Taliban as an anti-Indian force. That policy has failed one more time. The tensions between Kabul and Rawalpindi have not disappeared.

Although the logic of geopolitics is moving Delhi closer to Kabul, there are two issues of concern for India. One, the domestic orientation of the Taliban regime — its repression of the population and intolerable oppression of women in particular, who are being denied basic rights such as education and minimal personal freedoms. To be sure, India does not have the power to alter the internal politics of Afghanistan; realism suggests that Delhi must deal with whichever government is in power in Kabul. Yet, India cannot give up its core values, it must nudge the Taliban towards political and social moderation. That the meeting with the Taliban officials took place in Dubai is a reminder that India can work with the United Arab Emirates and other moderate Arab states in promoting positive changes inside Afghanistan. The second issue is Delhi's unfortunate abandonment of its previous allies in Afghanistan since the Taliban returned to power. This included a heart-breaking refusal to give visas to many Afghans who had actively supported India over the decades. Winning new friends in Kabul might be smart; but losing old friends is not wise.

## Musk and Zuckerberg

As Meta follows the X model on free speech, growing alignment between two Big Tech leaders sparks questions beyond US

OOK TO SILICON Valley to see how the winds have shifted in the United States since the re-election of Donald Trump. On January 7, two weeks before the inauguration of the second Trump presidency, Meta, which owns Facebook and Instagram, announced sweeping changes to its fact-checking programme, starting with the US. Describing the recent elections as a "cultural tipping point towards once again prioritising speech", CEO Mark Zuckerberg said in a five-minute video that the company's platforms would switch to a Community Notes model, along the lines of X and would be less restrictive on topics like immigration and gender. This was, he said, a step towards greater freedom of expression — a reiteration of the "anti-censorship" argument frequently made by Elon Musk, owner of X, and a key figure in the incoming administration. Notwithstanding Musk's monosyllabic response to Zuckerberg's announcement — "cool" — what is clear is a growing alignment between two of the most influential tech leaders in the world.

This has huge implications, not only for the US, where an antitrust case against Google has shaken Silicon Valley, but also for the rest of the world. Any changes to user experience and safety in Big Tech, which may emerge as a response to the politics and policies of the new regime in Washington DC, are bound to ripple beyond the borders of the US, thanks to the global nature of the platforms that they've built. Facebook, for example, has over 3 billion users, most of whom are outside the US, in countries like India, Brazil and Indonesia. For many users, these platforms don't just serve as a way to connect with other people; they're sources of news and information, shaping their world views. The danger posed by mis/disinformation cannot be overstated, as seen during the Covid-19 pandemic when rumours about vaccines being used by governments to track people contributed to vaccine hesitancy. Musk and his use of X perhaps best exemplify the far-reaching impact of a social media post today: Raking up the years-long "grooming gangs" scandal and calling for the removal of Prime Minister Keir Starmer in the UK and throwing his weight behind a right-wing party in Germany, where snap polls are to take place soon, Musk has caused much disquiet across the Atlantic in the first week of 2025 alone.

If there is a solution to the challenges of the present moment, it lies in strengthening institutional media. The tech business is, first and foremost, a business — regardless of its larger role in global politics and policymaking. What is clear, as Silicon Valley scrambles to adjust to life under a new president, is that Big Tech cannot be trusted to be the sole and accurate source of news and information.

## OLD AND WHOLE

In Demi Moore's Golden Globes win, hope and the assurance of fuller representation

AN A WOMAN, successful or otherwise, ever be enough? At the Golden Globes Award ceremony, receiving the best actress award for her turn as the fading protagonist of Coralie Fargeat's *The Substance*, actor Demi Moore revealed the self-doubt and the male gaze that has framed her life and choices. They fetched her success, but never an acknowledgement of her talent. In a career of nearly five decades, the Golden Globe was her first award. "In those moments when we don't think we're smart enough or pretty enough or skinny enough or successful enough or basically just not enough, I had a woman say to me, 'Just know you will never be enough, but you can know the value of your worth if you just put down the measuring stick," the 62-year-old said.

Moore's career — from her breakout role in *Blame It on Rio* (1984) to *Ghost* (1990) to *Indecent Proposal* (1993) to her photo shoots, pregnant and in the nude for *Vanity Fair* — has built up to this inflection point. But it could not have come at a more exciting time or with a more interesting project. *The Substance* is a hard look at Hollywood's veneration of youth and the body dysmorphia that afflicts women such as Moore, made to believe that in show business that is the capital they have to live off. But it is only one of a series of layered stories that women, older and ageing, are telling about themselves. From Jodie Foster in *True* Detectives to Jean Smart in Hacks to Nicole Kidman in the erotic thriller Babygirl, new shows and films are making a case for better representation, not as accessories in a male-dominated

industry but as "markers of wholeness", wrinkles and sagging skin firmly in the spotlight. Yet, power asymmetry still exists, some of the gains of MeToo have been undone and pay disparity continues to be a barrier. Women still have a long way to go but the journey might just be a little less intimidating. Hope is a powerful elixir, especially when one is not alone.

## A reason to talk

India's dialogue with the Taliban is based on

realism, set in a complex geopolitical situation



INDIAN FOREIGN SECRETARY Vikram Misri's meeting with the Taliban's acting foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi in Dubai on January 8 is not just part of the engagement of the regime in Kabul but a significant elevation in

the level of dialogue. India, like the rest of the

international community, has yet to accord formal recognition to the Taliban regime which saw off US forces from Kabul in August 2021 amidst chaotic scenes reminiscent of the helicopter evacuation of thousands from Saigon in 1975, only much worse. Since the transition in Kabul, India has kept alive channels of communication with the

Taliban at the functional level. Misri's meeting took place against the backdrop of considerable geopolitical ferment. Two days earlier, the Indian foreign ministry spokesman had roundly condemned the Pakistani airstrikes against Afghanistan that resulted in the loss of "several precious lives", including women and children. Pakistan's claim that the target was the

Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) camps has not cut ice with Kabul, which has labelled these brazen acts as "aggression against Afghanistan". The TTP is fighting to evict all Pakistani forces from Pashtun tribal lands across the so-called Durand Line. Mortimer Durand's eponymous line of 1893, a colonial cartographic caper, is regarded as an "imaginary line" by the Taliban, whose sympathy for the TTP's pan-Pashtun ambitions has set Pakistan's teeth on edge. In February 2024, Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai, Taliban's acting deputy minister of foreign affairs, categorically stated that Afghanistan will never recognise the Durand Line. Pakistani demands for "border" crossings using consular documents have also been dismissed.

In Pakistan's case, there are some ironies. First, Pakistan has always considered Afghanistan to be a weak and vulnerable hinterland to be exploited and dominated in order to achieve "strategic depth" against India. Now, an emboldened Taliban is threatening Pakistan's western flank, which it has always taken for granted. According to a UN Security Council report, there are an estimated 6,000-6,500 TTP fighters waging war against

Following the Misri-Muttaqi tête-à-tête, India has committed to 'provide further material support in the first instance to the health sector and for the rehabilitation of refugees' by way of humanitarian assistance. Pakistan has expelled more than 5,00,000 refugees, creating a humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Given that Iran too has had border skirmishes with Pakistan on account of the latter providing sanctuaries to separatists, this is an opportune moment to work in tandem with Iran, using Chabahar Port to expand trade and send assistance to

the refugees.

Pakistan, operating from Afghanistan. The Taliban's support for the TTP remains strong amidst mounting instances of TTP attacks against Pakistan.

Second, as the saying goes "as you sow, so shall you reap". Pakistan has harboured many terrorist groups as part of its insidious policy towards India. It was a key progenitor of the Taliban during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Now, the chickens have come home to roost. The TTP's Pashtun nationalism haunts Islamabad.

Links between the Taliban, TTP and al-Qaeda remain resilient. The Taliban and al-Qaeda make common cause in dealing with the virulent Islamic State (Khorasan Province). Just as the Taliban's return had proved a boost for terrorist networks, not far away, Syria has recently been overrun by the Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), still regarded by the UN and US as a terrorist organisation. The revocation of the \$10 million bounty on the head of HTS leader Ahmed Hussein al-Sharaa on grounds of expediency gives rise to the question of whether there is scope for similar rehabilitation of the current regime in Afghanistan.

Top UN, US, EU, Turkish and Jordanian diplomats, as well as the foreign ministers of Germany and France, are dealing with the new regime in Damascus but not with the Taliban. This is despite the fact that the Syrian groups that have come together under the HTS umbrella have also been egregious in their violation of human rights and the treatment of minorities.

India has done well to engage the Taliban at a senior level. China and others such as Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Iran and Pakistan were quick to interact with Taliban 2.0 including through their local diplomatic missions. After the Taliban's takeover, India had recalled all its personnel but later restituted its presence in Kabul by dispatching a "technical team" to its embassy in 2022.

The "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan" yearns for recognition. The UN Credentials Committee has turned down its request for the fourth consecutive year. However, the current situation does provide an opportunity for India to deploy a new modus vivendi in its dealings with the Taliban even if international recognition, for now, remains a chimera. The Afghan cricket team's dizzying rise has led to players like Rashid Khan being auctioned for hefty sums in the Indian Premier League (IPL) It augurs well that India has also offered to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the popular game of cricket, which is a way of reaching out to the Afghan youth.

Following the Misri-Muttaqi tête-à-tête, India has committed to "provide further material support in the first instance to the health sector and for the rehabilitation of refugees" by way of humanitarian assistance. Pakistan has expelled more than 5,00,000 refugees, creating a humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Given that Iran too has had border skirmishes with Pakistan on account of the latter providing sanctuaries to separatists, this is an opportune moment to work in tandem with Iran, using Chabahar Port to expand trade and send assistance to the refugees. India could benefit by involving Tehran more closely in meeting Afghanistan's humanitarian needs. Iran still has regional sway in some quarters and has recently offered to help mediate with Yemen to secure clemency for Nimisha Priya, an Indian nurse on death row.

India has supplied essential medicines, Covid and polio vaccines, anti-tuberculosis medicines, surgical items, drug de-addiction hygiene kits, blankets, winter clothing, pesticides, stationery for students as well as large consignments of wheat to Afghanistan. In the Union Budget for 2024-25, India allocated assistance for Afghanistan to the tune of Rs 200 crore.

Keeping in mind the complex geopolitical chessboard, India should enhance humanitarian assistance and resume development projects in Afghanistan. Capitalising on traditional friendship, there is scope for Afghanistan to figure even more prominently in India's "Act West" policy. The Taliban, after all, is here to stay.

> The writer is the director general of the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. Views are personal



## FIRST CAME THE POET

Pritish Nandy — journalist, writer, curator — kept his creative honesty throughout

SUDHIR MISHRA

IMAGINE YOU HAVE to write a film script on the life of Pritish Nandy.

Where do you begin? Anyone who knew him even slightly knows that he would've hated a hagiography. How would you approach it? How would you market it? What would be the poster? He could be sitting at the desk writing an opinion piece.

Many times, I sat in his office, sipping a cup of tea as he finished an article. I can still picture him at the peak of his concentration, pausing now and then and suddenly typing furiously. Or, the poster could be a picture of him looking at the sunset through a window as if a poem was wafting through the air and entering his head: A thousand desires such as these/A thousand moments to set this night on fire/ Reach out and you can touch them/ You can touch them with your silences/ You can reach them with your lust/Rivers, mountains, rain./Rain against the torrid hill's cape/A thousand/ A thousand desires such as these.

Or, he could be with his gloves on banging away at a sandbag, totally focused. He was, in a sense, one of the last of the breed of men who could be soft and macho at the same time, a poet and a boxer.

Suddenly, another image comes to my mind: A graceful man who sat and listened to you and made a couple of really sharp observations. He could encapsulate an entire argument into a couple of perfectly structured lines. That's the hallmark of a poet.

Now, for a moment, let's forget the marketing and the poster. First, you have to

last of the breed of men who could be soft and macho at the same time, a poet and a boxer. Suddenly, another image comes to my mind: A graceful man who sat and listened to you and made a couple of really sharp observations. He could encapsulate an entire argument into a couple of perfectly structured lines. That's the hallmark of a poet.

He was, in a sense, one of the

write the script.

He was born in Bihar. The son of a middleclass official, he had two other siblings. He was the middle one, I think. The elder one is the great Ashis Nandy. Pritish Da adored his mother. I heard him speaking about her very warmly at times. They shifted to Calcutta with his family, and this is where the poet Pritish was born. Was his mother, the first Indian vice principal of La Martiniere College, Calcutta, who turned him towards literature?

What turns a man into a poet is too difficult to capture in a few lines. But the fact remains that the young Nandy burst into the Kolkata literary scene and took it by storm. However, he didn't just want to be a poet. In that sense, he was like the Latin American literary figures who wanted to be more than just novelists and poets. They wanted to influence their world more directly, sometimes even politically.

kind of a facilitator for other poets, filmmakers and all artists. Suddenly, he became one of the most powerful people in Mumbai, the publishing editor of the Times of India group and the editor of the *Illustrated Weekly*. It was a tough role as he stepped into the shoes of Khushwant Singh. A lot of people remember his interviews from those days. The poet became a journalist, an editor, a man whose opinion on all things mattered.

This is the Pritish Nandy I first met: The journalistic powerhouse, the art curator and the poet all rolled into one.

He could see through people. He knew the man you were. Often, he would tell you some of your flaws. He could be very critical in a strangely positive way. He told me many things about myself, which were not always very pleasant to hear. But they were brilliant, and I was grateful that somebody thought about me in such great depth. There were many people who liked Hazaaron Khwaishein Aisi, but I felt content when he approved the film. It's also because he knew about that time in Kolkata when radicalism was at its peak.

Perhaps it was one of the reasons why he left Calcutta: He saw the best of his generation killed, destroyed, exiled, or merging into the crowds. He chose to step away and found them again in various places around the world. I think that's how he rediscovered himself.

Some decisions in his life earned him a lot He might have also wanted to be some of criticism. However, I know that even though he was very close to power, he was never its slave.

That sharp mind never gave up. He refused to submit to the notion that others had about him. He went into film directions that neither got popularity among people nor amongst us. He dared to leave his admirers behind and walked towards another path. There was nobody like him.

It's difficult to imagine a Mumbai where Pritish Nandy isn't there.

The writer is a filmmaker

## JANUARY 10 1985, FORTY YEARS AGO



## BHAJAN LAL ON SIKHS

HARYANA CHIEF MINISTER Bhajan Lal said the government had always protected Sikhs and would continue to do so. Property worth Rs 2 crore was estimated to have been destroyed in the violence in Haryana. Answering a question about his resolve to end corruption, Lal said district-level meetings would be held to ensure a clean administration.

## PROPOSAL REJECTED

COMMENTING ON THE proposal made by the Akali leader, Surian Singh Thekedar, the AICC (I) general secretary Srikant Verma said the cessionist nature of the demand. Verma said that in any case, courts were not the forum to decide such issues.

people had already given a verdict on the se-

## CARTOON ON PM

IN RESPONSE TO a report in The Indian Express, January 9, 1985 edition, 'Rajiv's guidelines on administrative reforms,' cartoonist Ravi Shankar created a graphic. On the left is a speech bubble drawn, words being said by the government, that says, "Sahib is in a meeting." Lined up outside are the Indian people who spell out the word "Grievances," which has been capitalised. On the top of the graphic are cut-outs of the report's headlines and subheadlines that read "guidelines on administrative reforms" and "ministries reorganised."

## Mob Burns Bus

A HARYANA ROADWAYS bus was burnt, and its driver was severely beaten up by a mob outraged at the death of a middle-aged man in an accident near Majnu Ka Tila on the outer ring road. The bus was coming to ISBT from Hisar and a middle-aged man was crushed under the fast-moving vehicle. Soon, a crowd collected there from nearby slum dwellings. First, they beat up driver Ram Gopal, and then they burnt the vehicle.

# THE IDEAS PAGE

DIS/AGREE THE BEST OF BOTH SIDES

A fortnightly column, which offers not this-versus-that, but the best of both sides, to inform the debate



C R Sasikumar

Protesting farmers are demanding a legal guarantee for MSP. Will price assurance give an impetus to farmers to diversify crops or does it go against a liberalising economy?

## Add a new layer to MSP: PDP

A price assurance mechanism, just like GST, will spur formalisation and digitisation of farm trade

Agriculture is the only

business where both

production and price

risks are high. Price risk

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It is a strategic

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tomorrow and beyond.



Harish Damodaran

SHOULD THERE BE a minimum support price (MSP) guarantee, legal or otherwise, for crops produced by farmers? Two decades or less from now, we wouldn't be debating this at all!

The reason is simple: Agriculture is seeing a haemorrhaging of the best lands as well as human resources.

The most fertile farmlands — be it on both sides of the Grand Trunk Road, the Ganga-Yamuna Doab riverine plains or the Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery and Mahanadi alluvial delta basins — are getting diverted for real estate development, if not for building infrastructure, factories and smart cities. Andhra Pradesh's capital, Amaravati, is coming up on 33,000-odd acres of what used to be lush paddy, banana and turmeric-growing fields on the right bank of the Krishna.

The same goes for farmers. India officially has 146.5 million "operational holdings" (2015-16 Agriculture Census) and 105-115 million beneficiaries under the PM-Kisan

port scheme. But the actual "serious" farmer population households deriving at least half of their income from agriculture — may not be more than 40 million, as Samridhi Agarwal and I have estimated ('Counting the Kisan', IE, October 4, 2021). And those numbers are probably dwindling faster than we think.

Samman Nidhi income sup-

The challenge before Indian agriculture isn't just one of feeding 1.7 billion mouths by the early-2060s. It's about retaining the best available agricultural lands and human talent in farming.

How do we ensure that farmers remain in business, rather than look to exit and sell their land for converting acres into square yards and feet?

It is instructive to note that agricultural growth during the first two decades post the economic reforms was primarily driven by improved terms of trade for farmers and new technologies – from hybrid seeds in vegetables and maize, genetically-modified Bt cotton, tissue-culture and high-density planting in fruit crops, drip irrigation and laser levelling, to fast-growing broiler chicken and commercial layer breeder birds.

The last decade, however, has witnessed a reversal of sorts. The official farmers' terms of trade index (base: triennium ended 2011-12=100), which rose from 87.82 in 2004-05 to 102.95 in 2010-11, has fallen to 97.21 in 2022-23. Also, the flow of innovations has slowed, with more promotion of traditional paramparagat krishi than cutting-edge agricultural research.

The experience of the Green Revolution, and agriculture's robust growth performance over the first one-and-a-half decades of this century, tells us that farmers invest in their land and in technologies for boosting yields and reducing cultivation costs only when there is some assurance of price — between the time

the crop is sown and is ready for marketing.

Agriculture is the only business where both production and price risks are high. Yield losses can happen at every stage of the crop – from dry weather impacting germination and vegetative growth, pest and disease attacks, frost, hail storms, temperature spikes and unseasonal rain around harvesting. There are limits to minimising production uncertainties, which will only increase with climate change. But price risk is something that can and should be addressed. It is a strategic imperative and in enlightened consumer selfinterest to make our farmers to farm today, tomorrow and beyond. The world cannot feed us; only we can.

"Legal MSP" is the least we can give to our farmers, who one must assume to be as rational and risk-averse as any businessmen. The way to do it is by paying the price difference when a crop is sold below its government-declared MSP.

A price deficiency payments (PDP) system will spur formalisation and digitisation of the farm produce trade, which is still largely cashbased. Farmers once aware of PDP will start

demanding receipts from buyers, detailing both the quantity and price at which their crop has been sold. Just as with GST — where the buyer makes sure the supplier has paid the tax charged on the goods or services purchased in order for him to claim input credit – farmers would insist on recording of their sales transactions

through digital payments. PDP will also incentivise states to set up APMC mandis or even electronic trading platforms outside the physical market yards, where farmers can sell their produce. The farmer only

needs the sales invoice to claim the legal MSP via PDP. The onus for creating this market infrastructure for recording of transactions lies on the state governments. Any payment of price difference by the Centre should be conditional upon the states enabling the generation of the necessary sales data.

We want the Punjab farmer to grow soyabean, cotton, maize or arhar, instead of paddy. But we also know that Maharashtra farmers sold soyabean in the current marketing season at Rs 4,000-4,200 per quintal, way below the MSP of Rs 4,892. One wouldn't be surprised, then, to see them plant more area under sugarcane for the next season.

Without basic price assurance, it is unrealistic to expect any crop diversification by farmers. We mustn't wait for the day when they opt to sell their land rather than even grow rice or sugarcane.

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## It would be a folly

How much government can buy, for how many commodities, and at how many places, is a question that needs serious analysis

Market-based systems

have performed much

better than the

government-controlled

MSP regime for wheat

and rice. But, this does

not mean that markets

are perfect. They are

often distorted by the

government through

export bans, stocking

limits on private trade.

epaper.indianexpress.com



ASHOK GULATI

LET ME START by saying that my heart bleeds when I see farmers agitating over prices for their produce. I have spent my entire professional life working for the betterment of agriculturists. But rational policymaking requires much more than compassion. It requires a better understanding of how the economy functions, especially the market economy. Having worked on the agriculture of various Asian and African countries, I can confidently say that legalising minimum support prices (MSPs) would be a folly — it would throw a spanner in the working of the economy. Making MSPs effective is different from making MSPs legal. Let me elaborate.

In a market economy, the price of any product is decided by the forces of demand and supply. Suppose the production of a commodity in any year is 100 units and its demand is 75 units. In such a situation, the price of that commodity would fall. With

reduced prices, demand expands, supply shrinks, and finally, the market clears. If MSP is made legal and is high, creating a situation of supply exceeding demand by 25 units (100-75), no private player will come forward to offer a price lower than MSP as it would be illegal to do so. In that case, farmers would be saddled with these extra 25 units that no one is willing to buy at the declared MSP. The entire excess supply will become the responsibility of the government. How much the

government can buy, and for how many commodities, and at how many places is an open question that needs

serious thinking and analysis. Some activists suggest price deficiency payments. Several cost estimates of such a scheme are being floated. The problem with such a scheme is that if MSP is declared legal, then there would be no real market price below MSP. Then the government becomes the open-ended buyer of all commodities for which MSPs are declared, which are 23 as on day. If one argues that MSP is not legal, and agri-markets do exist and price discovery is possible, but farmers need to be compensated for the difference between MSP and lower market prices as price deficiency payments to farmers, we are talking about a different policy — making MSP more of an income instrument. The downside of such a policy is that the moment traders know that the government will compensate the farmers by the difference in MSP

and market prices, they are likely to push market prices even lower, and there is a high probability that farmers and traders will collude in showing market prices much lower than the MSP. That would make it very difficult to estimate the hit to the financial exchequer. The price deficiency mechanism was tried earnestly in Madhya Pradesh, and just after one season, the government had to give it up precisely because of this reason. If the government wants to make MSP more effective (not legal), it can create a stabilisation fund of about Rs 25,000 crore, especially focused on pulses and oilseeds of which India is a net importer.

It may be worth noting that the 23 MSP crops constitute roughly 30 per cent of the value of agriculture. Within these 23 crops, MSP is properly implemented in the case of rice and wheat, that too in a few states. The Centre's latest Situation Assessment Survey revealed that not more than 10 per cent of farmers sold their produce at MSP. It may also be noted that this MSP policy is an offshoot of the acute grain deficit in the mid-1960s. It won't be economically prudent if the same policy is applied when India is surplus in basic staples.

Now, let us turn to the non-MSP segment of agriculture which is facing free markets. During 2010-11 to 2022-23, for which we have the latest data, fishery has been growing at 8.2 per cent per annum, meat at

> 7.3 per cent, eggs at 6 per cent, milk at 5.3 per cent, and horticulture at 4.7 per cent per annum. None of these agri-commodities have MSP, and they are more perishable than wheat and rice. But wheat has grown at 2.5 per cent and paddy at 3.2 per cent over the same period. This clearly shows that marketbased systems have performed much better than the government-controlled MSP regime for wheat and rice.

However, this does not mean that markets are perfect. They are often dis-

torted by the government through export bans, stocking limits on private trade, suspension of futures and options at the drop of a hat, and so on. All this is done in the name of keeping agri-inflation low for consumers. So, there is an inherent consumer bias in the agri-price policy, which implicitly becomes anti-farmer. Amongst the G20 countries, as per OECD, India is the only country that has negative Producer Support Estimates (PSEs), meaning that India implicitly taxes its agriculture by suppressing market prices. What Indian farmers need is freer markets, building of agri-value chains — like the AMUL model in milk -- where farmers can get 75 to 80 per cent of what consumer pays. Making MSP legal will be going backwards, which is not in line with the liberalisation of the economy.

Gulati is Distinguished Professor at ICRIER. Views are personal

### WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"Whether in terms of investment, trade, or supply chain integration, the highly complementary economies of China and the US require mutual dependence and coexistence, with significant potential for collaboration in the tech sector. These cannot simply be 'blocked' by a Pentagon mandate." - GLOBAL TIMES, CHINA

## Amore empathetic justice

Treatment of survivors of sexual and gender based violence lacks sensitivity, denies dignity. Delhi HC verdict is a welcome intervention



Pratiksha Baxi

IN S V v State, Justice Pratibha M Singh and Justice Amit Sharma (December 10, 2024) held that all hospitals are required by law to provide free medical treatment for victims of rape, child sexual abuse and acid attacks. The Delhi High Court reiterated that Section 397, BNSS, and Section 357C, CrPC makes it mandatory for all hospitals, public or private, whether under the jurisdiction of the central government, state government, local bodies or persons to provide free first-aid and medical treatment. Further, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Guidelines (2014) also directs that survivors of rape must receive all services such as OPD/inpatient registration, pathology tests, radiology investigations and medicines for free.

In an important act of co-governance, the court issued guidelines to all hospitals and medical establishments to sensitise doctors, nurses, paramedics, and administrative staff that denying free medical treatment to survivors of rape, child sexual abuse and acid attack is a criminal offence. It directed that prominent signs be put up stating that free medical treatment to survivors shall be provided. Denial of free medical treatment is punishable by imprisonment for one year or with fine or both.

This order is critical to the development of "therapeutic jurisprudence" because it focuses on providing medical care and the statutory right to therapeutic access. Importantly, the court explicitly states that "the word 'treatment' would include first aid, diagnosis, in-patient admission, continued out-patient assistance, diagnostic tests, lab tests, surgery if required, physical and mental counselling, psychological help, family counselling, etc". And when brought to the emergency, the hospital shall not insist on ID proof in order to admit the victim, but first provide immediate treatment to the victim.

The Delhi High Court's (HC) order when read from the right to health, dignity, privacy and life perspective allows us to think about the right to "therapeutic access" for all survivors of sexual and gender based violence. Surely, the medical profession can also ensure free treatment for survivors of domestic violence, or women raped or beaten in marriage?

