# **♦**TheIndian **EXPRESS**

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## BUSINESS AS USUAL



#### New Delhi is most polluted capital, Byrnihat in Meghalaya tops list of cities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

NEW DELHI continues to be the world's most polluted capital while Meghalaya's Byrnihat is the world's most polluted met-ropolitan area, according to the

2024 World Air Quality Report released on Tuesday. With an average annual PM 2.5 concentration of 91.8 µg/m³. New Delhi remained the most polluted capital city followed by Chad's N°Djamena (91.6) and Dhaka (78).

Dhaka (78). In fact, between 2018 and 2024, New Delhi has topped the list — except in 2022 when

list — except in 2022 when NDjamena degd past it. PM (Particulate Matter) 2.5, which remains suspended in the air, has significant adverse effects on health, causing and worsening respiratory illnesses as well as leading to an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases. While the World Health Organization (WHO) annual guideline for PM 2.5 is 5 micrograms per cubic metre (ug/m3).

WORLD AIR QUALITY

REPORT 2024 TOP POLLUTED CAPITALS

TOP POLLUTED COUNTRIES

DR Congo

\*Annual average PM 2.5 concentration in µg/m3

## India continues to engage US: Govt to House amid fears of reciprocal tariff

Prasada: Focus to be on increasing market access, reducing tariff, non-tariff barriers

#### RAVI DUTTA MISHRA

AMID FEARS among exporters of higher tariffs in the lucrative US market from April 2 when reciprocal tariffs are set to come into effect, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry told Lok Sabha Tuesday that the government is engaging with the US to elimi-nate tariffs and non-tariff barri-ers and improve trade. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal concluded his US visit last Saturday and the Ministry plans consultations with exporters this week.

Representatives from sectors including automobiles, leather, including automobiles, learner, textiles, electronics and pharma-ceuticals, among others, are ex-pected to present their stance on rariff concessions that may be of-fered to the US during trade ne-gotiations, The Indian Express has learnt

Concerns over concessions grew after US President Donald Trump said last Friday that India had agreed to cut tariffs after be-

OFFICIALS IN Delhi have indicated that the

indicated that the grounds are being pre-pared for negotiations on an early bilateral trade agreement with the US. While the hope is to fi-nalise a pact by autumn this year, there will be no short-cuts at these talks, and each product, sector and concern will be weighed before a deci-sion is taken.

ing "exposed" for being restric-tive from a trade perspective and making it difficult for American companies to do business in India. US Secretary of Commerce

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



THE WORLD

sion is taken.

IN TALKS WITH U.S.. UKRAINE AGREES TO CEASEFIRE WITH RUSSIA FOR 30 DAYS



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritius counterpart Navin Ramgoolam arrive to lay a wreath and planta tree at the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden in Pamplemousses, Mauritius, on Tuesday, Reuters

## For us, Mauritius is family: PM meets country's new leadership

Modi will be chief guest at Mauritius national day today

NEWDELH MARCHTI

IN A strategic outreach to the new leadership in Mauritius, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met newly-elected Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam and President Dharam Gokhool Tuesday as he began a two-day visit or the island nation.

The engagement with the new leadership is important in the context of the Indian government's involvement in developing infrastructure in Mauritius under the governments led by Anerood and Pravind Jugnauth.

The decision to develop infrastructure in Kalegiag islands was taken during the tenure of the

Jugnauths. Delhi is now making "This bond is deep and strongly rooted in history, heritage and Jugnauths. Delhi is now making an effort to reach out to the new regime led by Ramgoolam. Mauritius has been ruled by the Ramgoolams and the Jugnauths ever since the country became independent in 1968. Speaking at an event for the Indian diaspora in Port Louis, which was also attended by Ramgoolam, Modi underlined India's role as a "trusted ally in

mis both is usery and strongy rooted in history, heritage and the human spirit." And, he described Mauritius as a vital bridge connecting India to the Global South, a relationship reinforced by India's SACAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region) vision, first anounced during his 2015 visit to the island nation. "A decade and I shared the

India's role as a "trusted ally in combating illegal fishing, piracy, and maritime crimes".

"As a reliable friend, India works with Mauritius to protect its national interests and secure the Indian Ocean region," he said.

the island nation.

"A decade ago, I shared the SACAR vision here. Today, Mauritius remains at its heart," Modi said.

Ramgoolam acknowledged the contributions of the Indian diaspora: "Your participations visial for the economic growth of Mauritius. When you come here, you enrich our country as well."

CONTINUISTION PAGE 2 He said Mauritius is not just a partner country. "For us, Mauritius is family," he said. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

#### TRAIN TRAPPED IN TUNNEL

## **Baloch rebels** hijack Pak train, say 30 killed, 100 are hostage

Demand release of Baloch prisoners within 48 hrs, threaten to kill hostages



Relatives of the train passengers collect information from a special counter at a railway station in Quetta, Tuesday. AP

#### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA KARACHI, ISLAMABAD, MARCH 11

SUSPECTED BALOCH gunmer SUSPECTED BALOCH gummen opened fire at passenger train in Pakistan's restive Balochistan on Tuesday, injuring several passengers, and claimed to have taken over 100 people hostage. Late at night, a government spokesperson said 80 passengers had been rescued but around 400 others remained on the train.

400 others remained on the train.
(A Reuters report quoted local police as saying that 35
CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



EXPLAINED PAGE 13

## Infant's death during a police raid rocks Alwar village, probe begins

PARUL KULSHRESTHA

THE ANGER is palpable at a sit-IHE ANGEK is palpable at a sit-inprotest organised by local res-idents outside the house of Razeeda (26) and Imran Meo (27), whose 25-day-old fidd died, allegedly during an early morning police search at their home in Raghunathgarh village in Rajasthan's Alwar district ear-liershis means.

lier this month. The family and the protesters blame police for the infant's death, alleging that she was



A protest has been going on since March 5. Parul Kulshrestha

while they entered the house and dragged Imran out. The ac-tion was part of a series of raids

conducted by police on March 2

#### Switching bibs, Rly athlete ran marathon for doctor's wife, another; all 3 banned

A CASE of impersonation via "bib switch" has led to the banning of three runners who took part in the Athletics Federation of India-approved Apollo Tyres New Delhi Marathon held here last month. The allegation of cheating has

been made against a sports quota railway employee who purport-

edly ran for the wife of a railway doctor and another participant. The organisers of the February 23 event, NEB Sports, in a communication accessed by The Indian Express, asid that "running for someone else amounts to cheating" and the "race management team has taken strict action against them "hanning them for against them," banning them for two years. It said that they would make this decision public by

BHARTI AIRTEL has signed an agreement with billionaire Elon Musk's satellite company SpaceX to bring Starlink's satellite internet services to people in India. This is the first such agreement to be signed in India, al-though it is subject to SpaceX re-

alliance is so that the former car offer consumer satellite services in the country, as its own satellite service, OneWeb, is focused

#### Airtel inks pact with Elon Musk's SpaceX to offer Starlink internet services

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

# SpaceX has applied for security clearance with the Indian government, and it is understood that its application is undergoing review at the Ministry of Home Affairs. Industry experts said the reason behind Airtel and SpaceX's

## When Dangal star Aamir met his wrestling heroes on home ground

#### SHIVANINAIK

A SURPRISE move caught wrestling coach Kripa Shankar Bishnoi off guard as soon as he entered the residence of his

most famous pupil in suburban Mumbai on Monday afternoon. Aamir Khan, for whom Bishnoi had choreographed se-quences in the runaway hit, Dangal, jokingly greeted him with a leg hold as soon as he

stepped inside the star's house.
"Paer pe lapak gaye. Lekin
maine khoobsurati se defend kiya
(he had me in a leg hold, but I defended beautifully)," the wrestling coach, who was roped in to guide actors in wrestling tech-niques for the 2016 Nitesh Tiwari film, told The Indian Express. During 90 minutes of starry

magic that followed, over cups of tea and snacks, Aamir, Bishnoi and a dozen wrestlers and coaches talked about wrestling movies and how Dangal had helped bust their rowdy image, among other filmy stereotypes, besides bringing wrestlers global respectability.



A proud Bishnoi recollected how the actor told everyone about how he had helped him kick an old habit. "Aamir told everyone how I got him to quit smoking I used to get very angry with him for smoking and told him that I would not coach him if he did not to smoking "he case."

him that I would not coach him if he didnot stops smoking. "he says. The wrestlers, who were in Mumbai for an Indian Railways preparatory camp, had come were armed with rehearsed birthday wishes, conveyed shyly in stuttered Urdu ahead of Aamir's 50th birthday wish birthday wish birthday wish birthday wish conveyed Shyly in stuttered Urdu ahead of Aamir's 50th birthday on March 14, the others recalled watching.

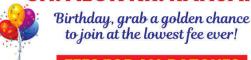
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#### 1981 FIROZABAD KILLINGS

#### 44 yrs later, 3 convicted of murder of 24 Dalits in UP

MANISH SAHU

including seven women and tw minors, were killed at Dehuli vil lage in Firozabad district of Utta Pradesh, the trial court has con victed three persons in the case

During the long-drawn trial that was moved to a court in Mainpuri district last year on the orders of the Allahabad High Court, 13 accused died, while

cone still remains absconding.
Twenty-four Dalits were
killed after some villagers allegedly testified against a criminal gang, whose members were
mostly from the upper caste.
"The court convicted three
persons in the mass murder case

on Tuesday. Accused Ram Sevak.

#### Bengal temple entry ban: Dalits to pray under police cover today

RAVIK BHATTACHARYA

THE ADMINISTRATION in West THE ADMINISTRATION in West Bengal's Purba Bardhaman district on Tuesday said members of the Dalit community from Gidhagram village in Ratwa subdivision would perform puja at the local Shiva temple under police protection on Wednesday. So far, they were barred from entering the Gidheswar Shiv Mandir, which according to localis is nearly 200 was roll with a coording to localis is nearly 200 was roll with the Communication of th

The village, located nearly 150 kilometres from state capital Kolkata, has nearly 130 Dalit

families with 550 members. Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Katwa SDO Ahimsa Jain said, "In a meeting today, it was decided that they will offer prayers at the temple from to-morrow. We will not allow any discrimination to continue. Though we had held a meeting on February 28 as well, there re-mained some issues."

mained some issues."

The Dalit families, who live in the Daspara locality of the village, were not allowed to enter the temple despite their pleas to the district administration and the police, highlighting 'un-touchability and discrimina-tion'.

#### India continues to engage US: Govt continues to engage with the

Notably, Trump on Tuesday

Commerce Secretary Sunil

Tar.

Barthwal briefed the
Parliamentary Committee on
External Affairs on Trump's recent
claim that India had agreed to re-

duce its tariffs "way down," while

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri updated the committee on China and Europe.

in India. The capital, New Delhi

maintained consistently high pol-lution levels, with an annual av-

lution levels, with an annual average of 91.6 to Jgm³, nearly unchanged from 92.7 µg/m³ in 2023,"the report said.

"Air pollution remains a significant health burden in India, reducing life expectancy by an estimated 5.2 years," it said.
Only seven countries met the WHO guidelines for annual average DA12.5 Level. They are DA12.5 Level. They are

age PM2.5 level. They are Australia, Bahamas, Barbados,

No city in East Asia, South Eas

Asia and West Asia met the WHO

guidelines, the report said. Other key findings of the re-

home to the top seven most polluted cities in the world.

The most polluted major city in the US was Los Angeles.

Howard Lutnick also said that

India's agriculture sector "must open up" for US products. In a written reply in Lok Sabha Tuesday, Minister of State trade ties in a mutually beneficial and fair manner. Both nations refor Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada said the "Indian governleased a joint statement on February 13, 2025, reaffirming rebruary 13, 2025, realitiming their commitment to deepening economic ties. Under the ambi-tious 'Mission 500', both coun-tries aim to more than double US-India trade to \$500 billion by 2030 through deepening trade relations across multiple sectors." ment continues to engage with the United States" to enhance and broaden bilateral trade ties in a mutually beneficial and fair

Responding to a question by ongress MP K Sudhakaran and TMCMPSayani Ghosh on the impact of reciprocal tariffs, Prasada reiterated that the US had not ye retterated that the Us had not yet implemented reciprocal tariffs on India and that both countries would focus on "increasing mar-ket access, reducing tariff and non-tariffbarriers, and enhancing supply chain integration." "The US issued a

Memorandum on Reciprocal Trade and Tariffs on February 13, 2025, instructing the Secretary of Commerce and the United States Trade Representative to investi nature representative to investi-gate harm to the US from any non-reciprocal trade agreements adopted by trading partners. Are-port with detailed proposed remedies for each trading partner is to be submitted, based on which US action could then be under taken under relevant US legislation. As of now, reciprocal tariffs have not been applied by the US on India," he said in his reply. "The Government of India

 New Delhi most polluted capital aging  $50.6~\mu g/m^3$  compared to  $54.4~\mu g/m^3$  in 2023. Yet six of the world's 10~most polluted cities are

India's Central Pollution Control

clude combustion engines, power

chule combustion engines, power generation, industrial activities, crop burning and agricultural practices, and wood and coal burning. According to the latest report, prepared by Swiss air quality technology company (QAir, 13 of the world's 20 most polluted cities are in India, with Byrnihat topping the chart with an annual average PM 2.5 concentration of 128.2 ne/m3.

128.2 µg/m3. The other cities are Mullanpur The other cities are Mullanpur (Punjah), Faridabad, Loni, Gurgaon, Ganganagar, Greater Noida, Bhiwadi, Muzaffarnagar, Hanumangarh, Noida, New Delhi (Central Delhi) and Delhi (average for the rest of the city). India is the fifth most polluted courtry, with an average PM 2.5 of 505 kg/m³ – 10 times higher than the WHO annual PM 2.5 outleigns value of 5 for M°.

Australia, Balandis, Barbados, Estonia, Grenada, Iceland, and New Zealand. Oceania is the cleanest region, with 57% of the regional cities meeting the WHO guideline value. The region com-prises three countries — Australia, French Polynesia and New Zealand. guideline value of 5 µg/m3.

In 2023, India was the third

port are:

Only 17% of cities across the world met WHO air pollution

In 2023, India was the mirro most polluted country. The report has relied on data from over 40,000 air quality mon-tioring stations at 8,954 locations in 138 countries, territories and regions. It was analysed by IQAir's air quality scientists. Data shows that PM 2.5 conguidelines.
Out of the 138 countries and regions, 126(91.3%) exceeded the WHO annual PM 2.5 guideline value of 5 µg/m3. ■ Central and South Asia were

centration levels in Delhi have seen a slight improvement but the NCR region is still heavily polluted. "India saw a 7% decline in PM who is in jail, appeared from thene, while Kaptan, who was out on bail, was taken into custody after being found guilty. The third accused, Rampal, failed to appear in court. His request for exemption was rejected, and a non-bail-able warrant has been issued against him," said Government Coursel (Manppuri) Rohit Shukda. The court held them guilty under various IPC sections. Shukda said the court will decide on the quantum of punishment

on the quantum of punishment

on March 18.

According to the prosecution, the incident took place on November 18, 1981, when a group of assailants attacked behuli village. They barged into houses and shot dead family members present before looting the homes. By the time a police arrived, the attackers had fled,

people incustody, including secu-rity personnel.

The Reuters report said the BLA claimed to have killed 30 sol-diers and shot down a drone.

While the Pakistani authori-ties did not comment on the group's claim, security sources said the train driver and several said the train driver and several passengers were injured in the gunfile. "Thee are reports of intense firing at Jaffar Express, which was heading from Queta to Peshawar, between Pelno Kurri and Gadalar, Badoitsian government spokesperson Shahid Rind said. He said rescut erams had been sent. "The security forces have managed to rescue 80 passengers—43 men, 26 women and I children — from a bogie," Rind said. However, around 400 passengers remained on the tain, still sengers remained on the train, still trapped inside the tunnel as secu-

passengers had been taken hostage while nearly 350 others are believed to be safe.) The Jaffar Express, with around 500 passengers on board in nine coaches, was on its way

from Balochistan's capital Quetta to Peshawar in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa when armed men

Pakhtunkhwa when armed men intercepted it in a tunnel near the mountainous terrain of Gadalar and Pehro Kumi on Tuesday. The gunmen opened fire at the train, injuring several passengers. The Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) claimed it seized con-trol of the train by derailing it. The groups aid it has killed six security personnel and taken over 100 penelle in cystopy including sour penelle in cystopy in chuling sour penelle in cystopy in penelle in cystopy in chuling sour penelle in cystopy in penelle in cystopy penelle

people in custody, including secu-

trapped inside the tunnel as secu-ity forces engaged in a gunbattle with the militants, he said. (Reuters adds from Queta: The BLA said it had taken 214 hostages and threatened to kill themif Baloch prisoners were not freed. The train was trapped in a

tunnel and the driver was killed after sustaining serious injuries, local authorities, police and rail-way officials said.

But a district senior police offi-cer, Rana Dilawar, said "around 350 passengers, including womer and children are safe and a reliel train will be reaching the area"

train will be reaching the area." Security forces banded a massive operation," he said, adding that helicopters and special forces had been deployed.

A security source who asked not to be identified said many earties and to the dientified said many earties, adding that 80 military passengers aboard the train. Another security source said 80 passengers had been rescued and the militants were surrounded. The operation will continue until the last terrorist is eliminated," they said.

they said. The BLA, meanwhile, said it "is prepared for a prisoner exchange' and demanded that Islamabad re lease within 48 hours Baloch po-litical prisoners, activists and misslitical prisoners, activists and miss-ing persons who, it said, have been abducted by the military. "If our demands are not met within the stipulated period or if the occupy-ing state attempts any military ac-tion during this time, all prisoners of war will be neutralised and the train will be completely de-stroyed." it said.

stroyed, it said.

The group said the hostages included Pakistan Army personnel and other security officials travelling on leave. travelling on leave.
"Civilian passengers, particu-larly women, children, the elderly, and Baloch citizens, have been re-leased safely and given a secure route," it said in a statement emailed to journalists and posted on Telegram. "The BLA further warns that if military intervention continues, all hostages will be ex-ecuted.") Rescue teams and security

FROM PAGE ONE | FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Baloch rebels hijack Pak train, say

30 killed, 100 taken hostage

forces reached the scene, and an operation was underway to track down the assailants officials said An emergency was declared in the local hospitals. Security sources

said the operation is complicated due to the difficult terrain. Railways Controller Muhammad Kashif said that the train, comprising nine coaches, had around 500 passengers on board. "The train was stopped by armed men in Tunnel No.8," he said. There are 17 tunnels in this area on the railway line and due

area on the railway line and due to the difficult terrain, the speed of the train is often slow. Citing security sources, Geo News reported that the train was stopped after a portion of the track was blown up by the terrorists, who opened fire on the engine, injuring the driver. Security officials present on the train and the attackers exchanged fire, it said, adding that the terrorists then took control of the train in a turn. took control of the train in a tun-

nel.

Sources said that no contact could be immediately made with the train crew due to the lack of mobile and telephone networks at the location of the attack. Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi condemned the incident, saying: "The beasts who fire on innocent passengers do not deserve any concessions".

any concessions." Minister of State for Interior Minister of State for memoi Talal Chaudhry said there was a hostage like situation, as many passengers had been taken from the train to the nearby mountain-ous area. He said women and chil-dren were being used as shields. Speaking to Geo News, the minister also confirmed that there are some government offi-cials and their families on the train. "The incident took place this afternoon in which the train was hijacked. This is a remote area and there is a trinnel between two sta

tions where this incident took

He rejected the claim by the relegeted the tailing the rebels that they freed women and children. "There is no truth in it., rather it is because of the women and children that the security forces are acting with utmost cau-tion," the minister said, adding that the operation was still going on.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Khan Minister Ali Amin Khan Gandapur strongly condemned the attack and expressed concern over the hostage-taking. "Targeting innocent passengers and endangering their lives is a cowardly and brutal act." Gandapur said. In the past, railway tracks in the area have been attacked by Baloch militarist using rockets or remote-controlled bombs, and the BLA daimed responsibility for the properties of the properties o

the BLA claimed responsibility for most of the attacks. The group is banned in Pakistan, the UK and

Danned in Pakistan, the UK and the US. In October last year, Pakistan Railways announced the restora-tion of train services between Quetta and Peshawar after a sus-pension of more than a month-and-a-half.

u-a-nan. Balochistan, bordering Iran and Afghanistan, is home to a long-running violent insurgency. long-running violent insurgency.
Baloch insurgent groups frequently carry out attacks targeting security personnel, government projects and the
China-Pakistan Economic
Corridor (CPEC) projects in the oil
and mineral-rich province.

#### Infant's death during a police raid rocks Alwar village, probe begins

crackdown on cyber crime. Police have filed an FIR o Police have filed an FIR over the incident, naming two police personnel. Five personnel have been told to report to Alwar police headquarters and the former SHO of Naogaon police station, Ajeet Badsara, is awaiting posting or-ders. No personnel has been sus-pended yet with police saying that further action would be taken af-ter completing their investigation

Notably, Trump on Tuesday announced additional 25 per cent tariffs on steel and aluminium from Canada and Mexico amid a widening trade war. Shares on Wall Street slumped Monday, recording one of the worst trading days since 2022, driven by concerns over the impact of Trump's trade policies on the US economy. further action would be taken af-ter completing their investigation into the matter.

The incident took place around 6 amon March 2. Razeeda, amother of three, recalled that she and her family were sleeping when the police team started knocking on their door. When she opened the door, she was brushed aside by police personnel who went straight inside towards her Barthwal told a Parliamentary panel Monday that negotiations husband, who had barely woken up, Razeeda said. between the two countries are ongoing and no agreement on trade tariffs had been reached so far.

up, Razeeda said.

"Mynewhorm was sleeping on the cot beside the bed where my husband was sleeping with our two sons. While two police personnel entered the room, I wamed them that my child was sleeping on the cot but they ignored me. As the police dragged my husband out of the house, I unshed Inwands my halvand saw rushed towards my baby and saw that her nose had bled and that

that her hose had be also that she was no longer breathing,"the mother said. She said police took her hus-band away and let him go just out-side the villager border. The fam-ily denied that he had anything to do with cyber crime. Members of the family then

went to the Naogaon police station, where the personnel who raided the home were from, to file a complaint. Razeeda's brother-in-law,

Shaukeen Meo (35), alleged that police at the station initially denied that any such incident happened and forcefully made them sign a blank paper.

"Later, we got to know that on that paper, officials wrote that the child was aftered yis kidnet that this was the reason for her death. We never consented to this hut they never consented to this, but they did all this to save their officers,"

did all this to save their officers," alleged Shaukeen. Alwar SPSanjeev Nain told The Indian Express that he was not aware of police making the family sign such a paper and Additional SPAtul Sahur efused to comment, saying the matter is un-der investigation. With their initial visit to the police station not successful the

police station not successful, the family and other members of the community took the body of the infant to the SP's residence in infant to the SF's residence in protest. In the evening, an FIR was registered, naming constables Girdhari and Jagveer, under BNS section 103(1), which deals with punishment of murder.

Later, a postmortem was conducted and the body was subse-

quently buried at the village bur-ial ground. Officials said they have not yet received the postmortem

## cyber fraud

On the morning of the infant's death, police raided multiple houses in the village, purportedly in search of cyber criminals. The Mewat region in Rajasthan is known to be a hub of

cyber crime, and hundreds of cases from all over India have been registered against people from the region — which includes the dis-

tricts of Alwar and Bharatpur –in connection with such cases. Additional SP Tejpal Singh said police have blocked 15,15,44 sIM cards since 2022 after they were found to be involved in cyber crime.

crime.
To curb cyber fraud in the region, police officers said they were constantly conducting raids trying to locate cyber criminals. The raid at Imran and Razeeda's house was part of one such operation, according to officers.

#### Rising anger

The death of the infant has led to rising anger in the village. Maulana Tahir, an activist helping the family, said residents are demanding the suspension of offi-cers from the police station and cers from the police station and the arrest of those accused in the case. On the police personnel being told to report to headquarters. Tahir said, "Is this punishment enough for someone who killeda newborn baby? Police and administration want the matter to cold down in a few days and later release all the culprits."

release all the culprits."
A sli-in protest has been un-derway for the past week in front of the family shouse, with protest-ers saying if the suspensions and arrests are not forthcoming, they will take the protest to the streets. SP hain said action would be taken after the investigation. The investigation has been given to Bhiwodi Additional SP Antl Sahu, who visited the area on Monday... We will take action against the accuse of flicials once against the accused officials once the (investigation) report is sub-mitted. Until then, it would be too soon to say anything," he said. Alwar's Principal Medical

Officer Sunii Chauhan said the In-nal postmortem and the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) report were yet to arrive and that the cause of the infant's death would become clear only after these are received.

Officer Sunil Chauhan said the fi-

The incident has set off a political storm in Rajasthan. Congress's Tikaram Jully, the Leader of the Opposition, visited Alwar district and accused the government of harassing innocent people in the name of cyber fraud.

'In the state Assembly, the government gave assurance that they are taking action against the cyber fraud, but officials are arresting innocent people to extort money from them. Police went to the house of the victim in the house of the victim in Raghunathpura for the same reason and killed a child. The BJP is not serious about this case, and only after pressure from the Opposition were officials from outside the district appointed to investigate the case," said jully. CPI(M) Alvardistrict secretary Raisa, who visited the family, said that around six nolice personnel

Raisa, who visited the family, said that around six police personnel entered the room, but the FiRwas filed against only two constables. "The entire police station should be suspended in this case. Also, I agree that police have a right to cut blue criminal activities, but who has given them the right to punish the excused. We demand compensation for the activities to the compensation for the compensation of the compensation of the compensation for the compensation. demand compensation for the family, which is already living on the meagre salary of a labourer. This is a misuse of power by po-lice personnel of Rajasthan," Raisa said.

#### For us, Mauritius is family: PM

"We want to encourage peo-ple from India, more people to come to invest in Mauritius, es-pecially foreign investors," he said.

pecially foreign investors," he said.

"We are looking forward to making businesses easier to do, less bureaucracy, less red tape," he said.

Ramgoolam announced the conferment of his country's highest civilian honour, the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean, on Modi. This prestigious accolade marks Modi as the first Indian and only the fifth global recipient of the award, recognising his contributions to strengthening India-Mauritius relations. Earlier in the day, Modi was received at the airport by Ramgoolam, who was joined by the Deputy Prime Minister, Chief Justice of Mauritius, Speaker of the National Assembly, Leader of the Opposition, Foreign Minister.

the National Assembly, Leader of the Opposition, Foreign Minister, Cabinet Secretary, Chairperson of Grand Port District Council and a

total of 200 dignitaries.

During the meeting with
President Gokhool, the two leaders exchanged views on deepening the special and close bilateral

"Had a great meeting with His Excellency Mr Dharambeer Gokhool, President of Mauritius. He is well acquainted with India and Indian culture, Expressed and Indian culture. Expressed gratitude for inviting me to be a part of the National Day celebrations of Mauritius. We discussed how to further boost bilateral ties across diverse sectors," Modi said in a post on X.

He noted that it was an hon-fer bire that the National

He noted that it was an hon-our for him to attend the National Day celebrations of Mauritius as chief guest for the second time,

chief guest for the second time. In a special gesture, Modi handed over OCI cards to President Gokhool, and Fist Lady Vrinda Gokhool, as well as Ramgoolam and his wife Veena. He giffed holy Sangam water from the Mahakumbhi na brass and copper pot to President Gokhool. He also gifted Makhana, a superfood from Bihat, tro Gokhool. The Prime Minister presented

The Prime Minister presented a Banarasi silk saree in a Sadeli box to the wife of President Gokhool.

Gokhool.

After the talks, President
Gokhool hosted a State lunch in
honour of the Prime Minister.

Modi also visited the
Ayurveda Garden in the State
House, established in collaboration with the Government of
Jelia The Piene Ministry noted India. The Prime Minister noted that Mauritius is an important partner for India in advancing the benefits of traditional medicine,

including Ayurveda.
"It is commendable that an
Ayurvedic Garden has been built
in the State House in Mauritius. I
am also happy that Ayurveda is

gaining popularity in Mauritius. President Dharambeer Gokhool and I went to the Ayurvedic Garden, giving me the opportu-nity to see it firsthand," Modi said

on X.

Before meeting President Gokhool, Modi and Ramgoolam

John Managorian and Alligorian planted a sapling at Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Botanical Garden.

Modi laid a wreath at the samadhi of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, the founding father of Mauritius. He also laid a wreath at the samadhi of wreath at the samadhi of Anerood Jugnauth. "Went to the Sir Seewoosagur

"Went to the Sir Seewoosagu Ramgoolam Botanical Garden with Prime Minister Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam. This is a fine botanical garden, aliving archive of biodiversity which il-lustrates Mauritius' conservation efforts and botanical heritage," he said.
"Paid homage to Sir

elforts and botanical heritage," he said.
"Paid Manage to Sir Seewoosagur Kamgoolam and Sir Anerood Jugnauth, two great leaders who have made indelible contributions to Mauritius' progress," he saidin another post.
"Humbled by the heartfelt gesture of my friend, Prime Minister Dr Navin Ramgoolam, in taking part in Ex Ped Maas Ke Naam" – a tribute to nature, motherhood and sustainability. His support stands tall as a symbol of our shared commitment to a greener and better future," he said.

said.
This is Modi's Second State visit since 2015. He will be the Chief Guest at the National Day Celebrations on March 12.
For India, China's increasing footnit in the Indian Ocean region has been a cause of concern, and it wants to work Cosely with island countries like Mauritius island countries like Mauritius Notably, Mauritius faced the dev-Notably, Mauritus faced the devastating Cyclone Chido last year, particularly affecting Agalega. India managed to mobilise its naval assets and utilise the facilities created in Agalega to deliver assistance and relief material. The two sides are looking at moving on defence and maritime security, and are likely to sign a technical agreement on sharing

technical agreement on sharing white-shipping information be-tween the Indian Navy and the Mauritius authorities. It will further enhance maritime security of Mauritius, safety of its trading corridors, and enhance regional cooperation in real-time data-sharing.

An Indian naval ship will make a port call at Port Louis to celebrate the occasion of Modi as the Chief Guest at Mauritius the Chief Guest at Mauritus National Day celebrations. A marching contingent from the Indian Navy along with an Indian Navy helicopter, Akash Ganga skydiving team from the IAF and a team of NCC cadets will also participate in the celebration.

#### Airtel inks pact with SpaceX

The development also heats The development also heats up the fight between Reliance Jio and Musk's SpaceX, who have previously disagreed over how spectrum for such services should be assigned — with Jio calling for an auction, but SpaceX insisting on the administrative route. The government has decided to go

with administrative alloca The partnership, Airtel said, The partnership, Airtel said, enables the company to "explore how Starlink can complement and expand Airtel's offerings, and how Airtel's expertise in the Indian market complements SpaceX's direct offerings toon-sumers and businesses".

As part of the pact, Airtel and SpaceX will explore offering Starlink equipment in Airtel's rectall stores, Starlink services via Airtel on business, customers, one

Airtel to business customers, op Artet to business customers, op-portunities to connect communi-ties, schools, and health centers, among many others, in some of the most rural parts of India. "Airtel and SpaceX will also ex-plore how Starlink could help ex-pand and enhance the Airtel net-work, as well as SpaceX's ability to

utilise and benefit from Airtel's utilise and benefit from Airtets; ground network infrastructure and other capabilities in India," Airtel said in a statement. "By adding Staflink, (in addition to its existing alliance with Eutelsat OneWeb) to isofferings, Airtelwill further its ability to offer nation-wide connectivity and connect previously underserved areas, par-ticularly those with limited to no coverage today," it said. "With Starlinkenterprise suite, Airtel will be able to offer enterprises, busi-nesses, and communities... con-

nesses, and communities... Con-nectivity packages." Gopal Vittal, MD and Vice Chairman, Bharti Airtel, said, "Working with SpaceX to offer Starlinkto Airtel customers in India is a significant milestone and fur-ther demonstrates our commitment to next-generation satellite connectivity." Gwynne Shotwell connecturity. Gwynne Shotwey, President and Chief Operating Officer of SpaceX, said, "The team at Airtel has played a pivotal role in India's telecom story, so working with them to complement our di-rect offering makes great sense for our business."

#### • When Dangal star Aamir met his wrestling heroes on home ground

his first film Holi, on Doordarshan, commiserating with Aamir over the film never getting a theatrical

Aamir, in turn, did his best to

Aamir, in turn, did his best to impress them by holding forth on why Indians did well in freestyle wresting, but not in Greco-Roman, an upper body-only variation of the sport. The actor even gave a demonstration of a takedown he had mastered, seeking approval for the technique from the female wrestlers. "Aamir also had suggestions on how to improve our medal count (in Greco-out (in Greco-out of the Count of the Count

suggestions on how to improve our medal count (in Greco-Roman wrestling)," Bishnoi says. When the Railways training camp in Mumbai was announced, ahead of the nationals, Bishnoi says he sent a text to the actor, the star of multiple hits, including Andaz Anna Anna, Quyamat See Quyamat Tak, Joleeta Wohi Sikandar, Awwal Number wal Janame. "He realied within and Lagaan. "He replied within seconds, giving us a time slot and saying, 'turant aa jao (come quickly)'. However, we had practice in that time slot and he left for Panchgani. Though our tim-ing didn't match at first, we fi-

ing didn't match at first, we fi-nally met on March 10," Bishnoi says, adding that the group in-duded Arjuna and Dronacharya award winners.
As the group gathered around the actor, after pleasantries had been exchanged, Aamir sat cross-legged on the floor. Calling Aamir a "zabardas insoam (fantastic pre-son)" due to his simplicity, wrestler Rakesh Duhay from wrestler Rakesh Dubay from Mhow,Indore, recalled "fumbling a little" while wishing the actor in Urdu. "Later, Aamir sir said I should have told him about a

women's international (wrestling event) we had in Indore. He said he would have happily turned up to watch it." Dubay adds.

The actor recollected how former world championship medallist Pooja Dhanda, while auditioning for the movie, had recommended Bishnoi's name for the position of a coach. "To portray a three-minute fight with exact paintrey (tac-

tics), keeping in mind cinema's requirements, is something Kripa understood while choreographing us."Amiris heard saying in a video of the meeting. Wrestler's hokinder Tomar says the community was at pains to convey to the world that they were not "rowdies or villains". In town for the treatment of a broken knee, Tomar says, "One of my fellow wrestlers told Aamir sir that we were grateful to him for not potraying us in a negative light. In earlier movies, wrestlers would be shown as these pot-bellied ogres with large moustaches, red eyes and up to no good. We were shown as people everyone should be scared of, ones only capable of gundograff (rowdy behaviour). But Aamir sir's character (in Dangaf) wasn't like that. He showed the genuine difficulties we go through." showed the genuine difficulties we go through."

Stating that wrestling is not given importance "even abroad", Tomar adds, "Dangal brought wrestling respectability in forepaper.indianexpress.com

eign lands too."
"Westling is not like cricket.
Many people find us scary and
the sport is going through a
tough time. It was good of
Bollywood to not show us a svil-alians," another wrestler noted.
During the meeting, many
wrestlers gave the actor their
honest opinion about his movies.
"It was mostly good things. I felt
bad when he told me that Holi
never got released in theatres. I
told him that I had seen it on
Doordarshan and what Hougelt Doordarshan and what I thought of the film," Dubay says. Wrestler Sujeet Maan was impressed on seeing

impressed on seeing uie Bollywood superstar speak to the families of several Railways wrestlers based in remote vil-lages on video calls. "He asked us about our families. We advised him on healthy weight cuts." Mann says. Calling Aamir "down to

earth", Mann recalls, "He came down to the ground floor to see us off...without chappals (slip-pers), barefoot." ganisers showed the sports quota employee wearing her bib

#### Rlv athlete ran marathon for 2 others down such cases in the future". during the stage of the race

ownsuch cases in the future.
When contacted, Nagaraj
Adiga, CMD of NEB Sports and
the race director, told *The Indian*Express, "There were incidents of
cheating during the Apollo New
Delhi Marathon (in the non-elite
categories). We have suspended the three athletes involved. We will be submitting our report to the Athletics Federation of India on Monday. The Federation can take further action as they wish."

Those in the know say that it was the break-up of the timing of the railway doctor's wife, who participated in the full marathon, that gave a whiff of wrong-doing. While the runner was slow for close to three-fourth of the race there was fourth of the race, there was a dramatic spike after that. Photographs shared by the or-

during the stage of the face where the pace was fastest. In marathons, the timing of the participants gets recorded by a chip, mostly a transponder or RFID tag, tagged to the bib on the runner's chest. The readings of the scanner at the start and finish determine the time taken by the runner to complete the race. When contacted, the sports

When contacted, the sports quota employee didn't wish to be quoted. The doctor's wife didn't take a call for comment, but her tusband responded. "No action has been taken. I am part of the management. I can tell you that she fell unconscious after 34 km. He (the sports quota employee) ran with her bib mistakenly. We have clarified this and she has no been banned. We have asked, and the NEB has removed the data of her performance from their web-site," he said.

# 2.5 concentrations in 2024, aver-

Is there AI software to trace missing persons? HC asks police

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE DELHI High Court has inquired from the Delhi Police if there is any Artificial Intelligence software that can be or has been used by them to check and con-firm the whereabouts of missing

The query was raised by a di-vision bench of Justices Prathiba Singh and Dharmesh Sharma while dealing with a habeas cor-pus petition in February.

In the petition, petitioner Dil Khush Bairwa sought the pro-duction of his elderly father, who that to the control of the control o

On February 17, the police in-formed the court that there had been "no trace of the petitioner's father despite the fact that requisite procedures have been fol-lowed and photographs up-loaded on ZIPNET."

added on ZIPNET."

ZIPNET was envisioned as a tool for inter-state police coordination, especially to track missing persons and pinpoint proclaimed offenders.

The bench posted the matter for March 18 in its order from

#### **AERODROME LICENCE EXPECTED IN MAY**

## **Noida International Airport** set to miss second deadline

THE NOIDA International Airport in Uttar Pradesh's Jewar district is set to miss its second deadline for launch. The aerodrome licence for the operations of the flights is expected in May, officials said on Tuesday, a day after Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister West Additional behind in 1986. Yogi Adityanath chaired a meet ing in Lucknow to discuss the

The airport was expected to be opened to the public in April after the October 2024 deadline

In a statement on Tuesday, Noida International Airport CEO Christoph Schnellmann was quoted as saying, "The next ma-jor milestone is the granting of the aerodrome license, expected in May. The airport will begin op-erations with domestic flights,

erations with domestic flights, with international routes to follow in the subsequent months."
Last year, in November, Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL) CEO Arun Vir Singh said that the aerodrome licence was expected by March 20 and that the airport operations would begin any day before April 17. "The



The Jewar airport had initially missed the October 2024 deadline for the launch. File

flights will begin anytime after March 20 and before April 17. For

We are considering international flights for Europe and the Pacific region," he had said at the time. Monday's meeting, chaired by the CM, was attended by Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran, Tata Projects

Schnellmann. When The Indian Express con When The Indian Express contacted UP Chief Secretary Manoj Kumar Singh to seek the details of the meeting, he refused to comment on the matter. The NIAL CEO had earlier re-

MD and CEO Vinayak Pai, Civil Aviation Secretary V Vualnam,

and Zurich International Airport MD Daniel Bircher, apart from

Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL) CEO Arun Vir Singh said that the aerodrome licence was expected by March 20

marked that the flight schedule, marked that the flight schedule, number of flights, and categories of services were likely to be fi-nalised at that meeting. "Acom-prehensive report on the current status of Noida International Airport will be presented before the CM," Singh had said. The latest statement by Schnellmann also highlights that the airport is making steady

the airport is making steady progress towards operational readiness. "The Airports Authority of India (AAI) is advancing its work in the air traffic control tower, while construc-tion of the passenger terminal and associated infrastructure is

and associated infrastructure is progressing well," he said. "Discussions are ongoing with the state and the Centre re-garding the start of commercial

## At New Delhi rly station, man dies while trying to board moving train

A 62-YFAR-OLD man was severed in half while trying to board a run-ning train at New Delhi Railway

Station on Tuesday morning. According to police officers,

According to police officers, the incident occurred at Platform 14, which, incidentally, was the site of a stampede that left 18 dead three weeks ago.

Railway officials said the mass identified as Tilak Raj, a resident of Telsisl Camp in Panipar, Haryana. The accident tool place when he was trying to board the Shane-Punjab Express (Train No. 12497), which runs from New

The incident occurred at Platform 14, which, incidentally, was the site of a stampede that left 18 dead three weeks ago

Delhi to Amritsar, said officials. The train had departed from New Delhi at 6.40 am and had almost entirely moved out of the plat-form area when the mishap oc-curred.

On reaching the scene, police found that the man had suffered severe injuries, with both legs severed and lying between the tracks, while the rest of his body was out-side the rail track. "A mobile phone was recov-ered from the deceased's pocket.

ered from the deceased's pocket.
After some time, a call was received on the phone, through which the deceased was identi-fied... His son, Tarun, along with

fied. His son, Tarun, along with relatives, arrived at the police station, and inquest proceedings under BNSS Section 174 were conducted, "said DCP Railways, K PS Malhotra.

After recording statements from the family, a post-mortem examination was carried out at Lady Hardinge Medical College. The deceased's body was then handedover to his son, said police.

#### Fake call centre busted, 18 arrested from Outer Delhi for duping job seekers: Cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

A FAKE call centre, which al-

seekers were contacted by fraudsters posing as HR repre-sentatives from reputed banks and companies.

and companies.
"They were tricked into paying for fake online courses and
providing bank details.
Following a detailed investigation, our team raided a location
near Mata Chanandevi
Hospital, Janakpuri, and ar-

other equipment," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer) Sachin Sharma said. The accused also duped

people by offering job opportu-nities in lieu of money.

Police continue to investi-gate links to other cases, the of-ficer said.

#### AT COST OF RS 2.55 CRORE

## 12 mohalla clinics, 13 govt dispensaries to be modified

THE BJP-LED Delhi government has issued orders to modify 12 Aam Aadmi Mohalla clinics as Urban Ayushman Arogya Mandir (UAAM) and 13 Delhi government dispensaries as Ayushman Arogya Mandir Primary Health Centres (PHC). The total cost of modification will be Rs 2.55 crore. The modification has to be

completed on an urgent basis, underlined letter written by the

chief engineer, health to special secretary, infrastructure, for ap-proval. "As are being monitored at the highest level of Delhi government, and beyond and are being considered as Model for such type of Ayushman Arogya Mandir PHC & UAAM buildings,"

Mandir PH. & UAWN Dulldings, read the letter.

The 12 Aam Aadmi Mohalla clinics are located in New Delhi and Central District in unautho-rised colonies and Jhuggi Jhopri clusters. Among the 13 Delhi government dispensaries, two each are located in North West and South West Delhi, and one

each in nie other districts.

The average cost for the upgrade has been kept at Rs 15 lakh for the government dispensary and Rs 5 lakh each for the monthalla clinics. The total amount required for such works is Rs 2.55 crore, "Said the letter.

"It was also desired to give a rough estimate for carrying out the said upgradation to the extent possible under which it is submitted that the average cost for such upgradation per dispensary will be around Rs 15 lakh each for 13 listed DGD 15x13 = each for 13 listed DGD 15x13 = i.e. Rs. 1.95 Cr. In addition the av-

erage cost for upgradation of the AAMC to Urban Ayushman Arogya Mandir is @ Rs. 5 lakh each for 12 Nos comes out to = 5x12 Rs. 0.60 Cr. Therefore, the total amount required for such work is Rs. 2.55 Cr," said the letwork is its. 2.55 Cr. said the let-ter. It further added that to exe-cute these works, permission may be granted to utilise the fund allotted under the dispen-sary head to execute these works where the budget seems avail-

Delhi Health Minister Pankai Kumar Singh, soon after taking charge last month, had analso announced that 250 such clinics running from rented spaces will be shut.









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■ India is the most

■ Air quality data was reported from 371

cities across 11 countries in Central and South Asia

India saw a 7% decline in PM 2.5 concentrations in 2024, averaging 50.6 μg/m³ compared to 54.4 μg/m³ in 2023

CHALLENGES:

■ Vehicular emissions, industrial

■ In urban centres like Delhi, vehicular emissions are leading

contributor to fine particulate matter

■ Seasonal agricultural practices, particularly burning of crop residue, further deteriorate air

quality during winter

discharges, constr-uction dust, and burning crop residue MAX: 32-34 | MIN: 16-18

#### WORLD'S MOST POLLUTED CAPITAL FOR SIXTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

# Delhi is more polluted than NCR cities for 2nd year in a row: Data

DELHI, WHICH has emerged as the world's most polluted capital for the sixth consecutive year, over-took cities in the National Capital took cities in the National Capital Region (NRC) in the list of top 15 polluted regional cities of South Asia in 2023 — even as some NR. cities fared worse for the previous six years — shows a comparison of data collected for the annual World Air Quality Report over the years by Swiss air quality technol-ogy company IQ Air. The national capital broke several records in 2024. It was the second most polluted city in

the second most polluted city in the world and the second most

the world and the second most polluted regional city in Central and South Asia, as per the report. With an annual average PM 2.5 concentration of 108.3 µg/m², Delhi was second only to Meghalaya's Byrnihat, which had a PM 2.5 concentration of 128.2 µg/m², in the list of regional cities of South Asia in 2024, (see box), As per WHO 4.5 and Arrived PM 2.5 [see. per WHO standards, PM 2.5 lev els should not exceed 5 µg/m3.

els should not exceed 5 µg/m3.
According to the report, the
Capital fared worst in 2018 with
average PM 2.5 levels at 113.5
µg/m³. But even then, the IQ Air
report had noted, "Officitiesincluded in South Asia, it is interesting to note that although Delhi
typically receives most media
coverage as one of the world's.
"Solluted caniglas," the Indian can-'polluted capitals, ' the Indian cap-ital 'only' ranks 10th for annua PM 2.5 concentration. Other cities across Northern India and across Nortnern India and Pakistan have a higher recorded annual PM 2.5 level, with nearby Gurugram (Gurgaon) narrowly resulting in the highest annual concentration of any global city recorded here during 2018." From 2018 to 2019, even as

#### pollution levels decreased from Motorcycle rider 'slips' on

pothole, dies of

head injuries New Delhi: A 37-year-old mar severe head injury after his mo-torcycle allegelly slipped on a pothole near a traffic light close to Hamdard Hospital on the Mehrauli-Badarpur road on Monday night. He was later de-clared dead at AIIMS Trauma Centre, said police. According to police officers, a PCK call regarding the incident was received at Tigri police sta-tion. On reaching the spot, au-thorities found the injured man, Rashid Khan, His motorcycle and severe head injury after his mo-

monnes ound me injured man, Rashid Khan. His motorcyde and helmet were found nearby. A case was registered against unknown persons under BNS sec-tions 281 (rash or negligent driv-ing) and 106(1) (causing death by negligence), and further investi-gation is underway, said police. "From our initial in discovered that the deceased probably slipped while riding his motorcycle over a large pothole on the road," said a police source. The PWD did not respond when contacted for comment. ENS

#### Number crunching



Delhi was the second most polluted city in the world in 2024. Archive

MOST POLLUTED CITIES IN CENTRAL, SOUTH ASIA\*

Byrnihat, Meghalaya Lahore, Pakistan 101.2 Faridabad, India

(Source: World Air Quality report 2024) ■Bangladesh ■ Maldives ■ Tajikistan

■ Kazakhstan ■ Pakistan 113.5 µg/m³ to 98.6 µg/m³, Delhi ranked as the fourth most pol-luted regional city in Central and South Asia among 147 locations, implying that other NCR cities — including Gurgaon, Faridabad and

improvement in air quality.
While Ghaziabad fared worse
and emerged as the most polluted
city in the region in 2019, the number of Delhi-NCR cities in the top
15 most polluted regional cities
also increased from seven to ten.

■ Turkmenist

■ Uzbekistan

In 2021, 2022, and 2023. In 2023, Delhi overtook other NCR cities to emerge as the most polluted in the region. The other NCR cities on the list were Greater Noida, Muzaffarnagar, Gurgaon, and Dadri. In 2024, Bhiwadi and Faridabad were

Bhiwadi and Faridahad were among the NR cities on the list. In 2019, IQ Air, in its report, had called the NCAP "promising". However, the latest report noted that despite such a programme, challenges to reduce pollution levels persisted. It said this was because of "inconsistent policy implementation and inadequate infrastructure". Air pollution experts have also noted this disparity, urging for better implementation of NCAP. Suntil Dahiya, lead analyst and

better implementation of NKAP.
Smill Dahiya, lead analyst and
founder of Envirocatalysts, a
Delhi-based think tank, said,
"While Delhi has consistently
made headlines as one of the most
polluted cities globally over the
past years, systematic actions to
reduce emission loads at the
source have largely remained confined to drafts within various action plans. These plans have suffered from poor implementation tion plans. These plans have suf-fered from poor implementation and a lack of long-term, system-atic approaches. This is evident in persistently high air pollution lev-els in the city and surrounding re-gions, despite significant steps like the introduction of BS-VI fuel and advanced technologies in the transportation sector."

"This winter however, has

transportation sector." This winter, however, has shown a shift, with regulatory bodies like Commission for Air Quality Management and Supreme Court taking steps to fix accountability and demonstrate intent to reduce emissions at the source. While this marks a small but positive start, achieving significant and lasting improvements will require a drastic overhaul in how air pollution is resulated."

in which a gas cylinder also burst

is being probed. They said the men used to keep a small lamp lit

men used to keep a small lamp lit with fuel on a cooler stand inside the tent, and locked the temporary gate. Initial reports suggest the blaze originated from some material near the lamp catching fire and spreading quickly. Police have registered an FIR against unknown persons under BNS section 106(1) (causing leath, by, pedicently locked and leath locked and locked a

death by negligence). DCP (Shahdara) Prashant Gautam

## Delhi court orders FIR against Kejriwal for alleged 'misuse of funds' to put up hoardings

NIRBHAYTHAKUR

A DELHI court Tuesday ordered the filing of an FIR against former CM Arvind Kejriwal for alleged misuse of funds in putting up hoardings in Dwarka. "The seri-ousness of the offence... can be gauged from the fact that it is not only an eyesore and public nui-sance... but is also hazardous... to

sance...but is also hazardous... to the smooth flow of traffic...," the court noted in its March 11 order. Additional. Chief Judicial Magistrate(ACJM) Neha Mittal of Rouse Avenue Court ordered the SHO of the police station con-cerned to file an FIR under Section 3 (penalty for defacement of property) of the Delhi Prevention of Inefacement of Property Act

property) of the Delhi Prevention of Defacement of Property Act, 2007, and for "any other offences that appear to have been committed from the facts of the case". The court also ordered an FIR against former AAP MIA Gulab Singh and then Dwarka councilor Nitika Sharma.

The complainant in this case is Shir klumar Savena who had

The complainant in this case is 5hiv Kumar Savena, who is 5hiv Kumar Savena, who had moved an application under Section 156(2) [power of magistrate to order investigation] of the CPPC. Savent had alleged Kejriwal was "misusing public money by putting huge-size hoardings" in various places at Dwarfa. A status report filed in 2022 by the SHO, Dwarfa South police

Former CM Arvind Keiriwal

station, stated that the complaint station, stated that the complaint was filed in 2019, and at present (2022), no such hoardings were found at the alleged spot, and, hence, no cognizable offence was made out. On September 15, 2022, a magistrate court in Dwarka dismissed Saxena's application seeking an FIR in this case Advariewed but this the comcase. Aggrieved by this, the com-plainant filed a revision petition

plainant filed a revision petition.
On January 21 this year, the
revisionist court remanded the
matter back to a magistrate
ourt, which was directed to decide the application afresh.
ACJM Mittali in her order said,
"This court does not find any
merit in the arguments advanced
by Ld. APP (Additional Public
Prosecutor) for the state that it is Prosecutor) for the state that it is impossible to collect any eviimpossible to collect any evi-dence at this stage due to lapse of time and non-availability of any particulars of the printing press." "... this court cannot presum the fact that ordering an investi-gation will be a futile exercise

without even giving a chance to the investigating agency, especially in this era of scientific...ad-vancement; she added. In response to the order, the AP said in a statement, "The original complaint named several alleged persons including PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP President J P Nadda, MPManoj Tiwani, Parvesh Verma AP National Convenor Nadda, MPManoj Tiwari, Parwesh Verma, AAP National Convenor Avind Kejriwal, and other lead-ers ower the alleged defacement of public property. It is strange the media is only highlighting the case against kejriwal." As per the court order, the complainant mentioned that in another hoarding, greetings of Grunanak Dev Jayanti and Karitk Purnima were extended to resi-dents and this boarding bore pho-dents and this boarding bore pho-

dents and this hoarding bore pho-tos and names of Nitika Sharma

tos and names of Nitika Sharma (accused number 3) [PM) Narendra Modi, Amit Shah, Manoj Twani, JP Nadda, Parvesh Verna, Ramesh Bidhuri and others. The court said the investigat-ing agency has ample power to a-ray amy person as accused. The argument put forthy APP for the State with respect to omission of names of certain persons from the present complaint cannot have, in the opinion of this court, any bear the opinion of this court, any bear the prison of this court, any bear the this court, and t the opinion of this court, any bearing on the fate of the present application. Mentioning or omitting names of certain persons by the complainant cannot determine the course of investigation."

#### Revisiting cases of 150 deportees, 'conspiracy' FIRs: Police plan to bust illegal immigration

ALOK SINGH NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

TAKE ACTION against those facil-"TAKE ACTION against those facil-itating entry of lilegal immigrants into India, creating fake IDs, facil-itating movement towards Delhi, providing or arranging jobs, and providing or renting accommoda-tion in the city...and register 'con-spiracy FIRS'...": this is part of the action plan chalked out by the Delhi Police to crack down on net-works believed to be linked to illeworks believed to be linked to ille

works believed to be linked to ille-gal immigrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar, The Indian Express has learnt. Sources said the Delhi Police also decided to revisit cases of 150 alleged illegal Bangladeshi immi-grants deported since 2024 The Special Branch, Crime Branch, and Special Cell will conduct in-tensive drives to identify, detain, and deportal Illeral immigrants. and deport illegal immigrants; the plan is expected to be exe-

the pian is expected to be exe-cuted in a month, a source said. The move comes after Union Home Minister Amit Shah, on February 28, directed the Delhi Police to take strict action against networks that help illegal Bangladeshis and Rohingya en-ter India, including those who

help them get fake documents. In his first meeting with the police top brass to review the lav and order situation after the for-mation of the BJP government in the Capital, Shah had labeled it

To trace such networks, directions have been issued, sources in the Delhi Police said, to register

the Delhi Police said, to register mother conspiracy FIRS to intensify probes. These FIRS may be registered by the Special Cell and Crime Branch, as per an officer. As per directions from the top brass, a source further pointed out, both the Law and Order units, along with units of Special Branch, Special Cell, and Crime Branch, will work collectively. All units have designated

All units have designated roles, as per the plan. The Intelligence Unit has been tasked Intelligence Unit has been tasked with collecting interrogation reports of 150 Bangladeshi deportees sent back since last year from the Foreigners Regional Registration Office and districts. The Crime Branch and Law and Order units will collect their action taken reports in the coming days and submit them to the Special Cellife Further anabeic to

Special Cell for further analysis to register conspiracy FIRs, sources

register conspiracy, risk, sources highlighted, citting from the directions issued from the police HQ. Another source said the Law and Order zones have been di-rected to "actively and sincerely put maximum effort" into identi-fying tracing, verifying, and ques-tioning those staying illegally in Delhi, It also stated that local po lice will have to prepare their ÎRs, besides taking legal action against

those found staying illegally. Meanwhile, five men from

#### 'No proof victim was a minor': Court acquits man in POCSO case

NIRBHAY THAKUR

A DELHI court recently acquitted aman, who spent three years and eight months in judicial custody in a case registered under the POCSO Act, as in totel that the "victim was in low" with the accused, and the prosecution failed to prove that she was a minor at the time of the alleged incident. "All the above factors show that the victim was in a relation."

that the victim was in a relation ship with the accused. It has no come on record that the accused come on record that the accused, at any point of time, threatened the victim or criminally assaulted her to outrage her modesty," Additional Sessions Judge Santosh Kumar Singh of the Dwarka court said in his order dated February 25, which was recently made public.

"Especially when the victim was not a mixer and a mi

"Especially when the victim was not a minor and, therefore, being a major, the victim was at a liberty to take decisions of her own for her well-being. It has come on record that the place where the offence is alleged to have been committed was...surrounded by other houses. Despite being so, the victim did not raise any voice or shout and went to the terrace of the second floor of th adjacent building to meet the ac-cused," the court added.

The court also noted that the prosecution, which had relied on the birth certificate of the victim for age determination, had failed to prove that she was a minor.

#### 3 labourers killed in fire at Anand Vihar, CM announces Rs 10L relief for families Kanta and Jaggi's charred bodie:

\*in 2024

UPASIKA SINGHAL NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

THREE MEN, including two brothers, were killed after a fire brothers, were killed after a fire broke out in the tent they were sleeping in East Delhi's Anand Vihar early Tuesday, Another man was injured in the incident. According to police, the four men worked as contract abour-ers who laid underground pipes for Indraprastha Gas Limited and

men worked as contract labour-ers who laid underground pipes for Indraprastha Gas Limited and liked in a temporary tent on a DDA. plot. They said the charred bodies of Jaggs, 30, and brothers Shyam Singh, 40, and Kanta Prasad, 37, have been recovered from the spot. Nitin Singh received a minor burniplury on his leg.

In the afternoon, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta and Vishwas Nagar MLA O P Sharma visited the site and Spoke to the victims' families present there. "My deepest condolences to all the affected families... I pray for the peace of the departed Souls."

the peace of the departed souls and for strength to the bereaved families. While we cannot undo their loss, the Delhi government will extend all possible support



CM Rekha Gupta and Vishwas Nagar MLA O P Sharma visited

to them. Families of the de-ceased will receive Rs 10 lakh each as financial assistance from the government," said CM Gupt in a statement to the media. A Delhi Fire Service (DFS) of-

A Deini Fire service (DrS) of-ficial said a call regarding the fire was received at 2.42 am, and three fire tenders were pressed into service, which doused the blaze in half an hour.

was propped up and Junip to the other side... the others had also woken up by then but were un-able to get out," said an officer. Police said while Shyam's body was found near the door,

SAMAN HUSAIN NEW DELHI, MARCH

as propped up and jump to the

told us that the four men had a few drinks before going to sleep. Around 2 am, Nitin was woken up by Shyam alerting him about the fire... while Shyam tried to open the lock on the makeshift door of the tent, Nitin managed to scale up the wall against which the tent

told the media that the cause of death of the three victims seemed to be asphyxiation. Police said the bodies had rtuary. The deceased were residents

tricts. Suman (30), the brothers' sister, was informed of the inci-dent at 6 am. "Kanta's daughter was engaged in December, and he was looking forward to her wedding. It was supposed to happen after Diwali this year," she told *The Indian Express*.

#### BJP MLA PARVESH SAHIB SINGH AFTER TAKING OATH AS NDMC MEMBER BJP govt plans to decongest choke

## 'Will move proposal to rename Talkatora Stadium'

GAYATHRI MANI

STARTING WITH Dhaula Kuan the BJP government is planning to decongest key choke points across the national capital to provide a

smooth commute to Delhiites. According to officials, a highlevel meeting was chaired by level meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary Dharmendra to discuss the plan and a road safety committee was formed to con-duct a survey of choked stretches and analyse and find solutions to address the issue.

"There are several choke points across the city which affect other stretches, even in residen-tial colonies. There is at least one such pain point in each district. So, the government is planning to implement a de-congestion plan to resolve the traffic jam issue in The road safety committee will comprise officials from the Traffic Police, Transport Department, DTC, NHAI, MCD, PWD, DJB, and revenue districts, among others.

points, Dhaula Kuan is top of list

The government is planning to begin with the Dhaula Kuan stretch, which is one of the biggest stretch, which is one of the biggest pain points for people travelling from Gurgaon and Delhi. It is an arterial stretch connecting South. Central and West Delhi to the ICI. Airport and Gurgaon. It also provides connectivity to Dwarka. During the morning and evening nash hours, it sees straffic jars lasstring over an hour," said an official. Some of the choke points in this stretch are Shiw Murti, Mahipalpur road and Mahipalpur flyower. The construction of the Dwarka Expressway has also

Dwarka Expressway has also added to commuters' woes.

it takes them almost 25-30 min-utes to reach Shiv Murti Marg on NH-48 — this stretch is less than a km long. Traffic jams are also com-mon during non-peak hours. So, the government is planning to start the decongestion plan from

this stretch," added the official.
Officials said the committee
will soon start work on the
ground. "They will visit the stretch
for an inspection and analyse why
traffic jams are taking place, which
are the key points choking traffic
movement... After a proper study,
they will submit their report along
with a solution, which will be
the to the Associative among for

with a solution, which will be given to the executing agency for further action," said the official. In 2018-19, 77 congestion points were identified across the Capital, and Dhaula Kuan was one of them, said an official.

start the decongestion plan from this stretch," added the official.

(NDMC), he has plans to put for-(NDML), he has plans to put for-ward a renaming proposal. After taking oath as NDMC member, Singh, who is the MLA from New Delhi, said, "I have taken my oath today, and in the next NDMC meeting, we will bring up the matter of renaming Talkatora Stadium."