Doctors and judges have much to learn from the recent French court verdict punishing mass rape of Gisèle Pelicot who shifted the shame to the husband who raped her. Her husband drugged her, engaged 70 men over a decade to rape his drugged wife, and filmed other men raping his wife after he put her in a chemically induced sleep.

Adopting a right to health perspective, one hopes that doctors and judges will learn from Gisèle Pelicot's testimony to develop systems that allow therapeutic access, recognise the harm of sexual violence and enable medical care to women raped and beaten in marriage, irrespective of

whether marital rape is criminalised or not. Marriage does not give men the license to rape their wives. Gisèle Pelicot's case is important for the

medical profession to root out bias against

women patients and end medical gaslighting. By blaming women patients and making them doubt their experience, symptoms of trauma are misrecognised and wrongly labelled as malingering. The Delhi HC by noting that hospitals continue to deny free treatment while

courts hear rape and child sexual abuse cases "routinely", and "in large numbers", points our attention to a grave crisis of governance. However, the political class is not interested in thinking of sexual violence as a public health issue.

There is scarce rage over victims being denied medical treatment, or the fact that victims are often forced to borrow clothes from relatives, or wear dirty blankets loaned by the police or flimsy hospital gowns after the medico-legal examination. Or that the costs of labs to purchase containers to conserve evidence (such as foetal matter) may be passed to the victim's family. It is a scandal that women and children

are still not given clothes kits in hospitals and police stations. In each rape case, clothes which include undergarments, sanitary napkins, dress, socks, and other personal items such as shoes, or spectacles are seized by the police for forensic analysis. However, these clothes and items are not replaced by the state. In light of earlier orders and circulars, the court's reasoning must be extended to argue that the state has an obligation to provide a new pair of clothes (and other personal items) to rape survivors, when such things are collected for forensic analysis.

Clothes may be seized at police stations or hospitals. Often victims are made to wait in blood soaked clothes for hours, before medico-legal procedures start. These procedures are highly intrusive, and often retraumatise. And then stripped of their clothes, the victims borrow clothes from relatives, policemen or wear hospital gowns. And in this state of trauma, they navigate public spaces to return home, be this a house, hut, shelter or a street.

Vasudha Dhagamwar, eminent feminist law teacher and one of the signatories of the Mathura Open Letter had first raised this issue in the 1980s, in an essay in Mainstream. Dhagamwar wrote about the case of a working class rape survivor who owned only one sari — and this too was seized as evidence. Surely the state is liable to replace such items, without passing on the costs to the victim.

The state has an obligation to provide a new pair of clothes (and other personal items) to rape survivors, when such things are collected for forensic analysis. By not providing clothes, rape survivors are stripped and made unsafe yet again. It amounts to state sanctioned violence to take the clothes of a victim (stripping is an offence in the BNS and IPC). Under the constitutional schema, this is a specifically gendered harm done to rape survivors. Surely, law, state and society can make provisions to provide clothes kits to rape survivors.

The writer is professor, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## HMPV CHALLENGE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Precaution is key' (IE, January 9). The HMPV virus poses significant health challenges. India has ramped up surveillance. Laboratories are now better equipped to test for HMPV. Three of the cases in India involve infants with no travel history, underscoring that the virus could already be in local circulation. We lack the vaccines for HMPV, making supportive care and preventive measures essential. Inexpensive, accessible diagnostic tests are still unavailable, limiting early detection in vulnerable populations. Vigilance, preparedness and public cooperation are imperative to curb HMPV's impact.

Sankar Paul, Nadia

## RETHINKING GROWTH

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Spending and growing' (IE, January 9). The present government's ambitious goal of Viksit Bharat demands a coherent plan aligned with India's demographic reality. Our country's massive population means there is scope for economic growth. We need to empower our low-skilled labour, instead of putting all the focus on high-skilled capital-intensive sectors like semiconductors — the workforce and technology of which is yet to be fully developed. For a credible path, a rethink of India's growth strategy is essential.

Vaibhav Goyal, Chandigarh

## AAP-BJP FACE-OFF

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Fight for capital' (IE, January 9). The AAP came to power in the backdrop of the anticorruption campaign launched by Anna Hazare. Arvind Kejriwal became popular for his simplicity and clean image. But his arrest and that of other top AAP leaders in corruption cases have disillusioned the people. The BJP won't lose any chances to corner and discredit the AAP. Indeed, the election will be a popularity contest between PM Narendra Modi and Arvind Kejriwal, and the latter's future may hinge on Delhi Election 2025.

**Atul Thakre,** Nagpur

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'Fight for capital' (IE, January 9). Ahead of the elections, there is intense political drama around the "sheesh mahal" of the former Delhi CM. It is, however, important that the contenders are grilled about the feasibility of their electoral promises. Specifically, whether plans on women's safety, pollution control and cash transfers are well-planned or mere words on manifestos to be forgotten once the elections are over. Parties must also keep in mind the status of New Delhi as the national capital, and must not engage in any campaigning that erodes its dignity. **Anany Mishra,** Bhilai

बिहार 🏙 सरकार

## शिक्षा विभाग आवश्यक सूचना

एतद द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि "अनुसूचित जाति प्रवेशिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्ति योजना" एवं 'अनुसूचित जनजाति प्रवेशिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्ति योजना'', ''मुख्यमंत्री अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसुचित जनजाति प्रवेशिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्ति योजना" एवं "मुख्यमंत्री पिछडा वर्ग एवं अति पिछड़ा वर्ग प्रवेशिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्ति योजना-2024" के अन्तर्गत शैक्षणिक वर्ष 2024-25 हेत् PMS पोर्टल (अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति वर्ग के छात्र/छात्राओं के लिए https://scstpmsonline.bihar.gov.in, पिछड़ा वर्ग एवं अति पिछड़ा वर्ग के छात्र / छात्राओं के लिए https://pmsonline.bihar.gov.in एवं संबंधित शैक्षणिक संस्थानो के लिए https://instpmsonline.bihar.gov.in ) के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन आवेदन आमंत्रित करने हेतु दिनांक-07.01.2025 से 10.03.2025 तक की तिथि निर्धारित है। नोट:- वर्तमान में ई-शिक्षाकोष पोर्टल पर आधार पंजीकृत इण्टरमीडिएट एवं समकक्ष कोर्स में अध्ययनरत छात्र / छात्राओं के लिए PMS पोर्टल खोला गया है, शेष छात्र / छात्राओं के लिए पंजीकरण हेत् शीघ्र हीं सूचित किया जायेगा।

ऑनलाईन आवेदन करने से संबंधित विस्तृत दिशा-निर्देश PMS पोर्टल पर उपलब्ध है।

PR. No. 016681 (Education) 2024-25

बिहार, पटना उक्त सचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

निदेशक (माध्यमिक शिक्षा)

गर्भावस्था की पहली तिमाही में माँ की एच.आई.वी. और सिफलिस की जाँच जरूर करायें।



कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पूर्वी कोशी तटबंध प्रमण्डल, चंद्रायण

जल संसाधन विभाग, बिहार अन्तर्गत कार्यपालक अभियंता पूर्वी कोशी तटबंध प्रमंडल, चंद्रायण के पत्रांक 1166 दिनांक 26.12.2024 द्वारा निर्गत अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या 01SBD / 2024--25 जिसका

विवरण	निर्गत निविदा अनुसार	सुधारोपरांत
निर्गत निविदा के अंग्रेजी में क्रमांक 37	According to the letter No-2175 Dt-06.06.2019 of Joint Secretary Engineering W.R.D, Patna- (i)It is mandatory for the bidder to protect and control the work site of A.E. work /Flood protection work during flood-2024 by flood fighting work, in case of erosion (ii)The bidder will liable to storage of sand, filter material and sand filled E.C. Bag/ Geobags/Mega Geo-bags in different points of said reach as per instruction of concerned C.E/S.E/E.E during flood period-2024 for flood fighting works (iii) Related to the above Para-37 (i) & (ii) the bidder have submit an Affidavit regarding above consent as-	According to the letter No-2175 Dt-06.06.2019 of Joint Secretary Engineering W.R.D, Patna-(i)It is mandatory for the bidder to protect and control the work site of A.E. work /Flood protection work during flood-2025 by flood fighting work, in case of erosion (ii)The bidder will liable to storage of sand, filter material and sand filled E.C. Bag/ Geobags/Mega Geo-bags in different points of said reach as per instruction of concerned C.E/S.E/E.E during flood period-2025 for flood fighting works (iii) Related to the above Para-37 (i) & (ii) the bidder have submit an Affidavit regarding above consent as-
निर्गत निविदा के हिन्दी में क्रमांक 37	(i) मेरे द्वारा कराये गए कटाव निरोधक / बाढ़ सुरक्षात्मक कार्यरथलों पर बाढ़ अवधि—2024 में कटाव की स्थिति में कटाव को नियंत्रित करने / स्थल के सुरक्षार्थ बाढ़ सघर्षात्मक कार्य कराने की जिम्मेवारी मेरी होगी। (ii)बाढ़ अवधि—2024 में बाढ़ सघर्षात्मक कार्य हेतु संबंधित मख्य अभियन्ता / अधीक्षण अमियंता / कार्यपालक अभियंता के निदेशानुसार उक्त Reach के विभिन्न स्थलों पर बाढ़ संघर्षात्मक सामग्रियों ,यथा — बालू, फिल्टर मेटेरियल, ई०सी०बैंग, जी०ओ० बैंग, मेगा जी०ओ० बैंग, इत्यादि में बालू भरने तथा इसके भंडारण किये जाने की जिम्मेदारी मेरी होगी।	(i)मेरे द्वारा कराये गए कटाव निरोधक/बाढ़ सुरक्षात्मक कार्यस्थलों पर बाढ़ अवधि-2025 में कटाव की स्थिति में कटाव को नियंत्रित करने/स्थल के सुरक्षार्थ बाढ़ संघर्षात्मक कार्य कराने की जिम्मेवारी मेरी होगी। (ii)बाढ़ अवधि-2025 में बाढ़ संघर्षात्मक कार्य हेतु संबंधित मख्य अभियन्ता/अधीक्षण अमियंता/कार्यपालक अमियंता के निदेशानुसार उक्त Reach के विमिन्न स्थलों पर बाढ़ संघर्षात्मक सामग्रियों, यथा -बालू, फिल्टर मेटेरियल, ई0सी0बैंग, जी0ओ0 बैंग, मेगा जी0ओ0 बैंग, इत्यादि में बालू भरने तथा इसके भंडारण किये जाने की जिम्मेदारी मेरी होगी।

निविदा की अन्य सभी सचनाएँ एवं शर्ते यथावत होगें।

PR. No.16714 (WRD) 2024-25

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

कार्यपालक अभियंता, पूर्वी कोशी तटबंघ प्रमंडल, चन्द्रायण

### OFFICE OF THE CERTIFICATE OFFICER-CUM-SPECIAL OFFICER RATIONING, PATNA (Government of Bihar) Room no. 308, 3" Floor, Patna Collectorate, Patna -800001 Seyt, of Bilter

Email ld: rationingpatna@gmail.com Bef No: E-auction Advertisement No. 02/2024

Important Notice for Bidders regarding E-Auction of land situated in Patna. (Through e-Procurement mode over http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

In the light of the public demand requisitions (due to non-allotment of flats/plots/and nonrefund by the promoter to the allottees) received from the Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Bihar, the auction order has been passed by the Certificate Officer-cum-Special Officer Rationing, Patna under Bihar & Orissa Public Demand Recovery Act, 1914 for the property of certificate debtor M/s Agrani Homes Private Limited (Director- Shri Alok Kumar, Address- Yogipur Chitragupt Nagar, P.S.- Patrakar Nagar, Post Office- Lohiya Nagar, Kankarbagh, Dist.-Patna. 800020 which is situated under Mauza-Dhawalpura (South from NH) Survey Thana- Patna City, P.S.- Chowk, Mauza/Thana no.- Dhawalpura 21, Khata-903, Plot-1455 & 1459, Total Area-86.253 Decimal, Jamabandi no.-2115, Online Jamabandi no.-V-27, Page-2115 (Jamabandi Raiyat-Agrani Homes Real Marketing Pvt. Ltd., C/O- Alok Kumar) in Patna district. Further this property has already been attached by the Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Bihar and RERA has authorized the Collector/Certificate Officer, Patna to auction it.

For complete transparency, efficiency and maximum participation, it has been decided to auction the above-mentioned land through e-auction process on e-proc platform of Govt. of Bihar. The Certificate Officer is empowered to auction the immovable property of the certificate debtor under section 15 of the Bihar and Orissa Public Demand Recovery Act, 1914.

The Certificate Officer has ordered to auction the attached land via E-Auction process. Therefore, e-

1	o. Information Details							
iti	Name of the Assignment	Disposal of residential plot situated at Mauza- Dhawalpura (South from NH) Survey Thana- Patna City, P.S Chowk, Dist. Patna through online auction mode.						
2	Procurement Category	E-Auction of land in context of Certificate Cases (un Bihar & Orissa Public Demand Recovery Act.)						
3	Land in auction	Mauza- Dhawalpura (South from NH) Survey Thana Patna City, P.S Chowk, Mauza/Thana no Dhawalpura 21, Khata-903, Plot - 1455 & 1459, Total Area - 86.25 Decimal, Jamabandi no 2115, Online Jamabandi no V-27, Page-2115 (Jamabandi Raiyat- Agrani Homes Rea Marketing Pvt. Ltd., C/O- Alok Kumar)						
4	E-auction Processing Fee/Cost (Non Refundable)	Rs 5900.00 (Rupees Five Thousand Nine Hundred) (Inclusive of GST) Payable online through e-payment mode i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card on following website: https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in						
5	E-auction Fee/Cost (Non - Refundable)	- Large Control from the Control of Control						
6	Minimum Bid Price	Rs 8.00 Crore (Rupees Eight Crore Only)						
7	EMD	Rs 80.00 Lakh (Rupees Eighty Lakh Only) Payable online through e-payment mode i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card on following website: https://eproc2.blhar.gov.in						
8	Tender & Bidding Currency	INR						
9	Date of Issue of Notice Inviting E-auction	From date of Publication of e-auction notice						
10	Date of Training	14.01.2025 (03.00 PM to 04.00 PM) at the official chamber of Certificate Officer -cum-Special Officer Rationing, Patna.						
11	Period of submission of necessary documents and fee/EMD.	15.01.2025 to 10.02.2025 (3:00 PM)						
12	Date of scrutiny of documents submitted by participating registered bidders.	10.02.2025 (4:00 PM)						
13	E-auction schedule	17.02.2025 (11.00 AM to 02.00 PM)						

mjunction services limited RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiyana Road, P.S. Shastrinagar, Patna 800014, Bihar. Toll Free Number: 1800 572 6571 or https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in Bidder should be registered on e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and have the Class III Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) with signing encryption and User-id of the e- Procurement website (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in) before participating in the e-tendering process. The Certificate Officer -cum- Special Officer Rationing and the tender committee reserves the right to reject or cancel the tender or modify any part thereof without assigning any reasons. Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, will be published on the Patna District website

For further details please visit: www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar Certificate Officer-Cum-PR- 016774 (District) 2024-25

(https://patna.nic.in) and e-Procurement, Bihar website (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

Special Officer Rationing, Patna. नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

**मान्नी** म.प्र. राज्य पर्यटन विकास निगम मर्या.

पर्यटन भवन, भदभदा रोड, भोपाल-462003 फोन नं. : +91-755-4027100, 2774340/42, www.mpstdc.com दिनांक: 09.01.2025

क्रमांक 001/यांत्रिकी/पविनि/25 निविदा सूचना 01/2025\_STDC\_394450\_1

मध्यप्रदेश राज्य पर्यटन विकास निगम भोपाल द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य हेत् ऑनलाइन (Online) निविदा प्रपत्र APPENDIX 2.10 पर म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में उपयक्त श्रेणी में पंजीकत ठेकेदारों से आमंत्रित की जाती है।

कार्य का नाम:- रामपायली जिला बालाघाट में म्यजियम का निर्माण एवं अन्य विकास कार्य (आंतरिक एवं बाहरी विद्युतीकरण सहित) (24 माह)। कार्य की अनुमानित लागत राशि रु. 1332.61 लाख।

वेबसाइट पर ऑनलाइन भुगतान कर निविदा प्रपत्र (टेण्डर डाक्युमेंट) वेबसाइट के माध्यम से क्रय किये जा संकते हैं। निविदा प्रपत्र ऑनलाइन क्रय करने की अंतिम तिथि 29.01.2025 समय सायं 05:00 बजे तक निर्धारित है। कार्य का विस्तत विवरण वेबसाइट https://mptenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालन यंत्री म.प्र. माध्यम/118224/2025

**OREDA LIMITED** CHO CHO

CAD-2126

(Under the Department of Energy Government of Odisha) (CIN No: U351050D2024SGC045786) (ISO 9001:2008 / ISO 14001:2004) S/59, MANCHESWAR INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

BHUBANESWAR-751010, ODISHA Website: www.oredaodisha.com, E-mail: ceoreda@oredaorissa.com

e-Tender Call Notice

No: 55/Oreda Limited Date: 08/01/2025

Request for Empanelment (RfE) is invited through e-tender portal from eligible bidders for Design, Manufacture, Supply, Transport, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Off-Grid Solar Photovoltaic Water Pumping Systems (SPWPS) of 1-7.5 HP capacities in the State of Odisha including complete system warranty and its repair and maintenance for 5 Years under Component-B of PM-KUSUM scheme of MNRE, GoI.

1.	Date of publication of NIT on E-procurement website and OREDA Limited website	08.01.2025
2.	Due date of pre bid query submission as per format of NIT	15.01.2025, Time: 5.00 PM
3.	Date and time of pre-bid meeting through virtual mode https://meet.google.com/ziw-xxrz-dbb	17.01.2025, Time: 11.30 AM
4.	Due date and time for submission of online copies of Technical Bid and price bid.	10.02.2025, Time: 5:00 PM
5.	Due date and time for submission of hard copies of Technical Bid for select Bid Forms only Bidders must submit the COST OF BID, BIDSECURITY, AND POWER OF ATTORNEY ONLY in hard copy along with JV agreement/Consortium copy (if applicable), as specified in the tender documents. Submitting any additional documents in hard copy,	13.02.2025, Time: 5:00 PM
6.	Tentative date and time for the opening of	

Technical Bid for both online copies and hard 15.02.2025, Time: 12.00 PM copies, except price bid. 7. Due date and time for the opening of online price bid applicable only for the bidders whose To be intimated later Technical bids shall be responsive

Details can be seen from the website https://www.tenderwizard.com/OREDA or **www.oredaorissa.com**. Further corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded in

these websites only. OIPR-04065/11/0031/2425 **Chief Executive Officer** 

जल संसाधन विभाग कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय पुनपुन बाढ़ सुरक्षा प्रमंडल अनिसाबाद पटना E-RFP INVITING NOTICE No- 03/2024-25

इस कार्यालय का पत्रांक-2169 दिनांक-20.12.2024 द्वारा RFP INVITING NOTICE No- PFPDA/RFP/03, जो पी०आर० सं०- 15412(WRD)2024-25 द्वार दैनिक सामाचार में प्रकाशित है, के कंडिका 4 में अंकित Hiring of communications management system and Social Media agency for WRD, Govt. of Bihar के स्थान पर Hiring of communications management system & public outreach for the Water Resources Department पढ़ा जाय कार्यपालक अनियंता.

उक्त सूचना state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है। PR-016633 (WRD) 2024-25

पुनपुन बाद सुरक्षा प्रमंडल अनिसाबाद, पटना

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार



### जल संसाधन विभाग प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि जल संसाधन विभाग, बिहार, पटना के अंतर्गत संवेदकों / आपूर्तिकर्ताओं / सेवा प्रदाताओं के निबंधन की प्रक्रिया दिनांक-27,06,2024 से Online ह रहा है। दिनांक-27.06.2024 को प्रकाशित प्रेस विज्ञप्ति में वैसे संवेदकों आपूर्तिकर्ताओं / सेवा प्रदाताओं जो वर्तमान में जल संसाधन विभाग, बिहार, पटना के अधीन Offline प्रक्रिया के अंतर्गत निबंधित हैं. को दिनांक-31.08.2024 तक अनिवार्य रूप से Online प्रक्रिया के अंतर्गत अपना निबंधन परिवर्तित कराने संबंधी सूचना प्रकाशित की गयी थी। जिसे पुनः दिनांक-30.11.2024 तक विस्तारित किया गया। परन्त अभी तक कतिपय संवेदकों द्वारा अपने निबंधन को Online प्रक्रिया में परिवर्तित नहीं कराया गया है।

अतः वैसे संवेदकों जिनके द्वारा अभी तक अपने निबंधन को Online प्रक्रिया में परिवर्तित नहीं किया गया है, को सचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक-31.03.2025 तक अनिवार्य रूप से Onlineप्रक्रिया वे अंतर्गत अपना निबंधन परिवर्तित करा लेंगें। दिनांक-31.03.2025 तक निबंधन को Online प्रक्रिया व अंतर्गत परिवर्तित नहीं कराने की स्थिति में निबंधन की वैधता समाप्त मानी जायेगी।

विशेष जानकारी के लिए विभागीय वेबसाइट https://state.bihar.gov.in/wrd तथ https://wrd.bihar.gov.in के Portal पर Visit करें।

(मिथिलेश कुमार दिनकर) उक्त सूचना state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है। अभियंता प्रमुख (मुख्यालय) PR- 016627 (WRD) 2024-25

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दुढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE Corporate Office: 27 A, Developed Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai - 600032.

Branch Office: A-35, FIEE Complex, Upper Ground Floor, Okhla Phase II, Near C Lal Chowk, New Delhi - 110 020. Website:www.hindujaleylandfinance.com, CIN:U65993MH2008PLC384221 POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(2) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES,2002

Whereas the authorized officer of M/s. Hinduja Leyland Finance Ltd (HLF) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices dated 19.09.2024 calling upon the Borrower and the Co-Borrower to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of the notices. The Borrower and the Co-Borrower having failed to repay the amount in full, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, Co-Borrower and the public in general that the Authorised Officer had taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Ordinance read with Rule 8 of the said Rules. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of subsection (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower and the Co-Borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of M/s. Hinduja Leyland Finance Ltd ( HLF).

	File Nos.	Borrower's & Co-Borrower Name and Address	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Total Outstanding
1	DEA00 0126	<ol> <li>M/s Digital Dreamzzit Engineers Private Limited (Borrower), Through its Director(s) Shop No. KG-1-411, Vikas Puri, New Delhi-110018.</li> <li>Mr. Dushyant Tandon (Co-Borrower), S/o Mr. Girdhar Gopal Tandon, Flat No. 47, F Block, Vaishali Apartment, Vikas Puri, Tilak Nagar, Delhi-110018.</li> </ol>		January 2025	Rs. 82,99,114/- (Rupees Eighty Two Lakhs Ninety Nine Thousand One Hundred and Fourteen only) as on 15.09.2024
2	DHDL DEA0 00127	3. Mrs. Parul Tandon (Co-Borrower), W/o Mr. Dushyant Tandonm Flat No. 47, F Block, Vaishali Apartment, Vikas Puri, Tilak Nagar, Delhi-110018.4. Mrs. Sushma Tandon (Co-Borrower), W/o Mr. Girdhar Gopal Tandon B-452, B Block, Meera Bagh, Paschim Vihar, Punjabi Bagh, Delhi-110063.		6th January 2025	Rs. 14,87,043/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand and Forty Three only) as on 15.09.2024
ı	DESCI	RIPTION AND SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY: Entire Third I	Floor with Ro	of Rights at P	lot bearing No. C-446, area

measuring 160 sq. mts. Block-C, Vikas Puri, Delhi-110018. Boundaries: East: Property No. C-445, South: Property No. C-436-437, West: Property No. C-447, North: Road 9 Mts. wide.

for M/S. HINDUJA LEYLAND FINANCE LTD. (HLF). Dated: 06-01-2025 Place: Delhi

**Authorised officer** 

### PRESS NOTICE (RE-TENDER 2)

No. 525638/31

The Chief Engineer, P.W.D. Building (Health & Education), Assam, Chandmari, Guwahati- 3 on behalf of the Governor of Assam, invites bids in electronic tendering system (e-tenders) through Engineering, Procurement and Construction, (EPC-I) mode of contract (Single stage two-part bidding system) from eligible contractors registered with Assam Public Works Department (Building & NH) or Contractors registered with other State/ Central Government Departments, Institutions, Undertaking and Authorities having experience in similar nature of work, for the following works (including Routine Maintenance for four years from the completion of defect liability period):

SI. Group No No.		Name		Estimated value		Total Bid Value	Completion	Did	Cost of Bid (In Rs.)
		Name of work	District	Construction Maintenance (Rs. in Lakhs Lakhs)		(including GST @18%) ( Rs. in Lakhs)	Period (Months	Bid Security	
1	Gr-10	Infrastructure Development of 65 Secondary Schools for construction of new school buildings under NESID-OTRI Scheme in <b>Dhemaji District</b> i) Sissimukh Higher Secondary School. (ii) Chimenmukh tribal Higher Secondary School	Dhemaji	1320.38013	25.54976	1345.92989	14	2% of Bid value for General category and 1% of Bid Valuefor reserved Category	20,000
2	Gr-11	Infrastructure Development of 65 Secondary Schools for construction of new school buildings under NESID-OTRI Scheme in <b>Dibrugarh District</b> (i) Pathalibam H.E.S (ii) Govt. Girls H.S. & M.P. School	Dibrugarh	1317.08522	26.89759	1343.98281	14	2% of Bid value for General category and 1% of Bid Valuefor reserved Category	20,000
3	Gr-16	Infrastructure Development of 65 Secondary Schools for construction of new school buildings under NESID-OTRI Scheme in Golaghat District i) Rajabari H.S. School (ii) Chungajan High School	Golaghat	1312.20573	27.02961	1339.23534	14	2% of Bid value for General category and 1% of Bid Valuefor reserved Category	20,000
4	Gr-29	Infrastructure Development of 65 Secondary Schools for construction of new school buildings under NESID-OTRI Scheme in Majuli District (i) Jengraimukh H.S. School	Majuli	579.03555	13.51482	592.55037	12	2% of Bid value for General category and 1% of Bid Valuefor reserved Category	11,900
5	Gr-33	Infrastructure Development of 65 Secondary Schools for construction of new school buildings under NESID-OTRI Scheme in Tinsukia District (i) Panitola Higher Secondary School	Tinsukia	658.39423	13.44883	671.84306	12	2% of Bid value for General category and 1% of Bid Valuefor reserved Category	13,400

The Bid price may vary at the time of detail tendering for which no claim will be admissible. All terms and conditions will be as per the Bidding Documents. The Press Notice will be a part of the Bidding Documents. The Work will be allotted only after receiving Government approval.

Details of the bid may be seen at website i.e. https://www.assamtenders.gov.in from 13-01-2025, 10:00 am onwards.