During the final leg of the re-cent Delhi elections, Singh, who was contesting against AAP na-tional convenor Arvind Kejriwal,



Talkatora Stadium is Delhi's oldest indoor facility. Archive

"Talkatora stadium is very famous, many big events are held here, people from the whole country and world come here... many people from the Valmiki community have come forward with a pro-posal... So, after February 8, in the first meeting of the NDMC, this

epaper.indianexpress.com

Bhagwan Maharishi Valmiki sta-dium." he had said. Built in 1974, the stadium de

rives its name from the Mughalera garden adjoining it. The word 'Talkatora' originates from two Persian words: 'tal,' meaning a tank, and 'katora,' meaning a bowl-shaped natural depression. According to historian Sohail

Hashmi, there is still an embank-ment inside Talkatora Garden that was once used to control the water flow. "The embankment was made to collect water that came from several streams of the Southern Ridge... this was possibly made by Firoz Shah Tughlaq... because he has done a lot of work on water infrastructure," he said. Over the years, the ruins of Talkatora, including two domed

pavilions and scattered walls, have faded into obscurity. The construction of the indoor sta-dium and swimming pool during the Asian Games further ce-mented its name as a recreational mentedits name as a recreational hub. Today, the stadium, with a seating capacity of 2,700, regularly hosts political gatherings and sporting and cultural events. As per NDMC procedures, a name-change request must be submitted to its General Administration Department. The pro-

posalistient placed between 81519-member Council for approval. If passed, it is sent to Delhi govern-ment's Urban Development de-partment for final clearance. The process has been made in accor-dance with guidelines provided by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Following the council meet

ing, NDMC vice-chairpersor Kuljeet Chahal said, "We will col-

Kuljeet Chahalsaid, "We will col-lectively decide as a team. The proposals will first go to the MHA before a final decision is made." Asked about renaming other places, including Tughiaq Lane, where two BP JMPs had modified nameplates of the government-allotted bungalows to add Vivekanand Marg. (Chahal said many proposals have been re-ceived from various individuals and organisations seeking to re-name locations after freedom fighters, sages, and other eminent personalities.

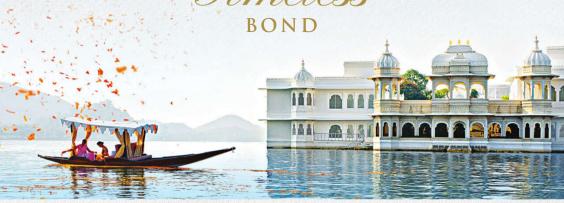




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		ocurement Notice 16/2023-24 (6th Call )
Sr. No.	Particulars	10/2023-24 (0 Call )
1	Name of Work	Construction & Commissioning of Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant of Capacity 10 KLD at Chhatarpur town (Jharkhand) followed by Operation and Maintenance including desludging operations for 5 years
2	Estimated Cost (INR)	Construction Cost: ₹ 2,38,31,558.00 Operation & Maintenance Cost: ₹ 1,26,22,393.00 Total: ₹ 3,64,53,951.00
3	Bid Security (INR)	₹ 3,64,540/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Sixty-Four Thousand Five Hundred Forty Only)
4	Cost of Bid Document (INR)	₹ 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only); non-refundable
5	Time of Completion	I year of construction which comprises 9 months of construction and 3 months of defect liability period including one month of trial run and 5 years of O&M post DLP
6	Date of e-publication of tender	10-03-2025
7	Document downloading start Date	17-03-2025
11	Bid submission end date	25-03-2025
12	Last day for the submission of Bid Security, cost of bid document	25-03-2025
13	Bid opening date (online	26-03-2025
14	Mode of Submission of	e-tendering

able on website http://jharkhand Executive Officer Nagar Panchayat Chhatarour PR.NO.348298 District(24-25):D

Bids (https://Jharkhandtenders.gov.in)
Name & Address of office Executive Officer, Nagar Panchaya



15

#### E-TENDER NOTICE

www.noidaathorityonline.in & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments &

#### A) Fresh-Tender Work:

1.	Jobs No.	Name of the Work	Tender Amoun (Rs. Lacs)
ı	43/DGM/SM(W C-1)/2024-25	M/o Building (Renovation of Police Control Room on Expressway), Noida.	61.48
2	44/DGM/SM(W C-1)/2024-25	M/o Road (Painting work on Central verge & footpath on Expressway and MP-1 road), Noida.	45.42

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 27.03.2025 up to 5.00 PM re-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated 28.03.2025 a महत्वपूर्ण सूचना-

स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान एवं उत्तर प्रदेश औद्योगिक क्षेत्र विकास अधिनियम, 1976 व विपरीत प्लॉटिंग या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह अवैध है जनसामान्य को आगाह किया जाता है कि इस प्रकार की अवैध कॉलोनियों एवं अवैध जनसामान्य को आगाड किया जाता है कि इस प्रकार को अध्येव क्रोलामियों पूर्व अधि मित्रित भवती में पूर्णाओं अमारियों में पूर्णाना भेता किया में प्रकार में प्रकार में प्रकार के दुश्याने एवं श्रामक व्यविद-फरोव्डा से पूर्णत. संबेत सहै तथा क्रोलामार्ड्जर के दुश्याने एवं श्रामक विद्यान्त में तो बंधो शाख ही गीएख क्रीशिवित के क्रे के क्षिण्डन एवं प्रमुगा निद्यों के क्षेत्र इस के इसिंग्डित में प्रकार के क्षिण क्षेत्र में भारित क्षेत्र के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मान्य कियाओं के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मुणावियाओं के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मित्रा मुणावियाओं के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मुणावियाओं के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मित्रा मुणावियाओं के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मित्रा मुणावियाओं के स्थान में मान्य मित्रा मित्र मित्रा म

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

#### Office of the Nagar Panchayat Chhatarpur | Cops: 'Influencer' held for In 6 months, cruise along Yamuna on a ferry stealing bag with Rs 3 lakh

New Delhi: A social media influ-encer was arrested for allegedly snatching a bag with Rs 3 lakh in cash from a businessman in cash from a businessman in North Delhi's Civil Lines area, po-lice said on Tuesday. Officers said the accused, Pawan alias Calvin alias Network of Madangir in South Delhi, posted dance videos and reels and had over 16,000 fol-lowers on Instagram.

However, he allegedly com-mitted thefts along with his associate. Pawan told police that he tooktocrime to earn easy money. He was previously arrested in a similar case, the Delhi Police said

in a statement.
Raja Banthia, Deputy
Commissioner of Police (DCP),
North Delhi, said the complaint
was filed by RShrinivas Rao, ENS

# GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS: VIJAYAWADA

TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.008125/MR/2024, Dt.11.03.2025
fender Schedules (RPP) from reputed News and Communication
was services across all media formats ie., Print Media, Electr
a and Social Media for communicating the achievements, sc The sale of inmas owness services across all media formats in. Print Media, circumum propriet in provide news services across all media formats in. Print Media, and Social Media for communicating the acriments, schemes and rograms of the Govid of AP actionated policy of 20,32075, Latdice for submitted the sealed tenders 24.03.2005 spito 12.00 feoro. Tender (technical) with the Mills of the Committee of the Comm

#### AXIS FINANCE LIMITED

E-Public Auction-cum-Sale Notice

Description of Immovable Secured Asset
Plot No. G.2 (Plot No. 2, Block-G), Second Floor, Preet Nagar, CHBS Ltd. Colony, Preet Vihar, Delhei +10092 And Boundaries of the House / Plot: East - 150 Foot Wide Road. West - 15 Foot Wide Lane. South - Plot No. 1,

DETA	CHEDULE - II LS OF E-AUCTION
Description of Property /s	As per SCHEDULE - I
Date & Time of e-Auction	On: 31.03.2025 Time: From: 11.00 am to: 12.00 noon with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each
Date & Time for Bid Submission	On: 28.03.2025 Before: 4:00 pm

Earnest Money Deposit (10% of RP): Rs. 28,87,758/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs Eighty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Eight Only)

Contact Person Details & Mob. Nos.: Mr. Sarthak Sharma, Mob: 798299 Mr. Swapneil Tiwari: Mob: 9820063208

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) /RULE 9 (1) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

This may also be treated as notice under Rule 8(6) and Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 to the borrower/s, guarantor/s and mortgagor/s of the said loan about the holding of E-Auction Sale on the above mentioned date.

#### WHAT'S ON THE PLAN

A four- to six-km stretch Vihar to Jagatpur, will be developed for the ferry services

■ The initiative will focus on eco-friendly cruise operations, featuring electric-solar hybrid boats designed to carry 20-30

due to negative politics and was stalled. Two years ago, to make the Yamuna navigable, I rethe Yamuna navigable, I requested an Indian Navy boat and tried to make it operational in Yamuna. The then CM went to the Supreme Court and all those services were stopped." This is expected to promote short-distance navigation and recreational activities, particularly in National Waterway 110

(River Yamuna from Jagatpur (Delhi) to Sangam in Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh)) stretch up-

passengers at a time

■ These boats will be equipped with bio-toilets, public announcement systems, and life jackets to ensure a safe and comfortable travel

■Two HDPE jetties will be

installed for smooth op.

(Uttar Pradesh)) stretch up-stream of the Wazirahad Barrage. Saxena, Delhi CM Rekha Gupta and Union Ports, Shipping and Waterways Minister Sarbananda Sonowal were pres-ent at the signing of the MoU at DDA's East Asita Park.

featuring electric-solar hybrid boats designed to carry 20-30 passengers at a time. These boats will be equipped with bio-toilets, public an-nouncement systems, and life nouncement systems, and unjackets to ensure a safe and com-fortable travel experience. Additionally, two HDPE jetties (a floating structure made from plastic material) will be installed for smooth ferry operations, a statement from the IWAI said.

As per the MoU:

The IWAI will spearhead infrastructure development, in-cluding floating jetties, charging stations for hybrid boats, and navigational aids, while ensur-

in passenger safety.

DDA will provide land for shore-side facilities, last-mile connectivity, and public services such as electricity and restrooms.

DJB will monitor water qual-

ity, manage the barrage for navi-gability, and facilitate drinking wa-ter supply and waste disposal.

■ The I&FCD will maintain embankments, grant access to

approach roads, and ensure adherence to safety protocols.

The DTTDC will oversee boat operations, engage operators, and ensure compliance with inland vessel regulations to promote truising.

## AgustaWestland chopper case: Court allows Michel to apply for passport from Tihar Jail

#### NIRRHAYTHAKUR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IN THE next six months, Delhiites might be able to take a

Delhittes might be able to take a ferry ride on the Yamuan in the city. A four to six-km stretch of the river, from Sonia Yihar to Jagatpur, will be developed for the ferry services by the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) incollaboration with var-jous Delhi government depart-ments, according to an agree-ment signed on Tuesday. The IWAI, anagency under the Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, signed al Memory.

and Waterways, signed a Memor-andum of Understanding with the

Delhi government's Irrigation and Flood Control Department (IRFCD), Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and Delhi Tourism and Transport Development (DTTDC) to develop the river stretch for cruise tourism.

cruise tourism.

L-G V K Saxena said, "The Ministry has been working on this for more than a year. I also held various meetings with offi-

this for more than a year, raiso held various meetings with offi-cials, ministers and chief minis-ters of the then Delhi govern-ment, but this was not possible. This project, which was so im-portant for Delhi, was held up

ADELHIC court Tuesday allowed Christian Michel James, one of the alleged middlemen in the AgustaWest and VIVP chopper Case, to apply for a passport from prison. Citting "security reasons", Michel had told the court Friday that he couldn't accept the ball granted to him by the Delhi High Court in a money laundering case registered by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). "Will you be furnishing ball bonds" Do you want to come out?" Special Judge Sanjeev Aggarwalof Komse Avenue Court asked Michel during Tuesday's hearing.

Agga was a saked Michel during Tuesday's hearing.
"Sir, there are some issues. I want to apply for a passport first. It's an online process," replied Michel. His lawyer, Alijo K Joseph,



Christian Michel at Rouse

moved an application before

moved an application before court requesting permission to apply for a passport from Tihar Jail, where Michel is lodged. "In these circumstances, the Superintendent Jail concerned is directed to allow the accused CMJamestoapply(for)a passport

online on the aforesaid site(s), for which they will provide him online facility with internet and in this regard he can take the assistance of his above Counsel Sh. Alijo K. Joseph, who is allowed to visit... Jail No. 4, Tihar to assist the accessed in applying the first Parisish. jail No. 4, linar to assist the ac-cusedin applying the fresh British passport on 13.03.2024 from 11 am onwards till the said formali-ties of applying (for) the passport are completed," the judge said in hisorder allowing the application. "Do you play Holi? You are wearing white also," the judge

asked Michel during the hearing, "I will just lock myself in my cell," came the response.

came the response.

Michelhad also moved an application requesting 10 days to inspect documents. The judge allowed this request and set dates for the inspection after consulting with CBI lawyer Manu Mishra, who was present in court.

The HC last Tuesday granted

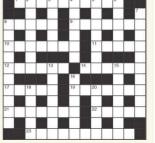
Michel bail in the case registered by the ED. A fortnight ago, the Supreme Court had granted him bail in the corruption case regis-tered by the CBI in the case in

2013.
Michel, extradited from the UAE in 2018, had been in custody

LIAE in 2018, had been in custody for over six years and two months which was close to the maximum punishment of seven years.

As per the CBI's investigation, a Rs 3,726,96-crore contract for the supply of 12 helicopters was awarded to UK-based AgustaWestland International Ltd. An agreement to this effect was executed on February 8, 2010 helween the Ministry of was executed on February 8, 2010, between the Ministry of Defence and AgustaWestland. The agency had accused Michel, as a middleman, of paying large sums of bribes to Indian Air Force officers, Defence Ministry offi-cials, bureaucrats and politicians via AgustaWestland.

#### CROSSWORD 5622



#### ACROSS

8 Subject those people to the ultimate in abuse (5) 9 Dickensian doctor and a painter to note (7)

10 Hardy lass has time for a bit of mosaic work (7) 11 Move or shoot back for example (5)

14 Good reputation to consider

17 It may be smoked out of its den (5) 19 Eggs turn into cheers (7)

21 Regards foreign money as a bad thing (7)

22 Bill free of bitterness? (5) 23 There are terms for this (10) (5)

2 Catches as one come drunkenly home (5,2) 3 Pleasant about egghead member of the family (5) 4 Volume of praise (6) 5 Book some public transport (7)

6 Recorded Edward as missing? (5) 7 Decided to be resolute (10)

example (5) 7 Decided to be resonate.

12 A short dress, mother, to say the least (6) 8 Tribal symbols could be temples too (5,5) 13 It's a jumbo and a minute before noon it flies (7)

15 Witty saying has some point with animals (7) 16 Resign because of one's self-image? (6)

Solutions Crossword 5621 Across: 1 Deride, 4 Seldom, 9 Captain, 10 Token, 11 Lento, 12 On and on, 13 Reading Iamp, 18 Fiancee, 20 Spade, 22 Outdo, 23 Selfejae, 24 Tiede, 25 Spills Down: 1 Docile, 2 Riper, 3 Diamond, 5 Ertx, 6 Dukedom, 7 Mining, 8 Encountered, 14 Enacted, 15 Last Iap, 16 Affoat, 17 Sewers, 19 Close, 21 Annal.

## JUMBLED WORDS

LEPER	NUUGNS
ERIOS	IIVYFV

#### **OVER THE HEDGE** by Michael Fry & T Lewis









#### CALVIN & HOBBES by Bill Watterson

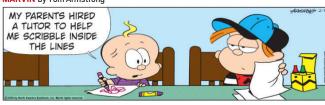








#### **MARVIN** by Tom Armstrong



## Instructions To solve a Sudoku puz every digit from 1 to 9

## 4 6 4 6 epaper.indianexpress.com

2	4	7	8	3	9	1	6	5
6	5	8	4	1	2	9	3	7
1	3	9	5	6	7	8	2	4
3	8	5	2	4	6	7	1	9
4	9	2	1	7	8	6	5	3
7	6	1	9	5	3	4	8	2
8	1	4	3	9	5	2	7	6
5	2	6	7	8	4	3	9	1
9	7	3	6	2	1	5	4	8
	1 3 4 7 8	1 3 3 8 4 9 7 6 8 1	1 3 9 3 8 5 4 9 2 7 6 1 8 1 4	6 5 8 4 1 3 9 5 3 8 5 2 4 9 2 1 7 6 1 9 8 1 4 3 5 2 6 7	6 5 8 4 1 1 3 9 5 6 3 8 5 2 4 4 9 2 1 7 7 6 1 9 5 8 1 4 3 9 5 2 6 7 8	6 5 8 4 1 2 1 3 9 5 6 7 3 8 5 2 4 6 4 9 2 1 7 8 7 6 1 9 5 3 8 1 4 3 9 5 5 2 6 7 8 4	6 5 8 4 1 2 9 1 3 9 5 6 7 8 3 8 5 2 4 6 7 4 9 2 1 7 8 6 7 6 1 9 5 3 4 8 1 4 3 9 5 2 5 2 6 7 8 4 3	6 5 8 4 1 2 9 3 1 3 9 5 6 7 8 2 3 8 5 2 4 6 7 1 4 9 2 1 7 8 6 5 7 6 1 9 5 3 4 8 8 1 4 3 9 5 2 7 5 2 6 7 8 4 3 9

#### **DAY TODAY**

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)

There is more going on the meets the eye at the moment, well advised to you do all the control that involves money as much a personal feelings. A current shake-up at home could be very favourable.

Favourable.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)
Don't spend too
much time going
over old ground.
Nostagia for the
past is all very well, but if
you've important projects on
the go, or if someone is
depending on you, you should
keep your attention pinned
firmly on the present. Don't be
too hard on who let you down.

CEMINI (May 22, June 21)

too hard on who let you down.

GEMINI (May 22. - June 21)
The chances of a

what is right.

CANCER(June 22 - July 23)

Cancer June 22 - July 23)

Certain personal
boundaries seem to
have become rather
and if you become the control of the control o LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)

Algorithm of the process of

VIRGO (Aug 24 - Sep 23) Your social stars are

Your social stars are stirring, at long last, some would say! It's time to broaden your horizons and take as many new ideas on board as you can. Get out and about over the next four weeks, and even accept invitations you'd normally treat

#### BY PETER VIDAL

LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)

There are certain days when it is wise to be polite and charming whatever the provocation-and this is one of them. Fortunately, you were born with an innate propensity turn the other cheek. That does mean that sometimes people walk all over you.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23) SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)

Composition of the leagues or coworkers may have been asserting themselves recently. In fact, I don't think you have been given a fair hearing. All you can do is undermine others' inflated faith in themselves, and if you prick someone's bubble then they've probably asked for it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

SAGITIARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)

The emphasis on financial stars continues with a general note that anything connected with water is assuming greater significance. Does this refer to a holiday by the sea? Or merely routine plumbing problems? It could actually also indicate strange dreams. CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)

You must do verything in your power to resolve a dispute in a close relationship. Don't allow partners to think you are totally self-obsessed and don't let them walk all over you, either.

AOUARIUS (Ian 21 - Feb 19) AQUARUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)

would like to be in a position to know a great deal all? But, now that the facts are so difficult to get at, we all have our own version of the truth. Yours is a good as anybody's, so lay your ideas on the line and wait for partners' reactions.

#### PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20)
I may be frustrating to be left in may be frustrating to be left in the dark, but are want to know what is going on? Be happy that current planetary influences appeal to your mischievous nature and have a good time. Of, at least, have as good a time as you can.

#### 2 boys missing in Kathua since last month, senior

Senior officers of the Jammu and Kashmir Police on Tuesday visited the families of two boys from Kathua, who have been missing since February 27, and assured them that all possible measures were being taken to trace their whereabouts.

trace their whereabouts. The boys, aged 15 and 12, had taken cattle for grazing near the Bhamberwan Goat Farm and did not return home, their families told the police. An FIK has been registered. DiG of Police for Jammu, Samba and Kathus range, Shiv Kumar Sharma, along with senior police officers visited the families on Tuestday. The DiG directed the local police officers to constitute teams.

The DIG directed the local po-lice officers to constitute teams and contact relatives of both the boys and as well as of other no-mad 'deras' (settlements) in Punjab, Jammu and Udhampur to trace them. He also directed that their photographs be circu-lated and the public be asked to inform the police in case of any information about them.

Last week, three civilians, in-cluding a 14-ya-old, who were part of a wedding procession on the way from Bilawar's Dehot a village in Surag village in Malhar, had gone missing while passing through the Inchhu forests. Three days later, on March 8, their bodies were found in a river flowing through the forests. While police are yet to ascertain their cause of death, Union mini-ster Jitendra Singh said they were killed by militants. Last week, three civilians, inwere killed by militants.

#### Omar thanks Centre for assistance to J&K, slams cops visit families PDP: Are we ungrateful?

I&K CM Omar Abdullah

कार्यालय अधीवण अभियन्ता विद्युत वितरण सण्यन

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना

विदा सं0 118/2024-25-विद

निविदा संग 118/2024-25-विद्युता तैतरण खण्ड द्वितीय हाध्यस्त एवं उपखण्ड अधिकारी प्रथम/द्वितीय हाध्यस्त हेतु कुल ३३ नग डीजल चलित जीप चानक सहित उपलब्ध कराया जाना। (निविदा राशि 11800.0 जीएसटी सहित एवं धरोहर

शि रू० 10000.00)

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE JAMMU, MARCH 11

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for Central assistance to J&K, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday asked

Abdullah on Tuesday asked whether it was wrong to hank someone who had done some-thing for the UT.

"Are we ungrateful," he asked, responding in the Assembly to the opposition PDP's charge that his budget and the L-Gs address were "love letters" to the BJP.

"If the PM, Home Minister and the Finance Minister have helped J&K, shall I feel shy in ae-knowleddine it, I expressed my.

pendence on assistance.
Referring to the UTS own finances, he said that for spending
nearly 435,000 crore Capes, Iske
government pays over 700,000
crore in salaries to its employees.
"Io get work done worth nearly
435,000 crore, we have to pay
salaries worth over ₹70,000
crore," he pointed out, adding
that if you run a company like
this in the private sector it would
dose after one or two years.
He also took a dig at the BIP
for giving a wrong impression
that J8K'S Buglet was only about
Centrally sponsored schemes.

and the inance Winister have helped J&K, Shall Hed Isby in acknowledging it. I expressed my thanks that day (presentation of Budget) and I will do it again to-day, "the CMs and Acknowledging that "we wrote love letters" to all including BJP, PIPP, People's Conference, Congress and even the Independents, he said one writes love letters to express his love. "I immensely love people of J&K and through this love letter, we have tired to give them all ittle bir of relief." he said adding that "Cod willing, we will continue to write such love letters during the next five years", Justifying his expression of grafitude to the Centre for its assistance to J&K, the CM said. "Impself say that we are norfinancially in dependent." He said his government was looked for government was looked for government was looked for government was looked.

said his government was look-ing for sectors where it can generate income to avoid de-

#### PROTEST OVER JU INCIDENT

#### HC directs IG to probe charges of torture at women police station

#### TANUSREE BOSE

THE CALCUITA High Court on Tuesday directed Inspector General (IG) Muralidhar Sharma to investigate allega-Sharma to investigate allega-nions of custodial torture lev-elled by some Left-leaning fe-male student activists at a women police station in Paschim Medinipur district and submit a report by March 25. The court asked the senior police officer, posted as IG (Training), West Bengal Police Academy, to check the CCIV

Academy, to check the CCTV footage from the police station and other available material to

and other available material to investigate the matter.

The alleged assault took place after some female student activists were taken to the women police station during a protest in front of Vidyasagar University on March 3 following an unrest at Jadavpur University in the presence of state Education Minister Bratya Basu. Though five activists had al-

Education Minister Bratya Basu.
Though five activists had alleged assault, Sucharita Das of the
Students Federation of India (SFI)
and Sushrita Soren of the
Democratic Students
Organisation (DSO) moved the
HC seeking action against the

guilty police personnel.

After hearing the petitions, the single-judge bench of Justice Tirthankar Ghosh handed over the investigation to IG Sharma by examining the footage from the police station.

The court fixed the next

is unlawful. Can the police slap me, ill treat me in custody? I was physically assaulted. I am not an offender. They even told me 'we

offender. They event told me 'we have special treatment for you'. We went to the Midnapore Hospital at 2 am, where doctors refused to examine us," the counsel submitted. Sushrita Soren's counsel Jayanta Narayan Chatterjee submitted, "My Gient was beaten up with a belt and wooden sticks on the instructions off! Cofficer-in-

with a belt and wooden sticks on the instructions of IC (officer-in-charge) Sathi Barik. She was hit on the face with boots and hot wax was poured on her hands. Why were they detained and taken into police custody in the first place?"

The court fixed the next hearing in the case on March 26. Sucharita's counsel alleged that she was pulled out of the campus by some "outsiders", purported TMC supporters, and then taken in police custody. "After my father sent an email asking what allegations were against me, I was released. This is unlawful Can the police slan

विदा सं0 120/2024-25-विह

विदा सं0 122/2024-25-ए वर थैफ्ट थाना एवं प्रवंतन दल हाथरर 1 कुल 02 नग डीजल चलित जीप चालव हित उपलब्ध कराया जाना।[निविदा राष्ट्रि 180.00 जीएसटी सहित एवं घरोहर राशि

निविदा विक्रय तिथि एवं खुलने क्री दिनांक 27.03.2025 अन्य सम्बन्धि जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमें ट पोर्ट

"राष्ट हित में बिजली बचायें"

# COP30 host Brazil hopes for climate 'turnaround'

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT the ACKNOWLEDGING THAT the global fight against climate change was getting increasingly hopeless, Brazil, the host of COP30 climate conference in November this year, has promised to work towards effecting a turnaround, and called upon all countries to transition from negotiation-phase to a new decade of action and implementation.

In his first letter to all the par-ties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the overarching agreeclimate negotiations take place, COP30 President-designate Andre Aranha Correa do Lago invoked football terminology to empha-sise that a turnaround or come-

sise that a turnaround or come-back was possible anytime.

"As a nation of football, Brazil believes we can win by 'virada'. This means fighting back to turn the game around when defeat seems almost certain. Together, we can make COP30 the moment we turn the game around..." Correa do Lago said in the letter. The Brazilian diplomat, a vet-eran of climate perotistions who

eran of climate negotiations who has also served as Brazil's ambas-sador to India, said the choice for

the world was between a course correction on its own or be forced to deal with the consequences of climate change. "Change is inevitable - either by choice or by catastrophe. If global warming is catastrophe. If global warming is left unchecked, change will be imposed on us, as it disrupts our so-cieties, exonomies and families. If instead we choose to organise ourselves in collective action, we have the possibility of rewriting a different future," he said.
"Changing by choice gives us the chance for a future that is not dictated by climate tracedy, but

dictated by climate tragedy, but rather by resilience and agency towards a vision we design our-selves," he said.

The letter is the first exercise by Brazil to reach out to all the countries and build a momentum for a fruitful outcome at COP30.

Host countries of COPs (Conference of Parties to UN-(Conference of Parties to UN-FCCC, which also preside over the negotiations, routinely indulge in this kind of an exercise, in an ef-fort to take everyone onboard and develop a common agenda for the negotiations. COP Presidents and other key officials of the host na-tion also make personal trips to important countries for discus-sions and means for a successful sions and prepare for a successful result at the COP. Brazil would be

HIDIAN HISTITUTO F REGNANTINI TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT GWALLON
(An Install Technology And Management

FACULTY RECRUITMENT
With reference to Advt. no 03/2025 dated 12.02.2025 for FACULTY
POSITIONS, the last date for receiving the completed applications
has been extended to 24.03.2025, 5.00 PM.
For further details please visit: https://www.iiitm.ac.in
Joint Registrar (A&A)

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

UNDER EXTRA MURAL PROJECTS

format and other terms and conditions, please see our Advt. N NCCS/PMC/P 02/205 under Project Positions, in Cerers tab, o our website (www.ncs.resin). For any updates, please check ou website, (Hind, English & Marathi version of this advertisement i available on our website).

(PROCUREMENT SECTION)

(E. File No. 19352)
Subject: Procurement of Advanced Phacoemulsification Machine (Qty 01) Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi.
GeM Bid No. GEM/2024/8/5/086004 dated 05.06.2024 has been published on GeM for the procurement of Advanced Phacoemulsification Machine (Uty 01) at an estimated cost of Rs. 90 Lakh for Dr. RML Hospital.
All interested OEM/Authorized Distributor are invited to participate in the bid.

File No. 11011/72/2024-Dr.RMLH (E File No. 19352)

November 10 to 21 this year.
The conference would be held
under the shadows of the US withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and its ongoing efforts Agreement and its ongoing efforts to disengage itself from the international climate architecture. The actions by the Donald Trump administration have worsened analment of the control of hosting COP30 in its northern city of Belem, located on the edge of extremely inadequate.

PH Circle Kol

Director (Additional Charge), NCCS

दिनांक/Dated, the .2025

## Institute of Infrastructure, Technology, Research And Management (IITRAM) And Management (IITRAM), Ahmedabad autonomous University established by Government of Gu

Admission Announcement for Ph.D. Program : 2025-26 (Autumn Semester)

Applications are invited for admission to the Ph.D. program (Regular and Part-time) for the 2025-26 Autumn Semester. For further details, please visit the website: www.iltram.ac.in.or email: studentsectionpg@litram.ac.in



#### ■ KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD ( A Government of Karnataka Undertaking) #49, East Wing , 4" & 5" Floor, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru – 560 00'

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-DPR-04/1870/2024-25

# SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING DETAILED PROJECT REPORT (DPR) (Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system aving an office at Bengaluru with vast experience and proven record of similar nature of work of Providing Consultancy Services for Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) Economic Analysis, Survey, Plan Design, Preparation of Estimates, Cost Structure etc., for Implementation of 31 MLD External Water Supply Scheme to Raichur Growth Area, Deosugur 2nd Phase Housing Layout, Yeramaras, Raichur Industrial Area from Krishna River in Raichur Flaukt, Raichur District and Implementation of 20 MLD External Water Supply Scheme to Nandur Industrial Area 1st Phase, 2nd Phase, 3rd Phase, Kapnoor Industrial Area 1st Phase, 2nd Phase, 3rd Phase in Gulbarga District from Bheema River/Bennethora Reservoir or any other perennial nearby source on Total Turnkey Basis (3rd Call). KIADB invites tender from reputed consultants/firms under two cover bid system

The last date and time of receipt of tender is: 19.03.2025 upto 04:00 pm.

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Porta https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

#### WESTERN RAILWAY-BHAVNAGAR DIVISION GOVERNMENT OF INDIA VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS GOVERNALEN I OF INDIA हैं गम महेह लोहिया अस्पताल अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी आवृद्धिता संस्थात, नहें दिल्ली DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA HOSPITAL ATAL BHARI VAJPAYEE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES NEW DELHI-110001

02	222-2024-25	Bhavnagar Division:- TFR in section of DEN-East excluding PRCL section	1,20,44,215.53	2,10,200.00
03	223-2024-25	Supply of 25000 Cum, 50mm size machine crushed stone ballast at Dhasa depot & loadingin to hopper wagons at Dhasa	1,91,90,587.50	2,46,000.00
Depot	for the PRCL section	on.		
04	224-2024-25-R	Bhavnagar Terminus: Repairing of Drainage System, Pedestals, cat walk, pipeline etc. of BVC pit line at Railway station.	1,09,31,874.59	2,04,700.0
05	225-2024-25-R	St. DEN (Central) BVP Jurisdiction: ProvidingTrack mounted automatic Gauge Face Lubricators (36 Nos.) Curves against	3,46,97,548.80	3,23,500.0
sanctio	oned work of Bhavn	agar Division - Providing Track mounted automatic Gauge Face L.	ubricators.	
06	226-2024-25-R	Welding of 5233 Nos FB Welds against the sanctioned work of 1) Bhavnagar Division - Strengthening of Loop Lines by	6,71,99,682.05	4,86,000.0

97 27-2024-254 DBN (West) Bhernague Jurisdiction - Veiding of 8004 No.
Dission: Strengthening of loop lines by ISD (With Deep screening) A convention to UMF-51-475 TMM, Project 1015-62-214-24-5007 (Askelates in J. Semanshills). I Herpile 7-800 Tm Rn Project 1015-62-214-24-51-000, (Bilbhamagar Division - Conversion of SWI to UMF on 2 to 4 Degree curves (Project 1015-62-214-24-51-000). Bhamagar Division - Conversion of SWI to UMF on 2 to 4 Degree curves (Project 1015-62-214-24-51-000). (BADDEN Strengthening of loop lines by ISD UMF on 2 to 4 Degree curves (Project 1015-62-214-24-51-000). (BADDEN Strengthening of loop lines by ISD UMF Deep screening) and conversion to UMF 14-707 Thm against the accidence of the SWI Conversion of SWI Conversion f Bhavnagar Division:- Streng elect ID: 15.02.31.22.1.51.002

		portable water on at various locations gang huts, staff colony	1,63,47,411.79	2,31,700.00
etc. with oc	ontractor own a	Il arrangements for the period of two years (24 months).		
09 2	229-2024-25	DEN(East) Jurisdiction:-Improvement to the safety features of non-interlocked Level Crossings by providing an	47,88,333.29	95,800.00
additional I	ayer.	704.000.000.000000000000000000000000000		
10 4	230-2024-25	Bhavnagar Division: - Dhola - Bhavnagarsection: Improvement to the yards at 06 Nos, of locations.	5,53,25,510.19	4,26,600.00
11 ;	231-2024-25	DEN(West) Bhavnagar Jurisdiction: Replacement of 1533 sets of Glued Joints against the sanctioned work of :-	6,42,84,091.27	4,71,400.00

For above all tenders: Bidding Start Date: 18/03/2025. Date of Bidding Closing: 01/04/2025 The NIT has been uploaded on Railway web site <a href="www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> on 10/03/2025. Like us on: #4 facebook.com/WesternRlv - Follow us on: % x.com/WesternRlv

# GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

## PUBLIC NOTICE

# RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT E-Tender Notice No. N-2024-25-TSK-NIT-23; Dated: 06-03-2025. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: SN. 1; E-Tender No. N-2024-25-TSK-T-23. Brief Description of Work: Reliability NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

#### GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA CORRIGENDUM NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM TION OF CLOSING AND OPENING DATE OF BID. DATE OSING: 17.03.2025 DATE OF OPENING: 19.03.2025 NIT NO. 467/BID NO. 818/P8D/2024 EXTENTION OF CLOSING AND OPENING DATE OF BID. DATE OF CLOSING: 17.03.2025 DATE OF OPENING: 19.03.2025 01722570431 (NIT NO. 469/BID NO. 820/P8D/2024 (NIT NO. 472/BID NO. 823/PBD/2024-EXTENTION OF CLOSING AND OPENING DATE OF BID. DATE OF CLOSING: 17.03.2025 DATE OF OPENING: 19.03.2025 01722570431 epdc@uhbyn.org.in NIT NO. 474/BID NO. 825/P8D/2024epaper.indianexpress.com

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

prought to the notice of the Public at Large that, the la puilding described in Schedule 1 written herein under yned by i) M/s Nirmiti Precision Pvt. Ltd. (22. 22%), and its prought to the holice of the Jeneila I within herain under is and the building obscribed in Schedule I within herain under is and the building obscribed in Schedule I within herain under is Gurpal Singh Bedl (55,5%) and till Rejal Vedprakash Verma (22,2%). Mr. Rejal Vedprakash Verma Rat-M14, Kaqil Vihar, Sector 21C, Faridabad, NIT, Haryana 121001 and Gurpal Singh Bedi Rat-Sant Singh, H. No. 400, Sector - 21C, Sector 21D Faridabad, Haryana 121012 have agreed to sell their undivided interest/share as per the details given in Schedule 2 to my clients. The aloresaid owners have assured my client that their share in the schedule brances including lease, agreement, Ilcence, power of attorney, mortgage, lien. Out of the aforesaid owners Mr. Rejalt Vedprakash Verma informed my client that, Original Saie deed oft.03(02/0214) bearing Regn. No. 935/2014 (Khed) executed in favour of Rejalt Vedprakash Verma praisument. Chand Singh and Saie deed oft. 24/12/2019 registered in the Office of Sub Registrar Khed 3 at Serial No. 1797/2019 secucited by Jaspal Gundayds Singh in favour of Rejalt Vedprakash Verma are missing and not traceable and the on his undivided share described in Schedule 1 shocked with the Ary person or any financial institutions and his Undivided share in the property described in Schedule 1 are clear, marketable and free from encumbrances. ALL the concerned are therefore hereby called upon to inform the undersigned within 7 days from publication of this Notice, any objection, claim, interest, right with respect on the Schedule property. If objections are not received from anybody within the period stipulated above, my client will purchase the Schedule property and thereafter any objections, if received, shall not be entertained.

SCHEDULED PROPERTY 1

Land dearing Gat No. 4489 totally admeasuring about 1 to 8

SCHEDULED PROPERTY 1
Land bearing Gal No.4499 totally admeasuring about 1.1 H 08
R situated at Village Nijhoje, Tahasil Khed, District Pune and within the limits of Zulia Parishad Pune, Panchayat Samilt Khed and
Gram Panchayat Nijhoje, along with Industrial Shed/Pactory Shed,
Office building constructed upon it admeasuring about 4378.76
sq.mtrs and the Said Land is bounded as under:
On or towards North by : By Road.
On or towards South by : Land Galt No.454, 459 & 452.
On or towards East by : By Road.
On Or dowards South stone, water, trees, shrub, easementary
rights, structure constructed upon, it, compound wall, electric transtormer, electric and water connection along with rights of easement
thereto.

#### SCHEDULE 2 SUBJECT MATTER OF THE NOTICE

Undivided Share of Mr. Rajal Vedprakash Verma to the extent 22.2%; equivalent to 0 H 23.88 in Gal No.4499 Nighoje and Mr. Gurpal Singh Bedi to the extent of 55.55% equivalent to 0 H 80.66 R in Gat No.4499 Nighoje out of the Property described in Schedule 1 above. Sign/-SUREKHA KINKAR ADVOCATE

DATE: 08/03/2025 Kundan Chambers, Thube Park Shivajinagar, Pune 411005

# N PARLIAMENT BUDGET SESSION

## **QUESTIONS** IN HOUSE

#### BSF SEIZED ₹461-CR OF CONTRABAND ON INDIA-BANGLA BORDER IN 2024

New Delhi: BSF has seized contraband items worth ₹461.07 crore while foiling smuggling attempts at the Indo-Bangladesh border in 2024, the high-est in last 10 years, MoS for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai informed Lok Sabha Tuesday in response to a question. The data provided by the data provided by the minister showed that since 2015, the BSF has seized contraband items worth ₹2,806.17 crore at the border, of which goods worth ₹461.07 crore have been seized in 2024 alone. PTI

#### 6,046 CYBER CRIMINALS HELD WITH HFI P OF I4C I OCATION TRACKER

New Delhi: The 'Pratibimb' module, launched by the MHA's Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), which tracks the lo-(14C), which tracks the lo-cations of criminals, has led to the arrest of 6,046 accused, 17,185 linkages, and 36,296 cyber investi-gation assistance re-quests, MoS Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar told LSTuesday, In response to a question, he said, " "Partibimity" mane the lo-'Pratibimb' maps the lo-cations of criminals and crime infrastructure on a crime infrastructure on a map to give visibility to jurisdictional officers. It also facilitates the seek-ing and receiving of techno-legal assistance by Law Enforcement Agencies from I4C and other SMEs." PTI

#### against children. women prioritised under BNS: MoS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI MARCH 11

The Covinor Home Ministry on Tuesday informed the Lok Sabha that tackling crimes against women and children has been prioritised and placed under one chapter in the BNS. In a written response to BJP

MP Anil Baluni during the Question Hour, MoS for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar said

ployment, promotion or by con-cealing identity, etc has also been incorporated in BNS," Kumar

datiwal my Batuin against asked if tackling crimes against women and children has re-ceived priority in the new crim-inal laws, which have replaced the British-era Indian Penal Code.

2023, for the first time, provi-

punishable under Section 143 of BNS. In addition. Section 144 (1) of the BNS provides for strict punishment for the offence of sexual exploitation of trafficked children," Kumar said, adding the minimum punishment for such offences is five years, extendable up to life imprisonment.

# Can't have Manipur peace at gunpoint: Cong; President's rule out of compulsion, says BJP

TARGETING THE Centre on Manipur, which has been roiled by ethnic violence since May 2023, the Congress Tuesday said peace cannot be restored "at gunpoint", and urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to visit the state and listen to the appre-hensions and concerns of the

hensions and concerns of the people there.
Defending the imposition of President's rule in the state, the BJP countered that the decision was not forced on the state but was taken out of compulsion.
With the state under President's rule since February 13, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Manipur

Sitharaman tabled the Manipur Budget in Parliament on Monday

Budget in Parliament on Monday.
Initiating a discussion on the
supplementary demands for
grants, excess grants and the
Manipur Budget on Tuesday,
Gaurav Gogoi, Congress's deputy
leader in the Lok Sabha, said that
when a no-confidence motion
was moved about 21 months. was moved about 21 months back, Modi had assured that peace would be restored in Manipur soon. But President's

Manipur soon. But President's rule was imposed instead, he said. "This is a very sensitive mat-ter for the country. Since PM Modil himself, during the no-con-fidence motion in 2023, had said that Manipur was heading to-wards peace, he should tell us why President's rule has been imposed, and why he has not vis-tied Manipur so far" Coroni said

ited Manipur so far," Gogoi said. "What is the state of the "What is the state of the Vidhan Sabha, is it dissolved or in suspended animation," he asked, adding, "Home Minister will have to take moral respon-sibility for President's rule in





Manipur. I appeal to Home Minister to follow Rajdharma over his failure in Manipur." Gogoi said that when Home Minister Amit Shah visited

Minister Amit Sharwaysiste.

Manipur about his passiste.

Manipur at gunpoint and through police patrolling. If you really want peace in Manipur let the people of Manipur speak, you should have patience to lisente to the people there. What are their apprehensions, fears?

You should have the strength to listen to it," he said.

Gogo is ald the government only cared about he addines, speeches and optic, but was unreading a manipur about he addines, speeches and optic, but was unreading and a manipur about he addines, speeches and optic, but was unreadined.

speeches and optics, but was un-aware about the ground situation. Saying that the government had failed in its efforts to restore peace "at gunpoint" over the last two-and-a-half years, he urged it to hold a dialogue with the people of Manipur

Speaking on the issue, BJP leader and former Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb said President's rule was not forced on Manipur, but was imposed out of compulsion as the Assembly session could not be convened within the prescribed time and constitutional provisions came into play. Saying that both the Treasury and Opposition benches wanted peace in Manipur, Deb said the Northeast states have seen an infrastructure push after the Modi government came to power at President's rule was not forced

frastructure push after the Modi government came to power at the Centre. "Today, because of the Prime Minister, the Northeast is known across the world," he said. President"s rule was imposed in Manipur on February 13, following the resignation of N Birel Jowing the resignation of N Birel Singh as Chief Minister on February 9, Since the outbread of violence in May 2023, nearly 250 people are propriet in have died people are reported to have died in ethnic clashes in the state. Last week, the Centre's bid to enforce free movement through the state's highways was met by fresh violence.

## Rao did not visit Manipur when 750 died in '93: FM hits out at Opp

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

UNION FINANCE Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday Nurmala-sitharaman on Luesday hit back at the Opposition for criticising PM Narendra Modi for not visiting violence-hit Manipur and said that the then Congress PM P V Narsimha Rao and his home minister did not visit the state when 750 people died there in 1993. Replying to discussion on the

Supplementary Demands for Grants-Second Batch for 2024-Grants-Second Batch for 2024-25, the Demands for Excess Grants for 2021-22, the Budget for Manipur for 2025-26 and the Demands for Grants on Account for Manipur for 2025-26, Sitha-raman said, "In 1993, When Rajk-umar Dorendra Singh of the Con-gress was the CM of Manipur, a major flare up between Kukis and Nazas hapened between major Ilare up between Rukise major Ilare up between Apriland becember 1993, resulting im., 750 deaths and destruction of 350 villages in Manipur., At that time the PM was P V Narasimha Rao and Home Minister was Shankarao Chavan. They did not even participate in parliamentary debates... So, where was Congress at that time? Did they ask them to come and speak? Did they ask them to come and speak? Did they ask them to come

and speak? Did they ask them to go to Manipur? No." go to Manipur? No."
She said that when a motion
for President's Rule was moved in
Rajya Sabha for Manipur in February 1994, it was the Minister of
State for Home P M Sayeed who



Finance Minister Nirmala

responded, "Even at the peak of the violence in August 1993, it was a Minister of State for Home Rajesh Pilot, who addressed the Parliament," she said.

There are written records of Rajya Sabha, she said, showing that while demanding President's Rule in the violence-hit state, BJP's Sushma Swaraj did not press for the PM's reply or presence.
"That was how we in the

Opposition respected the ruling party in sensitive matters and

party in sensitive matters and look at the way they go on re-peating ... and this despite when the violence happened, when people were in camp, hon-ourable Home Minister Amit Shah ji went there, spent three nights and after that ... Nityanand Rai, MoS, Home, stayed there for three months," she said. Stating that Manipur saw the worst blockade during Congress

rule, she said, "... I hope Congress doesn't speak about Manipur as

Budget proposals. He said, "It speaks of a terrible state of an speaks of a terrible state of an economy, the debt burden that the state witnesses. Look at the revenue expenditure Out of 61%, roughly around 45% goes to salaries and persions. Look at the capital expenditure. It is 39%. What kind of a development project or development of the state that you can sense from these numbers? Altojiam said, "We have talked alot about the Prime Minister not visiting the State. In Itially, at the

visiting the State, Initially, at the

wisting the State. Initially, at the beginning of the crisis in 2023,1 heard that the PM did not visit the state. Today,1 and almost heard that the PM did not visit the state. Today,1 and almost indifferent. He may go to Utraine and talk about peace when his own citizens have been saughtered and more than 60,000 people have been rendered homeless." Congress MP Alfred Kannagan S. Arthur, who represents Outer Manipur (S1) seat, described the budget as "anti-people." — you talk of the 60,000 who have been displaced today, all their homes are ravaged, burnt, broken and damaged. They are displaced. There is no reflection in the Budget for those displaced. The damage! Law, which was done by separate entities, has crossed 20,000. entities, has crossed ₹20,000 crore... The entire Budget is not even worth that," he said.

Questioning the imposition of President's rule, TMC MP Saayoni Ghosh said, "This was imposed not to restore peace in Manipur but to salvage BJP's political repu-tation after months of inaction."

Gogoi targets PM over 'absence' from House, Nirmala hits back

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

UNION FINANCE Minister UNION FINANCE Minister
Nirmala Sitharaman and
Congress MP Gaurav Cogoi got
into awar of words in Lok Sabha
Tuesday after the Opposition
leader's remarks targeting Prime
Minister Narendra Modi.
Initiating a discussion on the
supplementary demands for
grants, excess grants and the
Manipur budget Cogoi made a

Manipur budget, Gogoi made a remark on PM Narendra Modi's "absence" in the House.

absence" in the House. Speaker Om Birla interjected and said PM Modi had informed him and the House about his for-eign visit and pointed out that previous PMs too have under-taken visits during Parliament sessions.

Modi is on an official visit to Mauritius.

auritius. Gogoi said that he has utmost

Gogo said that he has utmost respect for the PM, but it was the tendency of the Treasury benches to "insult" former PMs time and again.

At this point, Sitharaman said Gogo has made some "very very profound" remarks.

"It was music to my ears to hear a leading member of Opposition party say that he respects the PM only to add quickly — when the Treasury talks about. the PM only to add quickly—when the Treasury talks about the previous PMs, they speak not in a respectable language. How many times has the PM been abused in this House by them (Opposition) and how many times he was not even allowed to speak in the House. Will the honourable member Gogoi apole-sie fur the number of times they gise for the number of times they have abused the PM..." she said

Gogoi urged the FM to read the PM's speech during the last

# Tackling crimes

THE UNION Home Ministry on

strict punishments up to death sentence have been provided for

sentence have been provided for offences against women.

"Punishment for gangrape of a woman below the age of 18 years is life imprisonment till the remainder of the convict's natural life or death. A new offence for having sexual intercourse on false promise of marriage, employment promotion or by consolivation."

ı. Garhwal MP Baluni had

Kumar said, "In the BNS sions relating to crimes against women and children have been women and children have been given precedence and placed under one chapter. The government is committed to preventing human trafficking. Section 143 of the BNS provides provisions for strict punishment up to life imprisonment for offence of human trafficking," it said, adding that when the offence in subset the trafficking of a child volves the trafficking of a child, it shall be punished with impris-

it shall be plunished with impris-onment not less than 10 years but which may extend to impris-onment for life.

"It noted that beggary has been introduced as a form of ex-ploitation for trafficking and is punishable under Section 143 of

## Tamil enrolment falling in TN schools: Pradhan targets DMK

ANONNA DUTT NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

LINION EDUCATION Minister ONION EDUCATION MINISTER
Tharmendra Pradhan said in
Rajya Sabha Tuesday that the
Centre was not imposing Hindi
but promoting multilingualism

with its New Education Policy. Replying to a debate on the Replying to a debate on the discussion on the working of the Education Ministry, Pradhan cited the example of Tamil Nadu and said that the NEP in fact promotes initial teaching in Tamil. He said that data from Tamil Nadu shows that more students were moving to English medium education in

to English medium education in government schools. He said 67% of students were now in English medium schools, while Tamil medium entoment dropped from 54% (2018-19) to 36% (2023-24). He added that at least 74/CSES exhools in the state were teaching Hindi as a third language. He said that youngsters of Tamil Nadu should not be denied the opportunity to grow and that he is ready to face arrypersonal attacks from DMK government.

tacks from DMK government. "I am proud of the Tamil Ianguage," he said, "What is your opposition to NEP? It is advocat-



language. We are promoting Sengol and that is our under standing of the Tamil language.

Sengoi and that is our under-standing of the famil language."
"Dr Kasturirangan formul-lated the NEP 2200 on the basis of extensive consultation. And, what was the recommendation? It said that if a child is taught in the language that they first hear and speak, then their critical thinking will increase and their innovation capacity will in-crease. Nowheredow it will in-crease. Nowheredow it significant it (the third language) is Hindio Sanskrit. In NEP, none of the lan-guages has been imposed on anybody," he said.

He said that nominated member Sudha Murthy knows Kannada, English, Sanskrit, Hindi, Odia, Marathi, and Telugu, but no one imposed any lan-guage on her, Pradhan also said that Andhra Pradesh CM CM Chandrababu Naidu had said that in said a could promote not

that his state would promote not just three but as many languages as possible, including global lan-guages.

People being given backdoor entry by govt in educational institutions: Cong

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** 

NEW DELH, MARCH 11

CONGRESS MP Digvijaya Singh Tuesday accused the government of "getting people with the ruling party's ideology through the backdoor" in educational institutions. Sarting the discussion on the working of the Education Ministry, Singh said that over 5,400 Eacilly posts are vacant in central universities and there are contractual appointments there. This is a clever way of getting in the educational institutions. Will you give contractual teachers training?" he said.

DMK MP Kanomozhi NVN Somuspoke about the Centre not releasing funds to Tamil Nadu for not implementing the PM SHIR.

not implementing the PM SHRI scheme that mandates following the NEP. She said that the three

## Uproar in RS over 'unparliamentary' Kharge remark; he says sorry, clarifies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

LEADER OF Opposition
Mallikarjun Kharge's "unparliamentary" remark led to an uproar
in Rajya Sabha Tuesday, for which
he later apologised to the Chair
and said it was meant for the govemment which was "trying todivide and break the country".

When the discussion on the working of the Education Ministry was set to begin after the Question Hour, Kharge along with other Opposition MPs demanded an apology from Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan over his remarks about DMK MPs and the Tamil Nadu government on Monday.

Pradhan had accused Tamil When the discussion on the

Pradhan had accused Tamil Nadu's DMK government of benig" dishonses" and playing 'poltics" with the future of the state's students. While criticising the DMK government's opposition to the NEPLe also accused in doing a"U-tum" over PM-SHRS chooks. Amid protest from Opposition members Tuseday, Deputy Chairma Harivansh, who was presiding over the pro-ceedings, called Congress MP Digyligy Singh to initiate a dis-cussion on the working of the succession on the succession of succession succession of succession su

Digyiay Singh to initiate a discussion on the working of the Education Ministry. Kharge, who is also the Congress president, however, stood up to intervene. But the Chair said that Khange had already been given an opportunity to speak in the morning, and added that it was Singh's turn to speak.

Kharge then used an expres-sion and said that the Opposition was ready for a discussion on the Education Ministry and would "corner" the government, which led to an uproar from the Treasury benches that claimed that the ex-

pression was "unparliamentary". Leader of the House J P Nadda intervened and called the expression used by Kharge condemnable and demanded an apology from Kharge

apology from Kharge.
"The language used by the Leader of Opposition, the asper-sions on the Chair, is con-demnable... This is to be con-demned by one and all. The words and language used for the



LoP in RS Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday. PTI

Chair is unpardonable, still he

Chair is unpardonable, still he should apologise and the word should be expunged." he said. Kharge immediately apologised for using the expression and also clarified that it was not meant for the Chair but for government policies. "I am sorry, I was not speaking about you (the Chair), it was about government policies. "I am sorry if you were hurt by my remarks, I apologise," he said. "You are hurting the self-respect of a part of this country and people. The minister should be asked to resign. They are talking about dividing and breaking the country," Kharge said. Though Nadda appreciated Kharge's gesture to apologise, but said that the remarks are suited commable if they were meant for the government. Later, the expression was expunged from Kharge's remark. Earlier in the day, RS proceedings were adjourned after Opposition MPs protested in the Well of the House alleging that delimitation would result in restacts. Opposition MPs gave no-tices under Neg 267 seeking set-research general states. Opposition MPs gave no-tices under Neg 267 seeking set-research gaves and the set of seeking set-research.

states. Opposition MPs gave no-tices under Rule 267, seeking setting aside of the listed business of the day to take up a discussion

of the day to take up a discussion on concerns of southern states over delimitation. The notices were rejected by the Chair. DMKMPR Grirajan managed to raise the issue through a Zero Hour mention. Giriajan claimed that states like Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puniab that had imple ted family planning would stand to lose seats in Parliament and that states with poor family planning programmes like UP, Bihar and Rajasthan would gain many seats transferred from better per-forming states.

#### Foreigners Bill introduced in LS; Opp says violates fundamental rights on many counts, refer to panel tion of the hospitals, nursing

LALMANI VERMA

THE IMMIGRATION and Foreigners Bill, 2025, seeking to streamline various services related to immigration and for-eigners, including their entry, exit and stay in the country, was introduced in the Lok Sabha Introduced in the Lok Sabna Tuesday with the Opposition calling it a "violation" of constitu-tional provisions and demanded the Bill to be referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee. Introducing the Bill in the House, MoS for Home Nityanand

Up In Arms

DMK MP A Raja with MDMK chief Vaiko during a protest

against the three-language formula under the NEP during the Budget session of Parliament on Tuesday. DMK MPs raised slogans outside the House holding posters. PTI

Rai rejected the Opposition's view that Parliament lacked the legisla-

e competence to introduce it. He said that while tourists were welcome to come to India, it was the government's responsi-bility to ensure peace and sover-eignty of the nation remain intact.

Before introducing the Bill, Before introducing the Bill, Rai said the proposed law seeks to correct overlapping and du-plicate provisions in prevailing laws governing immigration and foreigners in the country. He said that the Bill was

aimed to confer upon the Central government certain powers to provide for requirement of pass-ports or other travel documents ports or other travel documents in respect of persons entering into and exiting from India and for regulating matters related to foreigners, including requirement of visa and registration and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

or incidental thereto.

Opposing the Bill at the introduction stage, Congress's Manish
Tewari said the Bill is in "violation of fundamental rights on
multiple counts" and that the
government might use the provisions of the proposed law to deny entry to those who are not



Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union MoS for Home Nitvanand Rai at Parliament, Tuesday, ANI

in sync with the ideology of the



ruling dispensation of the day. A proviso (in the Bill) fails to provide an appeal mechanism against the decision of the immigration officer which violates fundamental right, fundamental canons of natural justice in ju-risprudence, he said. Either the Bill should be with-drawn or should be referred to Joint Parliamentary Committee for very careful consideration, he said, as it "violates multiple arti-des of the fundamental inches and the lace of the fundamental inches cles of the fundamental rights un-

der the Constitution"

epaper.indianexpress.com

cies of the fundamental rights under the Constitution".

Opposing the Bill, TMC's Saugata Roys add there were four Acts regarding entry and exit of oreigners in the country already and that these Acts have served their purpose so far which makes the proposed law appear "superfluous" in their place.

Roy said that the proposed law "will restrict inflow of talent and know-how in the country in fields of academics and medical science". He added that he objected to the proposed law, especially with regard to the obliga-

homes or any other medical in-stitutes admitting any foreigner. Countering the objections, MoS Rai said that at present it is mandatory for every hospital and medical institution to inform

about the foreigners and that in-formation helps in regulating the stay of foreigners in India and their departure as well. "At present this

departure as well "At present this provision is through an order. Government is bringing that in the main Act," the minister said.

Rai mentioned the existing four Acts — the Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920; the Registration Foreigners Act, 1930; the Poreigners Act, 1930; and the Immigration (Carriers' Liability). Act, 2000, and said three of the are of pre-Constitution period. "The (Narendra) Modi government is reviewing the pre-Constitution period Bill and this Bill is a step in that direction."

# **GOVT & POLITICS**



#### **DELHI CONFIDENTIAL**



#### On THE SPOT

SENIOR CONGRESS Rajya Sabha member Digvijaya Singh was assigned 35 minutes for his speech during the discussion on the work of the Education Ministry on Tuesday, Digvijaya, however, spoke for 29 minutes. The remainder of his time was assigned to someone who was not supposed to take part in the discussion: Congress MP from Maharashtra, Imran Pratapgarhi. Put on the spot, Pratapgarhi delivered a spontaneous six-minute speech that touched on a range of subjects targeting the government, earning plaudits from his party colleagues.

#### REACHING OUT

AMID THE tussle over the three-language policy between Tamil Nadu's ruling DMK and the Centre, some senior ministers appeared to be walling the extra mile for the party NMF in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. During Question Hour, DMK's Thananiwenthan M'sexpressed concernower "Galiures of the online payment system" for the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi. Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan assured the MP that the state minister could approach him on this Otherwise, said Chouhan, minister could approach him on this. Otherwise, said Chouhan, he could himself visit Tamil Nadu to look into the matter. "We salute the great people of Tamil Nadu, we salute the Tamil cul-ture, the Tamil language. We are all children of Mother India and there is no question of discrimination. We will serve the people of Tamil Nadu, its farmers, with humility." Chouhan said.

#### HELPING HAND

IN A first-of-its-kind initiative, Kerala Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, along with Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, held a meeting with MPs from the state in New Delhi on Tuesday. The Governor is learnt to have surprised the MPs and the Chief Minister by saying he was aware of the problems faced by the state, and that he would stand with Vijayan in raising these demands before the Union government. Arlekar's predecessor, Arif Mohammed Khan, had an uneasy relationship with the Left government in Kerala.

## Simultaneous elections: on EC power, cautions it may not pass muster

FORMER CHIEF Justice of India and Rajya Sabha member Ranjan Gogoi on Tuesday cautioned a

and insert a new one, Article

the People, it may make a rec-ommendation to the President, to declare by an order, that the election to that Legislative

election to that Legislairve
Assembly may be conducted at
a darket Sel. (5) says. (60 pt)
learned to base says (10 pt)
learned to ba

gestions from across the country on the Bills.

## Tulsi Gabbard to join intel tsars at Delhi huddle next week

US DIRECTOR of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard is headed to India for the first high-level visit from the new admin-sistration under President Donald Trump, and she will be attend-ing a major conference of intelligence chiefs in Delhi next week.

Besides Gabbard, intelligence chiefs from Quad countries Australia and Japan, and promi-



intelligence sans. Some of them might also attend the Raisina Dialogue from March 17-18, which is organised by the Observer Research Foundation and the Ministry of External Affairs. The conference usually takes place quietly on the sidelines of Raisina Dialogue, when some of these officials attend the think tank event. The intelligence chiefs will gather in India, and are to be hosted by National are to be hosted by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and chiefs of R&AW (Research and Analysis Wing) and Intelligence Bureau among others.



US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard

Gabbard announced her visit to India on Monday. "I am #WheelsUp on a multi-nation trip to the Indo-Pacific, a region I know very well having grown up as a child of the Pacific. I'll be going to Japan, Thailand, and India, with a brief stop in France en-route back to DC," Gabbard said

E

in a post on X, with a photograph of her boarding an aircraft. The photograph of her boarding an aircraft stage of the photograph of her boarding an aircraft ships. If the photograph of the property of the photograph of the phot

"our troops engaging in training". This will be Gabbard's first trip to India after taking over as the eighth Senate-confirmed and first female combat veteran Director

of National Intelligence (DNI) in the second Timmp administration. Last month, Galbbard had met Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Washington DC for the meeting with Trump in the White House. She was the first US official to meet Modi at Blair House on February 12, shortly after the Indian leader ar-rived in the IS Capital.

rived in the US capital.
"Met USA's Director of National Intelligence, @TulsiGabbard in Washington DC. Congratulated her on her

ship, of whishe's always been a strong votary," Modi had said in a post on X.
Gabbard, who was the first Hindumember of the US House of Representatives, was tapped by Trump for the top intelligence of-ficial's job. An advocate for India, she had criticised Pakistan for providing a safe haven to termin cluding after the Pulwama terror-ist attack in 2019. She has also spoken out on the plight of Hindus in Pakistan and Bangladesh. She visited India several times in recent years, including in 2014 when she undertook a two-week trip.