JANASANYOG/C/6461/24/10-Jan-25 epaper indianexpress.com

Chief Engineer, P.W.D. (Building), Assam, **Health & Education** Chandmari, Guwahati-3

Sd/-

make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

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Whilst care is taken prior to

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transactions with companies,

associations or individuals

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or Publications. We therefore

recommend that readers

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/nominated places for section of ADEN/II/TATA 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 etendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in etendering. Note: e-Tender Forms shall be issued free of cost to all tenderers (Authority-Rly, Bd.'s letter No. 2020/CE-I /CT/3E/GCC/Policy dtd. 16.07.2020).

> OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE ENGINEER DELHI WATER SUPPLY MAINTENANCE UNIT U.P. JAL NIGAM (URBAN) ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING 245 M.L.D. **GANGAJAL WTP CAMPUS SIDDHARTH** VIHAR, GHAZIABAD-201009 E-MAIL: dwsupjn@gmail.com

> > Letter No.: 24/ Nivida / 08 Dated: 07.01.2025

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE On behalf of U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) online e-tenders for execution of "Protective Epoxy coating on settling tanks under 200 Cusec and 270 Cusec Delhi Water Supply Maintenance Scheme" under Deposit Program are invited in two bid system on percentage rate basis from eligible, reputed and experienced bidders. E-tender documents will be available for download from 10.01.2025 at 18.00 Hrs. onwards. E-bid can be submitted till 25.01.2025 up to 15:00 Hrs. and technical bid shall be opened on 25.01.2025 at 15:30 Hrs. in the office of the Executive Engineer, Delhi Water Supply Maintenance Unit, U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban), Ghaziabad in presence of contractor or their authorized representative, E-tender Cost is Rs. 5000.00+GST@18%. Details are available on U.P. Government eprocurement portal http:// etender.up.nic.in & U.P. Jal Nigam (Urban) website

www.jn.upsdc.gov.in.

Classifieds

**PERSONAL** 

Singhal R/o 716/21, Joshi Road

0040767928-5

0040767904-1

0040767911-4

0040767929-3

0040767929-4

0040767911-8

0040767932-3

0040767807-5

0040767911-10

0040767915-2

0040767915-4

0040767827-3

I Neha Gupta W/o Saurabh

Karol Bagh Delhi-5 have

Singhal.

changed my name to Neha

l Naresh Sharma alias Babbu

alias Naresh Kumar Sharma

Bholanath Nagar, Shahdara,

PO:Shahdara, North East Delhi,

Delhi-110032 have changed my

name to Naresh Kumar Sharma

for all purposes. 0040767807-3

I Naresh Kumar S/O, Balwant Rai

Apartments F-bloc, Vikas Puri,

changed my name to Naresh

I,Parul Chowdhery,D/o Late

Onkar Singh, R/o-7C Laxmi

Uttarakhand-248001, have

changed my name to Parul

I, Naveen Solanki, S/O, Umed

Singh.R/O.H.No.315.Pooth

kalan, Delhi-110086, have

changed my name from

I, Meenakshi Solanki,

Naveen Solanki to Naveen

W/O, Naveen R/O, H. No. 315

changed my name from

I, Lakhbir Singh S/o Baljeet

Floor Sector-3, Rohini Delhi-

**My** name is kanwal singh, my

mentioned as "ASRPI DEVI",I

wont's to mentioned her date-

It is for general information that

S/O,Chaturbuhj Singh,R/O

C2S, Delhi Police Apartments

110091.Declare That The Name

Mayur-Vihar Phase-1, Delhi-

Of My Minor Daughter Has

Manya Kabir Singh Aged-12-

Minor Daughter Is Manyata

Years 8-Months In Her School

Record. The Actual Name Of My

Singh, Which May Be Amended

It is for general information that

I, JC-588350P Ex. Sub Mr. Sonam

Dorjay S/O Mr.Sonam Tashi R/O

Village Nimoo, Tehsil Leh

Dirtict Leh, State UT Ladakh,

NO.977329064644) do hereby

under:- That due to wrongly

DOB of my wife has been

and mistakenly the name and

entered as SONAM CHHONDOL,

DOB 13.08.1967 in the service

records while as the actual

name of my wife is SONAM

03.02.1968, which is true &

CHONDOL & her DOB is

correct for all practical

I.hitherto known as SHILA

1,DAYAL PUR,KARAWAL-

NAGAR.NORTH

BAIRAGGYA.

DAS,W/O-SUSHIL DAS,R/O-F-

EAST-DELHI, DELHI-110094, have

changed my name and shall

I, Vipin Kumar Sharma, S/O-

Nagar Vasundhra enclave

Delhi-110096, changed my

I. MANPREET KAUR.D/o Late

Sarabjeet Singh, R/o-WZ-515B,

Gali-No.27, Shiv-Nagar, South-

JASICA, and correct name is

MANPREET KAUR, and both

SINGH,R/O-S-596,JALVAYU-

VIHAR.POCKET-P4.BUILDERS

OMEGA-1, GURJINDER VIHAR,

NAGAR.UTTAR PRADESH-

AREA, NEAR A WHOLE, SECTOR-

201315, have changed my name

I, Tajendera Singh Chhabra R/o

Unit.S-1004, Omaxe Twin-

Towers, F-Block, Sector-50,

Noida(U.P) have changed my

daughter's name from Anahat

Chhabra to Anaahat Chhabra

I,Srishti D/o Sanjay Sehgal R/o

Flat.No-84. Sector-28. Noida.

Gautam Budh Nagar U.P-

for all future purposes.

Kumar Saxena,

House.No.192,Hari

my name to Privanka

Saxena, for all purposes.

for all purposes. 0040767827-2

201303, have changed my name

from Srishti to Srishti Sehgal.

Henceforth I would be known

by the name of Srishti Sehgal

**I,Sqn** Ldr Priyanka,D/o-Kamal

Enclave.Bulandshahr.Uttar

Pradesh-203001, have changed

names belongs to me only not

with anyone else. 0040767804-1

name to Vipin Sharma.

West Delhi, New Delhi-

110058, my nickname is

I,VIVEKTA,W/O,JASMER

**GAUTAM BUDDHA** 

to VIVEKTA SINGH.

Suresh Chand Sharma,

hereafter be known as TRIPTI

Address-A-559/4, New Ashok-

1/32, F-BLOCK, STREET.NO-

purposes based on

documentary proof.

solemnly affirm and declare as

Been Wrongly Written As

P.P.O my, spouse name is

would like to rectify it as

"ASARPHI DEVI", and also

of-birth of 01-01-1957.

I. Santosh Singh.

Accordingly.

J&K-194101 (UID

present address is 551/2, Devli

village,New Delhi-110080,In my

Meenakshi Solanki to

to Lakhbir Singh Soni.

Meenakshi.

Pooth kalan, Delhi-110086, have

Singh Soni R/o D-17/364, Third-

110085 have Changed my name

Chaudhary for all purposes.

Road.Dalanwala. Dehradun.

R/o Flat No -27-d Navyug

New Delhi: 110018 have

Kumar Kaila.

S/o Late Sh.Jagat Ram R/o

4/438/1B, Street No.11,

I,Satya Devi,W/o Sukhvir Singh

R/o-385 CB Naraina, CB 201 to

370 New Delhi-110028, have

Satyawati, for all purposes.

Moonlight,70,I.P Extension,

changed my name to Sanjay

Khushalani for all Purposes.

**I,Saloni** Bansal,W/o Ketan

Vihar, Delhi-110034, have

changed my name from Saloni

JAIN,S/O-ROSHAN LAL JAIN R/O

KD-51/B,ASHOK-VIHAR PHASE-

NAME TO SUDERSHAN KUMAR

NARROTAM SINGH, W/o RAJEEV

changed my name to RAJINDER

Kumar, H. No. 35, Upper Ground

110085, have changed my name

to Rinku Goyal. 0040767928-7

I,Priyanka Saxena,D/o-Kamal

Enclave, Bulandshahr, Uttar

changed, from Vanshika to

Pradesh-203001, have my

Vanshika Sinha for all

I,Pradosh Shukla,S/o Ravi

Colony, Mayur-Vihar Ph-

Pradosh Shukla, for all, future

Kumar Saxena

House.No.192,Hari

daughter's name

purposes.

purposes.

Floor, Pocket 4&5, Sector-23,

Rohini, North West Delhi-

KHANNA,R/o BB-80D,West

Shalimar Bagh, Shalimar

Bagh, Delhi-110088, have

I,Rinku Garg,W/o Sudhir

Bansal to Saloni Jindal in all

Jindal,D/o Surender

Pitampura, Saraswati

I,SURDARSHAN KUMAR

1,NORTH WEST DELHI-

110052, HAVE CHANGED MY

JAIN, FOR ALL PURPOSES.

**I,SUNNY** KHANNA alias

RAJINDER KAUR, D/o

KAUR.

Bansal,R/o-K P-15,

purposes.

Patparganj, Delhi-110092, have

0040767911-5

0040767915-5

0040767932-1

0040767928-1

0040767932-2

changed my name to

**I,Sanjay** Kumar,S/O. N.G

Khushalani R/O.A-47,

0040767911-3

0040767911-9

I,Harsh S/o Rajender Kumar R/o

21E, PD Block, Pitampura, PO:

Saraswati Vihar, Delhi-110034

Harsh Kumar. 0040767928-4

I,Hans Kumar Sharma,S/o-Pyare

Nagar, Mithapur Extn, Jaitpur

**I,Gaurav** Singhal,son of Nanak

Chandresident of F-3. Harkesh

110020, have changed my, name

as Gaurav Singhal in place of

my previous name Gaurav, for

I,Deep Verma,D/O,Surinder

RAMCHANDER MARKET,

Singh house.no-30,gali.no-1

RAJPUR KHURD-EXTENSION,

DELHI, DELHI-110068, have

changed,my name,to Deep

Kaur. Both Deep Verma and

Deep Kaur are same & one

I,Chetan S/o Satish Kumar R/o

House No.A-2, Dheerpur Gaon

person only.

CHATTARPUR, RAJ PUR SOUTH,

Nagar, Okhla, Phase-2, Delhi-

110044, have changed my name

have changed my name to

Lal.R/o-119.Gali No-5.Sai

Badarpur. New Delhi-

to Hans Kumar, for all

all, future purposes.

purposes.

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.ireps.gov.in with all details. Manual bid will not be accepted.

Corrigendum/Amendment, if any, would be uploaded only in the aforesaid website. Brief Closing date & Tender No. Quantity Description time Set of Cylindrical Roller 17.01.2025 96 Sets 02241985 Bearing for Traction Motor. at 14.00 hrs Erection & Commissioning of 17.01.2025 high-performance low 02245228A 01 Set maintenance traction battery at 14.00 hrs. 200 Cell, 400 V. 1200 AH 04 17.01.2025 Supply of Bogie Frame & 01235178B Bolster Numbers at 14.00 hrs. 6500 22.01.2025 Aluminium Conductor, 02245251 Metre at 14.00 hrs.

Follow us at: M/metrorailwaykol ()/metrorailkolkata

लॉट नं0 – 1 सैक्टर के0पी0-4, ग्रेटर नोएडा सिटी, गौतमबुद्ध नगर-201308, उ०प्र0 वेबसाइट: www.greaternoidaauthority.in, ई-मेल: authority@gnida.in पत्रांकः वरि०.प्र०/(ई-निविदा सेल)/2025/554

महाप्रबन्धक (अभियन्त्रण) ग्रेटर नोएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा मुख्य कार्यपालक

प्राधिकरण की वैबसाइट: www.greaternoidaauthority.in पर ई-निविदा लिंक एवं ई-पोर्टल https://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है किसी परिवर्तन, संशोधन व अतिरिक्त सचनाओं के लिए उक्त वेबसाईटें देखते रहें। कार्य का नाम/वर्क सर्किल अनुमानित लागत

ग्रेटर नौएडा में शहीद विजय सिंह पथिक कॉम्पलैक्स में टेनिस कोर्ट का नवीनीकरण का कार्य। (वर्क सर्किल-स्पोर्ट कॉम्पलैक्स)

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Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, Dasarahalli Division, MEI Layout, Hesaraghatta Main Road, Bagalagunte, T. Dasarahalli, Bengaluru - 560073.

CORRIGENDUM - 01 Sub: Regarding Correction of Date in Tender Notification.

Ref.: 1) This Office KPP Portal Tender Notification No: BBMP/EE/DD/TEN/22/2024-25, Dated: 12-12-2024.

ग्रेटर नौएडा औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

दिनांक: 08/01/2025

अधिकारी, ग्रेटर नोएडा की ओर से ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सचना संख्या-वरि० प्र०/ (ई-निविदा सेल) / 2025 / 553 दिनांक 08/01/2025 के माध्यम से उल्लेखित क्रम संख्या-01 पर अकिंत कार्य की ई-निविदाये आमन्त्रित की जाती है। समस्त नियम व शर्ते ग्रेटर नोएडा

रू0 46.10 लाख

वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक (ई-निविदा सेल)

No: BBMP/EE/DD/TEN/22/2024-25 Date: 09-01-2025

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई निविदाओं की प्री—क्वालिफिकेशन दिनांक 22.01.2025 को 11:00 बजे खोली जाएगी।

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE

in the Tender Notification, the details of which are as follows. Revised Time Schedule: 1) Tender Documents may be Downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 17-01-2025. 2) Tenders must be Submitted online through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on 27-01-2025 or

before 16.00 Hours. 3) Technical Bids will be Opened on the Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP on or after 28-01-2025 at 16.30 Hours. 4) Financial Bids will be Opened on the Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in at the Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division,

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP.

Principal CMM, Metro Railway, Kolkata

the public at large that my clients Sh. Brijendra Mann S/o Late Teiendra Pal Singh Mann, Smt. Mona Mann W/o Sh. Brijendra Mann, both R/o 1, Randhir Lane, Karnal, Haryana, PIN, 132001. Sh. Ransher Singh Mann and Sh. Jehangir Singh Mann, both S/o Late Sh. Ranvir Singh Mann, both R/o 1KH 103/18, Dera South Delhi, Delhi, PIN 110074 are the real owners in possession of agricultural land being 114/ 581th share admeasuring 29 bighas and 1 biswa comprised in Mustatil No. 103, Killa No. 18/2 min (1-4), 19(3-4), 22(4-16), 23

purchase the said land or create

any third-party interest, therein,

would be doing it at his own risk,

and it would not affect in any

Re it known to all that my client

SMT. KALPANA W/O LATÉ HARI

PRASAD R/o FLAT No.4082

BEVERLY HILLS APARTMENT

BLOCK No.5, GEETA COLONY

GANDHI NAGAR, DELHI-110031

has disowned her son namely

"ABHISHEK PRASAD" Aged 36 Yrs

S/o LATE HARI PRASAD

daughter-in-law namely 'CHETNA

NAGPAL\* Aged 29 Yrs. W/o SHRI

ABHISHEK PRASAD from her

moveable and immovable

properties due to thei

misbehavior, ill-treatment

disrespectfulness, disobedience

and ill-temper and my client has

severed all her relation with them

for any of their act and deed. Any

person dealing with them will do so

his/her own risk and

Amar Singh (Advocate)

Enroll.No.:D/3500/2010

Mobile No.9313500952

and she shall not be responsible

min(2-16), 21/2 (0-12), 20/2(1-13), 21/1(4-4), Mustatil No. 108, Killa Nos. 2/1(1-10), 3/1(2-2), 1/2(2-16), 9/1(1-2), 10/1(1-2), 2/3(2-0), situated in the revenue estate of the village - Dera Mandi, tehsil - Hauz Khas. Mehrauli, New Delhi - 110047 or Director (Housing). DDA Office Vikas Sadam. New Delbii, within 15 days from th and one Smt. Anita Mann is only the benamidar of the said land, having no lawful authority to sell or create any third-party interest in the said land and if anybody would deal with her to either

> way the title of my above-named clients in the said land. Ajeet Kadian Advocate E. No. D-1428/11 Lawyers Chamber No. 262, Delhi High Court Complex, New Delhi-110003 Mobile No: 9958045252 Email ID:

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Av Clients Sh. Moolchan S/o Late Sh. Panna La R/o T- 627, Near Baba Ram Dev Mandir, Baljit Nagar, Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008, have sever isinherited them from all their movable and movable properties henceforth. My clien shall have no concerned with them any body dealing with them may do so at his/her on risl CHANDER SHEKHAR office at : M-181-182,

Dabas, Delhi-11008 **PUBLIC NOTICE** formation is given to the general public at large that my client Mrs. Panna Bhatia and Mrs. Usha Rani who is the owner of Property Sub Division No. 1 & Sub Division No. 2, area measuring 246 sq. yards. situated in Block No. C. NH-1 NIT Fandabad, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 19.06.2024 executed by Abdul Rashid (Doc.No.2059), Any person(s), institution s) having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at our address within O. days from the publication of this notice thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person(s)/institution(s) shall not be binding upon the said property or

Ram Prakash Pandey, (Advocate)

New Delhi- 110055, Mob. 9871308962

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and things done by them.

Shyambir (Adv.), En.No.D/744/2000 Chamber No.836, Lawyers Chambe

New Delhi-110075, Mob.9213429341

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or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever कार्यालय वरिष्ठ प्रबन्धक विद्युत खण्ड-द्वितीय उ.प्र. राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण

टीडीएस सिटी, गाजियाबाद, E-mail: ed2@upsida.co.in ई-निविदा सूचना एतद द्वारा सुचित किया जाता है कि प्राधिकरण के विभिन्न जनपदों में स्थित औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में विद्यत विकास कार्य हेत् सरकारी विभागों / सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों / निगमों / प्राधिकरणों/ परिषदों/नगर निकार्यों में

पंजीकत फर्मों/ठेंकेदारों से पूर्णकालीन ई-निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। कार्य का नाम रु. (लाख में)

 Providing Facades Light at the entrance gate of I.A. 16.29 Surajpur, Site-B 2. Providing Facades Lights at the entrance gate at I.A.

निविदा दिनांक 10.01,2025 को 11:00 बजें से दिनांक 30.01,2025 को 18:00 बजे तक अपलेंड की जा सकर्त है, जिसे दिनांक 31.01.2025 को 11:00 बजे या इसके पश्चात खोला जायेगा। निविदादाताओं द्वारा अपलोड शपथ पत्रों की मूल प्रतियाँ निविदा खोलने के बाद 03 कार्य दिवस में पंजीकृत डाक/व्यक्तिगत रूप से हार्यालय में जमा की जा सकती हैं। नोट:-- १. निवेदावाता अपनी निवेदाओं में समस्त कर सहित दरें अंकित करें, अलग से मात्र जी एस.टी. देय

होगा। 2. विद्युत कार्यों हेतू निविदादाताओं को निविदा अपलोड करते समय "विद्युत सुरक्षा विभाग" उ.प. शासन, लखनऊ में 'क' श्रेणी अनुमोदित लाइसेन्स एवं Eligibility Criteria के अनुसार समस्त प्रपत्र अपलोड करना अनिवार्य होगा, अन्यथा निविदा को Consider नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदा सम्बन्धी विस्तृत जानकारी website: www.onlineupsida.com पर स्थापित लिंक यूपीएलसी की website: https://etender.up.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है। निविदा से सम्बन्धित अन्य जानकारी हेत् श्री प्रवेश गिरी, प्रबन्धक (वि.) के दूरभाष नं 9927030700 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है। वरिष्ठ प्रबन्धक, उ.प्र.श.औ.वि.प्रा., गाजियाबाद



**ICAR-Directorate of Knowledge Management in** Agriculture

> Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-1 Pusa, New Delhi-110012 **Tender Notice**

(Empanelment of Offset Printers, Laser-typesetters and **Graphic Designers**)

(DKMA), ICAR, KAB-I, Pusa, New Delhi invites online bids under two-bid system (technical and financial) from eligible reputed firms/agencies for "Empanelment of Offset Printers, Laser-typesetters and Graphic Designers for ICAR's publications and other printing jobs" vide Tender No. F.No. DKMA/25-4/2024-GAS (Tender ID: 2024\_DARF\_840535\_1)

For details and tender document, please visit website: www.icar.org.in and https//eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app. The last date for submission of online bids is 18.01,2025 (05.00 PM).

> (Elizabeth Minz) **Under Secretary.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

conclude the title/Sale Deed proposed to b executed in favor at my client or in the name o his/her/ their nominees shall be deemed to b clear and marketable without any detect encumbrance, flaw and impediment, SATYENDER YADAV (ADVOCATE no. 561, 5" Floor, Saket Courts New Delhi; Mob.: 971121242

E-mail: syadav7887@gmail.com

Public at large is hereby informed that Flat No F-406, Fourth Floor, Parsvanath Prestige, Plo

No. 002, Sector-93A, Noida, District Gautar

Budh Nacar, Littar Pradesh, presently owner

and possessed by Shri Ramnath Navner

Prabitu & Smt Archana Admani by virtue of

Transfer Deed Cum Sale Deed duly registere

vide Ragd. No. 5852, dated 01.06.2016 an

with State Bank of India, Branch: RACPO

(s) version the said property is/are free from all

sorts of encumbrance. The (1) ORIGINA

Transfer Letter dated 19.07.2015 issued b

ORIGINAL Will executed by Smt. Swaran Lata

Kapoor wife of Late Shri Gulsharan Lai Kapoo

in tayor of his son Shri Kanti Kumar Kapoor i

respect of her half undivided share (Copy N

Available) (3) ORIGINAL Death Certificate of

Late Smt Swaran Lata Kapoor wife of Late Shi

18.01.2015), is/are reported as lest wide LI

No. 2478067/2025, dated 09:01:2025 with

It is hereby notified that any person and/ or

Bank financial institution having any claim

any charge, interest or lien or claim and/or

objection to thereof, he/ she/ they may lodge

notify the same to the undersigned with

days from the day of publication of this publi

notice, failing which any further/future claim

objection(s) shall be rejected and my client

prospective buyer(s) as a bona-fide numitiase

P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi

uisharan Lai Kagoor (Date of Deat

Knida Authority in favor of Shri Kanti Kumar I

Naraina, New Dethi and as per present own

be known to all that I. Shruti Jain W/D S Dinesh Jain owner of A-1/232, Ground Floor, LIG Flats, Lawrence Road, Deth 10035, has applied for certified paper of the atoresaid flat such as original Demand Lette ssession Letter, NOC of Electricity an vater Connection has been lost. File No. 26(1446A)73/HB. An F ranch Delhi on dated 09/01/2025. A erson claiming any right, intrest, having a diection or found in possession of orig focuments may write/contact with the abo amed person at above address/Phone 9868714240 or Dy. Director (LAB) Housin

PUBLIC NOTICE would like to inform the General Public on behalf of my client Gauray Sethi S/o

te of publication of this notice.

Darshan Sethi R/o B-3, Central Greens, NIT Faridabad, Haryana 121001 that Original Sale deed dated 10/07/1974 of Immovable Property bearing Property/Municipal

No. 153/1, Chakrata Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand admeasuring 408.9 sq. mtrs. bounded as under:-East: Common Passage ollowed by property of Dr. Savita Luthra (Luthra Nursing Home) West: Property of Luthra Hospitals Private Limited North: Chakrata Road: South: Property of others;

registered at Sub registrar Dehradun on 10.07.1974 videBook no. 1, Volume no. 78, Pages 348 to 357 in favour of Sh. Darshan Kumar Sethi has been lost and untraceable. Further, Punjab National Bank, Branch Office Yamuna Colony Dehradun intends to mortgage the above property. If any person finds it,or claims any interest or title in the property is requested to contact Punjab National Bank,

Branch Office Yamuna Colony Dehradun within 7 days from the date of this publication. Any misuse, unauthorized possession, or fraudulent claims associated with the lost document will be subject to

legal action. Chirag Juneja(Advocate) 125/12, Mohit Nagar, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the public at large tha my client Sh. Ram Avtar S/o Sh. Chande Bhan R/o RZ-12 A and B block Ne Gopal Nagar, Dhansa Road Najafga South West Delhi 110043 have severe Deepak Malhan and his daughter-in-la Annu @ Smt. Anita Chakarwarti w Deepak Malhan as they are not und control of my client, therefore, my clien debar them from his all movable an Anyone dealing with them in future i any manner shall do so at their own risi and consequences and my client sha not be responsible for any acts, deed

Block, Dwarka District Courts, Sec-10

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Narinder Kapoor S/o filak Raj have lost my property Original Documents DDA Demand etter, DDA POSSESSION LETTER, WATER AND ELECTRICITY NOC, of Propety No. J-4/67A, DDA Flats Kalkaji New Delhi-110019, and also my Daughter Aadhar Card **Finder Contact-**

+919650492158.

01126028915.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client Shri Deepak Agarwai S/o Shr G.C. Agarwal, R/o Rz-673, Gali No.3 Main Sagarpur, Nangal Raya S.O. South West Delhi, Delhi-110046, has severed all his relations from his Sor Sh. Shivam Agarwal R/o Rz 673, Ga No.3, Main Sagarpur, Nangal Raya S.O. South West Delhi, Delhi-110046, du to his illegal activities, misdeed misconduct and my client has n concern whatsoever with him in an manner. My client has also debarred im from all his movable and nmovable properties. My client shall not be liable for any acts & omission of his above named son & whoever deals

Enrl. No: D/3188/2022, Ch. No.860 Lawyers Chamber block, Dwarka Courts, New Delhi-110075 Mob.:9958141145 PUBLIC NOTICE This My Client SH. ASHOK KUMAR

with him shall do so at his own risk and

Mokul (Advocate

KALRA S/O SH. NIRANJAN DUTT KALRA R/o C-3/110-C, MIG FLATS, KESHAV PURAM, DELHI-110035, has debarred & disowned his son Sh. Prateek Kalra & his wife Smt. Katie Pezzot Kalra & his two minor daughters Emma & Lily, from all his movable and immovable properties, assets and relations. My client is not responsible or concerned for any of

Dinesh Dua (Advocate) Enrol no : D/834/91; M: 9810322720

name to Arti Maurya for all future purposes 0070944289-1 I. ASHOK JAIN, S/O VIKRAM KUMAR JAIN, R/O. H. NO.-1 MADHUBAN, VIKAS MARG, EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092, have changed my name to ASHOK KUMAR JAIN For all future purposes. 0070944292-1 I Sunny Chawla S/o Gopal Kishan R/o KP-304, First Floor,

I, Arti mauriya W/o Rampratap

Station Arjangarh, South West

Delhi-110047 Have changed my

Singh R/o 221/06 Air Force,

from Jiyanshi to Jiyanshi Chawla for all purposes. ISubha Raj Misra D/o Late

college record my name is name from Subha Misra to Subha Raj Misra and Subha Misra and Subha Raj Misra is same and single Person in future known me Subha Rai

0040767651-1 I Sandeep Kalra S/O, Satyapal Kalra R/o House No.199, 1st Floor, State Bank Nagar, Paschim Vihar, West Delhi, Delhi-110063 have changed my

I Reena Chaudhary W/o Raman Deepak Bhrigu, R/o Flat No.G-70, Block-I, Gaur Case Cades, Raj Nagar Extension, Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh-201017, I have add the surname of my minor son from Rushil Deep to Rushil Deep Kumar for all purposes. 0040767807-4

I Pranay Seth S/o Late Shri Prem Narain Seth R/o B-3/49C, Lawrence Road, Keshav Puram, Delhi-110035 is also known as Pranaya Seth S/o Late Shri P.N.Seth. Both names are of one and the same person.

0070944324-1

### PERSONAL I, Bippan Kumar Goyal S/o.

Bhagwan Dass Goyal R/o. 251-252, D-15, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085 declare that I have changed my minor son name from Himakash Goyal (हिमाकश गोयल) to Himaksh Goyal (हिमाक्ष गोयल).

14833436H RANK HAV NAME UMESH CHANDRO MALLICK R/o

MAHADEVIPUR, GURANDI, GAJAPATI, ODISHA-761210 LOST & FOUND HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO **USHARANI MALLICK VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATE 9.1.25 BEFORE** 0070944302-1 I, Sonia W/O Vijay Veer, R/o A-203, Shivalik Colony, Malviya Nagar, South Delhi, Delhi-110017, I have changed the name of my minor Son Mivan

Chauhan aged about 8 years and He shall hereafter be known as Yuvraj Singh Chauhan 0070944308-1 I, Shivika Kothari, W/O Pranay Jain R/o-2, Gulmohar Avenue,

DLF Chattarpur Farms, South Delhi, New Delhi-110074. have changed my name and shall Kothari Jain I, Shahid Mohd S/o Gulam

Amar Puri, Nabi Karim, Pahar Gani, New Delhi-110055, have changed my name to MOHD. SHAHID, for all purposes.

I, Sandip Kumar Sanyasi Muni S/o Pramila Muni R/o 124-C, Pocket-A, Mayur Vihar, Ph-2,

MY NAME TO MAHESH KUMAR. Purposes. I, Pramila Chauhan D/o MP

0070944297-1

I, Mohammad Firoz Khan S/o Mohammad Mahfuz R/o E-43, Gali No.2, E-Block, Chand Bagh, Karawal Nagar, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Firoz Khan. 0040767818-1

R/o 221/20/BLK-B, Gali No 7, Sant Nagar Burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Jitendra Singh.

have changed my name to

I. Jagdish Sharan Bhardwai, S/o 107, Gali No.15, Laxmi Nagar, minor daughter's name from SHRADDDHA BHARDWAJ@ to SHRADDHA BHARDWAJ for

I. Dev Goel S/o Arvind Kumar

I, Shilpi, Km Shilpi W/o Chandan Singh Jat R/o F-1206, ACE-Aspire, Greater

R/o C-15C, First Floor, DDA Flats, Munirka, New Delhi-110067, have changed my name from Aditya Nath to Aaditya Nath for all purposes.

0070944283-1

Pitampura, VTC, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed the name of my minor daughter 0040767807-2 Bhagwati Shankar Misra W/o

Raj Kamal age 68 R/o A 11 A 2nd floor Green Park Main, South Delhi-110016 do hereby declare & confirm that In my school & Subha Misra I have change my

name to Sandeep Kumar Kalra.

20486871-1

I.Smt Rakesh.w/o shri BILLE PROPERTY NO.FLAT NO-C-27 **BLOCK.NO.C, NAND GRAM** GHAZIABAD, HAVE A LOST MY **PROPERTY ORGINAL** DOCOMENT SALE DEED CHHIDA SINGH IN FAVOUR VED PRAKASH & SMT RAJ KUMARI **VERMA DOCOMENT. NO.5537 DATED-8.6.2004 & WILL-ATS** DURGA PRASAD IN FAVOR CHHIDA SINGH,CON

LOST AND FOUND

that Mrs. Anjali Singh w/o Rakesh Singh

and residing at Plot No.219, FF-

Sector-11, Vasundhra, District

Ghaziabad the owners, of Flat Bearing

No. 1306 on 13" Floor, having super area

890 sq. ft., in Tower-B6, in the

Supertech Eco Village-I", situated at

Plot No.GH-08: Sector-1, Greater Noida

Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P., have

lost the Original Builder Buyer

Agreement, Original Allotment Letter

dated 07.06.2013, Original Transfer

Deed dated 04.10.2016 having Doc. No

26897. Any person who has found this

focument or in its possession or i

laiming to have any rights, title, interest

n respect of the said Property, is/are

equested to return the original deed of

ntimate the objection / claim in writing to

the undersigned with supporting

documents within 7 days from the date of

publication of this notice to Adv. Ram

Prakash Pandey, Office Address

handewalan Ext. New Delhi-110055

vikshalegal@gmail.com within 07 days

Mobile no 9871308962, or email a

rom the publication of this notice

Viksha Legal

0130047991-1

NO.8851832893. 0040767915-9 Lost Share Certificate of MNo. 222 of Ganga Triveni CGHS Ltd, Sector-9 Rohini. Return If found Puneett 8700275183.

hereafter be Known as Shivika 0070944231-1 Mohammad R/o A-399/1,

0040767814-1

Patparganj, Delhi-110091, have changed my name to Sandeep Sanyasi Muni for all future 0070944303-1

Singh R/o H.No-G-223, Beta-2 Greater Noida G.B. Nagar have change my Name to Pramila Kumari for all future Purposes

I, Lal Babu Singh S/O Arun Singh,

0070944233-1 I. Jatinder Singh S/o Sampuran Singh R/o House No.18/6, Indra Vikas Colony, Delhi-110009.

Jatinder Singh Juneja, for all

future purposes. 0040767825-1

Ramesh Chand Bhardwaj, R/o I-Delhi-110092, have changed my SHRADHDA, D.O.B.- 01/10/2010 all purposes. 0040767819-1

Goel R/o GD-197, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Dev Raj Goel for all purposes. 0070944291-1

Noida(West), have changed my name to Shilpi Singh Jat for all 0040767827-1 purposes. I. Aditva Nath S/o Jagan Nath

CBC-01302/11/0008/2425

The Directorate of Knowledge Management in Agriculture

Sd/-

**ICAR-DKMA** 

Armoured Cables

क्रम सं०-01 पर अकित कार्यों को दिनांक-10.01.2025 से 20.01.2025 को 5:00 बजे तक

In connection with the above Subject and Reference, a Tender has been called by Reference and the Date has been Amended

BBMP on or after 30-01-2025 at 16.30 Hours.

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED
(A State Govt. Undertaking) NOTICE INVITING TENDER

(E-Tendering Mode only) Online tender (tender-cum-Auction with-eRA) in two part bidding syster are hereby invited on behalf of HPSEB Ltd. by The Superintending Enginee (Designs), Power House Electrical, H.P.S.E.B. Ltd., Sunder Nagar, Distt. Mand (H.P.)- 175019 for Selection of Solar Power Developer (SPD) for "Design. Engineering, Manufacture, Supply, Construction, Erection, Testing and Commissioning, including warranty, Operation and Maintenance for 25 years for Grid-Connected Ground Mounted Solar PV Projects under RESCO model on

Net-metering basis" through tariff based competitive bidding for the following

sites as detailed below: Name of ES Location of Site Lot Cumulative Division Capacity (MW ac) Ground mounted Solar PV Project near 1 1.80 Kunihar 20/132/11KV S/ Stn Kunihar Nalagarh Ground mounted Solar PV Project near II 220/66KV S/stn Upperrla Nangal Mandi Ground mounted Solar PV Project 0.030 ehind rest camp at Bajaura Ground mounted Solar PV Project at Hamirpur 32/33/11kv S/stn Kanghain 8.33MW ac

The eligible Solar Power Developer (SPD) who have successfully installed and commissioned the Grid-connected Ground mounted SPV as in individual capacity as firms/company or as Consortium in similar work and have adequate technical knowledge and experience in respect of all items covered under Scope of Supply and services in Tender Specification No: HPSEBL/PHE/ GM Solar/RESCO/2025/01 as per the following: Date and Time of Online Publication: 20/01/2025 (12:00 Noon) 30/01/2025(11:30 AM) Date of pre bid meeting:

Start Date and Time of Online Bid Submission:

Last Date and Time of Online Bid Submission:

Date of opening of Techno-commercial bid (Part-I)- 14/02/2025 (4:00 PM) Rs 2500+ GST @18%=Rs Cost of Tender Document: The detailed tender notification can be downloaded free of cost from the website http://www.hptenders.gov.in. Any amendment/corrigendum, if placed in future

shall be uploaded/available only in the above mentioned website (Er. N.K. Thakur) Superintending Engineer (Designs), Power House Electrical, HPSEB Ltd., Sundernagar, Distt.Mandi(HP)-175019. Tel/FAX:- 01907-262596.

06/02/2025 (11:00 AM)

13/02/2025(11:00 AM)

Email: sedphel@gmail.com

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Office of the Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division 2nd Cross, Jaladarshini Layout, MSR Nagar, Mathikere, Bangalore-560 054. Ph: 080-22975610,

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

No: EE/MLM/Kppp/08/2024-25

Save Energy for Benefit of self and Nation

Dated: 08.01.2025

(TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only) Tender for the following work on item rate basis are invited as Standard Bid Documents KW-4 by the Executive Engineer Malleshwaram Division on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP from the registered contractors of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD/KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations may apply through e-procurement portal as per

S.N. Name of the work Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains & other

schedule of events.

allied civil works in Block nos. 30, 38\_2, 39\_2, 40, 62, 64 and all other SC/ST area blocks in Malleshwaram Sub division at ward: 57 (64) Rajmahal Guttahalli. Amount Put to Tender: Rs. 105 Lakhs. EMD: Rs. 157500/-.

allied civil works at Block Nos. 1,2,5,19,22, 45,71, 63, 65, 66.69 and all other SC/ST area blocks in Mathikere Subdivision at ward 54 (36), Mathikere. Amount Put to Tender: Rs. 132.25 Lakhs. EMD: Rs. 198375/-. Calendar of events: 1) Pre-bid meeting will be held on:

Comprehensive Development of Roads, Drains & other

28-01-2025 @ 16.00 hrs at Office of the Executive Engineer (Malleshwaram) Division. 2) Last Date & Time for receipt of Tenders: 07-02-2025 up to 16:30hrs. 3) Opening of Technical bid Proposals:10-02-2025 @ 12.30 hrs. 4) Opening of Financial Bid Proposals after approval of Technical proposals (will be intimated later to the successful technically qualifying bidder) The Executive Engineer, Malleshwaram Division

epaper.indianexpress.com

Delhi-110009 have changed my name to Chetan Gupta Misra for all purposes. 0040767919-1 I,Charu Sheel Nath Andley,D/o T N Andley, R/o-316 AF, Sector-39, Housing board-colony, Gurgaon(Haryana)-122001, have changed my name to Charu Andley. 0040767928-9

0040767928-2

0040767827-4

0040767929-1

I, Gary Goel S/o Arvind Goel R/o GD-197, Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Garv Raj Goel for all purposes. 0070944301-1 I,ARUN KUMAR SOOD,S/O-BALDEV KRISHAN SOOD R/O-24.MAITRI APARTMENT.

SECTOR-9, ROHINI, DELHI-

NAME TO AMARJEET FOR ALL

as Ajay Kumar Sood.

I, USHARANI JENA W/o No

110085, HAVE CHANGED MY 0040767911-7 NAME TO ARUN SOOD FOR ALL PURPOSES. Chandra Shukla, R/o, A-1216, GD-I,AMARJEET RAM S/O LAL CHAND R/O HNO.A-3,Delhi-110096,have changed 884.SHAHBAD-DAIRY.DELHImy name, from P K Shukla to 110042.HAVE CHANGED MY

0040767911-2 PURPOSES. 0040767928-6 I,Poonam Rani W/o Pardeep I, hitherto known as Dr. A.K. Kumar Sharma R/o-G-Sood alias Ajay Sood S/o 183.Prashant Vihar Rohini Dharam Pal Sood R/o B-15, Delhi-110085, have changed my Sector-36, Noida, Gautam name to Poonam Sharma. Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name 0040767919-4 and shall hereafter be known

change my name to Pardeep Kumar Sharma. 0040767919-2 I,Nilima Gupta,w/o-Pardeep Gupta,R/o,Rz-61/B,Gali.No.2 Kailash-Puri ext., Palam-Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name to Neelam

Gupta permanently.

I.Pardeep Kumar alies Pardeep

Sharma S/o Hari Ram Sharma

R/o-G-183, Prashant Vihar

Rohini Delhi-110085, have

Vishwakarma Nagar, Jhilmil-Colony Delhi-110095, Changed my name to Mohd Talib Khan. 0040767915-3

I, VIJAY KUMAR S/O RAJENDRA

NATH SALUJA R/o-J-34 KIRTI

NAGAR DELHI-110015 HAVE

**CHANGED MY NAME TO VIJAY** 

KUMAR SALUJA 0040767919-8

**I,Mohd** Talib,S/o Azad Ahmed

Khan R/o-14 Pratap Khand,

0040767919-7

I.MIRA SALUJA W/O VIJAY KUMAR SALUJA R/O-J-34 KIRTI NAGAR DELHI-110015 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MEERA SALUJA 0040767919-9

I,MEETA RANI W/O NARESH

KUMAR R/O C-5/85, UPPER-

GROUND, SECTOR-

11,ROHINI,DELHI-110085.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MEETA DEVI. 0040767911-1 I,MAHESH CHAUDHARY S/O JODH SINGH R/O HNO.409, GALINO.9, JAGATPUR, BURARI,

**DELHI-110084.HAVE CHANGED** 

0040767928-3 I,Kunal Rajesh Kapur,S/o-Rajesh Kapur, R/o ICON 905 BT-02, Omaxe Heights, Near-Sai Dham, Sector-86, Faridabad

(Haryana)-121002,have

Kapur. 0040767928-8 I,KUMARI KUSUM MADAN alias **KUSUM MADAN alias KIRTI** GOGIA D/o Dayanand Madan W/o Dharam Pal Gogia R/o-HD-32 Upper-Ground Floor Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have

changed my name to KIRTI

I,KM.KALPANA SINGH,W/O

No.85, Mahavir-Enclave-

0040767919-10

0040767919-6

Changed My Name to Kunal

3,Uttam Nagar,Delhi-110059, have Changed my name after-marriage is KALPANA.

GOGIA

Goyal.

0040767919-5 I,Inder Mohan,S/o-Praveen Kumar, R/o CGT-041, DLF Capital Greens Phase-2, Near CTC Mall Moti-Nagar Ramesh-Nagar, Delhi-15, have changed my name to Inder Mohan

I,ISHITA MUDHAR, D/o,PARMINDER SINGH MUDHAR, W/o, GUNJAN SINGH BALI,R/O,S-386 GREATER-**KAILASH PART-2 NEW DELHI** HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO ISHITA BALI. 0040767929-2

I,IMRAN FAROOQI,S/O-SALEEM

BASTI, BARA HINDU RAO, DELHI-

110006, have changed my name

FAROOOI,R/o-7814/2,NEW

to IMRAN FAROOQUI,S/O-

SALEEM FAROOQUI, for

all, future Purposes. 0040767915-1

I, Ashish Mishra S/O Atma Ram

Mishra, R/o Plot NO-25, Kh. No-9/19, Ground Floor, Street No-0040767911-6 13, Sindhi Colony Saroop Nagar, Badli, Samai Pur, Narela, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042I have changed the name of my minor Son Ivan Mishra aged about 6 Years and He shall hereafter be known as Ivaan Mishra 0070944309-1

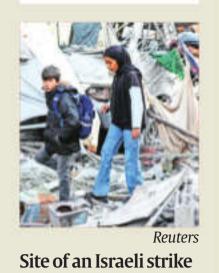
I. Ashok Goval S/o Ram Kumar R/o C-2/163. West Enclave. Pitampura, Delhi -110034 have changed my name from Ashok

0040767908-1

Goyal to Ashok Kumar permanently

BRITAIN WILL create a new sanctions regime to target the leaders of networks that smuggle tens of thousands of people into Britain each year, as well as the often-Chinese makers of the boats and motors they use, the government said on Wednesday. "We will target those profiting off putting lives at 

## **TOPOFTHE** WORLD



in Nuseirat, Thursday

### Mediators make some progress in Gaza talks

Cairo: U.S. and Arab mediators have made some progress in their efforts to reach a ceasefire accord between Israel and Hamas in Gaza, but not enough to seal a deal, Palestinian sources close to the talks said on Thursday. The Israeli military carried out strikes across the enclave, killing at least 23 Thursday, medics said. A Palestinian official confirmed progress had been made during the talks but cited a new Israeli condition that could undermine reaching a deal: "Israel still insists on keeping a 1 km landscape along the eastern and northern borders of the Gaza Strip, which will restrict the return of residents to their

### **UKRAINE**

homes."

### Russian strike kills 13, injures 113 in southeast

**REUTERS** 

Kviv: A Russian guided bomb attack Wednesday killed at least 13 people and injured 113 in Ukraine's southeastern city of Zaporizhzhia, authorities said. The blast left bodies strewn across a road alongside injured residents. Public transport was also damaged in the strike. Prosecutors increased the injury toll from 63 to 113 people on morning. Thursday Russian troops had used two guided bombs to hit a residential area, the regional governor Ivan Fedorov told reporters. Ten of the injured remain serious, he said. **REUTERS** 

## **SRI LANKA**

### **Buddhist monk** sentenced for hate speech

Colombo: A firebrand Sri Lankan Buddhist majority hardliner monk was on Thursday sentenced to nine months imprisonment by the Colombo Magistrate's Court for his Islamophobic comments made in 2016. Galagoda Aththe Gnanasara, 49, was additionally fined Rs 1,500 by Colombo Additional Magistrate Pasan Amarasena. In March last year, Gnanasara was sentenced to four years of rigorous imprisonment by the High Court and had won release through the Appeal Court five months

## **TOLL RISES TO FIVE; THREE OF SIX FIRES '0% CONTROLLED'**

## Hollywood hills burn in worst LA fires, more than a lakh ordered to evacuate

Firefighters from six states rush to California as blaze spreads

**ROLLO ROSS** & JACKIE LUNA LOS ANGELES, JANUARY 9

THE HOLLYWOOD Hills blazed uncontrollably on Thursday morning as the worst wildfires in the history of Los Angeles raged across the city and deep into the storied heartland of the American film industry.

A crescent of flame squeezed Los Angeles in a huge pincer visible from space. More than 100,000 people were ordered to evacuate as dry, hurricane-force winds spread flames across parched ground that has seen no rain for months. At least five people have died since the fires erupted on Tuesday.

The homes of movie stars and celebrities were among those consumed by flames, which tore through some of the world's most lavish real estate and above showbiz landmarks instantly recognizable around the world.

"This firestorm is the big one," Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass told a press conference after rushing back to the city, cutting short an official trip to Ghana.

At least six separate wildfires were burning in Los Angeles County. Three of them were listed as "0% controlled", including a pair of huge conflagrations on the city's eastern and western



Firefighters try to douse a fire in Pacific Palisades in Los Angeles, Wednesday. Reuters

flanks and the smaller Sunset Fire raging in Hollywood Hills just above Hollywood Boulevard and its Walk of Fame.

The L.A. Fire Department issued an evacuation order for people in an area within Hollywood Boulevard to the south, Mulholland Drive to the north, the 101 Freeway to the east and Laurel Canyon Boulevard to the west - all iconic addresses for film, TV and music.

On the west side of Los

Angeles, the Palisades fire consumed 15,832 acres and hundreds of structures in the hills between Santa Monica and Malibu.

"We are heartbroken of course, but with the love of children and friends we will get through this," said film star Billy Crystal and his wife Janice, announcing the Pacific Palisades home where they had lived since 1979 had been destroyed.

Thousands of Los Angelenos fleeing the flames sought refuge

in temporary shelters. Foad Farid found refuge in the gym of the **Westwood Recreation Center** with nothing but his car and his phone. Neighbors dropped off blankets, clothing, water, pizza and pet food.

Th so-called red flag conditions were expected to remain until Friday. The scale and spread of the blazes stretched exhausted firefighting crews beyond their capacity.

Firefighters from six other U.S.

states were being rushed to California, while an additional 250 engine companies with 1,000 personnel were being moved from Northern California to Southern California, Los Angeles County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone told a press conference. "We pushed the system to the extreme. We're fighting a wildfire with urban water systems," Janisse Quinones, chief executive of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power,

**REUTERS** 

told reporters.

## Hush money case: NY's highest court declines to block Trump sentencing

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** ALBANY, JANUARY 9

NEW YORK'S highest court on Thursday declined to block Donald Trump's upcoming sentencing in his hush money case, leaving the US Supreme Court as the president-elect's likely last option to prevent the hearing from taking place Friday.

One judge of the New York Court of Appeals issued a brief order declining to grant a hearing to Trump's legal team. Trump has asked the Supreme Court to call off Friday's sentencing.

His lawyers turned to the nation's highest court Wednesday after New York courts refused to postpone the sentencing by Judge Juan M Merchan, who presided over Trump's trial and conviction last May on 34 felony counts of falsifying business records. Trump has denied wrongdoing.

In a filing to the top New York court, Trump's attorneys had said Merchan and the state's mid-level appellate court both "erroneously failed" to stop the sentencing, arguing that the Constitution requires an automatic pause as they appeal the judge's ruling upholding the verdict. While Merchan has indicated he will not impose jail time, fines or probation, Trump's lawyers argued a conviction would still have intolerable side effects, including distracting him as he prepares to take office.

Trump's attorneys have argued that the Manhattan trial violated last summer's Supreme

'TRUMP'S TALK OF CANADA JOINING U.S. **NOT FUNNY ANYMORE** 

Toronto: US President-elect Donald Trump's comments that Canada should become the 51st state are no longer a joke and are meant to undermine America's closest ally, Canada's finance minister said Wednesday. Dominic LeBlanc, the country's point person for U.S-Canada relations said: "The joke is over... "It's a way for him, I think, to sow confusion, to agitate people, to create chaos knowing this will never happen." AP

Court ruling giving Trump broad immunity from prosecution over acts he took as president.

At the least, they have said. the sentencing should be delayed while their appeals play out on the immunity issue.

Judges in New York have found that Trump's convictions related to personal matters rather than official acts. Trump's attorneys called the case politically motivated, and said that the sentencing threatens to disrupt the Republican's presidential transition as he prepares to return to the presidency on January 20.

Sentencing Trump now would be a "grave injustice," his attornev D John Sauer wrote. Sauer is also Trump's pick to be solicitor general.



A RARE MEETUP: (Clockwise from left) Former Presidents Bill Clinton, George Bush, Barack Obama, President-elect Donald Trump along with Vice President Kamala Harris and President Joe Biden, at the state funeral of Jimmy Carter in Washington on Friday. AP

## At least 40 killed in Myanmar army strike on Rakhine village

The photo provided by the Arakan Army shows the Kyauk Ni

Maw village in Rakhine state after an airstrike by the ruling

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** BANGKOK, JANUARY 9

military on Wednesday. AP

AN AIRSTRIKE by Myanmar's army on a village under the control of an armed ethnic minority group killed about 40 people and injured at least 20 others, officials of the group and a local charity said Thursday. They said hundreds of houses burned in a fire triggered by the bombing.

The attack occurred Wednesday in Kyauk Ni Maw village on Ramree island, an area controlled by the ethnic Arakan Army in western Rakhine state, they said.

The military has not announced any attack in the area. The situation in the village

could not be independently confirmed, with access to the internet and cellphone service in the area mostly cut off.

Khaing Thukha, a spokesperson for the Arakan Army, told *AP* that a jet fighter bombed the village on Wednesday afternoon, killing 40 civilians and injuring more than 20 others. "All the dead were civilians. Among the dead and injured are women and children," Khaing Thukha said. A fire started by the airstrike spread through the village, destroying more than 500 houses, Khaing Thukha added.

It was unclear why the village was targeted. The leader of a local charity group and independent media also reported the airstrike and casualties.

## Jimmy Carter, 39th US President, gets state funeral ahead of burial

**REUTERS** 

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 9

JIMMY CARTER, a U.S. president who struggled with a bad economy and a hostage crisis but was widely admired in his post-White House career, was remembered during his state funeral on Thursday as a man who put honesty and kindness above politics.

Hundreds of mourners including all five living current and former US presidents packed the Washington National Cathedral.

Fellow Democratic President loe Biden was due to eulogize the

39th president, who died on Dec. 29 at the age of 100. Republican President-elect Donald Trump was among the luminaries at the funeral, before Carter's body is returned to Georgia, where Carter was raised as a peanut farmer.

Carter won the White House by defeating Republican President Gerald Ford in the 1976 U.S. election, in the years following Richard Nixon's Watergate scandal. The one-time political rivals went on to form a lasting friendship, and Carter eulogized Ford following his 2006 death.

Ford's son, Steven, read a eulogy on Thursday that has father

had written for Carter, who served from 1977 to 1981 and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002. "Jimmy and I respected each other as adversaries even before we cherished one another as dear friends," Ford said in his father's words.

Canadian PM Justin Trudeau, Vice President-elect ID Vance and Biden's son Hunter were also among the mourners. Former vice presidents Al Gore and Pence sat side by side. Tens of thousands over the past two days filed through the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol to pay their respects to Carter.

## Lebanon army chief elected President as Hezbollah weakens, power balance shifts

**REUTERS** 

**BEIRUT. JANUARY 9** 

LEBANON'S PARLIAMENT elected army chief Joseph Aoun head of state on Thursday, filling the vacant presidency with a general who has U.S. support and showing the weakened sway of the Iran-backed Hezbollah group after its devastating war with Israel.

In a speech to the chamber, Aoun, 60, vowed to work to ensure the state has the exclusive right to carry arms, drawing loud applause as lawmakers from Hezbollah sat still.

He promised to rebuild south Lebanon and other parts of the country he said had been destroyed by Israel, and also to prevent Israeli attacks on Lebanon, which was mired in deep economic and political crises even before the latest conflict. "Today, a new phase in the history of Lebanon begins," he said.

His election reflected shifts in the power balance in Lebanon and the wider Middle East, with Hezbollah badly pummelled from last year's war, and its ally Bashar al-Assad toppled in December.

It also indicated a revival of Saudi influence in a country where Riyadh's role was eclipsed by Iran and Hezbollah long ago.



Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar congratulated Lebanon, saying on X he hoped Aoun's election would contribute towards stability and good neighbourly relations. US Ambassador Lisa Iohnson said she was "very happy" with Aoun's election.

The presidency, reserved for a Maronite Christian in Lebanon's sectarian power-sharing system, has been vacant since Michel Aoun's term ended in October 2022, with deeply divided factions unable to agree on a candidate able to win enough votes.