# **EC** proposes meeting with party chiefs

Move 'to strengthen electoral process'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

AT A time when Opposition par ties have raised concerns ove ties have raised concerns over the purity of the electoral roll, the Election Commission on Tuesday invited national and state party presidents to a meet-

state party presidents to a meeting to discuss ways to "strengthen electoral processes". In a statement, the EC said it invited suggestions from all na-tional and state parties by April 30 regarding any "unresolvedis-suse" at the level of Electoral Registration Officers (EROS), District Election Officers (ECOS), District Election Officers (ECOS), District Election Officers (ECOS), District Services (ECOS) of states and UTIs. "In an individual letter rissued

"In an individual letter issued to political parties today, the to political parties today, the Commission also envisaged an interaction with the party pres-idents and senior members of the party, at a mutually conven-ient time, to further strengthen electoral processes in accor-dance with the established law," the EC strenget said

the EC statement said. The EC's move comes amid allegations of irregularities in the electoral roll, with the Trinamool electoral roll, with the Trinamool Congress being the latest party to level the charge. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had last month said at a rally in Kolkata that the BJP was collud-ing with the EC to get fake voters onto the roll in the state. The TMC has since then raised the is-sue of several electors of Bengal having the same Flectors Photo having the same Electors Photo Identity Card (EPIC) number as

that of electors in other states. In response, the poll commis sion issued two statements say

ing that the duplicate numbers were a result of the decenwere a result of the decen-tralised, manual system of issu-ing EPIC cards and that now, the ERONET portal would be used to ensure that all electors have unique EPIC numbers. The EC announced that all

The EC announced that all electors with duplicate numbers would be given unique ones in three months. It also stated that a duplicate number did not imply fake voters as only those registered to vote in a particular constituency can vote three. Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi Monday raised the issue of alleged discrepancies in the electroal roll while speaking in the Lower

while speaking in the Lower House. He called for a discussion House, He called for a discussion on the same. The Congress had alleged irregularities in the electroal roll in Maharashtra, saying that there had been a shocking increase in electors between the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in the state held five months apart. The Aam Aadmil Party, too, raised concerns over the accuracy of the electroal roll during the Delhi Assembly electrons last month is apart.

tions last month. Last week, Chief Election Last week, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar had told CEOs, DEOs and EROs at a conference here to hold regular interactions with political par-ties to resolve their issues. They were asked to submit an action-taken report by March 31. "Political parties are one of the key stakeholders amongst 28.

stakeholders identified by the Commission as per the Commission Constitution and statutory framework covering all aspects of elec-toral processes..." the EC said.

Delimitation will penalise states successful in family planning, says Congress

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

CLEARING ITS stand on the pro posed delimitation, the Congress Fuesday said that states which

nesday satu that States Which showed early success in family planning and reducing total fer-tility rates stand to be "penalised". Congress MP and general secretary in-charge for commu-nications Jairam Ramesh said states would "lose seats simply because of their early success in

because of their early success in family planning and reducing to-tal fertility rates, which have been national objective; "They will be penalised for it," he said. He said the distribution of seata across states in the Lok Sabha is presently based on the 1971 Census." Article 82 that was amended with effect from Feb 2002 provides for a fresh distribution based on the population data from the first Census affect 2026. When such a decennial Census will lade place is open to Census will take place is open to question specially since the 2021 Census has yet to be conducted,

Census has yet to be conducted," he posted on X. one in March 2019 by two scholars Milan Vaishnav and Jamie Hintson using Census 2001 and 2011 data reveals what happens to the distribution of seats if the estimated population of 2026 is used.. The states that lose seats are Tamil Nadu (8), Kerala (8), Andhra Pardesh and Telandesh and Te are Tamil Nadu (8), Kerala (8), Andhra Pradesh and Telangana (8), Odisha (3), West Bengal (4), Karnataka (2), Himachal Pradesh (1), Punjab (1), and Uttarakhand (1)," said Ramesh, adding that Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Maharashtra "don't lose or gain any seat". "The states that gain are Uttar Pradesh (11), Bibar (10)

Pradesh (11), Bihar (10), Rajasthan (6), Madhya Pradesh (4), Jharkhand (1), Haryana (1), Gujarat (1), Delhi (1), and Chhattisgarh (1)," he said.

# Ex-CJI Gogoi flags clause

**ASAD REHMAN** 

Gogoi on Tuesday cautioned a Joint Committee of Parliament about the Constitutional validity of some provisions of the two Bills on simultaneous elections. Gogoi, it is learnt, raised some doubts regarding a clause in the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Amendment) Bill. 2024, which proposes to amount three articles of the Constitution and insert a new one Article.

and insert a new one. Article 82A, in order to synchronise Lok Sabha and Assembly polls. Appearing before the panel as a part of its consultations with experts, Gogoi is learnt to have said that Article 82A(5) may not pass the Constitutional test and gives too much power to the Election Commission. The clause gives the EC the

The clause gives the EC the option of not holding any particular Assembly election along

with the election to Lok Sabha.
"If the Election Commission is of
the opinion that the elections to
any Legislative Assembly cannot
be conducted along with the
general election to the House of

booths where they are ordinary EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE BJP and the Trinamool Congress Tuesday complained to the Election Commission about what they saw as manipulation of electoral rolls. The TMC delegation, led by Derek O'Brien and Kalyan Banerjee, met CEC Gyanesh Kumar and raised the matter of "numerous instances of duplicate EPICs (Electors Photo Identity Cards) bearing the same

cate EPICs (Electors Photo Identity Cards) bearing the same numbers being issued to multi-ple voters across India". The BJP leaders also alleged manipulation in electoral rolls in West Bengal, claiming that 13 lakh illegal voters, including Bangladeshi nationals, had been added to the potential of the properties of properties properties of properties propertie added to the voter list. About 8,415 people with similar EPIC 8,415 people with similar EPIC numbers are registered in Bengal as voters, the BJP delegation, in-cluding its Bengal unit president Sukanta Majumdar and the party's co-observer for the state Amit Malviya, claimed in the pe-tition to the EC

In a post on X later, the EC ote: "The Commission welcomed the delegation of BJP to-day and informed them that only the citizens of India who are above 18 years of age can be reg-istered as electors in the polling

booths where they are ordinary residents." Updation of electroal roll is a participative process with all political parties, including established mechanisms of appeal under section 24 of the RPA (Representation of the People Act) 1950," itsal A Biju Janata Dal delegation also met the poll panel on Tuesday and alleged "unusual variances" in the votes cast in the 2024 Parliament and Assembly

ID row, BJD flags vote 'variance'

The TMC delegation leaves the EC office after the meeting on Tuesday. Abhinav Saha

TMC, BJP go to EC over voter

2024 Parliament and Assembly elections in the state. The party

elections in the state. The party submitted a second memoran-dum on the issue to the poll panel. The BJD requested the EC to institute a periodic process audit of the entire electoral process by the CAG or independent audi-tors; tally all VVPAT slips with the EVM count in every booth, and mandate that the District

and mandate that the District Election Officers provide within amonth copies of Form 17C and VMPX to any citizen on the payment of prescribed fees.

TMC MP Sagarika Ghosh, who addressed the media after the meeting with the EC, said that duplicate Adahaar numbers had also been allotted to multiple people, which impacted their EPIC numbers since the EC had begun to seed EPIC numbers. begun to seed EPIC numbers with Aadhaar.

In a four-page memorandum submitted to the poll panel, the TMC said EPIC numbers consist

of an alphanumeric sequence of of an alphanumeric sequence of three letters known as the "Functional Unique Serial Number (FUSN)", which is dif-ferent for every Assembly con-stituency in India, and seven dig-its, are supposed to be unique. "How were EPICs with the same number issued to voters in nultiple Assembly constituencies across various states in the coun-

across various states in the coun-try?" the TMC said, adding, "Why has EC not clearly stated on its Form 6B that seeding Aadhaar

has EC not clearly stated on its Form 68 that seeding Aadhaar with EPIC is an entirely voluntary process and that it is not compul-sory? "It alleged instances of arbi-trary deletions and additions of names to electoral rolls in many states, claiming that in Bengal 'several fake voters had been added to the electoral rolls through the online portal". The party de-manded that the EC issue a sepa-rate list of voter deletions, new ad-ditions and modifications with every new revised electoral roll. The EC said on X: "...The Commission mentioned that all concerns including duplicate EPIC numbers, duplicate, shifted and dead voters and illegal mi-grants will be resolved by each Booth Level Officer and con-cerned Electoral Registration cerned Electoral Registration Officer with active participation

of Booth level Agents appointed

SUJIT BISOYI BHUBANESWAR, MARCH 11

IN THE clearest sign yet of how IN THE Clearest sign yet or now much the Biju Janata Dal's (BJD) political position has shifted since it lost power to the BJP in last year's elections, party president and former Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has accepted Tamil Nadu CM M K Stalin's institution to a total a vector of the stalin's institution to the description of the stalin's institution. vitation to attend a meeting on setting up a joint action commit-tee on delimitation.

Naveen accepts Stalin invite for meet to oppose delimitation Atwo-member DMK delegation of former Union Minister Dayanidhi Maran and Tamil Nadu Industries Minister T R B Rajaa met Patnaik at his residence

met rathaik at his residence Tuesday to discuss the issue. "The DMK leaders conveyed the message of their party chief about the concern and anxiety on the issue of the delimitation exercise. They also invited the BJD president to the meeting in Chennai on March 22, Several states, including Odisha, will



Maran and Tamil Nadu Minister T R B Rajaa. PTI

itation exercise," said BID vice president Debi Prasad Mishra. The BJD leader said Patnaik had The BJD leader said Pathaik had agreed to participate in the meeting and said he shares the concerns of the southern states. BJD sources said the party will protest if Odisha's Lok Sabha seats, 21, are reduced.

The BJD's decision to join the

meeting is significant as the party recently joined other Opposition parties to demand a debate in Parliament on the is-sue of "duplication of voter ID

cards' . BJD lader in Rajya Sabha, Sasmit Patra, said the EC had ac-knowledged the problem of du-plication of voter ID cards and it requires a discussion also raised questions about alleged discrep-ancies in votes cast in the Lok Sabha and the Assembly elec-tions last year. On Tuesday, adel-egation of party leaders submit-ted a memorandum to the EC. In the run-up to the Lok

In the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls, the BJD kept its dis-tance from the INDIA bloc.

However, in Odisha, the BIP ended Patnaik's 24-year run in power in the state. After this, the power in the state. After this, the BJD slowly changed its position on not taking on the ruling party at the Centre. First, it amounced it would stop lending "issue-based support" to the BJP so that ic could be a "strong and vibrant" Opposition in Parliament. Last June, it Joined the Opposition in demanding a discussion on alleged paper leaks and irregularities in examinations such as NEET and NET.

# Adityanath poster at Gyanendra rally triggers stir in Nepal Pinarayi hosts FM for

YUBARAJ GHIMIRE

AMONG THE sea of supporters AMONG THE sea of supporters welcoming former Nepal king Gyanendra Shah to Kathmandu on Sunday — days after he had made his first direct appeal to the people since his ouster in 2008, seeking "support if they wanted to secure the nation's future" — one face stood out. That of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Veet Aditional Chief Minister C

Yogi Adityanath. In Nepal's volatile politics, an In Nepal's volatile politics, air Adityanath poster was, unsur-prisingly, a lightning rod. The BJP leader is a known supporter of Nepal's deposed monarchy, and Gyanendra's Kathmandu rally is being seen as his biggest chal-lenge yet to the increasingly un-marker be Abarma Oli governlenge yet to the increasing y un-popular K P Sharma Oli govern-ment, battered by allegations of

Adityanath's poster as evidence of "India hand" behind Gyanendra, raising questions over the credibility of Sunday's over the credibility of Sunday's rally. The pro-Cyonendra parties shot back alleging that Adityanath's posters had been "planted", and calling it a conspiracy by the Oil government. As per the rally's organisers, the use of Adityanath's image nether had official sanction nor did they know about it, with the only instruction to participants being to use the national flag and Cyanendra's portrait. Gyanendra's portrait. "We are not so weak as need-

weare nots oweak as need-ing to use a foreigner's photo in our procession," said Dipak Gyawali, a former minister and pro-monarchist. What about Communists displaying portraits of Marx, Lenin, Mao et at party offices, he added. The ties between Nepal's

rruption. royal family and the Gorakhnath Oli's supporters described mutt of Gorakhpur, of which



andu rally is being seen as his biggest challenge yet to the KP Sharma Oli government. Reut

nath is currently the head Adityanath is currently the head, run deep and go back ages. Rajendra Lingden, the president of the Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP), which was the main organiser of the Gyanendra rally, pointed to this, saying: "We don't know about it (the Adityanath poster). But what we know and respect is that King Gyanendra has a deep connection of faith and respect with the and respect with the Gorakhnath mutt, since the Shah dynasty is believed to have been epaper.indianexpress.com

blessed by Guru Gorakhnath." Gorakhnath remains the presiding deity of the Shah dynasty and was also one of Nepal while itics goes through upheavals. On Sunday, the supporters

and was also one of Nepal while the country was a monarchy. Corakhnath mutt heads have long visited mutts and shrines in Nepal. The UPA government in India (2004-2014) was instrumental in bringing leaders of eight political parties in Nepal, including the Maoists (then spearheading an insurgency), to sign a deal which led to the suppersional modern of the control of the control

EXPLAINED suspension and then fall of Nepal's monarchy. It

of Nepal's monarchy, It paved the way for the Maoists to gain power in what was till then celebrated as "the world's only Hindu kingdom". Aditynandth, then the Goraldpur MP and already head of the Goraldmath mutt, was avo-cal opponent of this — a view he has since repeated several times. Meanwhile, the distrust of

India's "meddling" in Nepal's af-fairs has only increased as its pol-

On Sunday, the supporters celebrating Gyanendra raised slogans such as "Narayanhiti khali gara, Hamra raja aaudai chhan (Vacate the Narayanhiti royal palace, we are bringing our king back)".

ack)".

Gyanendra, who
made the rounds of various shrines leading up
to his Kathmandu rally,
met Adityanath in Lucknow as well as Gorakhpur last month.

Gorakhpur last month.
An aide said politics should not be read into Gyanendra's meetings with Adityanath. "His Majesty knows and respects that holding a political office and presiding over a religious mutt are different things. Therefore, he visited Gorakhpur before he gave the call for national recon-ciliation," the aide said.

# breakfast meet today

MANOJCG NEW DELHI MARCH 11

KERALA CHIEF Minister Pinarayi Vijayan is hosting Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for a breakfast meeting in the capi-tal on Wednesday as he hopes to mend fences with the Union government in the last year of his second term.

This is a marked shift from Vijayan's stance from February last year, when the CM and his en-

lastyear, when the k-u and nisen-tire cabinet had protested in Delhi against the Narendra Modi gov-ernment over "discrimination" in allocation of funds to the state. Congress leaders claimed the meeting, to be held at Kerala House, was to secure a tacit un-derstanding between the CPI(M) and the BIP for the forthco and the BJP for the forthcoming local body polls in the state.



Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan

Vijayan, however, appears un-fazed by any prospect of a polit-ical controversy as there is not much room for dissent against him in his party.

After his breakfast tete-e-tete with Sitharaman, Vijayan will atwith straardina, yayayan wil at-tend the politburo meeting at the CPM headquarters, where the top leadership will discuss an organisational roadmap to take on the BJP. The draft resolutions, once approved by the Central Committee later this month, will

be presented at the party's na-tional conclave in Madurai.

#### WORDLY WISE

MARKETS CAN REMAIN IRRATIONAL LONGER THAN

YOU CAN REMAIN SOLVENT. — JOHN MAYNARD KEYNES

## The Indian **EXPRESS**

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

#### ON THE EDGE

Trump's trade policies haven't gone down well with markets. Monday's meltdown has added to the economic uncertainty

N RECENT WEEKS, fears of an economic slowdown in the US have gained traction. On Monday, the S&P 500 fell 2.7 per cent with growing investor concerns over the impact of Donald Trump's trade policies on the US economy. The market melt-down came a day after Trump appeared not to rule out the possibility of the economy entering into a recession. In an interview on Sunday, when asked, Trump also sough

omy entering mon a recession, in an interview on sunday, when asked, irumpias osoight to deflect the issue, saying, "has tep predict things like that." He added, "There is a period of transition, because what we're doing is very big,"
However, there are some indications of an economic downturn. A few days ago, the Atlanta Fed's GDPNow model had pegged US GDP growth at -2.4 per cent in the first quarter of 2025 (seasonally adjusted annual rate). While these estimates can be volatile, Goldman Sachs has now upped the odds of a recession from 15 per cent to 20 per cent. Consumer confidence in the US is also falling – the Conference Board's consumer confidence index fell to 98.3 in February, from 105.3 in January. Markets, firms and consumers dislike uncertainty. And, there is considerable uncertainty over how Trump's tariff policies will play out and what will be the retaliatory impact -- Trump Than by starting ponces with pay out and what with or the retailianty might in the already gone back and forth on levying tariffs on countries. This also reflects in the economic policy uncertainty index of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis which has been edging upwards. However, so far, other indicators do seem to indicate that has been regging upwartes. Nowever, so lan, other inhut acts to be cholding up. In February, the US economy added 1,51,000 jobs, only marginally below expectations. The unemployment rate though has edged up to 4.1 per cent. Further, the New York Fed's Nowcast model is at 2.67 per cent for the first quarter of 2025. However, the long-term implications of levying such tariffs is clear. For instance, as per the Tax Foundation, a Washington-based think tank, 25 per cent tariffs on Canada and Mexico uswild lower bear on a CDB 20.3 Durs cents. would lower long-run GDP by 0.2 per cent.

Attention will now shift to the US Federal Reserve. In its last meeting held in January, the Fed had voted to maintain the federal funds rate in the range of 4.25 to 4.5 per cent. However, retail inflation rose to 3 per cent in January, while core inflation was at 3.3 per cent. Data for February will be released on Wednesday. The imposition of tariffs, which cell. Data for reducing you for treasect on vectors day, in a miposition of a law, or will be inflationary, will make it difficult for the Fed to further ease policy rates – a policy stance that Donald Trump favours. The next meeting of the Fed, scheduled for March 18-19, will provide greater clues on the trajectory of monetary policy in the US.

#### SMOG OVER URBAN INDIA

Towns are as vulnerable to air pollution as metros, IQAir report should occasion cooperation across cities, states, countries

HE LATEST EDITION of the World Air Quality report released by Swiss Air Technology major IQAir has sobering news for India. The country has 13 of the 20 most polluted cities in the world. The study is a reminder that though governments have taken significant steps to clean air — at times after being nudged by courts — the interventions have not led to appreciable improvements. The country is ranked the fifth-most polluted country, after Chad, Bangladesh, Pakistan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The (John Its comprises not) is ut whan centres whose trysts with toxic air are well known — Delhi and its adjoining areas for example—it also features small towns such as Byrnibhat in Assam and Mullanpur in Punjab. This is not a new finding. In recent years, towns such as Bhiwadi in Rajasthan and Begusarai in Bihar have topped the IQAir list. But the country's pollution challenge continues to be

framed largely in terms of a crisis in big city governance. A knowledge base on pollutants is some Tier 2 cities is being built up gradually. The number of pollution monitoring stations has increased from 37 in 2015 to more than 1,000 (including manually operated ones) in 2023. These, however, represent less than a quarter of the country's requirement. Small cities remain underrepresented in research and policy. There is very little micro data on most of the 74 Indian cities listed in the IQAir. report, According to a 2023 study by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), barely 12 per cent of India's 4,000 census towns and cities are covered under air quality moni-toring mechanisms. The analysis by the New Delhi-based organisation shows that 62 per cent of the country's population is outside the real-time monitoring network. The other major problem is that despite the National Clean Air Programme's emphasis on targeted imporprotection studies represented in a confirmation of the confi

However, the least developed and emerging economies are the most affected. India's neighbours, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal, are among the poor performers. The problems' transboundary nature has been evident for long. In recent times, experts have been advocating interventions immultiple airsheds—contiguous regions—whose geography makes it difficult for them to disperse pollutants. However, cooperation between the South Asian neighbours has been underwhelming. The IQAir report is another reminder that such intransigence doesn't work

#### SAY WOOF

New study says people don't really get dogs as well as they think they do. Blame it on the human tendency to project

HE WRITER ADAM Gopnik once observed that somewhere between dogs' The WALLER ALDANG COPINE ORCE OF SECTION TO SECTION THE WALLER ALDANG COPINE ORCE OF SECTION TO SECTION THE SECTION TO SECTION THE SECTION mans – who are lonely despite and because of their uniquely complex communication cultures — can form lasting bonds of understanding with at least one other species, im-perfect as such a connection may be. It turns out, however, that even this may be too op-timistic, and that people don't really get dogs as well as they think they do. The authors of a new Study, Barking up the wrong tree: Human perception of dog

emotions is influenced by extraneous factors', have found that people's perception of a dog's emotions is almost entirely based on context cues: Everything but the dog itself, in other words. Complicating this picture is the human tendency to project emotions — a use-ful quality when it comes to creative, imaginative tasks like writing books and making movies, but one that can hamper other activities like leash training a dog. Here, the problem is not so much the language gulf, but people's inability to "read" their closest com-panions on any terms but their own.

It may be time to consider that dogs don't process emotions the way humans do. And as with all relationships, human or canine, it comes down to paying close attention to the other party, instead of relying on one's own imagination of how they might think and feel. The study's revelations also begithe question: Is it time to reappraise the popular perception of cats as inscrutable, mysterious and standoffish? It may well be that cats are all that — it is likelier, however, that people are simply as clueless about them as they are about dogs

# The message from Chagos



With major powers harbouring neo-imperialist ambitions, India must be the voice of anti-colonialism

Sanjaya Baru

INDIA HAS DONE well to reassure Mauritius by endorsing her claim over the Chagos Islands, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri ar-ticulated the Indian view last week, stating; "We support Mauritius in its stance on its

"We support Mauritus in its stance on its sovereignty over Chagos, and this is obviously keeping with our long-standing position with regard to decolonisation and support for sovereignty and territorial integrity of other countries." Bravo! Chagos is just one more territory that the neo-imperialist supporters of United States President Donald Trump are laying claim to. Last October, the British government agreed to handower Chagos Islands, which are home to the US military base at Diego Garcia, to Maurittus A Republican senator and Trump to the US military base at Diego Carcia, to Mauritius, A Republican senator and Trump supporter, John Kennedy, recently warmed London that it could damage its relationship with the US lifts decision to cede sowereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius threatened the future of the US military base on the island of Diego Garcia.

of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius threatened the future of the US military base on the island of Diego Garcia.

Misn's statement came, interestingly, a day after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's visit to Iondon. Clearly, there is a message in there for Washington. Incinically, it emanated from the centre of one of the biggest empires of the colonial area. American imperialist ambitions and pretensions recently articulated by Trump have sparked off debates around the world on the legitimacy of territorial aggrandisement in this day and age.

The present territory of all the three so-called 'Great Powers' — the US, China and Russia — is the legacy of imperial conquest and territorial expansion. If lit deawn of the 20th century, few questioned this phenomby which nations were created and enough the conquest of territory, and expery continent. The US took its final shape through the conquest of territory necessity continent. The US took its final shape through the conquest of territory than the Alantic to the Pacific. China marched into the heart of Asia absorbing Thes and more.

It was in India that the greatest and longest battle against imperalism was launched. India as it now exists is in fact the only modern anison that occupies less territory than its ancient historical footprint. While there are some in India who still nur-

tory than its ancient historical footprint. While there are some in India who still nur-ture territorial ambitions with their theory

of "Akhand Bharat", the republic of free India has never harboured extraterritorial ambi-

of "Akhand Bharat", the republic of free India has never harbourde extraetriorial ambitions or imperialist fantasies. The history of the 20th century has been a history of the struggle against imperialism and its multiple ideologies India has thus far held its head high. The acquisition of Sikkim was a minor transgression but that of a few coastal territories was in line with India? Sushahack against European colonialism. Given this history and record it is incumbent on India to continue to be the voice of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism. India's struggle against imperialism inspired anti-colonial movements across the word, eshaping the 20th century's global nay Art the end of the 20th century's war of colonial conquest, when the ambitions of Germany and Japan were thwarted and

of colonial conquest", when the ambitions of Cermany and Japan were thwarted and the British Empire retreated, the international community created the United Nations, making an explicit pledge against certiforial expansionism. The UN Charter commits its members to "refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the retritorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner in consistent with the Purposes of the United Nations".

The Covernment of India responded cor-

the United Nations".

The Government of India responded correctly to the Russian invasion of Ukraine by invoking the UN Charter's explicit commitment to the adherence by member nations to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of all nation-states. India has also questioned the territorial claims of other major powers. Hence, the Indian statement on Mauritius should be welcomed.

should be welcomed.

India and Mauritus may well agree to allow the US and the UK to continue to operate their military base from Diego Garcia. However, this would require US recognition of the sovereignty of Mauritus over the islands. The Chagos Islands are an obscure set of dots in the Indian Ocean. However, the section of 'outside' powers in any region is a cause that has acquired great importance once again.

The focus on Trump's threats on trade and tariffs and on the theatric is in the daily circus at the White House have diverted attention from the US President's neo-imperialst fantasies. However, it is imperative that post-colonial nations like India, Brazil, mem-

bers of ASEAN and the African Union join hands and convene a global convention against neo-imperialism. All major powers, including the US, China and Russia, must be put on notice. The victories of the hard-won struggles of the 20th century will not be allowed to go to waste in the 21st.

lowed to go to waste in the 21st.

Chages may be a speck in a wast ocean, Just as the Panama Canal is but a narrow navigable lane. It is such strategic spot that have been eyed by imperial powers for centuries. Trump has raised the spectre of imperialist ambitions once again, not just eying such specks and spots but laying claim to the vast expanses of Canada and Greenland. Interestingly, the Chagos decisions how the British government in a good light. It of-fers an opportunity for Britain, home to the last great empire, to make common cause

fers an opportunity for Britain, home to the last great empire, to make common cause with its colonies and revive the Commonwealth as an institution. In a rapidly changing world in which plumlateral groupings such as BRICS, ASEAN, the Quad, SCO and the African Union have become important regional platforms, the Commonwealth has the opportunity to reinvent itself as an association of post-colonial pations standing un for the principles of ter-

vent itself as an association of post-colonial nations standing up for the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty. It would make for an interesting inversion of the idea of the Commonwealth.

By taking a stand on Chagos, India has hopefully sent a message to all major powers, for there has been a surfeit of activity around the globe with major powers once again acquiring territory or laying claim. India should join hands with other post-colonial nations to re-ignite global consciousness about imperailism and the lasting damage if has done

To re-ignite global consciousness about imperialism and the lasting damage it has done to societies around the world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi did well during the hosting of the C2D Summit to convene and articulate the Voice of the Global South. With Trump intent on dumping the C2D, as indicated by the US boycott of the C2D meetings in South Africa, it would be opportune for the Global South to Ollectively denounce the neo-imperialist ambitions of major powers.

The writer was member, National Security Advisory Board of India, 1999-2001 and media advisor to the Prime Minister o India, 2004-08



## DARK CIRCLES TELL STORIES

A survey shows women sleep far less than men. The reasons aren't hard to discern

#### MOUMITA ALAM

MOUMITA ALAM

WHENDID YOU last sleep well? People often ask me after seeing the dark cirdes under my eyes. These dark cirdes never go away, because lineer sleep well. How can!? As a working woman who is a single parent — the primary caregiver of my daughter — I suffer from time-powerly. I don't have time to eat properly or to sleep properly. That he to work all time-powerly to of leep any ending the ani-urban area, neither do learn well enough to avail myself of 24st? household help, nor do! have professional daycare facilities near my workplace. After the drudgery of a long day at work, the word "empowermen" seems like amyth. ResMed, a global health technology leader, recently revealed in its fifth Global Elep Survey (India) that people are losing at least three nights of restorative sleep each week. And, a seepered, the report suggests that women experience power sleep quality than men. According to the report, they experience fewer mights of good sleep per well, when men according to the report, they experience fewer mights of good sleep per well. Annum en (3.83 vs. 413). They also struggle more with falling askep (3.8 per cent vs. 29 per cent,) with hormonal changes being a key factor. Menopause significantly impacts sleep, with 44 per cent of menopausal women worldwide struggling to fall askep at least three times a week, compared to 33 per cent of non-menopausal women. In India, women (17 per cent) are more likely than

A big reason is that women remain the primary caregivers in the family, for both children and elderly people. Having a steady job does not relieve them from domestic chores. With rising inflation and the growing aspirations of the neoliberal market economy, in many households, women are allowed to work outside the home on the condition that domestic chores and childrearing are not disrupted

The focus on Trump

House have diverted

attention from the US President's neo-imperialist fantasies. However, it is imperative that post-colonial nations like India, Brazil, members of ASEAN

and the African Union join hands and convene a global

convention against neo-imperialism. All major powers, including the US,

China and Russia, must be

threats on trade and tariffs and on the theatrics in the daily circus at the White

men (12 per cent) to take sick leave due to poor sleep. Clearly, women are suffering from a sleep

condity, women are suffering from a sleep.

On the Why? No ligr eason it but women emain the primary caregives in the family, for both children and delety people I sharing a steady job does not relieve them from domestic chores. With hissing inflation and the growing asylirations of the neoliberal market economy, in many households, women are allowed to work outside the home on the condition that domestic chores and full-de-raining are not disrupted. In places like Mumhai, it is common to see women chopping vegetables for dimer during their evening commute back home (Nilaijanah Bhowmick, Lie Dur Mothers Tadd U.S.). With the constant ticking of a dock in their eas, it is no wonder that women don't here ir as, it is no wonder that women don't

Tad U.S. With the constant ticking of a clock in their easn it's no wonder that women don't steep well — to cope with the workload of the home and the workplace, sleep is the first thing to be sacrificed.

In the last few decades, a phrase we've often heard is "women's empowerment". We teach our draughters to be financially independent and pursue careers, but we have never tried to put in place a mechanism that can relieve women of the burden of household chores, better have we taught our sons to share these responsibilities. "Women's empowerment" thus becomes nothing short of the exploitation of women's labour.

The government, too, has not focused on the creation of a proper ecosystem for women in workplaces or a home. How many government-run creches do we have? Women are always worried at the workplace, leaving their children with namines who might be inefficient or careless. Some are forced to leave their children with their parents back at home.

Sleep poverty is particularly a problem among lactating mothers. In the first few years of motherhood, sleep is a casualty. Often, the maternity leave that is sanctioned in ote enough. And with the mass privatisation of jobs, maternity leave policies are becoming more regressive. Women employees

coming more regressive. Women employees in some states get CCL (child care leave) for

in some states get CCL (child care leave) for two years till their childrent run IR. But every female employee knows how tough it is to get CCL approved, with a male-dominated leadership posing a significant hurdle. Ground realities in India are often grim-mer than what data reflects. There is also a lack of good data — with the diversity that India has, it's very difficult for any organisa-tion to give near-perfect data. But just look at the data critical superference and the search that lead is critical to the control of the total critical superference and the search that and the control of the control of the control of the total critical search that and the control of the control of the total critical search that and the control of the that the control of the total critical search that and the control of the total critical search that the the critical search that the control of the total critical search that the the critical search that the that the that the the that the that the the that the the that the that the the that the the that the the that the the the the the the that the the that the the the the dark circles under women's eyes. They tell us what we need to know. Let women sleep.