Joseph Aoun fell short of the 86 votes needed in a first round vote, but crossed the threshold with 99 votes in a second round. after lawmakers from Hezbollah and its ally Amal Movement backed him.

## HUNDREDS OF PAGES OF EVIDENCE RELEASED WEDNESDAY REVEAL DISCUSSIONS OVER TACTICS USED AGAINST MILITANTS, CIVILIANS IN WAR

## UK spl forces got 'golden pass to get away with murder' in Afghanistan, inquiry told

**MARK LANDLER** 

JANUARY 9

**BRITISH SPECIAL forces soldiers** used extreme methods against militants in Afghanistan, including covering a man with a pillow before shooting him with a pistol, as well as killing unarmed people, according to testimony released Wednesday by an inquiry into the actions of British troops during the war there.

"During these operations it was said that 'all fighting-age males are killed' on target regardless of the threat they posed, this included those not holding

weapons," one officer said in a conversation with a fellow soldier in March 2011 that he confirmed in testimony given during a closed-door hearing.

Britain's Ministry of Defense announced in 2022 that it would investigate allegations of war crimes by British armed forces in Afghanistan between 2010 and 2013. In 2023, it confirmed that the allegations related to special forces troops. The hundreds of pages of evidence released Wednesday, which includes email exchanges, letters and witness statements by senior officers and rank-and-file soldiers,

painted a disturbing portrait of

an elite fighting force with a culture of impunity, which placed body counts above all other benchmarks.

One member of a British unit said that the troops appeared to be "beyond reproach" during the long years of combat in Afghanistan, which amounted to "a golden pass allowing them to get away with murder." His identity was not revealed.

But even with much details withheld, there were revealing descriptions of junior officers raising concerns with their superiors about tactics used during nighttime raids on militants. In an email exchange from



One British soldier said the troops appeared to be 'beyond **reproach' during the long years of combat.** Reuters file

epaper.indianexpress.com

February 2011, a soldier told a senior officer of a raid in which a lone Afghan fighter, ordered to go back inside a building, returned with a weapon, even though he was heavily outnumbered. The soldier questioned whether the SAS units were ordering Afghans to fetch their weapons, "thereby setting the conditions for their execution?"

"A good point," his superior replied. "There appears to be a casual disregard for life, COIN principles and credible reporting."

Among other concerns, the wanton killing of Afghan fighters and civilians was viewed as destroying trust between foreign

troops and the civilian population. When he raised a question in an email about whether SAS units were manufacturing sce-

narios that allowed them to kill

Afghan combatants, another of-

ficer replied, "these Afghans are so stupid they deserve to die." The first officer said he viewed the reply as "a glib comment on his part reflecting the fact that the way it is described

that the Afghans were killed doesn't add up." The Ministry of Defence said

it was "appropriate that we await the outcome" of the inquiry "before commenting further." Allegations of war crimes by

not new. They have been highlighted in media reports, most notably by the BBC investigative program Panorama. Some warned that British forces were vulnerable to the

British troops in Afghanistan are

same embarrassment as their American allies, who were tarred in 2010 by the leaking of military logs documenting six years of the Afghanistan war by WikiLeaks established by Julian Assange. "If we don't believe this," an officer said in an email, "then no one else will and when the next WikiLeaks occurs then we will be dragged down with them."

#ExpressExplained

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## TOP 10 TRENDS IN THE US, CHINA, INDIA

# Economy 2025: Here's what to expect

Investor and author Ruchir Sharma speaks to economist and psephologist Prannoy Roy — connecting the dots, looking at the year ahead

**Prannoy Roy:** Hello and welcome to dekoder.com. If there's one show on the economy and what lies ahead, it is this annual program with investor and writer Ruchir Sharma. We will look at the 10 major factors that will affect each one of us in 2025, the research and insights for which are those of Ruchir and his team.

You start with the biggest trend — that there's going to be a reversal in the recent pattern of American dominance. America is said to underperform the rest of the world. It's overperformed the rest of the world by 6.6% per year for the last 15 years.

**Ruchir Sharma:** This trend is very extended. The American stock market's outperformance has been going on really on a trend basis for 15 years. If you look at the historical pattern, typically when the American stock market does well in one decade, then in the subsequent decade, it at least gives back some of the gains.

We're halfway through this decade, the American stock market has been way outperforming the rest of the world. The American economy today is just under 30% of the global economy. But the share of the American stock market in global indices, like the MSCI Global Index, is now approaching 70%.

It's almost suggesting there's no other country worth investing in. And this has been boosted a lot with the fact that the dollar has been so strong, and that you've had tech companies in America earning extraordinary profits. Donald Trump's victory has given a further boost to this because there's a feeling that if he imposes tariffs, it's going to be good for America and bad for the rest of the world.

But this has become such a group-think and I'm very wary... In my 30-odd years of watching markets and investing, I've never seen such a strong group-think, which is that everyone expects America to be the only place to invest. This trend could reverse itself for reasons including America's fatal flaw, its fiscal deficit, and also this economic concept of creative destruction...

**Roy:** Could you expand on this TINA there is no alternative — factor that investors are mesmerized by?

**Sharma:** There is a feeling among investors that Europe is in bad shape. Japan is still facing such a big demographic challenge. Emerging markets in general are too small or too insignificant to invest in. China has not been doing well. There's so much money sloshing around and if there's any place we want to put this capital in, it's only America.

**Roy:** If you look at the top 10 firms in the world, there's been massive churn for decades. But there's been no churn in the first five years of this decade. It is dominated by American companies. Now you're saying there's going to be a churn and American companies will not dominate as much.

**Sharma:** This domination seems to have reached a peak. These companies have now become household names and they're in a way basic essentials, whether it's Apple, Amazon or even Google, Facebook.

But there are the laws of creative destruction, which is that new companies are supposed to come and take the place of old companies. Otherwise, the same companies will keep dominating, which is not the way cap-

italism is supposed to function. In the last five years, the same companies that ended the decade dominating are still at the top; in fact, their dominance has only

increased in the last couple of years. But I feel they're sowing the seeds of their own demise by spending so much on AI, and the returns may not be commensurate. I see the trend of group-think shifting this year.

**Roy:** Fiscal deficit is in a league of its own in America. It's been 8% of GDP for this decade on average. It's twice as high as Europe, higher than India, and almost twice as high as other emerging markets. That is a fatal flaw.

**Sharma:** In the last three to four years, America seems to have just blown past all historical records on fiscal deficit. It's been able kets is growing faster than the USA. to get away because it has

the world's reserve currency. It's able to print as many dollars as it takes. And because of the AI mania, people are willing to fund these deficits, saying that they have no other place to go.

**Roy:** The US debt is

highly inefficient. It uses more and more public debt to achieve just one dollar of GDP growth. It used to be 70 cents to get one dollar growth. Now it's 1.8 dollars to get one dollar.

SPECIAL TO THE

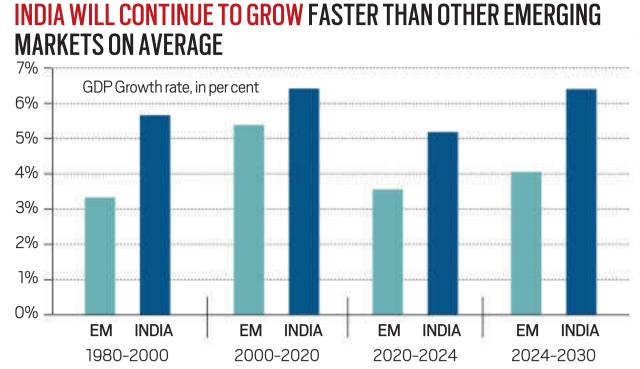
**EXPRESS** 

**Sharma:** Yeah, the American economy has done so much better also because of the amount of debt it's taken up. What is public debt? It's the government which is spending a lot. Just look at the number of jobs now being created by the government in America. This is supposed to be a capitalist economy and now nearly 20% of all jobs being created in America

are being created by the government. It shows you the role of government, how it's increased... More than 50% of the counties in America are now reliant much more on transfer payments from the government. That number used to be not even 25% a

decade or two ago. **Roy:** So now Trump and Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy will change all this and cut

down government jobs? **Sharma:** We don't know how much they'll succeed. A lot of this government spending is on very sensitive areas like SOME KEY TRENDS TOWATCH

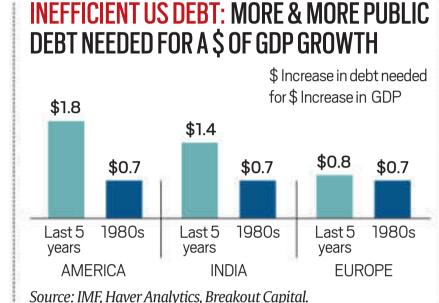


**BIG-TECH FIRMS ARE INVESTING HEAVILY** TO WIN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RACE After Al boom post-2022: 27% 10% average growth in investment Before Al boom pre-2021: 10% average growth in investment 2004 - 2005 - 2006 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009 - 2017 - 2015 - 2015 - 2018 - 2018 - 2018 - 2020 - 2020 - 2022 - 2023 - 2024 = 2025 = 2025 = 2005 - 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 2025 = 20 Source: Bloomberg, Breakout Capital. As of December 10, 2024. 2024 & 2025 figures are estimates.

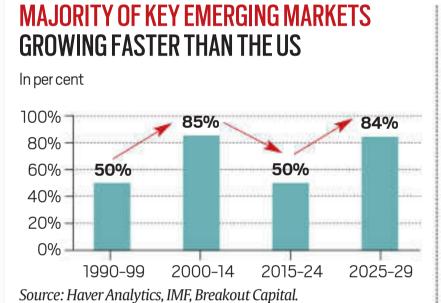
REVERSAL OF RECENT PATTERN OF US **DOMINANCE** +10.1% +6.6% US Outperforms -3.3% **Underperforms** 1990s 2000s 2010 1970s 1980s THE CHART PLOTS THE RELATIVE AVERAGE

Source: National Sources, Haver, IMF, Breakout Capital.

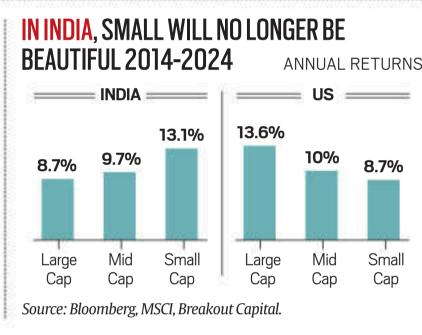
ANNUAL STOCK MARKET RETURNS IN REAL USD TERMS Source: Deutsche Bank, UBS, DMS Database 2024, Copyright © 2022 Elroy Dimson, Paul Marsh and Mike Staunton.



INDIA SEES INCREASED FOCUS ON **INFRASTRUCTURE** % of GDP **Subsidies** 2% expenditure 2020 2024 2015 Source: Budget Documents, Breakout Capital Note: This is shown for the FY 1Apr - 31 Mar



**CHINA IS NOW CHEAP & ATTRACTIVE FOR INVESTMENT** PRICE-EARNINGS\* RATIO EXPENSIVE 23 22 CHEAP U.S. CHINA EM EX-**EUROPE** INDIA **CHINA** Source: Bloomberg, MSCI, Breakout Capital. \* Next 12 months earnings



Medicare and social security benefits; very hard to touch.

Probably more importantly, even if they succeed, at least in the short term, it will mean that American growth could take a hit because it's being artificially boosted today by so much government spending. Will they have the appetite to stomach that? And for how long? So, no matter which way you cut it, I think America will look less exceptional in 2025.

Roy: In India, capital expenditure infrastructure has gone up and subsidies have gone down. That's a key aspect of growth.

**Sharma:** Even though India has always run a very large fiscal deficit, at least it's stabilised. The fiscal deficit hasn't increased much in the last decade or so, particularly at the Centre. The government is spending much more now on capital expenditure and less on subsidies. Although state governments in India are spending a lot more now on welfare, broadly, if you look at the picture over the last decade, the fiscal situation seems relatively calm and better managed with more spending towards productive stuff, which is infrastructure, and less on subsidies and welfare.

**Roy:** Moving to your fourth point, you're saying that the share of key emerging mar-

**Sharma:** When I wrote my first book, *Breakout* Nations, a decade ago, there was so much hype about BRICS and emerging markets, and I tried to caution that expectations are very high and these emerging markets may disappoint. And the true

breakout nation may end up being America. In the last decade, in many of these emerging markets, economic growth disappointed. Even in India, compared to what was expected, economic growth didn't come out to be as strong. It's plateauing now at around 6-odd per cent, but 10-12 years ago, everyone thought that India's birthright was to grow at 8%.

I think that in the next few years, and these are projections being also given by the IMF, economic growth in some of these countries may outperform on the upside. That's because they have cleaned up a lot of the excesses that they had built when they had the boom years of the 2000s, plus they're investing a lot more in infrastructure and other productive investments. Also, they're not as reliant on fiscal stimulus as America is to grow. So as America sort of weans off some of this fiscal excess and stimulus, these emerging markets could shine more in the next few years.

**Roy:** All your data shows that India is growing faster than other emerging markets. PREDICTIONS SUMMARY

REVERSAL IN RECENT PATTERN **OF US DOMINANCE:** American stock market could have the first year of underperformance in a long time.

FISCAL DEFICIT IS AMERICA'S **FATAL FLAW:** Politicians are not focused on cutting back; market may put more pressure on them.

AMERICA WILL LOOK LESS **EXCEPTIONAL:** Growth rates will come off the boil rather than remain close to 3% like it's been for the last couple of years.

**NEW STARS ARE GOING TO EMERGE:** If something goes down, something else will come up. There are many large economies with minuscule investment weights.

CHINA IS BECOMING **INVESTABLE AGAIN: Its** economy may not be booming or even doing fine, but it's become so cheap that it's investable. Several 'diamonds in the rough' there.

IN INDIA, SMALL WILL NO **LONGER BE BEAUTIFUL: Small** and mid-cap stocks have had a great run. The performancevaluation gap will narrow between the small- and mid-cap companies and the large caps.

OVERSPENDING ON AI WILL **HURT BIG TECH FIRMS:** They're overdoing it; returns may not be commensurate with spend on AI. Valuations may be questioned if profits don't grow as significantly.

GLOBAL TRADE WILL GROW **WITHOUT AMERICA: It's** already been happening, but with Donald Trump's election, it's likely to accelerate. India and others are signing more bilateral trade agreements.

PRIVATE FUNDING WILL **SLOW DOWN GLOBALLY:** Public funding will increase again, mainly led by the US. India is still at a nascent stage: private funding may or may not slow down.

NO MAGIC SOLUTION TO **OBESITY EPIDEMIC:** There are many benefits to drugs like Ozempic. But there are side effects too, and the idea that it is a magic pill will be questioned.

**Sharma:** That's because our base is lower. The per capita income at \$3,000 is much lower than other emerging markets on average, which is closer to about \$8,000 to \$10,000. But India's growth lead will continue. There's a very old formula I've used for the last 30 years — that whatever the emerging market average, we typically tend to grow about one and a half to two points faster. I expect that growth lead to remain intact in 2025.

Roy: Your fifth forecast is China is investable again. China is now cheap and attractive for investment. The price-earning ratio in China is 10 compared to India and the US, which are 23 and 22. We are twice as expensive as them. **Sharma:** I remain structurally bearish on

the Chinese economy. The debt and demographic factor haven't been resolved. I still expect those to be a headwind.

On China's growth rate, I'm always con-

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cerned when views become too one-sided. Everybody has become very bearish on China. Everyone is telling you the same theories... I'm trying to say that, it's still the world's second largest economy, still the second largest stock market, if you look at China, Hong Kong combined. And there are some companies there, what we call diamonds in the rough. If you objectively look at some of the companies in China, they are doing relatively OK. They have some cutting

edge technology. **Roy:** One company that you pointed out, that's BYD. Basically, you're saying China's investable and some Chinese companies are very undervalued. The number of cars BYD has sold is 4 million compared to Tesla's 1.8 million. And their market value is 100 billion and Tesla's 1.2 trillion, that's 12 times higher.

**Sharma:** This is just an example that there are cheap companies in China with good quality products. And you look at these stock prices, which have been pummeled. Some stocks, especially in the tech space, are down 70%, 80% in dollar terms. That's my point, that there are diamonds to be found in the rough in China, even if you're structurally bearish on the economy as I am.

**Roy:** You're saying there's overspending on AI, and that'll hurt big tech firms. They used to spend an average of 10% a year for many years; now they're spending an average of 27% investment in AI.

**Sharma:** There's a massive amount of spend which is going on. Some of these companies, they're called the hyperscalers in America — the Microsofts and the Alphabets and Facebook, etc., even Tesla — the amount they're investing in this is quite incredible. These big tech firms in America have been making extraordinarily high profits, but if they're going to spend so much on AI, some of those profits are going to come down. And investors and other people are going to ask, who's going to benefit from this?

If you look at past such revolutions, whether it was the Internet revolution that took place in the 2000s, or the shale oil revolution, the established firms were never the big winners. In fact, the established firms ended up spending a lot, but the consumer, or some new firms benefited.

Again, I think that AI is the future. It's here to stay. I'm not debating that. I think it's this entire triangulation, which is that you have a lot of hype being created by these hyperscalers who are spending so much on AI. And then you have expectations, which are very high. And yet, in terms of what the product is being able to deliver, that's still taking a lot of time to materialise.

So therefore, I think that this could be something which could hurt the profitability of these big tech firms that are spending so much on AI.

**Roy:** You're saying in eight out of 10 fore-

casts that trade will grow without America now. Eight out of the 10 hottest trade corridors currently do not include the US. **Sharma:** There are signs that this trend

is likely to accelerate. We just saw the European Union signed a deal with a bunch of Latin American countries to bring tariffs down by 90%. Regional trade agreements are accelerating; bilateral trade agreements are accelerating. If you look at the trade corridors around

the world, the maximum growth is taking place between countries which don't involve America. In fact, eight out of these 10 don't involve America.

So the world is moving on — and when someone asks me how the world should adapt to a Trump world, my point is, start thinking about how to do things outside of America.

**Roy:** India has also signed, is signing. more regional trade agreements than before. **Sharma:** There was a big hiatus. Last decade, India barely signed any new trade agreements. But in the last three to four

years, that pace has accelerated. And these are trade agreements without America. With countries like the UK, Oman, trade agreements are being currently negotiated. I wish we'd do more to trade with our neighbours, though. That remains one of India's weaknesses — if you look at the big success stories around the world, including China, they have very good trading relation-

ships with their immediate neighbours. Cost of transport is so much less, regional hubs are much easier to create, the synergies are much easier to create... Roy: You're also saying that private funding is going to slow down globally. Between 2000 and 2019, it grew from 1 trillion to 7

[trillion]. And from 2019 to 2024, in the last five years, it's gone from 7 to 14. **Sharma:** We were sort of conditioned to

think about all funding mainly happening through public markets. But in the last 10-15 years, particularly after the global financial crisis, you've seen a big explosion take place in the private markets. One is private equity, which is where people take a stake in companies that are not listed on the stock market. Or even when lending happens, it takes place outside of the traditional banking system, on a private basis.

Roy: Your graph says private equity, from being well below public funding, has now overtaken public funding. Public capital is – 5% growth, private equity + 10%, and private equity from being way behind public is now ahead of public.

**Sharma:** I'm trying to say that a strength taken too far becomes a weakness, which is that this may have gotten a bit too far and now you're seeing a lot of retail people wanting to participate in this. At the end of the day, if you throw too much money at something indiscriminately, there are negative consequences.

**Roy:** In India, private funding is growing fast, but still at an early stage. It's only 120 billion right now.

**Sharma:** Very small. The global number runs in trillions of dollars. We are still not even running in hundreds of billions of dollars. Whether it's private lending, private equity, whether it's got to do with public markets in terms of their domination, it's very US centric. I'm not that concerned about what's happening in India as yet. But globally, I do expect the growth in private credit, in private lending and in private equity to slow down, particularly in the US.

**Roy:** Your final forecast is about obesity that there is no magic solution. America is at a different level of obesity – 44% – about the highest in the world for any major country.

**Sharma:** And like nearly three times the global average. That's why in America there's also this big craze for finding a magic solution to this. Some of these weight loss drugs for some people, are beneficial. But the whole idea [seems to be] that you can just sit there and pop Ozempic and keep popping ice cream as well. And watch television and don't do any exercise.

Roy: Look at the massive increase in sales of obesity drugs, GLP-1, Ozempic and various others. From [\$]3 billion four years ago to [\$]24 billion now.

**Sharma:** My point is that there is no magic solution to this, it can't be so simple. And how long can you sustain this and what side effects will you have? **Roy:** You've got this interesting graph of

the side effects. People who have side effects of various types are searching on Google what to do about it, and they've gone up by 300%. **Sharma:** These drugs, for curing diabetes

and other stuff, they're very beneficial. But to expect that we have found the magic drug, I'm very suspicious of that. Studies show that when you are on these

drugs for over a year or so, you can expect your weight to come down possibly on average of around 18%. But the moment you give it up, then your weight starts to go back up and your net weight loss is closer to 5-6%. Not 18-20%.

Edited excerpts from interview by **deKoder**, in collaboration with **The Indian Express**. Ruchir Sharma is founder of Breakout Capital and chairperson of Rockefeller International

He is a contributing editor of the Financial Times and author of several books, including What Went Wrong with Capitalism (2024).

Watch the video on deKoder.com

### HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD. "(A State Govt. Undertaking) **Press Tender Notice (E- Tendering Mode Only)**

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The dates of sale, receipt and opening of Tenders are mentioned in the detailed Notice Inviting Tenders which can be downloaded free of cost from the website https://hptenders.gov.in

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Tender Notifications

COEP Technological University, Pune invites online Bids for the

following tenders: Automation Hardware and Software for Water Meter Calibration Laboratory (Tender ID: 2025 DTEDM 1135677 1)

2. Water Meter Calibration Laboratory

(Tender ID: 2025 DTEDM 1135696 1) Test and Measurement Facility for Research and Development

(Tender ID: 2025\_DTEDM\_1135707\_1) 4. Embedded Tools and Computational Facility for Development and Testing of New Sensors for Water Meters (Tender ID: 2025 DTEDM 1135714 1)

for the project "Research and Innovation Centre for Water Research" at Department of Instrumentation and Control, COEP Technological University, Pune. The Details are uploaded on https://mahatenders.gov.in the interested reputed bidders are requested to submit the most competitive bid as per respective tender(s) schedule.

Date: 10/01/2025

Registrar, **COEP Technological University Pune** 



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(An Autonomous body under Department of **Information Technology &** e-Governance, Govt of Jharkhand) Ground Floor, Engineer's Hostel – I, Near Golchakkar, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand Phone. 0651-2401044, 2401047 email: japit\_doit@rediffmail.com

### **CORRIGENDUM-II**

Rate Contract for Supply, Installation & Support for **Endpoint, IT Equipment's & Services for JAP-IT.** (Tender Ref No.: JAP-IT/RC-01/2024)

With reference to the above tender, please be informed that the tender (JAP-IT/RC-01/2024) has been cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances.

For further details, please visit https://jharkhand tenders.gov.in.

PR Ref No. 341310, 341876 & 342428.

PR 343934 Information Technology(24-25).D (OSD, JAP-IT)



कार्यालय प्रधान महाप्रबन्धक उ.प्र. राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण ए-1/4, लखनपुर, कानपुर

ई-निविदा सूचना

किया जाता है, कि विभिन्न औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों के अन्तर्गत विकास / अनुरक्षण / उच्चीकरण कार्यों हेत् रकारी विभागों / सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों / निगमों / प्राधिकरणों / परिषदों / नगर निकायों में फंतीकत फर्मों / ठेकंदारी से ई—निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती हैं. जिसको अपलोड करने की समयसीमा निम्नवत है-

1. क्रम सं0 1 से 2 पर अंकित निविदा दिनांक 10.12.2024 को पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे से दिनांक 31.12.2024 को अपरान्ह 5.00 बजे तक अपलोड की जा सकती हैं, जिन्हें दिनांक 01.01.2025 को पूर्वान्ह 11.00 बजे खोला जायेगा (पूर्णकालिक) ।

निविदादाताओं द्वारा केवल शपथपत्रों की मूल प्रतियों निविदा खोलने की तिथि से दो कार्य दिवस के अन्दर कार्याल में जमा की जा सकेंगी। ईं–निविदा के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की जाने वाली निविदाओं का विवरण निम्नवत है.–

क्रमांक	कार्य का नाम	काय का लागत
1	Construction of Proposed Entrance Gate, Security Hut, Public Toilet, Bus Shelter, Fire Station, EV Charging Station (Civil Works) and Integrated Command and Control Center at Kavi Nagar Industrial Area Ghaziabad (U.P.)	Rs. 670.43
	Construction of Entrance Gate, Security Hut, Including Beautification 2 Nos, Bus Shelter-1 No, Upgradation of CFC Building 1 No., EV Charging / Smart Vehicle Parking (Civil Works) - 1 No, Integrated Command and Control No. Center-1 in UPSIDA industrial	Rs. 223.65

नोट:-- निविदावाता अपनी निविदाओं में समस्त कर सहित दरें अंकित करें। जीoएसoटीo अलग से देय होगा। निविदा सम्बन्धी विस्तृत जानकारी प्राधिकरण की website: www.onlineupsidc.com पर स्थित ई-लिंक एवं यूपीएलसी की website: http://etender.up.nic.in पर देखी जा सकती है। अस जानकारी हेतु कार्यालय के प्रबन्धक (सिविल) के मोबाइल नं0 8791905769 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

Area at Pratapur and Udyogpuram in Meerut (U.P.)

AB/1 to AB/4 : Per Round Trip (Two Way).

उ०प्र०रा०औ०वि०प्रा०,कानप्र

### 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. or 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.

Auction Catalogue No.: TSK-SLR-VP-46							
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-R1-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					

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

20505-20506-VP-1-DBRG-NDLS-22-1(Parcel-Parcel Van)

13281-13282-VP-1-DBRG-RJPB-22-1 (Parcel-Parcel Van)

15930-15929-VP-1-NTSK-TBM-22-1 (Parcel-Parcel Van)

AB/2

**AB/3** 

Divisional Commercial Manager (IC), Tinsukia IORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"





10 January 1987 In the mid-80s, 48 Battalion of CRPF was deployed in Punjab for anti-terrorist operations. On 10 January 1987, a platoon led by SI B.K. Roy

Banta Ram came under terrorist fire while patrolling in Tarn Taran. The troops retaliated fiercely, with Nk B.K. Roy eliminating a dreaded terrorist. 15-08-1946 To Both SI Banta Ram and Nk B.K. Rai 10-01-1987 sustained severe injuries and made 48 Bn the supreme sacrifice. Nk B.K. Roy was posthumously awarded the President's Police Medal for Gallantry

for his exemplary valour and devotion to duty.

Shaheed

Ct/Dvr



01-02-1937 To

10-01-1987

48 Bn

10 January 1990 Shaheed Head In the early days of militancy, 24 Constable Battalion of CRPF was deployed in Kameshwar Srinagar for law and order duties. On Choudharv 6-09-1943 To 10 January 1990, militants fired at a 10-01-1990 party stationed in Chota Bazar, Gaw Kadal. To avoid civilian casualties in the 24 Bn

crowded area, the troops refrained from retaliating. HC Kameshwar Choudhary sustained bullet injuries and made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

10 January 2000 121 Battalion of CRPF was deployed in

Lopaj Mathew Manipur to maintain law and order. On 28-05-1959 To 10 January 2000, Constable/Dvr Lopai Mathew was on convoy duty when an 10-01-2000 IED blast damaged the vehicle and 121 Bn injured him. Despite his injuries, he bravely retaliated, forcing the

insurgents to retreat. He later succumbed to his injuries, making the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty.

SOUTHERN POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY OF TELANGANA LTD.
(A Govt. of Telangana Undertaking)
(Formerly Central Power Distribution Company of Andhra Pradesh Ltd.) Corporate Office, 6-1-50, Mint Compound :: Hyderabad-63(Telangana State, India) CIN U40109TG2000SGC034116 e-Procurement Tender Notice (Paper Notification)

TGSPDCL intends to float tenders for Telecom service provider for setting up VPN based MPLS WAN connectivity for TGSPDCL SCADA, Smartgrid, RTDAS Projects on e-procurement platform. For further details of above, please visit https://tgsouthernpower.org and

www.tender.telangana.gov.in. Phone: 040-23431321 Sd/-CHIEF ENGINEER (PROJECTS) R.O. No.: 870-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25 Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR

Taljustian State Road Development That Constitution Con	portation Etail, order Cr
No. NIT/2024-25/25408-16 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 436/2024	Date: 09.01.202
निम्नलिखित कार्य के लिये योग्य एवं अनुभवी कन्सलटेन्ट/कन्सलटेन्सी फर्मो से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई-प्रं आमंत्रित की जाती है:	ोक्यूरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदा
कार्य का विवरण	कार्य की कुल अनुमानित लागत (रू०
Consultancy for Preparation of DPR for "Upgradation and Construction work of Nasirabad-Sarwar-Kekri-Deoli Road. (SH-26) from 2 lane to 4 lane. UBN: RRC2425SLOB00834	192.00 Lakh
निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र में निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि, डाउनलोड करने व खोलने की तारीख सी http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in तथा http://roads.rajasti इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर	han.gov.in/rsrdc पर देखा जा सकता है



The Brihanmumbai Electric Supply & Transport Undertaking (OF THE BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGARPALIKA)



TENDER NOTICE E-tenders are Re-invited for the supply of following items.

(1) 79439 (2) 79478, (3) 79614 (Corrigendum).

Note: For more details, log on to

website https://mahatenders.gov.in

PRO/DMM/102/2025

GENERAL MANAGER

### ANDHRA PRADESH TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED #55-17-2 to 4, 5th Floor, Stalin Building, Autonagar, VIJAYAWADA-7.E-mail: engg@aptdc.in "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE)

Tender Notice No. 08/SE/Engg/APTDC/2024-25, Dt: 09-01-2025 Name of the work: APTDC Limited is inviting bids for the following works."1. Development of Pilgrimage Infrastructure in Annavaram Temple Town in Kakinada District" with estimate contract value of Rs. 18,97,93,067/-. and 2. Expression of Interest (EoI) Empanelment of reputed Architectural, Design and Engineering Consulting Agencies for Design & Development of Tourism Projects. The details can be seen at 'e' procurement market place. i.e www.apeprocurement.gov.in, for further clarification please contact on 9848306437.

Sd/- Smt. K. Amrapali, IAS, Managing Director.

### Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited (A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise), Corporate office-4, Meera Marg, Udaipur (Raj)-313001 Phone - 0294-2428768, 2428763-67, Fax-0294-2428768, 2428770 NOTICE INVITING A-TENDER

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER							
NIT No. & Date	Description of Work						
e - NIT No.12/2024-25 UBN No. MML2425GLRC00172	Supply of Ammonium Nitrate for making of ANFO on Rate Contract basic. Approx Qty As per tender, Bid Security Rs. 10,00,000/-, Tender Document Fee Rs. 1180/-						

Other terms & conditions have been given in detailed tender for which please visit us at our website www.rsmm.com or www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in or www.eproc.gov.in or DGM(MM) on above address.

Raj.Samwad/C/24/10055



MUMBAI RAILWAY VIKAS CORPORATION LTD.

## INVITATION FOR TENDER: MRVC/W/241

Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation Ltd. (MRVC) having its corporate

(Two Envelope IREPS Tender Process)

office at Second Floor, Churchgate Station Building, Mumbai - 400020 invites e-Tenders for the "Design, Supply, Construction, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 1X25 kV 100/110/25 kV TSS, SP & SSPs with 40/56 MVA traction transformers & associated work for 5th & 6th line between Borivali-Virar Section (27 Route Km) of Western Railway under MUTP-IIIA". Details of Tender and Tender document are available on IREPS website https://www.ireps.gov.in The last date for completed e-Tender submission at website https://www.ireps.gov.in is 14.02.2025 up to 12:00 hours. Corrigendum, if any, will be posted on the website only.



Date: 06/01/2025

Place: Agra

209

105

105

ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat-362266 Branch Office- Unit No. 710 A | 7Th Floor | Corporate Park | B-109 | Sanjay Place | Agra -282002.

**APPENDIX IV** 

[See Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002] Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a demand notice dated 21-12-2023 calling upon the borrowers Rinku Sharma, Omvati Sharma, M/S S.R.D.R. Chains mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 39,25,499.98/- (Rupees Thirty Nine Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Nine and Ninety Eight Paise Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and to the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act. read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 06th day of January of the year, 2025. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal

with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited for an amount of Rs. 39,25,499.98/-(Rupees Thirty Nine Lakhs Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Nine and Ninety Eight Paise Only) and interest thereon. Borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section 8 of Section 13 of the Act., in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY** All That Piece And Parcel Of House On Plot No. 17, Admeasuring Area 148.64 Sq.

Mtrs., Minjumala Khasra No. 931, Situated At Basant Kunj, Near Lord Khrishna Public School, Awadhpuri Road, Mauza Bodla, Lohamandi Ward, Tehsil & District: Agra, Uttar Pradesh-282007, And Bounded As:- East: Plot No. 16 West: Plot No. 18 North: Road 25 Ft. Wide South: Plot No. 19.

**Authorised Officer Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited** epaper.indianexpress.com

## GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION IT CELL

I.T.C.C.No.C1/2435/2024

Following errata is made to the tender notice of IT Cell, Greater Chennai Corporation published in New Indian Express dated: 28.12.2024 **AS PUBLISHED** TO BE READ AS

**ERRATA** 

of bid document and for payment of EMD submitted through online -09.01.2025 upto 3.00 PM work

Tenders will be opened on 10.01.2025 at 3.15 PM in the chamber of Senior System Manager, IT Cell, Greater Chennai Corporation

The Last Date and time for e-submission The Last Date and time for e-submission of bid document and for payment of EMD submitted through online 23.01.2025 upto 3.00 PM Tenders will be opened on 24.01.2025 at 3.15 PM in the chamber of Senior System Manager, IT Cell, Greater Chennai Corporation

SENIOR SYSTEM MANAGER DIPR / 124 / Tender / 2025

> उत्तर प्रदेश पावर ट्रॉन्समिशन कारपोरेशन लि० ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (2024-25)

विद्युत जानपद पारेषण मण्डल आगरा अति अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या-47/वि0जा0पा0मं0/आगरा/ 2024-25:- 132 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र सादाबाद जनपद हाथरस पर 01 अदद 33 के0वी0 गुतहरा 'बे' के जानपदीय निर्माण कार्य। समय अवधि 02 माह, धरोहर धनराशि रू0 14,000.00 निविदा मूल्य रू0 1000+180=1180.00 अन्तिम तिथि 16.01.2025। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण, विस्तारीकरण शुद्धिकरण इत्यादि की सूचना ई-टेण्डर की बेवसाइट http://etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है. जिसको बेवसाइट के माध्यम से डाउनलोड किया जा सकता है। बैंक खाता अधिशासी अभियन्ता (जानपद) आगरा A/C No.-30065294923, IFSC Code-SBIN0005717 Payable at S.B.I. Foundry Nagar (Agra). अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, विद्युत जानपद पारेषण मण्डल, उ०प्र० पावर ट्रान्सिमशन कारपोरेशन लि0, 220 के0वी0 उपकेन्द्र सिकन्दरा आगरा। "राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें" पत्रांकः 38-वि0जा0पा0मं0आ0 / दिनांकः09.01.2025

## **Superintending Engineer**

## Bulandshahr Circle, P.W.D., Bulandshahr

No. 9298/96M/E-Tender/BSR CIRCLE/2024-25 **E-Procurement Tender Notice**  Dated: 28.12.2024

Address of Address Category

On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Superintending Engineer Bulandshahr Circle, U.P.P.W.D., Bulandshahr invites following percentage rate bid online through http://etender.up.nic.in from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with P.W.D. class as per column no. 10 below Building Work Category as applied from Date 24.01.2025 to 31.01.2025 upto 12:00 Noon as per the prescribed T-2 of Govt. of U.P. The technical bids will be opened online on dated 31.01.2025 at 12:30 P.M. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day, at the same time any validity of bid will be considered from the original date. The date and time of opening of the financial bid shall be notified on the website.

No	Work	cost (Rs.in Lakh)	Security (Rs.in Lakh)	Completion work including rainy season	document fee including GST (In Rs.)	Executive Engineer executing the work	Superinte nding Engineer	of Chief Engineer	Category
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
				In anticip	oation of Sa	nction			
	Supply and fixing of furniture etc. in Family Court Building of District Court Campus Bulandshahr.	150.00	9.50	02 Months	Tender Cost Rs. 300+2000 +18% G.S.T.Rs. 414.0 = 2714.00	Executive Enginner Provincial Division, P.W.D., Bulandshahar	Superintending Engineer Bulandshahar Circle, P.W.D., Bulandshahar	Chief Engineer Meerut Zone, P.W.D., Meerut	A, B (Building work)

- 2. The Tender Document fee must be deposited through Internet Banking only. 3. All registered contractors have to upload Turnover certified by C.A. of last 5 years and
- details of maximum cost of work satisfactorily completed in last 5 years on Chanakya Software before submission of tender. Details of e-tender uploaded on http://etender.up.nic.in shall also be uploaded on UP
- PWD Chanakya software, before last date & time of submission of bid. 4. Terms & other conditions related to bid are available on <a href="http://etender.up.nic.in">http://etender.up.nic.in</a> 5. During execution of work contractor should ensure the all safety Measures for
- COVID-19 issued by the Uttar Pradesh government.. 6. In PWD technical evaluation of tenders is to be done by Prahari Software URL for Prahari is <a href="http://wms.uppwd.gov.in/Prahari/">http://wms.uppwd.gov.in/Prahari/</a>. (Maneesh Verma)

**Executive Engineer** P.D., P.W.D., Bulandshahr

UPID-225471 Dt. 06.01.2025 www.upidadv.gov.in

Bulandshahar circle, **PWD Bulandshahr** 

Superintending Engineer

# 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website: www.kiadb.in No.IADB/ENGG/PMC/ETND-EP-14/753/2024-25

under two cover system for the following work:

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only) KIADB is inviting tender under Quality-and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

Name of the work: Providing project management Consultancy Service for the work of Establishment of Electronics Manufacturing Cluster under Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC-2.0) Scheme at Kochanahalli Industrial Area, Mysuru Taluk, Mysuru District.

Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Consulting Firms

The last date and time of receipt of tender is: 27.01.2025 upto 4.30 pm. Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-

DIPR/CP/4261/Zen/2024-25

Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru



### BRIHANMUMBAI MAHANAGARPALIKA

### e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE Tender No. FB/P/1001 Dated 09.01.2025 (Tender ID: 2025\_MCGM\_1135757\_1)

The Municipal Commissioner of BRIHANMUMBAI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, invites the following online tender. The tender copy can be downloaded from NICs portal (https://mahatenders.gov.in) under "Tender section. All interested vendors, whether already registered or not registered in BMC, are mandated to get registered with BMC for e-Tendering process. Login credentials to participate in the online bidding process on the above mentioned portal under "e-Tender". For registration, enrollment for digital signature certificated & user manual, please refer to respective links provided in e-Tendering tab.

The vendors can get digital signature from any on of the Certifying Authorities (CA's) licensed by the Controller of Cerifying Authorities namely safecrypt, IDRBT, National Informatics Centre, TCS. Customs, MTNL, GNFC and e Mudhra CA, BMC has also opened a help desk at the CPD office to help the vendors in this regard. The technical and commercial bids shall be submitted online upto the due date and time mentioned

below.

Sr. No.		Contract Period	EMD (Rs.)	Tender Fee	Start Date & Time for Downloading of Bids	Due Date & Time for online Bid Submission
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1	Design, Fabrication and  supply of 68 M and above working height Turn Table Ladder to be mounted on 8x4, BS VI Stage II-A chassis of reputed make for fire fighting and rescue operation with 5 years CSMC as per the specifications of Mumbai Fire Brigade - 4 Nos.	Months	2,44,00,000/-	Rs. 27,500/- +18% GST	10.01.2025 From 16.00 Hrs.	22.01.2025 upto 16.00 Hrs.

The pre-bid meeting will be held on 15.01.2025 at 03.00 pm, venue of the same is at D.M.C. (Fin)'s Office, 4th Floor, Municipal Head Office Annex Building, Municipal Sabhagruh Marg, Mumbai- 400001 The Tenderer shall have to pay Tender Fee as mentioned above through online payment geteway before downloading the tender documents and all the tenderers are required to pay the EMD online only as per BMC procedure.

PRO/2188/ADV/2024-25 **Avoid Self Medication** 

Mumbai Fire Brigade

Sd/- 09.01.2025

**Chief Fire Officer** 

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE E-Tender Notice No 184-24-25 Divl. Rly. Manager, N.W.Rly. Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works up to 15.00 hours on 31.01.2025 as below:- Tender No.: 184 Name of Work with its Location: Ancillary track works in c/w Conversion of SWR into LWR by Flash Butt Welding 16.256 Tkm in Hisar - Bathinda - Suratgarh (Loop Lines) under ADEN/HMH-I. Approx. Cost of Work: Rs 17376547.77 Earnest Money: Rs. 236900.00 Note:- Other terms 8 conditions will be shown on the website www.ireps.gov.in. No. 580W/SWR-LWR/Ancillary works/16.256Km Dated-08.01.2025 35-AJ/25

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अधोहरताक्षरकर्ता द्वारा दो भागों में प्रतिष्ठित एवं योग्य कार्यदायी संस्थाओं आपुर्तिकर्ताओं से निम्न कार्य हेत् निविदा शलक / धरोहर धनराशि एवं ई-निविदा दिनांक 28.01.2025 को अपराहन 4:00 बजे तक ऑनलाईन पोर्टल पर प्राप्त की जायेगी एवं ई-निविदा दिनांक 29.01.2025 को अपराहन 3:00 बजें से खोली जायेगी।

(1) नि0वि०सं0 56/ECC(D)Ag/2024-25-विद्युत भण्डार केन्द्र ललितपुर जिला ललितपुर पर खुला शेंड, बाउण्डीवाल, स्टैंकिंग प्लेटफार्म, दो नग शौचालय, गार्ड रूम का निर्माण एवं अन्य सम्बन्धित जानपदीय कार्य। (कपया विस्तृत जानकारी, के लिये www.dvvnl.org एवं http://etender.up.nic.in पर देखें। हैल्प लाईन - 1800-180-3023

"राष्ट्र हित में बिजली बचायें" विक:-1830 / विकलावर्ग (चिक) / आठ / टी-2 अधीक्षण अभियन्तर

कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, यूनिट-० कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय) भवन सं. 55, अरूणा नगर, सुनहरी लाल पाठक पार्क के सामने, एटा-207001

Visit us at: www.cdsupjn.org E-mail id: unit08\_agra@rediffmail.com पत्रांक:09/एम-13/02

दिनांक: 09.01.2025

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम, की ओर से अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा राजकीय मेडिकल कॉलेज, एटा के आपातकालीन भवन रिनोवेशन कार्य हेत् अनुमानित लागत रू. 21.06 लाख (जी.एस.टी. रहित एवं लेबर सेस सहित) हेत् सी.एण्ड डी.एस. में यथोचित श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से दिनांक 07.02.2025 के अपरान्ह 14:00 बजे तक ई- निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं। उक्त कार्य हेत् ई-निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 13.01.2025 पूर्वान्ह से दिनांक 07.02.2025 के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की e-procurement की वेबसाइट https://etender.up.nic.in 书 डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा दिनांक 07.02.2025 को अपरान्ह 14:30 बजे कार्यालय परियोजना Date: 09.01.2025 प्रबन्धक, सी.एण्ड डी.एस., यूनिट-08, उ.प्र. जल निगम (नगरीय), एटा में निविदा खोली जायेगी। ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रू. 2000.00+ GST (18%)

> अतिरिक्त देय होगा। निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण विभाग की वेबसाइट www.cdsupjn.org एवं प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पोर्टल https:// etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum) https://etender.up.nlc.in पर ही अपलोड किये जावेंगे, इनका पृथक से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा । निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाईट का समय- समय पर अवलोकन करते रहें।

> कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, युनिट-०८ कन्स्ट्रक्शन एण्ड डिजाइन सर्विसेज उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम (नगरीय) (३० प्र० सरकार का उपक्रम) भवन सं. 55, अरूणा नगर, सुनहरी लाल पाठक पार्क के सामने, एटा-207001

Visit us at: www.cdsupjn.org E-mail id: unit08\_agra@rediffmail.com पत्रांक: 08/एम-13/01 दिनांक: 09.01.2025

ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तर प्रदेश जल निगम, की ओर से

अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा राजकीय मेडिकल कॉलेज, एटा के अस्पताल भवन में स्थापित लैब आर.सी.सी. स्लैब के निर्माण कार्य हेत् अनुमानित लागत रू. 23.95 लाख (जी.एस.टी. रहित एवं लेबर सेंस सहित) हेत सी.एण्ड डी.एस. में यथोचित श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से दिनांक 07.02.2025 के अपरान्ह 14:00 बजे तक ई- निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं। उक्त कार्य हेत् ई-निविदा प्रपन्न दिनांक 13.01.2025 पूर्वान्ह से दिनांक 07.02.2025 के मध्य उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की eprocurement की वेबसाइट https:// etender.up.nic.in से डाउनलोड किये जा सकते हैं तथा ई-निविदा **दिनांक** 07.02.2025 को अपरान्ह 14:30 बजे कार्यालय परियोजना प्रबन्धक, सी.एण्ड डी.एस., युनिट-08, उ.प्र. जल निगम (नगरीय), एटा में निविदा खोली जायेगी।

निविदा से सम्बन्धित विस्तृत विवरण विभाग की वेबसाइट www.cdsupjn.org एवं प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पोर्टल https:// etender.up.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। समस्त शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum) https://etender.up.nic.in पर ह अपलोड किये जायेंगे, इनका पृथक से कोई प्रकाशन नहीं किया जायेगा। निविदादाताओं को सलाह दी जाती है कि वे उक्त वेबसाईट का समय- समय पर अवलोकन करते रहें।

ई-निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य रू. 2000.00+

GST(18%) अतिरिक्त देय होगा।



THE UPCOMING 2025 budget

presents a critical juncture for

India. As global economic un-

certainties and geopolitical ten-

sions loom large, the choices

we make today will determine

whether India can sustain its

growth trajectory and emerge

as a global leader in the com-

ing decades. While India has

made significant strides, par-

ticularly in building a world-

class digital public infrastruc-

ture, our policy framework

needs a fundamental shift to

capitalise on the opportunities

before us. I outline three key ex-

pectations that should be cen-

From Stability to Growth:

India's regulatory bodies,

particularly the RBI, SEBI, and

tax authorities, have tradition-

ally prioritised stability and

risk mitigation. While crucial,

this approach has inadver-

tently created an environment

that stifles innovation and hin-

ders growth. Frequent tweaks

to tax slabs, sudden changes in

SEBI's listing requirements,

and abrupt curbs on new fin-

tech products all contribute to

a sense of policy uncertainty.

The 2025 budget must signal

a decisive shift from a stabil-

ity-centric and tax revenue

oriented to a growth-oriented

council, say "The Financial

Stability and Development

Council," should be tasked

with aligning macroprudential

policies, financial market regu-

lations, and tax codes, with a

renewed focus on growth. This

body should not only focus on

reducing systemic risk but also

on actively fostering innova-

tion, competition, financial in-

clusion, and growth. For in-

stance, the RBI's mandate

should explicitly include fos-

tering fintech growth, recog-

nizing its potential to drive fi-

nancial inclusion and create a

globally competitive financial

ecosystem. Similarly, SEBI's ob-

jective could include a focus on

attracting foreign capital in-

flows, while the tax authorities

should prioritise widening the

tax base over raising tax rates.

coordinate anticipated policy

changes across RBI, SEBI, and

the tax authorities, and com-

municate policy directions

transparently well in advance.

This will enable investors and

businesses to make long-term

commitments without living in

fear of regulatory uncertainty.

India needs to capitalise on

the tech revolution in Fintech,

**Unleashing Innovation:** 

A Deep Tech and

**Fintech Revolution** 

Further, the council must

A cohesive regulatory

regulatory mindset.

**Realigning Regulatory** 

**Priorities** 

tral to the 2025 budget.

**USD RATE** 





**⊗** ₹85.87 **⊗** ₹80,300

Note: Gold, silver rates at Delhi spot market, gold per 10g, silver per 1 kg; Crude oil (Indian basket) per barrel as of January 8

Prioritise growth-oriented

invest in human capital,

regulations, deep tech push;

particularly in STEM fields

**SILVER** \$77.59 ₹93,000

SENSEX: 77,620.21 ▼ 528.28 (-0.68%) NIFTY: 23,526.50 ▼ 162.45 (-0.69%) NIKKEI: 39,605.09 ▼ 375.97 HANG SENG: 19,240.89 ▼ 38.95 FTSE: 8,308.65 ▲ 57.62 DAX: 20,308.10 ▼ 21.84

## **GOLD IMPORT FOR NOVEMBER REVISED LOWER BY \$5 BILLION**

## Migration of data transmission system led to gold counting error, says govt

## **RAVIDUTTA MISHRA**

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

THE COMMERCE and industry ministry on Thursday said that the overestimation of gold import figures between April to November was a result of an error that took place due to migration of data transmission mechanisms and subsequent double counting of imports coming into special economic zones (considered foreign territory) and clearance to domestic zones.

The explanation comes a day after the ministry revised the gold import figures for November lower by \$5 billion to \$9.9 billion from \$14.8 billion narrowing the overall goods trade deficit for the month to \$33 billion from \$38 billion. The Indian Express on December 24 reported that the transition had caused the counting error.

"It was observed that due to migration of data transmission

**GOLD IMPORT DATA REVISION April to November 2024** \$49.08 billion Before revision Revised data \$37.39 billion November 2024 Before revision \$14.86 billion \$9.84 billion Revised data **COUNTRY WISE GOLD IMPORT (Apr to Oct 2024)\* Before revision Revised data** UAE \$11.63 billion \$7.98 billion **Switzerland \$9.45** bllion \$8.45 billion \$3.45 billion \$2.38 billion South Africa \*Country-wise trade data available only till October Source: Global Trade Reserach Initiative

mechanism from Special Economic Zone (SEZ) to Indian Customs Electronic Gateway (ICE-GATE), figures of precious metals needed revision as it was noticed as the system was calculating both imports into SEZ and subsequent clearance into Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) as separate transactions after the migration," the ministry said.

The ministry said that DGCI&S

receives trade data from over 500 locations and about 2.5 lakh transactions every day from different sea ports, land ports, airport and inland container depots and trade data from more than 100 SEZs was earlier captured by SEZ Online System and EXIM data for all other ports was captured by ICEGATE system.

"Both systems ICEGATE and SEZ online were transmitting the trade data separately to DGCIS for publishing foreign trade statistics. However, based on a decision to shift EXIM declarations from SEZ Online to ICEGATE system, the EXIM data pertaining to SEZs as well as all other ports is being captured and transmitted by ICEGATE to DGCIS," the ministry said.

"However, owing to persistence of certain technical glitches, the migration is still not complete. Both SEZ Online and ICEGATE are still capturing and transmitting mutually exclusive EXIM data to DGCIS," it added.

It further said that DGCIS does

Fact-Checking Network (IFCN).

In India, Meta currently has 12

such partners, including pub-

lishers like PTI, AFP, India Today

Fact Check, and The Ouint, but

also a number of smaller firms.

will extend its decision to in

India. "We are ending our third-

party fact-checking program,

and over the next couple of

months we'll phase in a more

comprehensive Community

Notes system, in the US. There

are no changes to other countries

at this time," a Meta spokesper-

son told *The Indian Express*.

It's not clear whether Meta

revision and correction of data from time to time and that revision is based on data that's received late, amendments in the respective months and qualitative corrections wherever required.

"The principal commodity level data, which have been uploaded recently at DGCIS Data Dissemination Portal, incorporates the first phase of reconciliations made till date. Revision has been done for trade figures from April 2024 to November 2024, which are made public in compliance to the regular publication cycle maintained as per internastandard tional dissemination norms," the ministry said.

The revised data can be accessed through the Data Dissemination Portal of DGCIS. A committee has been formed with stakeholders from DGCIS, DG Systems (CBIC) and SEZs for creation of a robust mechanism for publishing consistent data, the ministry added.

## equity mutual funds jump to

*Mumbai:* Inflows into equity mutual funds rose 14.5 per cent on a month-on-month basis to ₹41,155.91 crore in December from ₹35,943.49 crore in the previous month, the latest data from the Association of Mutual Funds

Net assets under management (AUM) declined marginally by 1.69 per cent to ₹66,93,032.12 crore December, compared to ₹68,08,101.16 crore in the previ-

## 'Inflows into ₹41,156 cr in Dec'

in India (AMFI) showed.

In December, the inflows through systematic investment plan (SIP) stood at ₹26,459 crore, as compared to ₹25,320 crore in November 2024.

ous month.

### Meta's fact-checking snub in US sets alarm bells ringing for fact-checkers in India The second is that these factrequesting anonymity. and replace them with commu-SOUMYARENDRA BARIK Earlier this week, Meta conity notes similar to X, starting in checkers also rely on Meta platforms for eyeballs on their work.