Alam is a poet and writer based in North Bengal

#### March 12, 1985, Forty Years Ago INDIAN EXPRESS



#### CHERNENKO DEAD

THE SOVIET PRESIDENT and Communis THE SOVIET PRESIDENT and Communist Party General Secretary, Konstantin Chernenko, died at the age of 73 after a grave illness and was succeeded by Mikhail S. Gorbachev — long considered Chernenko's number two — as the party chief. The oldest person to hold the top post, Chernenko was in office for the briefest period — just under 13 months compared to the 15 months of his prede-cessor, Yuri Andropov.

GORBACHEV TAKES OVER WITH THE ELECTION of Mikhail Sergeevich

AKALIS OUT OF JAIL

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ordered the release of eight important Akali leaders who were in detention under the National Security Act, including Akali Dal president Harchand Singh Longowal. Ironically, two top leaders,

Gorbachev to the post of general secretary of the CPSU, the leadership of the Soviet Union has passed into the hands of a new generation born much after the October Revolution. Born on March 2, 1931, he cently celebrated his 54th birthday. Known as an agriculture wizard, he made his mark in political life by transforming the Stavropol region into a rich granary. GSTohra, president of the SGPC, and Parkash Singh Badal, former Punjab chief minister, have not been released. There is a case against Tohra on charges of waging war against the government.

#### Shastri's Audi

THE BOARD OF Control for Cricket in India THE BOARD OF Control for Cricket in India has decided to request the government to waive the customs duty, as a special case, on the Audi car won by Ravi Shastri, de-clared champions of the Ampions in the World Championship of Cricket in Melbourne. Under normal circumstances, the combined duty would have been about as much as the value of the car (about Rs 4 lakh).

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# THE IDEAS PAGE

# From Delhi to Port Louis

India's relations with Mauritius rest not just on shared ethnicity, but also on a reliable partnership to strengthen the island nation's sovereignty. PM Modi's visit will strengthen ties



FEW COUNTRIES ARE closer to India than Mauritius. The ties that bind Delhi to Port Louis the capital of Mauntinis, are many. They include the island's large Indian-origin population, constituting nearly 70 per cent off is 13 million people. Prime Minister Narendra Modi songoing visit to the island state, almost exactly a decade after his last visit in March 2015, is about lending deeper strategic substance to this special bilateral relationship. Modi's 2015 visit to Mauritius and Seychelles marked a recognition of the renewed geopolitical significance of the Western Indian Ocean islands. Modi's speech outlining India's SACAR (security and growth for all) ambition also highlighted the urgency of putting the Indian Ocean at the top of India's diplomatic agent, game in Mauritius and the Western Indian Ocean islands has more actors, including Europe, Russia, China. Gulf states and Turkey, Jostic for greater influence in three contents of the content of India despite the strong bonds of ethnic kin-spin Mauritius is not be wearched optics of modern of please conceint the Content of Content of

plex evolution of modern world politics more succinctly than Mauritius. Consider, for example, its colonial history. All European colonial powers — including the Portuguese, Dutch, ple, its colonial history, All European colonial powers – including the Portuguese, Dutch, French, and British – showed up here. Its independence from Britian did not end its battle against colonialism. One of the last vestiges of colonialism in Mauritisus was sorted out only recently with the agreement between Port Louis and London over the Chagos archipelago. When Britain gave independence to Mauritius in 1968, it separated part of the Chagos archipelago into the "British Indian Crean Territor", and save the island of Dieson

Chagos archipelago into the "British Indian Ocean Tentiory" and gave the sland of Diego Garcia on lease to the United States, which set up a major military base on the island. Over the last couple of decades, Mauritius had mounted a patient but powerful global campaign to reclaim its sovereignty over the Chagos archipelago.

The UK-Mauritius agreement on Chagos holds profound legal, geopolitical, and humanitarian significance. From the legal standpoint, the agreement reaffirms Mauritius's sovereignty over Chapos It aligns with the ad-

point, the agreement reaffirms Mauritius's sovereigntyower Chagos. Raignswith the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICI) in 2019, which supported Mauritius's claim to the archipelago. This move strengthens international law by respecting decolonisation principles and sets a precedent for resolving similar territorial disputes between European powers and post-colonial states. The agreement between Mauritius and the UK also addresses the humanitarian concerns of the people dispos-sessed during decolonisation. It also provides the basis for long-term environmental coop-



eration between London and Port Louis.
From the geopolitical perspective,
Mauritius has extended the lease on Diego
Garcia for 99-years, helping retain the US military base there. Although the Tories in the
UK and some Republicans in the US Shavedenounced this agreement as paving the way
for Chinese dominance of the Indian Ocean,
it does exactly the opposite by retaining the
US base with Mauritius's consent. This
should help sustain a long-term US military
presence in the Indian Ocean amid China's
growing strategic focus on the littoral. During
British PM Keris Samer's visite the Washington
last month, President Donald Trump endorsed the agreement.
For India and PM Modi, who stood by
Mauritius in its struggle to regain sovereignty,
it is a moment of quet diplomatic satisfaction.
Delli was instrumental in promoting a pragmutic agreement between Mauritius and the

Delhi was instrumental in promoting a prag-matic agreement between Mauritius and the UK that would meet India's regional security concerns over China's expanding naval pro-file in the Indian Ocean. Meanwhile, India's construction of logis-tics infrastructure on Agaliega Island under-lines both Mauritius's enduring geopolitical significance in the Indian Ocean and Delhi's growing maritime stakes in regional security. Many things have changed in world politics over the centuries, but the importance of ge-eraphic location, remains, constant.

over the centuries, but the importance of og-orgaphic location remains constant. Mauritius's critical position in the Western Indian Ocean mend it the name "Star and Key of the Indian Ocean". For European saliors navigating down the African coast and entering the Indian Ocean African coast and entering the Indian Ocean Amuritius was indeed key to the onward jour-ney up the African coast and across the Indian Ocean. The opening of the Suce Canal in the mid-19th century seemed to reduce the importance of Mauritius and the Western Indian Ocean islands. But the two World Wars and Ocean islands. But the two World Wars and the Cold War Hrust Mauritius Back into the

Ocean islands. But the two World Wars and the Cold War thrust Mauritus back into the centre stage of world politics. Britain's decline as a great power and its withdrawal from the Indian Ocean in 1970 was followed by a large American military presence in the Middle East and Indian Ocean region. The US-Soviet rivally during the Cold Warled to competition between Washington and Moscow for military access to key loca-tions in the Indian Ocean, including the Western Indian Ocean including the Western Indian Ocean inslands.

The UK-Mauritius agreement on Chagos holds profound legal, geopolitical, and humanitarian significance From the legal standpoint, the agreement reaffirms Mauritius's sovereignty over Chagos. It aligns with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in 2019, which supported Mauritius's claim to the archipelago. This move strengthens international law by respecting decolonisation principles and sets a precedent for resolving similar territorial disputes between European powers and post-colonial states. The agreement between Mauritius and the UK also addresses the humanitarian concerns of

While the Cold War's end again turned fo-cus away from the islands, China's rise and growing influence in the Indian Ocean littoral has made Mauritius and other islands in the region—including Comoros, Madagascar, the French territory of Réunion, and Seychelles— a zone of geopolitical contestation.

azone of geopolitical contestation.

China's growing reliance on African and
Middle Eastern resources, its construction of
major infrastructure projects including ports
and transport corridors in the region, the PLA's
eagerness to project naval power into the
Indian Ocean, and its establishment of its first
foreign military base in Dibouti underscore
Beijing's growing salience in the Western
Indian Ocean.

China has also consistently courted.

China has also consistently courted Mauritius and other Western Indian Ocean islands. It has convened two Indian Ocean conferences focusing on the island states in recent years. Beyond the military dimen-sion, China recognises Mauritius's geo-eco-

sion, China recognises Mauritius's geo-eco-nomic importance.

During the 19th century, Mauritius was an important node in Indian Ocean globalisation, facilitating the movement of capital and labour across the region and developing sugar plantations to serve the world market.

Through elite pragmatism and economic vi-sion, post-colonial Mauritius has transformed itself into a regional financial hub, a center of connectivity newworks and abritive between

itselfinto a regional financial hub, a centre of connectivity networks, and a bridge between Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. It isn't just China that's now interested in the Western Indian Ocean Europe is attempt-ing to reclaim a strategic presence in the Int-roal. The Cull Countries, with their vast finan-cial power, have become influential actors in the region. Russia, Iran, and Turkey are all ac-tively expanding their regional involvement. As a complement to its prosperity rotted in global connections. Mauritius has devel-oned balanced ties with all major nowers.

oped balanced ties with all major power while strengthening its strategic auto wine strengmening its strategic automotive. Delhi's success in Port Louis stems not from shared ethnicity but from being a reliable and being nartner in boosting Mauritus's sovereignty. That Delhi is determined to strengthen this unique bilateral strategic partnership, with all its regional and global dimensions, is the main message from the PMS visit to Mauritius.

The writer is a contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express

# Green shoots in the Valley

"Returning Pakistan to the top of world cricket will be an arduous challenge. But for now, that is India's place — it has the team and the influence to hold on to it."

— DAWN

WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

J&K is on the cusp of a major economic transformation. Private investment will need to be nurtured, ecological concerns addressed



ROHIT KANSAL AND Dipankar Sengupta

JAMMUAND KASHMIR has been in the news since the beginning of this year for the right reasons. On January 13, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Sonmarg Tunnel, a strategically significant project that will lead to year-round connectivity to the will lead to year-round connectivity to the tourist resort of Sommarg and eventually to Ladakh. Then, on January 25, the trial run of the Jammu Srinagar Vande Bharat was com-pleted, making Srinagar fully ready to wel-come the arrival of the first train connecting the Kashmir Valley with the rest of the coun-try. On the same day, one of India's top cement companies amounced its intention to acquire amajority stake in JRK's targest cement com-pany making it the first such Jacon prostate in-

amajority stake in J&Ks largest cement com-pany, making it the first such large private vestment in manufacturing in the Valley. It is easy to read these developments as a result of the policy of physical and eco-nomic integration of the region followed by the Centre post 2019. Accordered infrastruc-ture push has seen massive improvements not just in rail and road infrastructure but also in hydropower capacity and power in-frastructure. To cite just one metric, the pace of road construction tripled from 6.5. kilo-metres per day in 2019 to 20.5 kilometres metres per day in 2019 to 20.5 kilometres per day at the end of 2022. However, it would perhaps be equally instructive to view these developments from the prism of ecothese developments from the prism of eco-nomic potentiality — not just what has been achieved so far but, as Shakespeare would have said, a real possibility of "a tide. which, taken at the flood, (can) lead on to fortune". The increased integration opens real possi-bilities for an economic transformation which would permanently steer the region away from its current dependence on the Centre's support for nearly half of its expen-diture. Thuse leve arrayes and out as resident

Centre's support for nearly half of its expen-diture. Three key areas stand out as critical to this transformation. The first one is clearly tourism. The rap-idly expanding rail and road network will bring increasing numbers of tourists. The ex-tension of the railways has already made hitherto poorly connected areas like Good, Sangaddan and Khari eminently accessible. The engineering marvel of the highest rail bridge on the Chenah one as Sangaldan is a tourist destination in itself. While hidden emershile Bari Dyult Risantpart Gurey and

tourist destination in itself. While hidden gems like Bani, Dudu Basangtan, Gurez and Bangus are becoming more accessible due to an expanding road network, traditional favourites like Gulmarg and Pahalgam are witnessing increasing footfalls.

To reap the benefits of increased connectivity and larger inflows, Bidw Will have to reimagine its tourism strategy. This will require better carrying capacity and more infrastructure — more hotel rooms, improved urban services like sanitation and proved triban services has samitation and sewage treatment, better internal road net-works, expanded public transport and tighter regulation. But beyond the basics, J&K will require a more creative strategy de-signed to offer more exclusive tourist expe-

riences. A rethinking via convergence with diverse sectors such as sports, fashion, cui-sine, crafts, wellness and healthcare is needed. Weddings, golf circuits, health re-sorts, handicraft centres and even educa-tion can be imaginatively blended to create high-value tourism. A well-crafted tourism strategy will not only absorb the increased strategy will not only absorb the increased tourist arrivals but also promote unique luxury experiences by leveraging, B&S natural strengths such as stunning locales and pristine landscapes. This in turn will ensure increased revenues. Thoughtful policies ecological conservation and carrying-capacity assessments must, however, accompany any expansion efforts. Unregulated expansion would ultimately harm the very industry it seeks to mornage.

panyany expansion efforts. Unregulated expansion would ultimately harm the very industry it seeks to promote. Another low-hanging fruit is horticulture. However, yields per hectare in crops like apple – the mainstay of this sector—are currently low. One estimate puts the current yields at less than an eighth of those in Italy and New Zealand. While efforts at intensive or charding and promotion of high-yielding varieties are already on, an equally critical component would be to add value to the crop rather than ship it to the rest of the country, as is largely being done today. With better connectivity removing bottleneks; investments in post-harvest and cold chain inflastructure and processing parks can help the region capture greater value from its produce. With global demand for organic and speciality foods rising, emphasis on high-value crops such as saffron, walmuts and evotic bernies can help JRA's borticulture sector increase its current Rs 10,000 crows izer manifold.

At 9.5 per cent. JRA's growth rate is

current Rs 10,000 crore size manifold.
At 9.5 per cent, J&K's growth rate is promising. However, it has so far been largely driven by public investment and government expenditure. The overwhelming response to the 2021 New Industries and Development Scheme for J&K provides the possibility of strongly supplementing this with private investment-led growth. The recently concluded cement deal underlines the magnetic role that local entrepreneurs can play in this. With Indian CCCs (Global Loast Indian Capability Centres) being the global toast Capability Centres) being the global toast and their movement to Tier 2 and Tier 3 and their movement to Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities being planned, J&K can make a credible bid for this expanding pie as well. However, given the frenetic competition for investment among various states, the green shoots of private sector interest in J&K new to be carefully nutrured. Current investors, especially local people, would need to be actively encouraged to help expand their existing businesses and invest in newer ones. All this would require a strong facilitative regime, particularly in terms of availability of land provisioning of infrastructure and

regime, particularly in terms of availability of land, provisioning of infrastructure and utilities, facilitating access to capital and skall development initiatives. As a late entrant to this race, J&K needs vast improvements in governance capacities and faster response times, J&K is today at the cusp of a major transformation. A virtuous cycle of developments—from targeted public investment, strong infrastructure growth, committed central support and increasing private investor confidence — bodes well for its future.

Kansal is a senior IAS officer of the former J&K cadre; Sengupta is professor of economics at the University of Jammu. The views expressed by authors are personal



## Rewriting the score

Oscar-winning documentary speaks of classical music's gendered world

the people dispossessed during decolonisation.

Suanshu Khurana

IN THE 1960S, when noted conductor Zubir Mehta was at the peak of his professional em-inence, he made a remark about women mu-sicians in classical orchestras. "A woman's life in the orchestra is not as long as a man's; she is just not as good at 60 as a man is," he had said, a statement echoing the sexism in pres-

said, a statement echoing the sexism in pres-tigious orchestras.
Mehta was 30 years old and the conductor of the Los Angles Phillamonic Orchestra, where he had once imposed a limit of 16 on the number of women in the orchestra. It was probably a carry-over from his clays at the all-male Vienna Phillamonic, his learning ground and the first orchestra he would con-duct. A Time magazine article in 1965 open of how "women were ill-tuned to the rigours of symphony life and played erratically dur-ing menstrustion or when they are concerned about family problems". The same article called double bassist o'nn O'Rien, the first about family problems'. The same article called double abssix forin O'Brien, the first woman to join the New York Philharmonic Orchestra full-time under the direction of Leonard Bernstein – Mehta's colleague and friend – 'as curvy as the double bass she plays'. Ifrogrot to mention her artious straining and musical excellence or that she was an usber at Carnegle Hall for two years and imbibed every note with the utmost attention.

Almost bid 'acceptual late' and documen.

bibled every note with the utmost attention.

Almost half a century later, a documentary made by O'Brien's niece Molly O'Brien,

The Only Girl in the Orchestra, which tells the
story of her struggles and successes, has won
an Academy Award for the Best Documentary
Short Film.

It's interesting how O'Brien, who retired from the orchestra in 2021 after a 55-year-long career, didn't want a film to be made on her. She told her niece that she wasn't important enough. The daughter of movie actors George O'Brien and Margaret Churchill, she would shrink from attention, thinking she would shrink from attention, thinking that the other members, the men, would resent her for it. "The double base is in the supporting role in an orchestra. You don't want to stick out. You're the floor under everybody; that would collapse fift wasn't secure," she says in the flin. Benrstein, in one of his letters, once wrote, "Whenever Hook in her direction, I see her intenty looking back at me and I marvel at this concentration. How does she do it? Has she memorised every note of every bass part in every work we play? It is as impossible as any other mira-cle." But O'Brien played and she persisted.

cie." But O'Brien played and she persisted.

The documentary on O'Brien is also active minder of the gendered world for classical music where men and women did not play misc together, where women musicians had to overcome discrimination — their talent and creativity dismissed, their presence deemed a distraction — just to persevere in their chosen vocation. Conductor Vasily Petrentos said about a decade ago, "A cute grif on a podium means that musicians think about other things". In 1930, when Antonia Biro became the first woman to overconduct anorchestra, it was considered "daring". She was called a "Fenale conductor", her gender qualifying her professional position. The arrival of blind au-

ditions would eventually help as everyone au-ditioned from behind a screen in a thickly car-peted area where their heels would not give away their gender. Among the many battles that have and

Among the many battles that have and are being fought by women in the world of classical music, the foremost remains that of trombone player Abbie Conant who, in 198 initiated legal proceedings against the city of Munich for discrimination after she was de-moted to second trombone despite being se-lected as first trombone in blind auditions. She was also demiced solos and was being paid less than her male counterparts. During the legal battle, lawyers blamed her physical strength for demotion, following which Conant had to go through a battery of tests including blood being drawn from the ra-getting her ribcage examined and blowing setting her ribcage examined and blowing getting her ribcage examined and blowing through numerous machines to measure the through numerous machines to measure the capacity of he fungs I trook her 13 years, including four to get her position back and five for equal pay, for legal recognition of the discrimination. Then there was principal flautist Elizabeth Rowe slawsuit in 2018 against the Boston Symphony Orchestra demanding that she be paid as much as the other principal musicians in the orchestra. Women were banned from auditioning for the prestigious Vienna Philliammonic until as late as 1957, when they were forced to accept Anna Lelkes as a temporary happist as there was a dearth of male ones. When she performed, neither was her rame mentioned

performed, neither was her name mentioned in the programme, nor was she shown on tel-

evision. The cameras had been instructed to pan on male musicians. The press secretary of in Phillam mounts in 1995. "Comprehensing for the expected lawse of absence" (meaning naternity leave) was a problem that they did not 'yet's ee how to get a grip on". The first time the Vienna Phillammonic appointed a woman musician in a permanent role was in 2003. Ursula Pakininger, 227-yea-old viola player, became the first woman to play in the orchestra in 158 years. The Phillammonic made sure that Plaichinger did not speak in any interviews. Once race is thrown into the mix, the journey becomes even tougher.

O'Brien's beautifully told story brings women in classical orchestra in 150 yrb ings women in classical orchestra in 150 work doubted.

women in classical orcnestra into the spot-light, many of whom have had to work dou-bly hard to prove themselves and yet listen to things like "your place is in the kitchen", as Austrian conductor Hans Swarowsky as Austrian conductor Hans Swarowsky once told Lelkes. The gender gap sounds shocking in this day and age but it continues to exist in many orchestras. But the tide is also turning. Women recently surpassed the number of men in the New York Philharmonic: Now there are 45 women and 44 men. This little win may not heal the years of explicit bias, but it's a start. Offrien, now 89 years old, is still teaching the numers of conductors and the same than the Oscars would probably have fazed her. Perhaps she hid behind her giant double bass and tinkered with it.

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### CRICKETING GLORY

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, 'The win-ning habit' (IE, March 11), India's spin quartet bowled like a well-oiled ma-chine, turning the screws on opposition batsmen. The batting lineup was versa-tile and reliable, and everyone con-tributed to the tournament. With four tributed to the tournament. With four all-rounders, the team's balance was perfect. Winning two back-to-back white-ball (Ct tournaments says alc about our strengths. However, this should not mask the weaknesses in Test matches. The BCCI must ensure that no player plays all three formats in order to build a strong Testteam capable of regaining lost glory.

Bal Covind, Noido

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, The winning habit (IE, March 11). The victory at the bulan international Cricket Sadium highlights India's dominance. Across 24 (IC courament matches—including the 2023 DDI World Cup, the 2024 T20 World Cup, and the Champions Tropby—Robit Sharma's men have secured 23 wirs, anastounding 95-83 percent success rate. Contributions from Shift Sharma's Invita Robit, Shreyas Iyer, K. I. Rahul, and Hardik Pandya underscored the collective elfort, while on a sluggish pitch, India's strategy of fielding four spinners proved decisive. Selectors must now look ahead to the 2027 ODI World Cup. THIS REFERS TO the editorial. The win 2027 ODI World Cup.

#### BUILDING TRUST

HISREFERSTO the editorial, 'Challenge of peace' (IE, March 11). The Manipur ethnic strife brings into the limelight the entrenched suspicion between Meltie and Kuli groups, stoked by segregation and a failed bid for reconciliation. The concept offree movement, noble though it may be, has led to even more disturbance. Does this mean that peace cannot be subsend in suithout addression. not be ushered in without addressing past grievances and building trust? It is through comprehensive outreach that reconciliation must be achieved. Anshu Bharti, Begusarai

#### PROTECTING DIGNITY

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Not anothe tv Woman' (IE. March 11). Nationa ARUS Control Organisation (NACO) data highlights that there are over 8 lakh wighlights that there are over 8 lakh women sex workers in India, among whom more than 6000 was explored to abuse, as provided by the NCR6 report (2000-21) Fernale sex workers are more unlerable to dessess like AIDS, STIs, and cervical cancer. The Supreme Court in control of the Court of the AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) data

## THE INDIAN EXPRESS, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025 EXPRESS NETWORK

Tamil Nadu Dalit student on way to write exam

#### Bus carrying Jodhpur law varsity students dragged from bus & assaulted, his fingers severed overturns in

#### Nagaur, 3 dead

Jaipur: Three students died and several others were injured when a sleeper bus carrying stu-dents from National Law University, Jodhpur, overturned in Rajasthan's Nagaur early on Tuesday while on the way back from Chandigarh after attending a sports feet.

Nagaur's Surpaliya police sta-tion house officer Siya Ram said the accident, which involved a truck, took place at about 5.30

truck, took place at about 5.30 am near Deh village. "The bus overturned following the accident, leading to the death of three students," Siya Ram said. "Four students, who were seriously injured, were referred to Jodhpur while the others who had non-threatening injuries were given first aid and sent to Lidhbur in a owenment bus Jodhpur in a government bus There were about 20 students or There were about 20 students on the bus (that met with the accident)," he said. The students were reportedly returning from the four-day annual sports fest of the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, which was organised from March 7-10. Officials from NLU, Jodhpur, have also reached the accident spot. the SHO said.

#### Teen shot while playing mobile game, 3 detained

Pattor: There minors have been detained after a young man was allegedly shot in the head Monday night by his friend while playing a popular mobile shooting game. On Monday night, the victim and one of his friends were playing the game when one of the other accused allegedly shot him from behind, police said. Phulwari sharif SHO Masood Ahmed Haidari said that the three detained were "friends of the victim." Initial findings indicate that in." "Initial findings indicate that tim". "Initial findings indicate that the shooting was motivated by a personal conflict between the vic-tim and one of his friends over a romantic interest," he said. ENS

#### ARUN JANARDHANAN CHENNAI, MARCH 11

A CLASS 11 student from a Scheduled Caste (SC) community, who was on his way to take an exam in Tamil Nadu's Thoothukudi district on Monday, had three of his fingers severed in an attack that his family alleged was driven by caste tensions.

SAMBHAL POLICE on Tuesday said they are treating the death of a local BJP leader as a "blind mur-der" case as "there are no eyewit-nesses". Gulfam Singh Yadav, 66,

nesses". Culfam Singh Yadaw, 66, died on Monday after his family claimed that three men came to meet him at his farm in Debthara Himachal village on Monday afternoon and injected "poison" with the help of a syringe. Police, however, said the autopsy report did not confirm the presence of poison in Yadaw's body. We are exploring all possible angles and treating it as a blind murder for now because there are no eyewitnesses,"

there are no eyewitnesses," Additional SP(Sambhal) Anukriti Sharma said, adding there was no

injury mark on Yadav's body ex-cept for the needle injected in his

abdomen.

The viscera has been preserved for further tests, police said.

On Monday afternoon, Yadav died while being taken to a hospi-

tal in Aligarh. His son, Vinay Prakash alleged that three men

had come to meet his father at their farm. According to Prakash, the three men approached Yadav

Sambhal BJP leader's

didn't confirm poison

'death by injection': Police say autopsy

The family of the student said the attack stemmed from anger over the role he played in a kabaddi match in which his team defeated opponents who be-longed to higher castes. At the same time, police said they were investigating whether the attack was linked to a pur-ported romantic relationship be-

and touched his feet. The BJP

and touched his feet. The BJP leader then asked his help to serve water to them. While one of the three stepped out, two others sat with Yadav. One of them allegedly injected a liquid into Yadav's stomach and fled on a bike.

On Tuesday, Vinay Prakash in a complaint with the police accused four persons, including the present block head of Junawai, of carrying out: "politically motifications and the procession in the present block head of Junawai, of carrying out: "politically motifications are supported by the present block head of Junawai, of carrying out: "politically motifications are supported by the present block head of Junawai, of carrying out: "politically motifications are supported by the present block head of Junawai, of carrying out: "politically motifications are supported by the present block head of Junawai, of the present block head of Juna

present block head of Junawai, of carrying out "politically moti-vated" murder of his father. He al-leged that four persons — Samajwadi Party supported block head Ravi Yadaw, gram pradhan Mahesh Kumar, Mukesh Yadaw, Dharma Yadaw, and two uniden-tified persons were involved in his father's murder.

"A FIR under section 101 (murder) of the BNS Sanhita has

been registered. Eight police teams have been formed to trace

teams have been formed to trace the absconding accused," SHO of Junawai police station, Sunil Kumar Singh, said. The police have seized a wrapper of the syringe, and a helmet left behind bythe alleged killers.

"We have collected important bands are the secured and are selected."

"We have collected important leads about the accused and are hopeful of arresting them soon," said SP(Sambhal) Krishna Kumar Bishnoi. (WITHNEETIKAJHA, NOIDA)

ficer familiar with the investiga-tion, the initial complaint filed by the student's father cited the kabaddi match as the motive for the attack. But a preliminary in-vestigation and questioning of the detained minors — all classmates of the victim — pointed to the vi-olence having stemmed from the student's purported relationship with the sister of one of the de-

evar community. The attack unfolded in broad daylight when the victim was travelling on a bus. The three minors allegedly stopped the bus, dragged the boy out, and attacked him, according to police and eye-witness accounts. Three fingers of his left hand were severed during the attack.

His father, who tried to intervene, was also attacked and suf-

fered injuries, including to his

standers rushed to their help.
The boy was first taken to Srivalkundam Government Hospital before being moved to Tinunelveli Covernment Hospital, where doctors performed surgery in an attempt to reattach the severed fingers.
The incident has caused outrage, with the student's family and local activists calling for justice.



#### ASHES TO ASHES

#### Hampi: Israeli rape survivor leaves for home; police raid homestays

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE BENGALURU, MARCH 11

gangraped near Hampi in Karnataka, one of the victims, an Israeli tourist went back home Monday. A police officer said the Israeli woman was in a deep state of shock, and she chose to travel back to her home country.

The police have said the Israeli national was among the two women who were allegedly raped by three construction worders all of whom have been arrested on the night of Marché. Meanwhile, the Koppal district police conducted raids on homestays and guest houses Monday. Ram L Arasiddi, Superintendent of Police, Koppal, said, "We asked the

homestay and guest house owners to install CCTV cameras and take other safety measures. We also asked them to fill up form C of the foreign to units and share it with the police." The police have arrested Sai Chetan Kameshwara, 22, and Sharana Basavaraj, 30, all residents of the Gangavathi region, in comection with the Hampi rape case.

# **Centre bans 2 Hurriyat groups** for five years

Mirwaiz condemns 'intimidation', Mehbooba says 'another blow to J&K'

#### MAHENDER SINGH MANRAL & NAVEED IQBAL NEW DELHI, SRINAGAR, MARCH 11

THE CENTRE has banned two Jammu and Kashmir groups - Awami Action Committee (AAC) headed by Kashmir's chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Jammu and Kashmir Itthiadul Muslimeen (JKIM) led by Mohammad Abbas Ansari – for for the in-like of the control of the cont five years for for their alleged anti-national activities, "sup-

anti-national activities, "sup-porting terrorism and fuelling secessionist activities". Both the organisations are constituents of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference chaired by Forco, In separate notifications, the MirA said the AAC and the JRIM are indulging in unlawful activities that are prejudicial to the integrity, sovereignty and se-curity of the country, JRIM mem-bers have remained involved in curity of the country JRIM mem-bers have remained involved in supporting terrorist activities and anti-India propaganda for fuelling secessionism in JRIK the MHA said. Considering all the facts available, the MHA declared both groups outlawed for five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, according to the notifications. Reacting to the han, Mirwaiz.

Reacting to the ban, Mirwaiz rooq said the move seems to Farooq said the move seems to be a part of the continuation of the policy of "intimidation and disempowerment" that has been followed in J&K since August 2019 (when the Centre abrogated Article 370). Farooq said that the AAC, founded by his father, Mirwaiz Molvi Farooq, tatte peak of holy relic (moi muqadas) agitation in 1964, "has unwaveringly stood by the people of J&K advocating

for their aspirations and rights through completely non-violent and democratic methods and calling for peaceful resolution of the Kashmir conflict through dithe Kashmir conflict through di-alogue and deliberation, for which it's members suffered jails and incarceration and even mar-tyrdom." The voice of truth may be suppressed through force but will not be silenced," Mirwaiz said.