NEW DELHI. JANUARY 9

AS META announced the end of its third-party fact-check programme in the US, a palpable sense of panic has gripped factcheckers in India. For, a number of fact-checkers that popped up in India in the last few years are heavily reliant on funding from Meta, and any potential spillover effects of the company's stance in the US could possibly mean the end of the road for several of them.

"This is possibly the biggest existential threat many factcheckers will have to contend with," a senior executive from a fact-checking organisation said,

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU** 

TECH MAJOR Tata Consultancy

Services Ltd has reported a con-

solidated net profit of ₹12,380

crore for the third quarter (Q3)

ended December 2024, a rise of

₹11,058 crore in the year-ago pe-

riod. The company also declared

a dividend per share of Rs 76, in-

cluding Rs 66 as special dividend.

The record date for the dividend

revenue from operations rose 6

per cent to Rs 63,973 crore in the

third quarter from Rs 60,583

crore a year ago. On a sequential

basis, the company's net profit

rose 4 per cent from Rs 11,909

crore in the September quarter.

24.5 per cent, a decline of 50 bps

on year-on-year basis but there

was a sequential improvement

of 40 bps. TCS shares declined by

1.72 per cent to ₹4,036.65 on the

excellent TCV performance in

"We are pleased with the

BSE on Thursday.

The operating margin was at

The company's consolidated

is January 17.

MUMBAI, JANUARY 9

founder and CEO Mark

Zuckerberg announced a slew of major content-related changes to Meta platforms including Facebook, Instagram, and Threads. Key among them was Meta's decision to end its thirdparty fact-checking programme in the US, with the company looking to move to a community-driven system similar to X's Community Notes. "We're going to get back to our

roots and focus on reducing mistakes, simplifying our policies and restoring free expression on our platforms," Zuckerberg said in a video. "More specifically, here's what we're going to do. First, we're going to get rid of fact-checkers

across industries, geographies

and service lines lending good

visibility to long-term growth.

BFSI and CBG returning to

growth, continued stellar run of

Regional Markets and early

TCS Q3 profit rises 11.95%,

declares ₹76 dividend

### The panic in India

Even though the decision to end Meta's third-party fact-checking programme is currently limited to the US, the Indian factcheckers *The Indian Express* spoke to believe it was a matter of time before similar changes were made in India.

they would have to shut shop.

### Meta works with fact-checkers certified by the International

In that case, there are two major concerns: funding and eyeballs. Fact-checkers said that for a number of Indian entities, being part of Meta's third-party fact-checking programme is the only source of funding. If that were to dry up, it could mean

## 'What do you do sitting at home?': Row over L&T chief's 90-hour work week remark

## **ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**

signs of revival in discretionary spend in some verticals give us confidence for the future," said K Krithivasan, CEO and MD. "Our continuing investments in upskilling, AI/Gen Innovations and partnerships chairman sets us up to capture the promising opportunities ahead," he weighed in, suggesting that employees should work 90 hours a According to Samir Seksaria, week, including Sundays.

Chief Financial Officer, in a quarter that saw significant cross-currency volatility, TCS's strong execution, cost management and deft currency risk management helped deliver healthy margin improvement and free cash flows. "Disciplined investments in talent and infrastructure should lend good support to long-term

The company promoted over 25,000 associates in the quarter which brought the total promotions this financial year to more than 1,10,000.

business growth," he said.

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9 While the debate on Infosys founder NR Naravana Murthy's statement about working 70hours a week is still on, Larsen & Subrahmanyan (SNS) has now

> In an internal interaction that surfaced Reddit, on Subrahmanyan is seen suggesting a 90-hour work week.

In a reply to an employee, who wanted to know why L&T asks employees to work on Saturdays, Subrahmanyan said, "What do you do sitting at home? How long can you stare at your wife? How long can the wives stare at their husbands? Get to the office and start working." There was an immediate backlash from Reddit viewers, one of whom said the remarks

were a "shameless promotion of corporate slavery".

The L&T chief shared an anecdote about a conversation with a Chinese professional who claimed that China could surpass the US due to its stronger work ethic.

"Chinese people work 90 hours a week, while Americans work only 50 hours a week."

Drawing parallels, Subrahmanyan urged L&T employees to emulate this work culture. "I regret I am not able to make you work on Sundays, to be honest. If I can make you work on Sundays, I will be more happy because I work on Sundays also,"

His statement has reignited concerns about employees' well-

Industrialist Harsh Goenka wrote on X: "Why not rename Sunday to 'Sun-duty' and make 'day off' a mythical concept! Working hard and smart is what I believe in, but turning life into a perpetual office shift? That's a recipe for burnout, not success. Work-life balance isn't optional, it's essential. Well, that's my view."

L&T. however, has defended its chairman's views, saying extraordinary outcomes require extraordinary efforts.

In a statement, the company said: "At L&T, nation-building is at the core of our mandate. For over eight decades, we have been shaping India's infrastructure, industries, and technological capabilities. We believe this is India's decade, a time demanding collective dedication and effort to drive progress and realise our shared vision of becoming a developed nation. The Chairman's remarks reflect this larger ambition, emphasizing

that extraordinary outcomes require extraordinary effort. At L&T, we remain committed to fostering a culture where passion, purpose, and performance drive us forward."

## NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

AND Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) expects its partnership with UK-based energy giant BP to raise production from the Mumbai High field to add up to \$10.3 billion to its revenue over the 10-year contract period, the Indian energy major said Thursday.

On Wednesday, ONGC had announced that BP had bagged the contract to operate and enhance production from the former's flagship Mumbai High field—India's largest oil and gas field—which has been witnessing a gradual fall in output for over three decades. ONGC had sought bids from international oil and gas players to on-board a technical service provider (TSP) for increasing production from the field.

BP has indicated a substantial potential increase of around 44 per cent in crude oil produc-



The field produces around 134,000 bpd of crude and 13 bcm of natural gas. File

45.47 million tonnes and around 89 per cent increase in gas production (from baseline of 24.94 billion cubic metres) for the 10year contract period. Overall, in terms oil and oil equivalent gas. the projected increase works out to around 60 per cent.

"The increase is expected to be visible from FY'26 with full scale visibility expected from FY'28. This incremental production is expected to generate additional oil and gas revenue (net of levies) of upto USD 10.30 Billion and incremental contribution to GoI (Government of India) Exchequer by way of royalty, cess and other levies upto the tune of USD 5 billion," ONGC

said Thursday. "TSP will receive a fixed fee for the first two years, followed by a Service Fee based on a percentage share of the revenue from net incremental hydrocarbon production, after recovering incremental costs," ONGC

added. The company did not provide financial details of the contract. As per the tender document, the TSP was to be selected based on incremental production projections and the share of revenue sought.

BP is already among the largest international energy companies in India with joint investments with Reliance Industries (RIL) in natural gas production and fuel retail, apart from being present in the country through Castrol lubricants and oil and gas trading.

The field's current production levels are around 134,000 bpd of crude and 13 bcm of nat-**FULL REPORT ON** ural gas.

www.indianexpress.com

## **ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**

# SHASHWAT ALOK

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF FINANCE, RESEARCH DIRECTOR, DIGITAL IDENTITY RESEARCH INITIATIVE (DIRI) INDIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

## SPECIAL TO THE **EXPRESS**



AI, quantum computing, defense tech, and other frontier technologies. However, such innovation requires patient capital and a tolerance for risk/failure that is currently lacking in India. The 2025 budget must address this head-on.

India's digital public infrastructure, from Aadhaar to UPI, has been a game-changer in advancing financial inclusion. Fintech startups have seized on these platforms to broaden credit access and digitize payment systems. However, a flurry of sudden regulatory interventions, such as the overnight changes in regulations governing digital lending products risks undermining the same innovations that boosted inclusion in the first place. To strike the right balance, policymakers must support innovation and risk-taking while enacting safeguards to ward off systemic threats.

But equally important is stable, long-horizon funding for R&D in frontier technologies like AI and quantum computing. Debt markets, with their short repayment timelines, rarely fund long-gestaexperiments. tion Government grants and public-private partnerships can fill that void, mirroring the success of agencies like DARPA in the United States. We need to expand our sovereign wealth

ONGC sees additional revenue of

up to \$10.3 bn from BP partnership

### tax incentives, coupled with robust intellectual property protection and a stable regulatory regime for emerging technologies, are essential. Such policies can encourage firms to invest in long-term research. **Human Capital: The Foundation of Future**

fund commitments to fron-

tier technologies significantly.

Current allocations are mi-

nuscule compared to global

peers. Moreover, we should

foster public-private partner-

ships for deep tech, combin-

ing government-backed

long-term capital with pri-

vate sector efficiency.

Establishing "Deep Tech

Hubs," funded jointly by the

government, large corporates,

and global VCs, can create vi-

brant ecosystems for innova-

tion. Generous and, more im-

portantly, predictable R&D

Ultimately, India's future hinges on the quality of its human capital. While we have made progress in expanding access to education, the quality, particularly in STEM (science, technology, engineering

Growth

and mathematics) fields, remains a concern. The 2025 budget must prioritise a significant overhaul of our higher education system, benchmarking it against the best in the world. We need to attract top global academic talent, partic-

ularly in STEM to create universities that rank among the top. China and Singapore offer lucrative compensation and research funding to attract the best minds; we must do the same. The budget should allocate funding to significantly boost salaries and research grants in STEM fields, making them comparable to those offered by leading institutions globally. Prioritising and incentivising research in journals that are considered for tenure and promotion decisions in top global institutions will encourage quality over quantity. Targeted scholarships for STEM scholars to pursue PhDs abroad, with an obligation to return and contribute to Indian academia, can create a pipeline

of highly skilled researchers. The 2025 budget is not just about numbers; it's about setting a vision for India's future. By prioritising growth-oriented regulations, fostering a deep tech revolution, and investing in our human capital, we can ensure that India not only navigates the current global challenges but emerges as a global leader in the decades to come. We cannot afford to miss this opportunity. The time for bold, decisive action is now.

## Q3 which was well-rounded Pressure on rupee to ease, India to grow at 6.6%: UN

## **RAVIDUTTA MISHRA**

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

INDIA'S ECONOMY is projected to grow by 6.6 per cent in 2025. largely driven by strong private consumption and investment, while pressures on the domestic currency are expected to ease, the United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) report released on Thursday said.

The Indian rupee has remained under pressure due to the strengthening US dollar, hitting a lifetime low of 85.93 against the dollar on Thursday. This has contributed to a fall in India's foreign exchange reserves, which dropped to an

eight-month low of \$640.28 billion in December.

"In the near term, depreciation pressure on South Asian currencies is expected to ease, as monetary loosening in the United States has increased the attractiveness of both direct and portfolio investments in the region's economies," the report stated.

The report also highlighted that easing inflationary pressures across South Asia have allowed most central banks in the region to halt monetary tightening or continue reducing policy rates in 2024.

The RBI has kept its policy rate at 6.5 per cent since February 2023, as inflation risks have persisted. In contrast, Pakistan and Sri Lanka's central

banks have cut their key policy rates to support economic recovery, while Bangladesh has continued its tightening cycle to address inflationary pressures arising from weaker agricultural production, supply chain disruptions, and currency depreciation.

## Capex push working

The UN report further said that capital expenditure on infrastructure development is expected to have strong multiplier effects on India's growth in the coming years. Additionally, robust export growth in services and select goods, particularly pharmaceuticals and electronics,

will support economic activity. "Expansion in the manufacturing and services sectors will continue to drive the economy throughout the forecast period. Meanwhile, favourable monsoon rains in 2024 have improved summer-sowing conditions for all major crops, boosting agricultural output expectations for 2025," the report added.

## Substantial gender gap

Despite progress in female labour market participation in India, the UN report highlighted that substantial gender gaps remain. Labour market indicators remained strong in the second quarter of 2024. Urban unemployment stood at 6.6 per cent during this period, virtually unchanged from the 6.7 per cent rate recorded in 2023. However, the report stressed that significant

gender disparities persist in India's labour market.

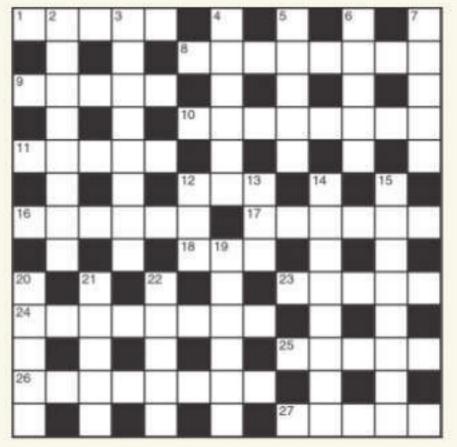
## Critical minerals

The report also pointed out that India possesses substantial untapped reserves of critical minerals. "Countries such as Brazil (rare earth elements and nickel), Vietnam (bauxite and rare earth elements), the United Republic of Tanzania (graphite), Mexico (copper), and India (rare earth elements) have vast reserves of critical minerals but currently account for only a small share of global production," the report stated. Mining-dependent economies are in a strong position to leverage these resources, the re-

epaper.indianexpress.com

port concluded. FULL REPORT ON www.indianexpress.com tion from the baseline output of

### **CROSSWORD 5570**



**DOWN** 

forward (8)

seat(5)

advance (5)

**2** Nobel prize winner of the

**3** Swirling mist hides the way

**4** Do this in arithmetic to rule

**5** Chewed up cheap fruit (5)

**6** I'd lifted the front part of a

**12** Manipulate thickness (3)

**15** Countries may share it

19 Fish cooked inside and

between them (8)

covered in oil (6)

13 Drink spirits for severe cold

**14** Last despite great efforts (5,3)

**20** Drive off quietly during dance

21 Yet I'd be converted to God

22 Flinch though still game (5)

**7** Slow movement produced no

naughty nineties? (8)

### **ACROSS**

machines (8)

1 Strange how millrace ends in the lake (5)

**8** Party policy won't be one's main interest (8) **9** Being underground makes men go wild (5) **10** Display skill in flying

11 Dusty sort of room (5) **12** A bird cage (3) **16** Engine gives out before the Spanish final (6)

17 How to tell it's playing well? **18** Wages in retirement? Just

23 Names new source of funds 24 Shot by firing squad and

carried out (8) **25** One kitchen container as put in another (5)

**26** Braids in newest design (8) **27** Wide awake to a siren call (5)

Solutions Crossword 5569 Across: 1 Earthbound, 6 Blow, 10 Hover, 11 Ululation, 12 Brandish, 13 Eagle, 15 Aliment, 17 Special, 19 Sweater, 21 Desists, 22 Robin, 24 Preamble, 27 Discloses, 28 Cleft, 29 Eden, 30 Head waiter Down: 1 Echo, 2 Riverside, 3 Heron, 4 Oculist, 5 Noughts, 7 Lying, 8 Wanderlust, 9 Nameless, 14 Cat's cradle, 16 Entangle, 18 Insolvent, 20 Riposte, 21 Dressed, 23 Baste, 25 Mocha, 26 Stir

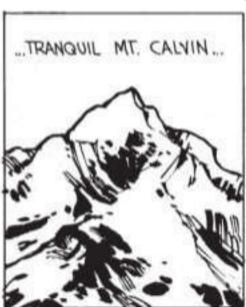
(5)

## **OVER THE HEDGE** by Michael Fry & T Lewis





### **CALVIN & HOBBES** by Bill Watterson



SUDDENLY, WITH A GROUND SHAKING RUMBLE, HE BLOWS SKY HIGH! HE'S A LIVE VOLCANO.





### **MARVIN** by Tom Armstrong





### **JUMBLED WORDS**

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given guip. Death will be a great relief. No more \_\_\_\_. - Katharine Hepburn (10)

**DLEER EILLNT TVIIS VOWELS** 

> Answer: Death will be a great relief. No more interviews. - Katharine Hepburn Solution: ELDER, VISIT, LINTEL/LENTIL, WOLVES

### Instructions To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal

Difficulty Level 4s

nine boxes. **Difficulty Level** 1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard;

6s = Genius

rows and in each of the

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

### 9 8 5 **SOLUTION SUDOKU** 3 9 4 2 8 5 6 9 4 9 3 6 8 2 8 6 4 5 3 8 5 6 1 4 9 8 5 3 6 8 2 4 9 5

### **DAY TODAY**

HANG

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Assertive Martian** alignments should now be having an

effect, and today they're joined by emotional Lunar patterns, indicating that if you should feel like showing off or being a bit of a prima donna, go right ahead! And if you want to re-live former triumphs, why not?

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)** Keep your wits about you at all times, mainly because what is

now taking place away from your gaze will affect your future interests. It may be next week before you discover what partners are doing. The simple solution is to see to it that your own plans are water-tight.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)** At work and at

home you must keep the talking going, aware of the need for agreement. At the very least you must make sure that loved ones know your views on a promised gathering or engagement. If you explain yourself, then they can't

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)

pretend they didn't

understand you.

It's time to get out and indulge in a spot of shopping therapy today, but tomorrow will do if you are tied up just now. There's nothing like spending a bit of money on an overdue treat. But, then, you still need a solution, so don't imagine that you're off the hook.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) You are bathed in

beneficial lunar alignments, and these are bound to make you feel emotional and more compassionate. You may also be a little gullible, and hence a soft touch for some! So, keep a weather-eye open for roving confidence tricksters.

**VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23)** You do tend to worry

and wonder if you've backed the wrong horse. However, right now you should allow yourself a great deal of extra time to consider the options and give current developments

time to work themselves out

before taking rash decisions.

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

BY PETER VIDAL

Your social stars are beginning to look more buoyant,

and you should keep your eyes open for new friends and fascinating meetings. Where romance is concerned, it looks very much as if security is increasingly the main issue. You want to hang on to what you have.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Strident planetary aspects force you to choose between between family interests and ambitions. Once you have made your position

the freedom to go your own way. But is freedom what you want? You won't know unless you've got it.

clear, others should give you

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22) Let the past take care of itself and concentrate on the untested solutions.

It will do you a power of good to improve conditions at work, spreading a bit of colour around and raising the quality of life. Why don't you reassure people you live with that you're right behind them?

CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Perhaps financial commitments are causing concern, but you will have to understand that partners may not share your outlook. Trust a little more in the healing power of time. It's strange how what is so important today

It's a fairly stressful day, but by no means a bad one. Much depends on how far you are prepared to welcome change, and to what extent you can turn friction to your advantage. It may be a cliché, but do look on the

can be forgotten tomorrow.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

all, optimism breeds success. PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

bright side, won't you? After

Stay busy and keep active. It's a day to cope with routine chores, getting as much accomplished as you

possibly can. The essential rule is that the harder you work now, the more time you'll have off later on. I know you know that, but it's worth reminding you, all the same.

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C./84 BNSS) Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused

Geeta W/o Kishor R/o Village Dadhola District Panipat, Haryana (2) Beeta W/o Vasant R/o Wizad District Charkhi Dadri Haryana (3) Mukesh S/o Late Mai Chand (4) Sonu @ Lala S/o Late Mai Chand (5) Mahendri Devi w/o Late Mai Chand R/o Village Rai Balmiki Mohalla District Sonipat Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 111/2017 U/s 498A/406/34IPC P.S. Nangloi, Delhi and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused (1) Geeta (2) Beeta (3) Mukesh (4) Sonu @ Iala (5) Mahendri Devi cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused (1) Geeta (2) Beeta (3) Mukesh (4) Sonu @ lala (5) Mahendri Devi has absconded (or is concealing themselves to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that (1) Geeta (2) Beeta (3) Mukesh (4) Sonu @ Iala (5) Mahendri Devi in FIR 111/2017 U/s 498A/406/34IPC P.S. Nangloi, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 24.02.2025. By order

Ms. Deepika Goyal Shokeen Judicial Magistrate First class Mahilla Court-03, Room No.245 DP/192/OD/2025 Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Md. Qamar S/o Jafar Ahmed R/o: L-314, Janta Colony, Welcome Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 05/2018, U/S 12/9/55 G. Act, P.S. Welcome, North-East Distt., Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Md. Qamar cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Md. Qamar has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that Md. Qamar the said accused of FIR No. 05/2018, U/S 12/9/55 G. Act, P.S. Welcome, North-East Distt., Delhi, is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 21.02.2025. By Order

Ms. Deepakshi Rana Judicial Magistrate First Class-03, Shahdara Distt., Room No.-19, 1st Floor Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/341/NE/2025 (Court Matter)

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) Imran S/o Nabab R/o B-215, G.No. 05, Janta Majdoor Colony, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 157/2019, U/s 324/506 IPC, PS Welcome, North East Distt., Delhi and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) Imran can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) Imran has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) Imran of case FIR No. 157/2019, U/s 324/506 IPC, PS Welcome, North East Distt., Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated 19.02.2025 at 10:00 AM.

Ms. Deepakshi Rana DP/344/NE/2025 (Court Matter)

By Order

Metropolitan Magistrate-03 Shahdara, Court No. 19 Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Mr. Ramesh Kumar Kayan Director of M/s Ramesh Sales Corporation Pvt. Ltd. At: House No.: 915, Near Anand Farm House Sec-22B, Molahera (65), Palam Road, Gurugram-122015 Haryana has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case CC No. 6139/19 U/s 138 NI Act at P.S. Karol Bagh, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Mr. Ramesh Kumar Kayan cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Mr. Ramesh Kumar Kayan have absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Mr. Ramesh Kumar Kayan of CC No. 6139/19 U/s 138 NI Act of P.S.: Karol Bagh, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said By order complaint on or before 19.02.2025. Shreya Singh

Judicial Magistrate First Class-05

DP/379/CD/2025

(NI Act) Central Distt Room No.02, Court Building Annexe-01 Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE

APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused

Pankaj Singh S/o Balveer Singh Prop. of Gharwal Shoe

House, 14 Bigha, near New Bus Stand, New Bridge,

Rishikesh, Uttarakhand also at: near Vimal Factory,

Dhalwala Munikireti, Munikireti, Tehri Garhwal, Narendra

Nagar, Uttarakhand-248137 has Committed (or is suspected

to have committed) the offence in case CC No. 18956//2018 U/s

138 NI Act, PS Kotwali, Delhi and it has been returned to a

warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Pankaj Singh

cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my

satisfaction that the said Pankaj Singh has absconded (or is

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Pankaj

Singh of case CC No. 18956//2018 U/s 138 NI Act, PS Kotwali,

Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said

By Order

Ms. Shreya Singh

Judicial Magistrate First Class-05

Central District, Room No. 2

Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Jai Prakash S/O Hari Ram R/o JB-6/185, Welcome, Seelampur, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 489/2020 U/s 33 D EX. Act at PS: Welcome, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Jai Prakash can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Jai Prakash has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Jai Prakash of FIR No. 489/2020 U/s 33 D EX. Act of PS: Welcome, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 10.02.2025.

By order Deepakshi Rana Judicial Magistrate First Class-03 Room No.19, First Floor, Shahdara District DP/347/NE/2025 Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Shivam S/o Shankar R/o H.No. 76 SLF, Ved Vihar, Loni, District Ghaziabad, U.P. has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 32/2019 U/s 279/337/338 IPC, P.S. Darya Ganj, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Shivam cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Shivam has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Shivam of case FIR No. 32/2019 U/s 279/337/338 IPC, P.S. Darva Ganj, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 18.02.2025. By Order

Dr. Raj Kumar Singh Judicial Magistrate First Class-05 (Central) Room No. 241 Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi DP/179/CD/2025(Court Matter)

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING

See Section 82 (2) (ii) CrPC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Namely: Nitin @ Shankar @ Chikna, S/o. Dinesh Gupta, R/o. Vegbond, Hanuman Mandir, Yamuna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in a case vide FIR No.657/2021 U/S 392/411/34 IPC registered at P.S Kashmere Gate, Delhi and it has been returned on a warrant of arrest thereupon issued stating that the said Nitin @ Shankar @ Chikna could not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that accused Nitin @ Shankar @ Chikna is absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Nitin @ Shankar @ Chikna is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 21.02.2025.

DP/403/N/2025

See Section 82 CrPC

absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the

Proclamation is hereby made that Md. Jawed Siddiqui the said

accused of CT No. 2549/2018, U/S 138 NI Act, P.S.

Mansarovar Park, Shahdara Distt., Delhi, is required to

appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or

## THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

By Order

VAIBHAV GARG Judicial Magistrate First Class-11, Central District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Md. Jawed Siddiqui S/o Md. Jamil Ahmed R/o: H.No. A-8/59, Kashi Ram Dairy, Kabir Nagar, Gokalpur, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in CT No. 2549/2018, U/S 138 NI Act, P.S. Mansarovar Park, Shahdara Distt., Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Md. Jawed Siddiqui cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Md. Jawed Siddiqui has

By Order

Ms. Deepakshi Rana

Judicial Magistrate First Class-03,

43-35/2025-26/HOD/Engg. Cell/Electrical Tender No.: Tender ID No.:

## The Head, Engineering Cell, FRI, Dehradun invites on behalf

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER** 

I.C.F.R.E FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE

P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248006

of Director, Forest Research Institute Dehradun invites online E-Tender from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD, MES, Railways, P&T, State PWD and other Govt. and Semi. Govt. Department including local bodies etc.

2025 ICFRE 843388 1 Name of Work:

complaint on or before 12.02.2025.

DP/322/N/2025(Court Matter)

Annual Rate Contract (ARC) of Electrical Items 2025-26.

 Earnest money: Rs. 30,000/-Tender Fee : 590/- (Including GST)

6. Time of Contract: 90 Days

Last Date and Time of online submission of the Bid 07-02-2025. upto 11:00 AM The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website

http://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app and www.fri.icfre.gov.in

Engineering Cell. Facilities and Services Division ICFRE-Forest Research Institute Dehradun

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person Amit Rao S/o Upender Rao R/o H. No. 791, Tahirpur, Delhi-110095 has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence FIR No. 1119/2014 u/s 509 IPC at P.S. Seemapuri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Amit Rao cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Amit Rao has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proceeding u/s 82 Cr.P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said Amit Rao accused of FIR No. 1119/2014 u/s 509 IPC at P.S. Seemapuri, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on

18.02.2025.