DDC chief Mebbooks Mufti

PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti isations "is another blow to

isations "is another blow to Kashmir's social and political landscape." "Suppressing dissent will only deepen tensions rather than re-solve them," the former J&K Chief Ministersaid and urged the Omar Abdullah led J&K government to intervene and stop such actions of the Contre.

the Centre.
"While silencing Kashmir's voices may serve BJP's political agenda, it undermines the very agenda, it undermines the very Constitution that safeguards these rights. The central government must reassess its approach and move away from heavy-handed tactics," Mufti said. The Jamaste-e-Islami, also a part of the APHC, was banned in 2019 and the ban was extended in 2024. In 2023, the Muslim League Lammu Kashmir

League Jammu Kashmir (Masarat Alam) was banned by the Centre under the UAPA for its alleged involvement in anti-naalleged involvement in anti-na-tional and secessionist activities in J&K. The Tehreek-e-Hurriyat (TeH), founded by the late Syed Ali Shah Geelani, was also banned in December 2023. In February last year, the MHA banned both factions of

the Muslim Conference J&K, also part of the APHC, for "engaging in activities against the sover eignty and integrity of the na

## Rights panel seeks report from collector on Malvan demolition

MSHRC takes suo motu cognizance

MOHAMED THAVER & SADAF MODAK MUMBAI, MARCH 11

THE MAHARASHTRA State THE MAHARASHTRA State Human Rights Commission (MSHRC) took suo motu cognizance of a series of reports published by The Indian Express on the incident in Malvan involving the arrest of parents of a 15-year-old who allegedly raised slogans during the Indianation of the Edistant and the eventual razing of the scrap shop belonging to his familik without issuing. ing to his family, without issuing

It later came to light that the local administration demolished the residence of the boy's paterBoy, his parents held, their shop razed after complaint over slogans during India-Pak match

of the reports, the SHRC order says, "The reading of the news item prima facie reflects that the due process of law has not been followed for demolition of the structure. The principles of rule of law, which is the very founda-tion of the democratic gover-nance, is violated in the process." The SHRC order has sought a

The SHRC order has sought a fact-finding inquiry report from the Sindhudurg collector and SP on the same. On February 23, as the India-Pakistan match was ongoing in the Champions trophy, a self-proclaimed VHP worker claimed to have overheard a 15-year-old raising 'anti national' remarks.

uniave overleated a "Speal" out raising "ant inational" remarks. Let control and the control a

The parents were eventually released on bail and police said they will file a chargesheet in the

## Probe against Ranya's DGP-rank stepfather

in gold smuggling case

THE KARNATAKA government has appointed Additional Chief Secretary Gaurav Gupta to probe the role of DGP rank officer K Ramachandra Rao, if any, in the Ramachandra Rao, if any, in the alleged gold smuggling activity of his step daughter and Kannada actress Ramya Rao. The Chief Minister's office informed the media on Tuesday that an order appointing Gaurar Cupta was issued on Monday night. Ramachandra Rao is presently serving as the Managing Director of the Kannataka State Police Housing and Infrastructure Development.

and Infrastructure Development Corporation. Gupta will also probe the alleged misuse of offi-cial privileges and protocol ben-

Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) while attempting to smuggle gold bars from Dubait to Bengalauru. The government (CID) intollegation Department (CID) intollegations of police misconduct following reports that Rao was harassed by police personnel during her trips to and from foreign countries. The CID has been directed to submittis findings at the earlies.

been directed to submit its find-ings at the earliest.

Meanwhile, the DRI, which is investigating a gold smuggling case, nabbed one more person on Sunday. The accused, Konduru Raju, belongs to a prominent business family in Bengaluru. Ranya Rao was held with 14.2 kg of gold, worth over 8.1.2 86 crope at the aimport on 8.1.2 86 crope at the aimport on Rs 12.86 crore, at the airport on March 3. While DRI is probing the matter, the CBI too has joined the investigation.

## Gangster killed during attempt to escape custody: Jharkhand Police

#### HIMANSHU HARSH PATNA, MARCH 11

GANGSTER AMAN Sahu was killed Tuesday morning in an en-counter in Jharkhand's Palamu district when he tried to escape custody after the police vehicle in which he was being transported from Chhattisgarh's Raipur jail to

from Chhattisgan's Raipur jail to Ranchi was attacked by his gang members, police said. Reeshma Ramesan. SP. Palamu, said the incident took place in the Ramgarh police sta-tion area. According to the police, the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) of Jardhand, was kaling Sahu from Raipur Central Jail to the NiAcourt in Ranchi. However, at around 9:30 am, when they reached the innel-arosin the Andhari Dhothal jungle area in the Andhari Dhodha Valley at the border of Chainpur Police Station and Ramgarh Police Station, some of Sahu's associates started firing at the police party and throwing bombs and explo-





Gangster Aman Sao in custody; (right) police at the encounter spot in Palamu district, Jharkhand, Tuesday. PTI

sives, authorities claimed, mist the chaos, Sahu allegedly snatched a rifle from an ATS officer in the vehicle, got out and opened fire. Police returned fire and Sahu was killed, officers said. "One ATS officer was also shot

in the thigh and is being treated at a nearby hospital," the SP said. A police officer said that Sahu's as-

sociates managed to escape. Sahu's body was found hold-

shells, live cartridges and bombs

sneis, nectatings and bombs-from the scene".

Sahu had been involved in over a hundred criminal cases, in-cluding murder and extortion, and had been convicted in some of them. Police suspected that he had links to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. On Monday, Jharkhand DGP Anurag Gupta had said several criminal activities were being planned from inside jails and had identified Aman Sahu as being a key figure in this network.

## In Arunachal's East Kameng district, STEM labs at govt schools enrich learning

TANUSREE BOSE

AT SAGALI, 81 km from Arunachal Pradesh's capital Itanagar, a government school has a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) lab—a dedicated space where students can explore, learn, and apply the concepts through hands-on experiments, projects

Walking into the lab, one finds engineering tools on one side and posters on the walls describing each of the engineering tools in detail. There is a model of a human skeleton and a poster accompanying a detailed description of different layers of the human body, starting from the skeletal system to the circulatory, prepruns resistancy divestive. Walking into the lab, one nervous, respiratory, digestive, and muscular systems. All these tools are intended to make learning more interesting and simpler. At PMSHRI Government



O NSE

lab used by students of Class 9-12. From a model of the solar system to a 3D printer, the lab has tools for an immersive learning

experience. "It's a nice way to learn," says Taksin Barty, a class 9 student at the school. "Textbook learning pecomes a bit boring at times

becomes a bit boring at times. But over here, we are seeing for ourselves and also performing the experiments on our own. So, the learning becomes better," Barty adds.

STEM lab typically provide a collaborative and interdisciplinary environment that fosters critical thinking, creativity, and problem-softying skills. These labs often feature state-of-the-att equilment; software and art equipment, software, and technologies that enable stu-dents to design, build, test, and

dents to design, build, rest, and refine their projects. From access to cutting-edge technologies, such as 3D printers robotics, and coding software the lab provides resources to stu-dents for data analysis, simulation, prototyping, and testing.

"Like the DNA model really

"Like the DNA model really helps us understand genetics. It would not be possible through textbooks. Also, a model of the upper human body helps us see where the organs are placed. We can physically place the organs.





 $ASTEM \ lab \ at the PMSHRI \ Government \ Higher Secondary School \ in \ Doimukh; \ (right) \ East \ Kameng \ district's \ Deputy \ Commissioner \ Sachin \ Rana. \ \textit{Express, Praveen Khanna}$ 



So, our understanding of the organs is now better," says Nabum Achum, another class 9 student. While the goals of a STEM lab

developing STEM literacy and fluency, encouraging curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking. It also helps in preparing stu-dents for STEM-related careers and post-secondary education,

epaper.indianexpress.com

besides fostering problem-solv-ing skills and providing access to resources and opportunities for the underrepresented groups. lab it has become interesting

lab it has become interesting now "says Diak Dahal, a science teacher at Government Higher Scondary scholin Baljan, which also has a STEMlab. Here, 140 students from dass 6 to 10 use the lab. The Javahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Gumto, beasts of a language lab, where students can improve their communication skills — both verbal and written. There are a total of 20 commuters that are accressed by computers that are accessed by students from Class 6 to 12.

students from Class 6 to 12.

Through various software tools and workshops, the language lab helps students improve their pronunciation, gramar, vocabulary, fluency, and become familiar with using the language in everyday situations. It is a very innovative and informative way of learning, and students are very much interested and alwaves wayn to rome not be a declarated from the same to the same to

lab and learn," says DrTaba Meth, a TGT-trained graduate teacher. The STEM labs initiative has led to East Kameng district's

Deputy Commissioner Sachin Deputy Commissioner Sachin Rana winning the Excellence in Governance Awards 2024, organised by The Mindin Express, in the category of Innovative Education. Four innovation labs and one language lab have been built under the initiative, empowering students with technology and skills. "When we went to Arunachal Pradesh, we found that many thinsy that are essily awail a ran essily awail a ran essily awail a ran essily awail."

and always want to come to the

many things that are easily avail-able in the rest of the country were ance in the rest of the Country Were not available there... We developed almost 180 projects that were linked to the curriculum of the students. We made sure they learn various skills. They were given toolkits and 3D printers. Over 50,000 labs will be created in this financial year across the country. To identify a vendor in a remote place like Arunachal who can deliver this kind of a thing of international standard was the biggest challenge," Rana said. (WITH INPUT FROM ENS, NEW DELHI)

If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

# The Baloch insurgents behind the Pakistan train hijacking

INSURGENTS OF the Balochistan Liberation

Army (BLA) stopped a long-distance train in a rugged, mountainous area south of Quetta a rugged, mountainous area south of Queta and took passengers hostage on Tuesday. In a statement, the BLA said they had fulled 20 Pakistani Army personnel, shot down a military drone, and were holding 182 people hostage, Reuters reported. Among the hostages were active-duty personnel of the PalA Army, the Inter-Services Intelligence, and Anti-Termitism Fore the BLA Said.

TERROR Intelligence, and Anti-Terrorism Force, the BLA said.

#### The train and attacks

The tiran and attacks
The nine-coach Jaffar Express, which was headed to Peshawar from Quetta, was targeted between Pehro Rumir and Gadalar in the Bolan area of Kachhi district, a Balochistan government spokespesson said. Armed men stopped the train with around 500 people on board in Tunnel No. 8, according to Controller Railways

Local Controller Railways

according to C Muhammad Kashif.

The train, named after Mir Jaffar Khan Jamali, a Bloch tribal leader who was close to Pakistan's founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah, began running between the capital of Balochistan province and Rawalpindi more than 20 years ago. eshawar in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for a jour-ey of more than 1,600 km, touching several

portant Pakistani cities along the way. Operations of the train have been fre Operations of the train have been ire-quently impacted by the raging Baloch mil-itancy. Services were suspended from August 26 to October 10 last year after a series of bombings by the BIA destroyed critical in-frastructure, including a railway bridge on

frastructure, inscending the train's route.
In early November, 62 people were killed in a blast at Quetta railway station. The following month, services of the train were suspended again over security concerns.

#### The Majeed Brigade

Ine Majeed Brigade
The BlA are a Baloch ethonationalist
groupwho emerged in the early 2006s with
the aim of a chieving independence for
Balochistan. Pakistan banned the organisation in 2006, and the United States designated
it as a global terrorist organisation in 2019.
In its statement, the BLA said that its fadayeem or suicide squad unit Majeed
Brigade was leading Tuesday's hijacking of
the Jaffar Express.

the Jaffar Express.

The Majeed Brigade has been active since 2011, and has been involved in other strikes, including on a complex near Balochistan's Gwadar port in March 2024, which resulted in the deaths of several security personnel

ROUTE OF THE JAFFAR EXPRESS AFCHANISTAN Ab-e-Gum Mach OUETTA -The train was stopped between Pehro Kunri Bahawalpui Sibi INDIA PAKISTAN Chabahar Gwadar Balochistan, the largest of Pakistan's provinces by land area, is a dry plateau of rough terrain. The country's national highway 65 passes close to the attack site.

and militants.

The BLA's Special Tactical Operations
Squad (STOS), Fatah Squad, and Zirab Units
were also involved in Tuesday's operation,

The Baloch insurgency

lated of Pakistan's four provinces. It has substantial reserves of oil and gas, alongside gold and copper deposits, but has lagged in eco-nomic growth compared to other regions in

The 10-coach train came under attack near Tunnel Number 8 in a rugged, sparsely populated mountainous area (left) that has a network of 17 tunnels, including

the historic Mashkaf Railway Tunnel (above) built by the British

in the late 19th century

have long blamed the central government for the region's economic backwardness, as well as the stranglehold of Punjab over the

well as the stranglehold of Punjab over the country's resources. After Partition, Balochistan remained in-dependent until March 1948 as part of a friendship treaty with the new state of Pakistan. The Khan of Kalat, the main tribal leader whose wit ran over much of the re-gion, was keen to remain independent, but came under tremendous pressure to join Pakistan, including from his feudatories, the rulers of Makran, Las Bela, and Kharan. He signed the instrument of accession,

but the sentiment in favour of Baloch inde

but the sentiment in favour of Baloch independence remained alive.

Tens of thousands of Baloch nationalists and divilians have been killed in the insurgency over the past decades. Pakistan has accused India of aiding the Baloch insurgent proups—an allegation that India has strongly denied. Over the last several years, Baloch insurgents have targeted Chinese personnel and assets involved in the construction of infrastructure for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPCC). In October 2024. Two Corridor (CPEC). In October 2024, two Chinese nationals were killed in a suicide chiliese hatoliais were kined in a suicide bombing for which the BLA claimed responsibility. These attacks have been chalked up to a lack of faith in how these major infrastructure projects might benefit the local Baloch population.

#### **EXPLAINED GLOBAL**

#### WHY FORMER PHILIPPINE PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE WAS ARRESTED

FORMER PHILIPPINES President Rodrigo Duterte was arrested on Tuesday on a warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC), which was investigating allegations that "crimes against humanity" were committed during his

so-called "war on drugs". The ICC, which has 125 countries as The ICC, which has 122 counties as its members, has international jurisdiction over four types of crimes: crimes against humanity, genocide, crimes of aggression, and war crimes. It can step in when countries are unwilling or unable to prosecute suspects for these crimes.

#### Allegations against Duterte

Allegations against Duterte
Before becoming President in 2016,
Duterte was the mayor of Davao, a sprawling southern metropolis, for 22 years, and
gained fame for making the city one of the
ountry's safest from street crimes. He
used Davao's reputation to cast himself as
atough-talking anti-establishment politician ahead of the 2016 elections.
In the final campaign rally that year,
Duterte told the crowd to "forget the laws
on human rights". He added, "You drug
pushers, holdup men and do-nothings,
wou better go out... Because I'llsill you."

pushers, holdup men and do-nothing you better go out.. Because I'll kill you."
During his six-year term, which ended in 2022, more than 6,000 suspects were killed by police or unknown assailants as part of his 'war ord rung' canaging. AUN report subsequently revealed that most of the victims were young, poor unban males, and that "the police who do not need search or arrest warrants to conduct house raids, systematically forced suspects to make self-incriminating statements or risk facine lethal force" acstatements or risk facing lethal force," ac-cording to a report by the BBC. Duterte, who denied all the accusations, also withdrew the Philippines from the ICC



Rodrigo Duterte during a speech in the Philippines in 2021. Reuters

in 2019. The international court first took note of the alleged abuses in 2016, and started its investigation in 2021. It covered cases from November 2011, when Duterte was mayor of Davao, to March 2019.

#### The political angle

The political angle
Duterte's arrest has come at a time
when his relationship with President
Ferdinand R Marcos Jr has deteriorated
sharply.Marcos rose to the presidency after forming a political alliance with
Duterte's daughter Sara, who was elected

Duterte's daughter Sara, who was elected as his Vice President. However, Marcos and Sara got embroilled in a political tussel, especially due to their differing views on the relationship of the Philippines with the US and China. The Philippines had decided to not rejoin the ICC but the Marcos government in 2023 quietly allowed the court's investigators to enter the Philippines, Last year, the country's House of Representatives also started an inquiry into Duterte's drug war. Duterte remains a popular leader in

Duterte remains a popular leader in the country, and his daughter is expected





THE RABI (winter-spring) crop, especially 1HE NABI (winter-spring) crop, especially wheat, stall in the field and one can the fully sure about the yields to be harvested. But production concerns are not confined to wheat Equally, if not more, serious is the stitution with regard to sugar. The output prospects and stock position, which also matter for food inflation, seem most uncertain in these two commodities today.

#### Wheat: Managing stocks

In wheat, the silver lining is the opening stocks before the new crop's procurement

HARISH DAMODARAN

stocks before the new crop's procurement from April 1.

Last year's stocks in government from April 1.

Last year's stocks in government godowns on April 1 at 7502 lakhtomes (tt), were the lowest for this date since the 58.03 at 67.008 and just over the required minimum buffer of 74.61t. A major reason for the stocks depleting to a 16-year-low was the 2024 Lok Sabha election. During 2023-24 (April-March), a record 100.88 its of wheat was offioaded from the 700 corporation of India's stocks into the openmarket. Much of those sales including 67.31 tunder the Bharat Atta scheme offering wheat flour at a subsidised retail price of 82.75/lgk, happened in the run-up to the polis from November 2023.

Although the aggressive open market sales then helped moderate wheat prices, the step was a risky gamble. Had the 2023-24 crop turned out bad — like in the previous two years — government agencies would have struggled to procure sufficient wheat to replenish the baryk John-buffer stocks. Thankfully, production was reasonable enough to enable procurement of 266 it.

Thankfully, production was reasonable enough to enable procurement of 266 lt, more than the 262 lt and 188 lt of 2023 and 2022 respectively. However, it was nowhere

2024 GLOBAL PM2.5 MAP



**EXPLAINED ECONOMICS** 

Sugar, wheat & food inflation

Precarious stock levels, production uncertainties have made the last mile of disinflation most challenging in sugar and wheat. For wheat, it's important that temperatures remain within range in the coming weeks

This time, the government has not taken any risk. It has offloaded just 9.59 lt of wheat

any time, the government has not called under the open market sale and Bharat Atta under the open market sale and Bharat Atta schemes during April-January 20/42-45, and may not offload more than 301 for the entire fiscal. Covernment stocks as of March 1 were around 140 ft, and are projected at 120 ft at the start of the new procurement season from April 1. That's higher than last year's 75 it opening stock.

Wheat is wholesaling in Delhi at Est 2000-2.950 per quintal, compared to 8s 2,400-2.450 a year ago. The Centre, unlike last year has not sought to cool down prices through excessive open market sales and stock drawdown. Instead, it has imposed stocking limits, with traders not being all-lowed to hold more than 250 fonnes and retailers only 4 tonnes for each outlet. These limits are applicable until March 31.

It's all about temmeratures

#### It's all about temperatures

Having more stocks relative to last year gives the government some comfort, reducing its pressure to procure to that extent. For now, open market rates. Rs 2,900–2,950/quintal in Delhi and Rs 2,540–2,550 in Madhya Pradesh's (MP) Ujjain and Indore

mandis — are ruling above the Centre's min-imum support price of Rs 2,425. Prices may ease once the new crop arrives

from the second to third week of March in

—from the second to third week of March in Maharashtra and Gujarat, third week of March in March to first week of April in Mig and early April in Rajasthan. The extent of fall in prices will depend on how high the production is. While the Agriculture Ministry's record 1543-01 to upture 45 the April 1543-01 to 1545-01 to 1545-01

sudden spikes, the kernels will keep accu-mulating starch and other nutrient matter.

Currently, the temperatures are well within range. If they remain so into April and yields in north and northwest India turn out

as good as last year, the inflation woes in wheat will end, with no dearth of grain in

mandis or government warehouses.

Situation in sugar: Not as sweet
Things don't look so sanguine in sugar,
where all output estimates have gone awry.
Initial estimates by the Indian Sugar &
Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association
pegged gross production of the sweetener
for the 2024-25 season (Ortober-September)
at 331k. Tibs - after deducting 40 th of sugar
diverted to make ethanol for blending with
petrol – translated into a net output of 293
lt, down from 319 ltin 2023-24.
But as the crushing season has progressed, the estimates have been continuously reduced. As of February 28, a tept
cutcino was hardy 220 lt, against 255 lt for
the same period of 2023-24 Moreover, out of
533 mills. 186 and ceased to crush for want
of cane, versus 72 last year.
Latest industry estimates put net sugar
Latest industry estimates put net sugar

Latest industry estimates put net sugar Latest industry estimates put net sup-production at 255 lt. (with some even project-ing at a255 lt. Gener 79:231 for opening stocks. 285 lt domestic consumption, and 101 tex-ports (which the government permitted on January 20), a net production of 2551 two the leave 49:231 available on September 30. The closing stocks would be lower if pro-duction falls to 255 lt. At below 401 lt, they would suffice for less than 1.7 months of the mestic consumption That by tiseff isn't prob-lem. But with Disvalia and Disserbar both falling in October, and milks not been inner; mishine in October and milks not been inner; mishine

in October, and mills not beginning crushing operations before November, it can create a de-

operations before November, it can create add-mand-supply mismatch and increase prices. Ex-factory sugar prices are already at Rs 40.10-41.10 per kg in Uttar Pradesh (UP) and Rs 38-38.70 in Maharashtra, up from their corresponding year-ago levels of Rs 3730-3850 and Rs 338-03-425. It would not be surprising if the government clamps stock limits on sugar over numless it easier to im-port in the months alread.

The impact of subpar 2023-24 rainfall in Maharashtra and Karnataka, besides the inreased suspensibility of the dominant Co-0238 sugarcane variety in UP to red rot dis-ease and top shoot borer pest attacks, have been underestimated. And it is showing in the production numbers too.

# Delhi's air worst among capitals, Byrnihat's the world's most foul: new report

#### ALIND CHAUHAN NEW DELHI, MARCH

A SWISS company that tracks global air quality has named Delhi as the world's most polluted national capital for the sixth straight year. Thirteen of the world's 20 most polluted cities are in India, according to the World Air

Cuels are initiona, according to the world Air Tecorded Pt Quality Report for 2024 re-leased by (QA'r on Tuesday, The most polluted city in the world is Byrnihat on the border of Assam and Meghalaya, according to the report, 1[QAir aribbean, examined data collected from 40,000 air. The five

quality monitoring stations in 138 countries. The report looked specifically at con-

centrations of fine particulate matter, or PM2.5, one of the smallest but most dangerous of pollutants. PM2.5 comes from sources such as the combustion of fossil fuels, and can cause respiratory problems, chronic kidney dis-ease, cancer, and stroke or heart attacks.

#### A global problem

A global problem
In 2024, most of the global population straight was breathing dirty air, the report shows. Only 12 countries, regions, and territories. World Air recorded PMZ-5 concentrations below the World Health Organization's Quantification of the second of the s μg/m3, and 50.6 μg/m3 respectively. Only 17% of the 8,954 cities around the



ANNUAL HOURS SPENT PM2.5 ANNUAL AVERAGE AT DIFFERENT PM2.5 (µg/m3) OVER 5 YEARS IN NEW DELHI 100 60% 80 60 20% 4n 20 -

world recorded air quality that met WHO PM2.5 guidelines. The 20 most polluted cities – located in India, Kazakhstan, Chad, Pakistan, and China – exceeded these guidelines by more than 10 times. Pollution in India

epaper.indianexpress.com

# ■Hvderabad ■Bengaluru ■Chenna

concentration last year was 7% lower than in 2023 ( $54.4 \,\mu g/m3$ ). Dilution in India
However, six Indian cities made it to the list of the world's 10 most polluted.

Byrnihat, the most polluted city in the world, had an annual average PM2.5 concentration of 128.2 µg/m3.

Delhi continued to see high levels of pollution, with an annual average of 91.6 µg/m3 in 2024, which was almost unchanged from the continual average of 91.6 µg/m3 morrhed in 7023. the 92.7 µg/m3 recorded in 2023.

India's northern states, particularly, wit-nessed severe pollution episodes in 2024, the report noted. For instance, "January air qual-ity was especially poor in Delhi and Himachal Pendoch"

Pradesh."

Extreme levels of pollution were seen in November in Delhi, Punjah, Chandigarh, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh.

Crop stubble-burning remained the major contributor to PM2.5 levels, accounting for 60% of pollution during peak periods.

Other major sources of pollution in the country included vehicular emissions, industrial discharges, and construction dust the report said.

A four-year-old boy with a sweet tooth in Wisconsin called 911 to report on his mom for eating his ice cream. The officers dropped by last week to use this as a teaching moment for the boy to only use 911 for a real emergency. AP

#### TOPOFTHE WORLD

#### Pope out of immediate

danger: Doctors Rome: Pope Francis woke up Tuesday to good news from his doctors: They up-graded his prognosis and say he is no longer in im-minent danger of death as a result of the double pneumonia that has kept him hospitalized for nearly amonth in the longerst and a month in the longest and gravest threat to his 12year papacy. The 88-year old pope isn't out of the woods yet, however. Doctors are still cautious and have decided to keep him hospitalised for sev-eral more days to receive treatment, not to mention a period of rehabilitation he will likely need. But the doctors said he remains stable and has con-solidated improvements solidated improvements inrecent days, according to blood tests and his good response to treatment. Francis, who has chronic lung disease, is still using supplemental oxygen. AP

#### SOUTH AFRICA 12 killed as

#### bus overturns in Johannesburg

Johannesburg: A bus over-turned on a highway on turned on a highway on Tuesday and passengers were thrown out of it, killing at least 12 people and injuring 45 in the South African city of Johannesburg, emergency services said. Emergency crews were trying to lift the bus back onto its wheels to see if any more victims were trapped underneath it, said William Nthladi, aspokesperson for Nthladi, a spokesperson fo the city's Ekurhuleni Emergency Management. "On arrival we found pa-tients lying across the road," Nthladi said. AP

#### LINITED KINCDOM One held in North Sea ship collision case

London: British police ar-rested a man Tuesday on suspicion of manslaughter as they searched for an-swers about why a cargo ship hit a tanker transport-ing jet fuel for the U.S. mili-tary offeastem England, setting both vessels ablaze. On sailor was presumed dead in the collision, which in the collision, which sparked fears of significant environmental damage. Humberside Police said the 59-year-old was detained "on suspicion of gross negli-gence manslaughter in con-nection with the collision." The man, who was not named by police, has not been charged. AP

#### WILL RESUME INTELLIGENCE SHARING, SAYS U.S. AFTER JEDDAH TALKS

# Ukraine agrees to 30-day ceasefire with Russia, conclude mineral deal with US

UKRAINE AGREED to accept an immediate 30-day ceasefire in the conflict with Russia during talks with US officials in Saudi Arabia, the countries said in a

joint statement. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said he would now take the offer to the Russians, and that the ball is now in Moscow's court. The United States will re-sume sharing intelligence with

Kyiv. Ukrainian and US officials met behind closed doors for hours to find a path towards ending the war with Russia, af-ter Kyiv's forces launched their

ter Kyiv's forces launched their largest drone attack on Moscow of the war overnight. After more than eight hours of talks, the two sides issued a joint statement that said Ukraine was willing to accept the U.S. proposal for an immediate, interim 30-day ceasefire that could beex-tended by mutual agreement of the parties, subject to acceptance and implementation by Russia. "The United States will com-

and implementation by Russia. "The United States will com-municate to Russia that Russian reciprocity is the key to achiev-ing peace," the statement said. "The United States will im-mediately lift the pause on intel-ligence sharing and resume se-curity assistance to Ukraine," the statement said.

The two sides also said Washington and Kyiv agreed to conclude as soon as possible a



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, National Security Advisor Mike Waltz, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha and Head of Presidential Office Andriy Yermak in a meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan and National Security Advisor Mosaad bin Mohammad Al-Aiban in Jeddah on Tuesday. Reuters

comprehensive agreement for comprehensive agreement for developing Ukraine's critical mineral resources, a deal that has been in the works for weeks and was thrown into limbo by an actimionious White House meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and Ukraine President

3 killed drone attack Ukraine on Tuesday launched its biggest ever drone attack on Moscow and the surattack on Moscow and the sur-rounding region, killing at least three employees of a meat ware-house, injuring 17 others and causing a short shutdown at the Russian capital's four airports, Russian officials said.

Russian officials said. A total of 343 drones were downed over Russia, including 91 over Moscow region and 126 over the western region of Kursk where Ukrainian forces have been pulling back, as well

as near the Kursk nuclear

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said it was the biggest Ukrainian drone attack on the city.

as near the Kursk nuclear power plant, the defence min-istry said.
The dawn attack unfurled ahead of talks between U.S. and Ukrainian officials in Saudi Arabia on seeking an end of the three-year-war and as Russian forces try to encircle thousands of Ukrainian soldiers in Kursk.

#### Zelenskyy, Saudi Crown Prince discuss achieving sustainable peace



Ilkrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in leddah on Monday, Reuters

Dubai: Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy discussed efforts cachieve "sustainable fair, and comprehensive" peace in Ukraine, according to a joint statemen published on Tuesday by the

published on Tuesday by the Saudi state new agency (SPA). Crown Prince Mohammed and Zelensky said in their meeting they will boost investment relations between the two countries in sectors including energy, food industries and infrastructure, the joint statement added. The two sides said they are looking forward to exploring joint cooperation opportunities in the areas of oil, gas, their derivatives, and petrochemicals, "according tothe petrochemicals," according to the joint statement. REUTERS

# Israeli fire kills

supplies of goods and electricity to the territory of more than 2 million Palestinians as it tries to

million ratesunians as it tries to pressure the milliant group to ac-cept an extension of the first phase of their ceasefire. Israel wants Hamas to release half of the remaining hostages in return for a promise to negotiate a lasting truce. Hamas wants to start talks on the ceasefire's

## Former Philippine **President Duterte** arrested in Manila on ICC warrant

Investigation in a case of crime against humanity was launched by ICC in 2011

JIM GOMEZ

A PLANE carrying arrested for-A PLANE carrying arrested tor-mer Philippin President Rodrigo Duterte left Manila Tuesday night for him to be turned over to the International Criminal Court in The Hague which has ordered his arrest for alleged crimes against humanity, President Ferdinand Marcos said.

Duterte was arrested after ar-riving with his family from Hong riving with his family from Hong Kong at the Manila international airport Tuesday morning on a warrant from the ICC. The global court ordered his arrest through Interpol after accusing him of crimes against humanity over deadly anti-drugs crackdowns he oversaw while in office. Marcos said in a late-night news conference.

ence.
Walking slowly with a cane,
the 79-year-old former president
turned briefly to a small group of

aides and supporters, who wept and bid him goodbye, before an escort helped him into the plane. His daughter, Vice President Sara Duterte, said she sought en-try to the airbase where her father was held but was refused. She crit-icined the Marcos admission in the conicized the Marcos administration for surrendering her father to a foreign court which currently has no jurisdiction to the Philippines.

Marcos said Duterte's arrest was "proper and correct" and not an act of political persecution, since the Philippines is a mem-



Rodrigo Duterte at Villamor Air Base, after being served an arrest warrant by ICC on Tuesday. Reuters

ber of Interpol.