By Order: Ms. Aishwarya Singh Kashyap, Judicial Magistrate First Class-06 Room No. 25, DP/284/SHD/2025 Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED See Section U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Rahul @ Rahul Soni S/o Bhag Narayan R/o H.No. 1, Gali No. 5, near Shiv Mandir, Kangar Mohalla, Tuglakabad, New Delhi has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 44/2021 U/s 323/342/509 IPC, PS Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Rahul @ Rahul Soni cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Rahul @ Rahul Soni has absconded (or are concealing himself to avoid the service of the said

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Rahul @ Rahul Soni of case FIR No. 44/2021 U/s 323/342/509 IPC, PS Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 14.02.2025. By Order

Sh. Vaibhav Kumar Judicial Magistrate First Class-05 Room No. 13, First Floor Patiala House Court, Delhi DP/274/SW/2025(Court Matter)

DP/373/SHD/2025 (Court Matter)

before 10.03.2025.

said warrant);

Shahdara Distt., Room No.-19, 1st Floor, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

### PLAYING TODAY

India vs Ireland, first Women's ODI Rajkot: 11 am on JioCinema & Sports18

## Shiva, Sachin shine at boxing nationals

Bareilly: Reigning champion Shiva Thapa began his title defence with a commanding win over Enayat Khan in welterweight (60-65kg) category at the 8th Elite Men's National Boxing Championship here on Thursday. Representing Assam, Thapa, who made history as the youngest Indian boxer to qualify for the Olympics at 2012 London Games, defeated Enayat 5-0 in his opening bout, setting a strong tone for his campaign. Former world youth champion Sachin Siwach also opened his campaign with an emphatic 5-0 victory for the Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) against Akshay, displaying his readiness to compete for top honours. The second day also witnessed a thrilling opening bout with Devansh Solanki of Rajasthan defeating Uttar Pradesh's Vikas Singh in the flyweight (47-50kg) category. **PTI** 

### Cummins to undergo ankle scan

*Sydney:* An injury concern looms over Australian skipper Pat Cummins ahead of next month's Champions Trophy with the pacer set to undergo a scan on his "sore ankle", and chairman of selectors George Bailey refusing to confirm his availability for the marquee event. Cummins has been troubled by the ankle issue throughout the Australian summer but managed to guide his team to a 3-1 victory over India in the marquee Border-Gavaskar Test series recently. Bailey did not commit whether Cummins was a certainty for the Champions Trophy. "Not really sure yet, we'll have to wait and see," he told nine.com.au. PTI

## Govt steps in, allows Olmo to play for Barca

*Madrid:*Spain's government stepped in to provisionally allow midfielder Dani Olmo and forward Pau Víctor to continue playing for Barcelona following the Spanish league's refusal to do so. Barcelona appealed the decision by the league to Spain's Higher Council for Sport, a government body under the auspices of the ministry of education and sports. The council has initially ruled in Barcelona's favor to allow the two players to continue participating in official competitions while it studies the appeal and makes a definitive ruling. Last summer, the two players were registered only through the end of 2024, and the financially troubled Barcelona failed to meet the league's financial fair-play rules by the end-of-year deadline. Once the club got its paperwork in order, the league, with the backing of the Spanish soccer federation, said that it was rejecting Barcelona's attempt to register the players for the

## **BRIEFLY**

# A largely shut, but open case

Selectors might not destabilise the nucleus of the 2023 World Cup squad, though a few spots remain uncertain

**VENKATA KRISHNA B** CHENNAI, JANUARY 9

THEIR SPOTS in the Test team for the tour of England later may be under a shadow of doubt, but when the selection panel headed by Ajit Agarkar pick the squad for the Champions Trophy on Friday, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli will be certainties. While the inclusion of the duo is a straight-forward call in the format where India are seeking their first trophy since the 2013 Champions Trophy, there are plenty of deliberations over other slots with ace spinner Kuldeep Yadav far from certain for the tournament that begins on February 19.

After a hectic tour to Australia, India have a fortnight's break before the five-match T20Is against England followed by the three ODIs, which will be a precursor to the Champions Trophy. With India set to play all their matches in Dubai, they have a clear-cut edge over others in terms of the familiarity with the conditions. However, the big difference this time is they are playing in February and March, a period which is late-winter months, which means the pitches may not be slow and dry.

So India are pondering their options. Apart from Kuldeep's availability, India are also awaiting the fitness report of Jasprit Bumrah, their undisputed X-factor. Here is a role-wise breakdown of the contenders.

## **OPENERS**

Rohit Sharma, Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal

Given his recent form, Jaiswal is certain to get a call-up and could make his debut during the ODIs against England. It means Gill, who has been a key-figure in this format, may end up losing his spot to the lefthander. The other option is to make Gill play at No 3, but that would mean India have to push their greatest No 3 to the middle-order, which the selectors might not ideally prefer. With three openers set to be part of the squad, Gill seems a certainty, but whether he remains a guaranteed starter is the question.

### IN THE FRAY: Ruturaj Gaikwad, Abhishek Sharma, Prabhsimran Singh

If India want to give Gill a break, then they may look at one of these players. Gaikwad seems a natural fit and has extraordinary numbers in the format with an average of 57.49 with 16 centuries. Apart from him, the two Punjab openers have been making all the right noises in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy with their aggressive brand of cricket. Abhishek with his left-arm spin and Prabhsimran being wicketkeepers, can also provide the team with options.



With three openers set to be part of the squad, Shubman Gill seems a certainty, but whether he remains a guaranteed starter is the question.

## MIDDLE ORDER

Virat Kohli, Shreyas Iyer, KL Rahul

The three were the backbone of India's extraordinary run to the final of the 2023 World Cup. The format is Kohli's bread and butter, Shreyas and Rahul are versatile, and hence sought-after. With their experience and form the selectors may not feel necessary to overlook them for the eight-team

### **IN THE FRAY:** Riyan Parag, Suryakumar Yadav, Rinku Singh

For one other spot, three players are in contention. Parag was included for the trip to Sri Lanka, India's last ODI assignment. Given his numbers at No 5 and 6 and his abil-

ity to bowl off-spin and India looking for multi-dimensional players, he has a strong chance. If they don't need him, then they will be tempted to bring back Suryakumar Yadav, a batsman who hasn't been able to find his feet in this format. Beyond the two there is Rinku, a capable finisher whose calmness can be a valued addition.

**CHAMPIONS TROPHY** 

## **WICKETKEEPER**

Rishabh Pant

In the ODIs against Sri Lanka, Rahul started before Pant took his spot in the final match. All said and done, Pant is yet to cement his spot in this format. He will definitely be in the squad, but whether he is the

## **2023 WORLD CUP SQUAD**

How many from 2023 will feature in 2025

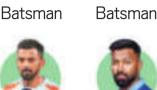
### **SET TO BE RETAINED**





Gill





**Shreyas** lyer Keeper Batsman

**Sharma** 

Captain

KL Rahul

Hardik **Pandya** Allrounder



Kuldeep

Md Yadav Siraj Spinner Fast bowler

### IN THE RUNNING



**Axar** 

Patel\*

Allrounder



Suryakumar Yadav Batsman

Md **Shami** Jadeja Fast bowler Allrounder **Jasprit Bumrah** 

(injury concern)





**Shardul** 

Thakur **Kishan** Allrounder Keeper

 $^st$  R Ashwin, who replaced Axar, has retired

first-choice wicketkeeper or not is a decision the selectors and the team-management should take before the tournament starts to avoid any chaos. **IN THE FRAY: Sanju Samson** 

Has played a central role in India's newfound T20 approach and despite scoring a century in his last, wasn't part of the squad in Sri Lanka.

With Pant yet to nail his spot and if selectors go by form, Samson offers an interest-

May have to bat out of his usual position, but given the game he has, Samson can be the ideal one to walk with 15 overs to go. What could work against him is that he didn't feature in the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

## **ALL-ROUNDERS**

Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Washington Sundar

Although Pandya hasn't played an ODI since Bangladesh in the 2023 World Cup, he is in line for a comeback. In three group-stage games of the Vijay Hazare Trophy, he bowled 7,7 & 6 overs, which shows fitness isn't an issue. He also had an excellent Syed Mushtag Ali Trophy campaign. So the selectors would be tempted to include him. For the two spinners; spot, Axar and Washington seem to be the perfect fit as they can be used as floaters

### **IN THE FRAY: Nitish Kumar Reddy, Shivam** Dube and Ravindra Jadeja

There will definitely be temptation to pick Nitish, but he may have to wait for his turn as having two seam-bowling options in the UAE may well be a luxury. It is the same in case of Dube as well, whose military medium-pace may not be required. With regards to Jadeja, if he is picked, it would come as a surprise inclusion as in limited-overs Axar seems to have won over the confidence of the selectors and team management.

### **SPINNERS**

as well.

Kuldeep Yadav and Varun Chakravarthy

ward call. But with the left-arm wrist-spinner still recovering from sports hernia it remains to be seen whether he would be match-ready before the Champions Trophy. It is understood that for Kuldeep to be in contention, he has to feature in the ODIs against England to prove his fitness. If not, then IPL will be the realistic target for his comeback In that case, Varun could emerge as an alternate pick. Apart from being among wickets in the IPL, he has evolved into more than just a mystery spinner. The conditions will also suit him.

If Kuldeep is available, it is a straightfor-

**IN THE FRAY:** Ravi Bishnoi If selectors are not convinced of Varun's

credentials in 50 overs, then they could lean towards Bishnoi. His quick leg-breaks could come in handy and he is live-wire on the field as well.

## **FAST BOWLERS**

Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, Arshdeep Singh

The trio's selection seems straightforward and if Pandya is available, then only two may make it to the XI as India have been looking to find the right balance. Apart from batting depth, they are also seeking six bowling options so there could be spots for just three pacers, unless they compromise on other spots.

### **IN THE FRAY:** Khaleel Ahmed, Harshit Rana and Mohammed Shami

The left-arm seamer has been making the right noises in the domestic circuit and was part of the team to Sri Lanka. If Arshdeep isn't ready, then Khaleel could join the race. Rana is promising, but a spot in the Champions Trophy looks a long shot. The inclusion of Shami, who has been bowling in the Vijay Hazare Trophy, will be a question of fitness.

## Gains for Varun, but loss for Tamil Nadu

### **EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** CHENNAL JANUARY 9

rest of the season. AP

IT WAS a performance that took Varun Chakravarthy closer to a spot in the Champions Trophy squad and one that should have put Tamil Nadu in the quarterfinals. Instead, a mediocre effort from the batsmen in their chase of 268 against Rajasthan, meant Varun's second five-wicket haul in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy went in vain as Tamil Nadu's underwhelming show in the white-ball tournaments ended on Thursday. Over the past year, he has transformed

from being mystery spinner to a more orthodox type. His stock delivery carrom-ball has vanished. Instead, he relies on side-spin to generate as much help from flat decks as possible. On Thursday, at the Kotambi stadium in Vadodara, reinforced his scale of evolution.

Asked to bat first, Rajasthan lost debutant Sachin Yadav early, but Abhijeet Tomar and Mahipal Lomror made TN regret their decision. The right-left duo scored freely, helped no less by TN's lacklustre fielding. With seamers Sandeep Warrier, Vijay Shankar and Trilok Nag failing to make further inroads with the new ball, a lot depended on TN's spinners led by captain R Sai Kishore, Varun, Mohamed Ali and Sanjay Yadav. But not even the experienced duo of Sai Kishore and Varun could do much as Tomar and Lomoror batted briskly, finding boundaries and sixes with ease. Going at nearly 6 runs an over, Rajasthan were jogging towards a total of 340-plus, with Varun, going for 38 off his first four overs.

## Second coming

But Varun's second spell brought TN back into the game. First, he removed Lomror with a delivery that didn't turn much, but still took the off-stump. More than the turn, the trajectory deceived him. New batsman Deepak Hoooda went for an expansive drive, only for the ball to come back in sharply and hit the woodwork. Another classic Varun dismissal. Next was Tomar, whose dismissal summarised



Varun Chakravarthy had figures of 5 for 52 but ended up on the losing side in the prequarterfinals. BCCIdomestic/X

why Varun resorts to side-spin these days.

With his height, Varun has realised that side-spin is more effective. Even if batsmen go for big hits down the ground, there is a strong chance of him hitting the top half of the bat. Batsmen might get elevation but not the distance. Tomar's intent to put the pressure back on Varun was calculative, but he could not even reach the fielder at long-on, who ran in to take a simple catch.

**BRIEF SCORES: Rajasthan** 267 in 47.3 overs (Abhijeet Tomar 111, Mahipal Lomror 60; Varun Chakravarthy 5/52) bt **Tamil Nadu** 248 in 47.1 overs (N Jagadeesan 65, Vijay Shankar 49; Aman Shekhawat 3/60).

## Haryana knock Bengal out

In the other pre-quarterfinal at the Moti Bagh Stadium, all-round effort from youngsters Nishant Sindhu and Parth Vats helped Haryana overcome Bengal with ease. Made to bat first, Sindhu and Vats first rescued Haryana with an 84-run stand for the fourth wicket, scoring 64 and 62 respectively, before a collective effort from their lower-order took them to 298/9. Mohammed Shami picked up three wickets.

**BRIEF SCORES: Haryana** 298/9 in 50 overs (Nishant Sindhu 64, Parth Vats 62, Sumit Kumar 41 n.o; Mohammed Shami 3/61) bt **Bengal** 226 in 43.1 overs (Abhishek Porel 57; Parth Vats 3/33, Nishant Sindhu 2/36).

## Jadeja more bits-and-pieces now than before **LALITH KALIDAS** NEW DELHI, JANUARY 9

WHAT WILL be the biggest decision before the Indian selectors this weekend as they convene to pick the Champions Trophy squad? With a top six loaded with right-handers

 all match-winners in their respective spots - India will likely tide over the skewed specialism with a couple of left-handed floaters. After all, this is nearly the same line-up that dominated an entire round-robin tournament only to blip for three hours with the bat and hand the World Cup to Australia 14 months ago.

There is a temptation to include the exuberant Yashasvi Jaiswal in the top 4 or pick Rishabh Pant over KL Rahul as the wicketkeeper for their left-handedness, but the team will fare best by not tinkering too much.

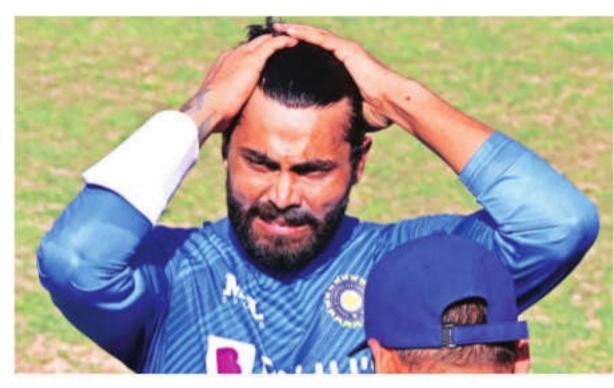
A greater deal of focus must rather fall upon India's number 7 for the championship and beyond, behind Hardik Pandya at No.6. With sticky pitches playing base for India in Dubai, it is quite probable that they will have a few floating spin all-rounders in their ranks, preferably two that can bat left-handed. Three names immediately spring up.

Ravindra Jadeja is a choice for experience. In the circuit for over a decade but yet to crack his permanent slot, Axar Patel has arguably been among India's most fluent batters across the last two seasons in Asia. Washington Sundar, a left-handed bat, offers a different dimension from the other two with the ball. In all likelihood, one or two wrist spinners will also be part of the discussions.

### Time to look ahead

Irrespective of the spin choices, India must zero in on a No.7 adept in moving through the batting slots in sight of a top-order crisis. Despite his inimitable presence for nearly 15 years, this is where India could finally draw a line on the "bits and pieces" of Jadeja in whiteball cricket. It is a call that can certainly wait for the conclusion of the Champions Trophy, but a 'mini World Cup' offers a timely opportunity to gauge Jadeja's successors before blueprints are laid out for the 2027 edition.

## X-FACTOR OR AXE?



A significant blip in Jadeja's batting is his conspicuous lack of boundaries.

## **ODI BATTING**

	Innings	Runs	HS	Bat Av	Bat SR			
Overall	132	2756	87	32.42	85.06			
As No 7 bat	98	2000	87	31.74	83.71			
As No 7 bat since 2020	23	525	66*	40.38	84.54			
ODI BOWLING								

	inns	vvkts	BBI	Avg	Econ	SK
Overall	189	220	5/33	36.07	4.88	44.3
In 2013	34	52	5/36	25.4	4.35	35
Since 2019	49	51	5/33	39.82	4.88	48.9

With India's top-order, involving heavyweights Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, dominating the bulk of the scoring for over 10 years, the simpler game plan for the lowerorder would have been to "smash", fetch more boundaries in their limited bursts out in the middle. It is a role that brings the best out of Pandya, but Jadeja has seldom lived up to the job description.

India's lower-order (7-11) batting effec-

tiveness has been middling for decades, with the strike rate reading 84.47 since 2015 – fifth among Test-playing nations. It slips to seventh from 2020 onwards, with India's lowerorder aggregating 2,411 runs at an 81.67 SR. Jadeja has not distinguished himself from this average huddle in this period, holding an 85.06 career strike rate and 84.54 in the last five years at number 7. The Saurashtra all-rounder is one of only

three ODI cricketers to record 2000 runs at No.7, with New Zealand's Chris Harris and Pakistan's Abdul Razzaq achieving the mark throughout an entirely different white-ball generation.

A significant blip in Jadeja's batting is his conspicuous lack of boundaries at the slot leaving imprints of an additional accumulator at 7. Among the three all-rounders to make at least 500 runs at 7 since 2020, Jadeja's 84.54 for 525 runs seems negligible when held against Glenn Maxwell (544 at 119.03 SR) and Scotland's Michael Leask (703 at 122.90 SR). The defensive setting has swept into his bowling shares too.

International spin attacks have adapted to attacking methods, with wrist spinners dominating white-ball charts and trading runs for quicker counts in the wickets column. Jadeja's bowling artillery has remained constant but it has left him with contrasting returns in two distinct white-ball eras within his career.

Jadeja's last 51 wickets in ODIs across four years between 2019-23 came at the expense of 39.82 runs per dismissal. A wicket-taking delivery has landed almost only once every 48.9 deliveries at a 4.88 economy.

The defensive lines are intact but it is far from his best ODI year in 2013. He clocked 52 wickets at a 25.40 average and 35 SR that year, manoeuvering conditions in India, Zimbabwe, West Indies, South Africa and England where he topped the Champions Trophy with 12 wickets and was adjudged the Player of the Final.

25 spinners have picked up more wickets than Jadeja (39 wickets in 38 matches) since 2020, with Australian leggie Adam Zampa standing atop at 116 wickets in 58 games. Only two bowlers have held a poorer average than India's 36-year-old tweaker (35.48) and only four possess a weaker strike rate (44.1)

It will be impractical for India to include both left-arm spinners in the squad. Despite having been around for 60 matches, Patel sits on the fence after having lost out to Jadeja in the home World Cup. With another Champions Trophy approaching, Jadeja's credentials and ODI career are on tenterhooks too, floating on experience and hope over sheer performance.

# SatChi get on the bike again

After falling short in Paris, India's crack doubles pairing defeats home combination to reach Malaysia Open quarters

**SHIVANI NAIK** JANUARY 9

WHAT CAME undone at Kuala Lumpur in 2024 can be mended back at Kuala Lumpur in 2025. The Olympics disappointment will fade in the rearview mirror, but for Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, a title they couldn't quite nail down at the start of last year, an occurrence that proved ominous, is there to be fought for again.

Into the quarterfinals of the year's first Super 1000 at the Malaysia Open, Satwik and Chirag remain the only seeded players in the doubles draw. Their 21-15, 21-15 win over Malaysian veterans Nur Mohd Azriyn Ayub Azriyn and Tan Wee Kiong was a no-fuss progress in 43 minutes, as the home pairing, ranked World No.32, didn't take the lead even once after the 4th point of each game.

Perhaps the quarterfinals against far more contemporary competitors - Ong Yew Sin and Two Ee Yi - on Friday will get a little more interesting, and shake off complacency, if there is any. For a pair, 25 and 27, that regularly won titles before the Olympic-year stutter, these early-round wins merely used to be mentioned before the heavy duty clashes fetched up.

But they have to be careful if there's a potential semifinal against the Korean scratch pair of Seo Seung Jae and Kim Won Ho. There was that China Masters Super 750 final in November against Seo, which didn't bring the title for the Indians. There was a time they would go flying over such speed bumps, but not now apparently. However, they said they're ready for another adventure.

"We missed playing on tour after the Olympics. But we are refreshed," Satwik would tell Badminton World Federation (BWF) after the win. "Good to go again. Started again with a new coach. So it's all new. All happy. There's no pressure. We're just playing our game. We wanted to play as many matches as possible. No pressure, we just want to enjoy ourselves."

The feeling of incompleteness post their loss to Malaysians Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik at Paris peeked out of a chuckling interaction about their downtime. When asked what he missed most when being away from the tour, Satwik said, "the travelling. (When playing) we feel it's hectic, but suddenly there was a lot of free time. Nothing to do. Only Indian biscuits and cake we were



Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty beat Nur Mohd Azriyn Ayub Azriyn and Tan Wee Kiong 21-15, 21-15. File/BAI

eating. We want to eat food from other countries as well. We are used to travelling. The break was refreshing mentally. But it was a mandatory break."

A break after a medalless Olympics tends to be cruel because even after giving it their all, there's no keepsake to take home, to attest that gruelling journey. Satwik, famously fond of Indian food even when parked in Paris, was craving the old feeling of foreign food. Also metaphorically, chomping at the biggest opponents - tough testy battles, where whatever was local gruel tasted yummy because a win was secured. It's been that sort of a post-Olympics.

### Fluid situation

Expectedly, like it happens in a year right after the Games, the medallists are still settling back, so Chinese Liang Weikeng and Chang Wang as well as Aaron-Soh, silver and bronze winners, exited on Thursday. Satwik-Chirag, however, run the risk of wanting to validate their skill at every opportunity, though they've been clearly told to not stress too much, and go with the flow. With no pressure.

What's exciting of course, is them re-

uniting with Coach Tan Kim Her, the man who first looked at them both and got the brainwave that they could be rather good if paired together.

"Still early days," Chirag said. "We've worked with him for three and a half years (starting in 2017). He's the one who paired me and Satwik when we were youngsters just entering the Indian team. He got us to a level from where we could challenge the best in the world. Then he left for Japan. But really happy to have him back. We are still in early days, but really happy to be training under him."

"If he wasn't there, there would be no SatChi," Satwik reminded.

So it's down to their creator, if we daresay, to bring their fortunes back on track. The trouble has been that without any dramatic slide, they are down to World No.9. Chirag, always very strict on himself, hasn't spoken much about the time away, but can get pretty restless and punishing on himself to regain the old perch, when they were once World No.1.

"After last year, we didn't play a lot of tournaments. So the first goal is obviously to go as deep into tournaments as possi-

ble. Get back into the Top 5," he would say, adding, "The break has been good. Being on tour is hectic. So to have a couple of months break was good. Happy to be back on tour. Good start to the year. Looking forward to going as deep as possible into the tournament.'

There's the India Open in Delhi next week - another missed title from last year and the duo will need to pace themselves while balancing injury prevention and frequent feelings of wanting to go ballistic to prove that they're still right up there. Perhaps coach Tan's first challenge will be to not allow them to over-exert, even if they're fresh at the start of the season. The technical changes will invariably follow, but the ambition could do with tempering and rationing, only for chosen events.

From the Indian standpoint, not much has changed, as the two remain the most consistent performers on tour. Still there was a flurry of excitement, raised hopes, before HS Prannoy lost 8-21, 21-15, 21-23 to World No.6 Li Shifeng and Treesa Jolly-Gayatri Gopichand went down 21-15, 18-21, 19-21 to Olympic champ Jia Yi Fan and new Chinese speed sensation Zhang Shu Xian.

## HIL status check: Lancers emerging as team to beat

VINAYAKK MOHANARANGAN JANUARY9

KALINGA LANCERS continued their resurgence as they overcame a hurting Team Gonasika 2-1 in a tight contest. The match reiterated one of the most definitive trends emerging in the Hockey India League men's tournament in Rourkela: that the field goals are outnumbering set piece strikes. After 17 matches, there have been 41 goals from open play, while penalty corner goals stand at 32 and only one penalty stroke scored so far.

For comparison, the 154 goals scored at Paris Olympics (men's event) were evenly split between set-piece and open play -- 77 field goals, 62 penalty corners, and 15 penalty strokes. And, indeed, all three goals in Lancers' second straight win were field goals. SV Sunil (14₹) gave Gonasika the deserved lead as they made a better start to the match, looking to bounce back from a heartbreaking 5-6 defeat just 24 hours earlier. But Lancers' overseas quality once again shone through as Antoine Kina (28₹) and captain Aran Zalewski (33₹) completed the turnaround. With two significant results on the trot,

Lancers are fast emerging the team to beat as the league phase nears the halfway stage. While the initial stages of the tournament saw two early frontrunners in Bengal Tigers and UP Rudras, over the last two days both of them suffered significant defeats each against the team that started the match at the foot of the table.

The table still looks tight, with only Delhi SG Pipers yet to win a match outright and all teams having lost at least once either in a shootout or in regulation time. On Tuesday, Kalinga Lancers had produced arguably the performance of the tournament so far as they put six past Tigers to end their perfect winning start. Now they have moved up to third in the standings.

### Tight battle in the table

The biggest takeaway so far is that the fight for top four is going to be close. With no team either pulling away completely or struggling for form badly, the next couple of rounds are likely to paint a clearer picture. Teams didn't get a lot of time to practice together before the league began at the end of last year, so the connections are likely to get better between the Indians and international stars.

This is where Lancers, and perhaps Tamil Nadu Dragons, could be the teams to watch out for in the coming days. For Dragons, Dutch drag flicker Jip Janssen is starting to step up and in Blake Govers, they have a forward dovetailing with the Indian youngsters. Lancers, who built



Kalinga Lancers celebrate during their win against Team Gonasika.

a squad without going beyond Rs 38 lakh for any player, have serious international goalscoring threat in their ranks and after a slow start, Thierry Brinkman, Alexander Hendrickx Nicholas Bandurak are starting to show their class. The key tactical advantage that the Odisha franchise possesses is the ability to play Krishan Pathak in goal, which means they can play their full quota of five overseas players all the time. As evidenced on Thursday, it gives them an edge in tight situations with Hendrickx setting up Zalewski beautifully for the winner.

### Dutchmen leading the way

In the goalscoring charts, two Dutchmen are leading the way with four goals each: both Brinkman and Janssen have registered a hattrick each already are currently the top two. After a slow start to the tournament, laid low by an illness, India captain Harmanpreet Singh is also starting to find his radar, with three goals in his last two games. Also on three goals are Indian drag-flicker Jugraj Singh, Belgian ace Hendrickx, and Argentina's Tomas Domene.

While the first 8 matches of the tournament witnessed four draws that needed shootouts. there has been only one regulation-time draw in the next 9 matches.

### Indians have impressed as well

While Harmanpreet and Jugraj are on three goals each, seven Indians have netted twice. Among them, Sukhjeet Singh (Tigers), Araijeet Singh Hundal (Gonasika) and Sudeep Chirmako (Rudras) have looked sharp in leading the line. The now-retired Rupinder Pal Singh also made a good start to the tournament, with two goals for Tigers and some solid defensive play. Another retiree in Sunil joined Rupinder on 2 goals, turning back the clock with a poacher's finish against Lancers but it wasn't enough to lead his side to a win. Elsewhere, Lancers' Dilpreet Singh, Tigers' Jaskaran Singh and Toofans' Rajinder Singh have caught the eye.