Among the most feared leaders in Asia while in power,
Duterte became the first exleader from the region to be ar-

leader from the region to be ar-rested by the global court. Clad in a dark jacket, an irate Duterte protested his arrest af-ter arrival in Manila and asked authorities the legal basis of his detention. His lawyers immedi-ately asked the Supreme Court to block any attempt to transport him out of the Philippines. "Show to me now the lexal

"Show to me now the legal basis for my being here," Duterte basis for my being here, "Duterte asked authorities in remarks captured on video by his daugh-ter, Veronica Duterte, who posted the footage on social me-dia. "You have to answer now for the deprivation of liberty." AP

## China, Iran, Russia hold joint naval drills as tensions rise between Tehran and US

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHINA, IRAN and Russia conducted joint naval drills Tuesday in the Middle East, offering a show offorce in a region still uneasy over Tehran's rapidly expanding nuclear programme and as Yemen's Houthi rebels threaten new attacks on ships. The joint drills called the

The joint drills, called the The Joint drills, called the Maritime Security Belt 2025, took place in the Gulf of Oman near the strategic Strait of Hormuz, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf through which a fifth of all crude oil traded worldwide passes.

oil traded worldwide passes. The area around the strait in the past has seen Iran seize com-mercial ships and launch sus-pected attacks in the time since President Donald Trump first



Warships take part in a joint Navy exercise in the Gulf of Oman on Tuesday. Reuters

unilaterally withdrew America from Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers part in the drills. This year's drill likely sparked a warning late Monday from the

rld powers. The drill marked the fifth

Operations centre, which said e was GPS interference in the

there was GPS interference in the strait, with discruptions lasting for several hours and forcing crews to rely on backup naviga-tion methods.

"This was likely GPS jamming to reduce the targeting capabil-ity of drones and missiles," wrote Shaun Robertson, an intelligence analyst at the EOS Risk Group.
"However, electronic naviga-gation system interference has been percent elith this resion proviously."

tion system interference has been reported in this region previously during periods of increased tension and military exercises."

China and Russia in Mideast waters patrolled by US Navy Russia's Defence Ministry identified the vessels it sent to the drill as the corvettes Rezky and the Hero of the Russian Federation Adar TsydemAhapov. as well as the tanker Pechenega.

## 4 Palestinians in Gaza Strip

TelAviv: Israeli fire has killed four

# Syria: UN says entire TelAvir Sraeli fire has killed four people and wounded 14 in the GazaStrip over the past 24 hours, Palestinian officials said, even as a fragile ceasefire with Hamas has largely held. Israeli strikes have killed dozens of Palestinians who the army says had approached its troops or entered unauthorized areas in violation of the January truce. Israel last week suspended sumplies of goods and electricity.



A Syrian Alawite, who fled the violence in western Syria, crosses Nahr El Kabir River in Akkar, Lebanon, on Tuesday

#### FBI joins search for Indian student who went missing in Dominican Republic

#### ASSOCIATED PRESS SANTO DOMINGO, MARCH 11

THEFBI has joined the search for a 20-year-old Indian student who went missing nearly aweek ago in the Dominican tourist town of Punta Cana, police said. Police said they are re-inter-rogating people who were with Sudiksha Konanki, the University

of Pittsburgh student, at a beach in front of the Riu Republica Hotel. The hotel said in a statement that her disappearance coincided with a power outage that prompted

a power outage that prompted multiple guests to head to the beach where she was last seen. Dominican President Luis Abinader said, "All government agencies are searching... because the latest information we have from one of them, from the last person who was with the young woman, what he says according to the reports is that a wave, while on the beach, crashed into them."

## US deports Pakistan's envoy due to 'immigration objection'

SAJJADHUSSAIN

THE US authorities denied entry

THE US authorities denied entry to Pakistan's ambassador to Turkmenistan and deported him from Los Angeles, a media report said on Tuesday. Ambassador K Wagan, who holds a ulali US visa and all necessary travel documents, was stopped at Los Angeles airport by US immigration authorities. The Nasor noted ficilent wife sources. News quoted diplomatic sources as saying, "Ambassador K K



Wagan was deported from the US. He had an immigration ob-jection which led to his deporta-tion," a senior foreign ministry official said. The officials forced himto return to his last port of departure, raising concerns about diplomatic protocol and the nature of the decision. Foreign Office

It said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was looking into the matter and an investigation was underway. The Foreign Office also advised avoiding any speculation advised avoiding any speculation in the matter. Earlier, sources said the US immigration system flagged Wagan over "controversial visa references", leading to his immediate deportation. It remains unclear what specific concerns triggered this response from American authorities.

ENTIRE FAMILIES including women and children were killed in Syria's coastal region as part of a series of sectarian killings by the army against an insurgency by Bashar al-Assad loyalists, the UN human rights office said on

Truesday,
Pressure has been growing
on Syria's Islamist-led government to investigate after reports
by a war monitor of the killing of
hundreds of civilians in villages
where the majority of the population were members of Assad's minority Alawite sect

"In a number of extremely disturbing instances, entire families-including women, children and individuals hors de combat - were killed, with predomi-nantly Alawite cities and villages targeted in particular," UN hu-man rights office spokesperson Thameen Al-Rheetan said, using a French term for those inca-

a French term for those inca-pable of fighting. So far, the UN human rights office has documented the killing of 111 civilians and expects the real to the significantly higher, Al-Kheetan told a Geneva press briefing. Of those, 90 were men; 18 were women, and three were children, he added. "Many of the cases documented were of summary exe-cutions. They among to have

cutions. They appear to have been carried out on a sectarian basis...," Al-Kheetan said.

## WORKERS REMOVE FUEL DEBRIS IN A MONUMENTAL NUCLEAR CLEANUP EFFORT THAT COULD TAKE MORE THAN A CENTURY

## Massive Fukushima plant cleanup exposes workers to high radiation and stress

MARIYAMAGUCHI OKUMA,MARCH11

THE FUKUSHIMA Daiichi nuclear power plant's radiation levels have significantly dropped since the cataclysmic meltdown 14 years ago Tuesday. Workers walk around in many areas wearing only surgical masks and regular clothes.

It's a different story for those who enter the reactor buildings, including the three damaged in the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. They must use maxi-mum protection — full facemasks with filters, multi-layered gloves and socks, Siloc conhooded hazmat coveralls and a

hooded hazmat coveralls and a waterproof, jacket, and a helmet. As workers remove melted fuel debris from the reactors in a monumental nuclear cleanupef-fort that could take more than a century, they are facing both huge amounts of psychological stress and dangerous levels of radiation. A remote-controlled extend-

A remote-controlled extend-able robot with a tong had sev-eral mishaps including equip-ment failures before returning in November with a tiny piece of melted fuel from inside the dam-aged No. 2 reactor.

That first successful test run is a crucial step in what will be a daunting, decades-long decomaunting, decades-iong decom-missioning that must deal with at least 880 tons of melted nu-clear fuel that has mixed with broken parts of internal struc-tures and other debris inside the three ruined reactors. Akira Ono, chief decommis-

sioning officer at the Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, which manages the plant, says even the tiny sample gives officials a lot of information about the melted fuel. More samples are needed, however, to make the work smoother when



A worker in hazmat suit walks under the Unit 5 reactor

epaper.indianexpress.com

bigger efforts to remove the debris begin in the 2030s. A second sample-retrieval

mission at the No. 2 reactor is ex-

mission at the No. 2 reactor is ex-pected in coming weeks. Operators hope to send the extendable robot farther into the reactor to take samples closer to the center, where overheated nuclear fuel fell from the core, utility spokesperson Masakatsu Takata said. He pointed out the target area as he stood inside the inner structure of the No. 5 reactor, which is one of two reactors that survived the tsunami. It has an identical design as No. 2. Radiation levels are still dangerously high inside the No. 2 reactor building, where the melted fuel debris is behind a thick concrete containment wall. Earlier

crete containment wall, atmer decontamination work reduced those radiation levels to a fraction of what they used to be. "Working under high levels or radiation (during a short) time limit made us feel nervous and rushed," said Yasunobu Yokokawa, a team leader for the vicinism "they are the said and the said of the said and the said of the mission. "It was a difficult assign-ment." Full-face masks reduced visibility and made breathing dif-ficult, an extra waterproof jacket made it sweaty and hard to move, and triple-layered gloves

made their fingers clumsy. necessary exposure, they taped around gloves and socks and cararound gloves and socks and car-ried a personal dosimeter to measure radiation. Workers also rehearsed the tasks they'd per-form to minimize exposure. The mission stalled early on when workers noticed that a set

of five 1.5-meter (5-foot) pipes meant to push the robot into the reactor's primary containment vessel had been arranged in the

wrong order.
A camera on the robot also failed because of high radioactivity and had to be replaced. AP

**USD RATE** 

SENSEX: 74,102.32 ▼ 12.85 (0.02%) NIFTY: 22,49790 ▲ 37.60 (0.17%) NIKKEI: 36,793.11 ▼ 235.16 HANG SENG: 23,782.14 ▼ 1.35 FTSE: 8,547.80 ▼ 52.42 DAX: 22,631.25 ▲ 10.30

#### TAX OFFICIALS MAINTAIN BILL HAS MADE NO CHANGES TO PROVISIONS IN EXTANT I-T ACT

# I-T Bill proposes govt can 'override' online access codes, sparks privacy concerns

SOUMYARENDRA BARIK NEW DELHI. MARCH 11

A SMALL phrase in the proposed Income Tax Bill, 2025, around income lax Bill, 2025, around search and seizure powers available to the government, has raised privacy concerns among digital rights activist and many tax consultancy firms — as the Bill allows the government to break open, or "override" access controls, such as passwords, set up by users for their digital com-

up by users for their cigital com-munication on social media plat-forms, email services, and possi-bly even communication on encrypted platforms like WhatsApp. While tax officials maintain that the Income Tax Bill has made no changes to the search and seizure provisions in the extant Income Tax Act, and any changes to the language have been made to make it easier to understand,

to make it easier to interestant thereis one major addition in the Bill, which is absent in the Act—the ability of income tax officers to override any access codes a person may have set on their phones or laptops.

The Income Tax Act grants tax authorities the power to enter and search premises and forcibly open locks if an individual fails to provide requested documents or

BRIEFLY

Dehtissues:

Sebi issues

warning to IIFL

New Delhi: The Securities and

New Delhi: The Secunties and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has issued a warning to IIFL Capital Services regarding due diligence in debt issues han-dled by the company's mer-chant banking division. In a disclosure to stock exchanges,

IIFLCapital said the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has issued an adminis-

trative warning letter dated March 7, 2025. The regulator

regard to debt issues handled by the merchant banking di-vision of the company for the period April 1, 2022 to April 30, 2024.

Completion of

cuts timeline

rights issue: Sebi

New Delhi: Markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday reduced the processing time for a rights is-sue of equity shares to 23 days in a bid to make it a preferred route of fundraising. PTI

RBI: Growth in net

New Delhi: The RBI on Tuesday said with the nor-malisation of post-pandemic pent-up demand conditions, the growth in net sales of se-

lect FDI companies moder

ated to 9.3 per cent during 2023-24 from the high of 20.3

2023-24 from the high of 20.3 per cent in the previous year. The Reserve Bank released the data relating to financial performance of non-government non-financial (NGNF) FDI companies in India during 2023-24 based on audited annual accounts of 2,418 companies, which reported in the Indian Accounting Accounting Accounting Companies, which reported in the Indian Accounting

companies, which reported in the Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS) format for

three accounting years from 2021-22 to 2023-24. PTI

₹100,₹200 notes

planned with new Guv's signature

New Delhi: The Reserve

sales of FDI cos

drops to 9.3%

#### VIRTUAL DIGITAL SPACE

AVIRTUAL digital space, in the Bill, has been defined as a digital environment that is constructed and experienced through computer technology, and includes: (i) email servers; (ii) social media account; (iii) online investment

account, trading account, banking account, etc.; (iv) any website used for storing details of ownership of any asset; (v) remote server or cloud servers; (vi) digital application platforms; and (vii) any other space of similer pattern similar nature

mantial records after feet-own an official summons. The legisla-tion also authorises officials to examine electronic records. The proposed Bill maintains these ex-isting provisions while addition-ally empowering authorities to access virtual digital environ-ments during escapts and esizum ments during search and seizure operations, including the ability to override any access codes of computer systems, or "virtual digital spaces," that would oth-

ugitat spaces, in at would off-erwise restrict entry. A virtual digital space, in the Bill, has been defined as a digital environment that is constructed and experienced through com-puter technology, and includes: (i)email servers; (ii) social media account; (iii) online investment account, trading account, bank-ing account, etc.; (iv) any website

used for storing details of ownership of any asset; (v) remote server or cloud servers; (vi) digi-tal application platforms; and (vii) any other space of similar nature.

This would mean that if the ovision is retained in the Bill once it clears scrutiny from a Select Committee of Parliament, tax officials investigating an in-dividual for potential tax evasion, dividual for potential tax evasion, or underreporting income, could either use password breaking software, or request companies that offer communication serv-ices for bypassing a person's log-in credentials. "Even phone com-panies like Apple could possibly be required to assist with break-ing a person's passcode," at tax-erest said enuesting a porson's person's passcode," at tax-person's passcode, a tax-person's passc

Protection Act would have been in force right now (the Act has still not been implemented, with draft rules currently undergoing consultation), it would make no difference to the proposal in the Income Tax Bill, as tax authorities are likely to be exempted from the privacy law's scope — a criticism that has been levelled against the law for affording wide

paramisk.

This represents a notable dead.

This represents a notable dead and the present income-tax Act, 1961, which did not explicitly cover such digital domains.. Without clear safe-guards, these extensive powers could lead to taxpayer harassment or unnecessary scrutiny of personal data," news agency Reuters quoted Vishwas Panjiar, a partner at law firm Nangia Andersen LIP, as saying. ranging exemptions to govern-ment agencies. Officials said that under Officials said that under Section 132 of the existing I-T Act, tax authorities have been seizing electronic devices such as desk-tops and hard disks, and collect-ing evidence from communica-tion platforms such as emails, WhatsApp, and Telegram. Anof-ficial said that such evidence is

a partner at law firm Nangia Andersen ILJ, as saying. In a letter to the Select Committee of Parliament, which is currently deliberating on the Bill, the Delih-based digital rights body Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) said that it was "necessary to ensure that the proposed digital search and erizure provisions unbald constiseizure provisions uphold consti-tutional safeguards and prevent

excessive enforcement powers". The Bill should "explicitly inreported the proportionality standard," as established by the Supreme Court in its landmark 2017 right to privacy judgement, "by requiring the least invasive methods," IFF said.

"Without these necessary

of tax evasion.

Another tax expert, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that the tax authorities were already asking people under scrutiny to give them access to their online communications or documents, but overriding access controls remained a grey area legally. "With the proposed change, they want to explicitly make it clear that the government has the power to broass." safeguards, the Income Tax Bill, 2025, risks enabling unchecked surveillance and infringing on privacy rights."

'Enough

reserves to absorb impact' New Delhi: IndusInd Bank on Tuesday fire fought the fall-out of a Rs 2,100 crore dis-crepancy in accounting, say-

ing it has enough reserves and capital to cover for it. IndusInd Bank CEO and

Industing Bank CEO and managing director Sumant Kathpalia said that the ac-counting lapse was noted around September-October last year and the bank gave a preliminary update to the RBI about this last week. "The bank's profitability and cap-

ital adequacy remain healthy to absorb this one-time im-

pact. The issue was identified by the bank... The bank has

by the bank.... The bank has enough reserves and capital to manage this...," Kathpalia said. In an analyst call late on Monday night, Kathpalia said that the discrepancy in the derivative portfolio has been accumulated in the book

#### AN AMERICAN RECESSION

## Trump's tariffs have rekindled possibilities of a US economic downturn

ANIL SASI NEW DELHI, MARCH 11

SHARES ON Wall Street slumped on Monday to record one of the worst trading days since 2022, driven by concerns about the impact of President Donald Trump's trade policies on the US economy, linestors are now worned that a trade war could push the world's bittenet recording to the property of the prope

trace war could push the wonto biggest economy into a possible recession, with Trump appearing not to rule out that possibility. Speaking to Fox News on Sunday, Trump parried a question on whether the US is headed into a recession with an uncharacterisarecession with an uncharacteris-tically ambivalent response: "I hate to predict things like that. There is a period of transition, be-cause what we're doing is very big. We're bringing wealth back to America, that's a big thing. And there are always periods (where) it takes a little time." This came days after Trump said his measures could lead to some pain in the "short term".

hort term". This seems to be a markedly fferent outlook from Trump in his first term, where he was much more responsive to stock market patterns. Incidentally, in Monday's selloff, while the tech-heavy NASselloft, while the tech-heavy NAS-DAQ was down over 4 per cent, Elon Musk-promoted Tesla was one of the stocks that fell the most, down more than 10 per cent and sharply lower than its peak back in December.

#### Recession talk

alysts are pointing to amid the re-newed "recession" talk. One, that Wall Street is EXPLAINED One, that Wall Street is perhaps now overeacting to the fact that it did not really believe Trump would follow through on this threat of tariffs that he made throughout his election campaign. So, when last week, the tariffs came into effect on cared. Movern and Chinese and Chinese

Canada, Mexico and China, and more tariffs are likely on steel and more tariffs are likely on steel and aluminum products, the stock markets are perhaps responding to the fact that Trump is now walking his talk.

There is also the broader uncertainty that this rapid back-and-forth on tariffs by his administration has triggered.

Secondly, bond yields — or the parturn a bond investor expects to

return a bond investor expects to receive each year over its term to receive each year over its term to maturity — are perhaps a better in-dicator of whether a recession is not the malaing. The American 10 year bond yield eased by 11 basis points Monday as demand for safe-haven assets increased after Trump de-clined to rule out a recession as a result of his tariff policies. When bond yields are going down it means that the return an investor can expect from bodiive a bond is can expect from holding a bond is can expect from holding a bond is decreasing, which is typically caused by the price of the bondrise ing in the market (yields and prices of bonds have an inverse relationship). Lower yields potentially indicates a shift towards a more risk-averse sentiment among investors, often associated with economic uncertainty. Thirdly, though the broader economic data at this time is not sent the property of the property

economic data at this time is not indicating an impending American recession, there are American recession, there are some clear pointers to a growth slowdown. Job market data is holding up so far based on the February jobs report that came out Friday, but consumer confidence is down, and business surveys cite uncertainty as a reason

#### Trump says he will double tariffs on metals from Canada to 50%

US President Donald Trump speaks to reporters aboard Air Force One on March 9. Reuters F.

Washington: US President Donald Trump on Tuesday ramped up a burgeoning trade war with Canada, saying he will double tariffs set to take effect within hours on all imported steel and aluminum products from Canada to 50 per cent, amplifying a focus on tariff in-creases that has sent financial markets reeling and business leaders ringing alarm bells about weakening consumer demand. In a post on his Truth Social media platform, Trump said he has instructed Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick add an additional 25 per cent tariff on the metals products from Canada that will go into effect on Wednesday morning Tariffs totaling 25 per cent on all imported steel and aluminum products originating from other countries will start that day.

for being cautious about capital investment. Fourth-quarter US gross domestic (GDP) growth for 2024 came in at a strong 2.3 per

cent, driven primarily by con sumer spending

cent, driven primarily by consumer spending. However, the early data for this year suggest a slowdown could be on the cards.
The various Federal Reserve Bank surveys have shown more caution among businesses, with the Philadelphia Rederal Reserve's Manufacturing Business Outlook Survey results showing that new orders and himitage and work while prices are up. Comments from businesses according that first and the potential negative impact on orders, adding to the pessimism. But Trump has, so far, shown that his administration is willing to tolerate this to achieve his broader ambitions, including

shown that his administration is willing to tolerate this to achieve his broader ambitions, including rebalancing trade, his plans for deregulation, including rebalancing trade, his plans for of deregulation, including promised tax cuts later in the year.

And while Trump appears to be equivocal on the recession prospects, his commerce secretary Howard Latrick, and the main cheerleader of reciprocal raiffs within the nead uninistration, was a lot less ambivalent at a press heinign. There's going to be no recession in America. What there's going to be is global raiffs are going to come down because President Trump has said, you want to charge us 100 per cent. We're poing tocknap you 100 per cent. We're poing tocknap you 100 per cent. We're poing tocknap you und to that you want to charge us 100 per cent. We'll bring outs down. We'll unleast harmerica att to the world, grow our economy in a way we've never grown before. You are going to see, one-flow. before. You are going to see, over the next two years, the greatest set

Problems with US's high tariffs plan

a reason why the high tariff threats by the US are not likely to sustain. The structural issues with the American economy is one key reason. The US economy relies heavily on trade, and that's part of heavily on trade, and that's part of its structural construct in the post-World War-II era This is because the American economy con-sumes more goods than it pro-duces domestically attill employ-ment. As a result, its imports are almost always higher than its ex-ports, resulting in a trade deficit. This trade deficit is a point of contention for Turnam which be's

contention for Trump, which he's used as the trigger for the imposiused as the trigger for the imposi-tion of rainfis on countries around the world. But what this simplis-tic assumption glosses over is the fact that till the time America con-sumes more than it produces, it will have a deficit with a lot of countries. This is also triggered by the fact that the labour costs in America are high, and so it does not merit economic logic for US workers to be producing this effi-ciently in the country, like say gar-iently in the country, like say gar-iently in the country, like say gar-iently in the country, like say garciently in the country, like say gar-ments or low-end consumer thenly intercounty, laces by gar-ments or low-end consumer goods. So, other countries that have relative efficiencies in these have relative efficiencies in their have relative efficiencies in their relative efficiencies in their con-low material advantages, are more effective at productivity issue, and a shift of comparative advan-tages todeveloping actions repaired to the US, and tariffs are unlikely to fix that fundamental issue. Also, Trump has consistently insisted that tariffs are paid for by foreign countries. This hardsell, has resonated within his base, but is blatantly false lit, is in fact. US importers — American com-panies or representatives of for-eign companies in the US — that end up paying saffits when these red up paying saffits when these

end up paying tariffs when these goods come in, and this money goes to the American Treasury. These companies, in turn, gener-These companies, in turn, gener-ally pass their higher costs on to their customers in the form of higher retail prices. FULL REPORTON

## Derivative loss of ₹2,100 crore: IndusInd Bank shares crash by 27%

MUMBAI.MARCH11

A DAY after Indiustind Bank revealed ap note into 235 per cent adverse impact on its net worth after an internal neview of its derivative portfolio, the lender's shares canshed by 27 per cent on the stock exchanges. The stock closed Rs. 24d down at R 85555 on the BSE on Tuesday, even as several broking firms downgraded the stock.

The derivative losses will have an approximate impact of Rs. 2,100 crore on the bank, the managements sized in the stock of India's (RBI) directives on investments issued in September 2023, banks are prohibited from conducting internal trades) hedging and, accordingly, Industind Bank too ceased internal trades from April 1, 2024. However, during an internal review, the bank identified certain discrepancies where accounting of losses on forces derivatives I was presented to the stock of the stock osits/ debt were not recognised rough net interest income (NII),



#### Bank's stock closed Rs 244 down at Rs 655.95 on BSE even as several broking firms downgraded the stock

gains were recognised in the profit and loss (P&L) statement.
"These accumulated losses (pre-tax Rs 2,100 crore and post-tax Rs 1,580 crore) are estimated to have an adverse impact of 2.35 per cent on its net worth as of December 2024. The bank clarification is the control of fied that it will take the hit through P&L which, coupled with acceler-P84. which, coupled with accelerated provisions on the MIB port-folio, will push the bank into losses during Q4Pt 25s and drive down the PT25E RoA (return on assets) by 30 bps to 99 per cent," Emlay Global Financial Services said in a report. The bank report at a net profit of Rs 1401 crore during the December quarter of PT2025.

The bank has hired an external agency to review and validate the findings, and had intimated

the RBI a week ago about its pre the knawes ago about its pre-liminary findings. Notably, the ex-CFO (who resigned in January 2025) was also aware of this ac-counting discrepancy. Derivatives are used by treas-

rucial in calculating the amount

ment has the power to bypass these protections for those under

ury to convert forex deposits/ bor-rowings into the rupee. "Prior to April 2024, both internal and external trades were conducted Internal trades were being hedged basis swap-cost while external basis swap-cost while external trades were marked-to-market (MTM). If forex borrowings were repaid during the contract, inter-nal trades were unwound trigger-ing differences between swap-cost and MTM which was unaccounted," the brokerage brebbuds till abber sid in sex-Prabhudas Lilladher said in a re-port. FULL REPORTON

#### over a period of 5-7 years prior to April 1, 2024. PTI while the corresponding treasury

based Darshita Southern India Happy Homes, a commercial real estate firm, for Rs 2,250 crore, the IT services major said in an ex-change filing on Tuesday. The building and the land owned by Darshita Southern India Happy Homes will serve as a de-livery centre, it added. The deal

30,000 seats in the last one year. We started operations in Coimbatore as well," he said. In January this year, the com-pany announced the acquisition of TRIL Bengaluru Real Estate Five

the strategy regarding owned and leased office spaces. According to a CareEdge re-port, Darshita Southern India Happy Homes is a special purpose vehicle floated by property man-

## TCS to buy commercial realty firm for ₹2,250 cr

URVIMALVANIA

will be executed through a call op-tion to acquire 100 per cent equity stake in the entity after two years. Earlier in January, CFO Samir Seksaria said that TCS is looking to expand its seating capacity throughout the country through a combination of owned and

agement outlit Salarpuna Sattva group.

The SPV was originally plannedas a residential project. In FY19, it was changed to a com-mercial office space on lease un-der the name "Salarpuria Sattva Knowledge Point (KP)" in Bengaluru.

TATA CONSULTANCY Services (TCS) will acquire Bengaluru-based Darshita Southern India

leased properties. "We have bought land (in "We have bought latte (in: Bengaluru) to expand our (seat-ing) capacity over three to four years. We have been expanding pan-India. We added more than 10,000 seats in the quarter and

and TRIL Bengaluru Real Estate Six for Rs 1, 650 crore to service the for ks 1, 500 crore to service me need for expanded seating capac-ity. He added that the capacity ex-pansion is part of the firm's phys-ical infrastructure capex plans. "Leasing helps us flex our capac-ity while owning protects us against inflation," he explained on

agement outfit Salarpuria Sattva

## Hisar likely to house India's first pvt sector trainer plane manufacturing unit

INDIA'S FIRST-EVER private sec-tor manufacturing facility for trainer aircraft is likely to come up in Haryana's Hisar by the end of the year with Tamil Nadu-based New Delhi: The Reserve Bank of India on Tuesday said it will shortly issue banknotes of Rs 100 and Rs 200 denominations bearing the signature of Governor Sanjay Malhotra. "The design of these notes is similar in all respects to Rs 100 and Rs 200 banknotes in the year with Tamil Nadu-based diversified Sakthi group and Austrial's Diamond Aircraft Industries joining hands to set up a final assembly line (FAL) for the latter's popular DA40 NG trainer planes, which will be supplied to various flying schools across the country. Sakthi Aircraft Industry, the joint venture of Sakthi group was all bits and a first first intend to a school of the country. todinty, Sakuli Alictati Industry, the joint venture of Sakthi group and Diamond Aircraft inked an initial pact with the Aero Club of India on Tuesday to supply 200 Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series," it said. PTI

DA40 NG aircraft to its affiliate fly

ing schools, or flying training or-ganisations (FTOs).

Of the 200 single-engine, four-seater trainer aircraft on order for various Indian FTOs, the initial 50 will be imported as complete knocked-down (CKD) units from Diamond Aircraft's existing man Diamond Aircraft's existing manufacturing facilities in Austria and Canada, and will then be assembled in India. The remaining 150 planes will be produced at the planned FAL, which 'most likely' will come up at the Hisar aerodrome in Hanyana and should be functional by the end of 2025. Salkthi Aircraft Industry's managing director and ficief secutived—fixer Valibaba V Diold reporters on the sidelines of the event. the sidelines of the event.



Tamil Nadu-based diversified Sakthi group and Austria's Diamond Aircraft Industries join hands to set up a final assembly line for the latter's DA40 NG trainer planes.

The JV is looking to produce 100 trainer aircraft a year in India, anticipating significant demand anticipating significant demand from thying schools in the world's thirl-largest and fastest; growing major aviation market. According to Valbhaw, Sakthi Aircraft proentmanufacturers who are above the contraction of the properties of the epaper.indianexpress.com

ready supplying to global majors like Airbus and Boeing. As for the 200-plane order, which is being touted as among the biggest trainer aircraft orders globally, the JV expects to complete deliveries sometime in 2027. Financial details of the 200-aircraft order and likely investment

craft order and likely investment in setting upthe FAL were not immediately available. Industry sources indicated that the Ist price of a DA40 NG aircraft range starts from around \$500,000. The Daimond DA440 NG is a modern, single-engine, four-seat incraft rated highly for its efficiency, safey, and technological features, and is counted among the popular trainer aircraft globally. It is also a normal a rainer file roundar among the popular trainer aircraft globally. popular aircraft for private owners. Other major international

els. Other major international players in the general aircraft and trainer aircraft segments include Cessna and Tecnam. With India's aviation sector expanding rapidly with massive aircraft orders amid a surge in demand that is likely to continue for the foreseeable future, the country of the consequence of the conse the foreseeable future, the coun-try would also need a robust pipeline of homegrown pilots. According to Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu, India will need 30,000 pilots over the next 15–20 years up from the current 6,000–7,000 pilots, given that Indian airlines cumulatively have over 1,700 aircraft on order. India's commercial aircraft fleet currently stands at over 800 air craft. On average, one aircraft re

quires an airline to have 15-20 pi-lots for narrow-body aircraft and 25-30 pilots for long-range wide-body jets. Speaking at the event, Naidu emphasised the need to develop a large and world-class flying training ecosystem in the country to meet the Indian avia-tion sector's rapidly growing de-mand. Currently, these are 28 mand. Currently, there are 38 FTOs in India, and the number is slated to rise in the coming years given the rising demand for pilots. The collaboration between the

Aero Club of India and Sakthi Aircraft Industry is projected to enable training of 1,000 commer-cial pilots annually and 10,000 pilots over the next 10 years.

www.india

#### Classifieds

#### PERSONAL

I Parmander Kumar Batra S/O Shyam Dass Batra R/O 315/13, Sikka Colony, Sonipat, Haryanan-131001 have changed my name to Parmender Kumar Batra S/O Shyam La Batra affloavit dated 10.03.25 notary Rakesh Kumar Tiwari.

0130050075-

We, Shanky Jain & Isha Jain R/O B-753, MIG DDA Flats, East of Loni Road, Shahdara, Delhi-11093 have changed name of their son from Moksh Jain to Ishank Jain and shall hereafter be Known as Ishank Jain for all future intents & purposes

Service no.-760199-R. E-SCT Rajeev Tiwari R/O Village-Mubarakpur, PG Ohainpur Distt. Silwan (Bihar)-841203 have changed my son name from Abhinav to Abhinav Juda (Bihar)-841203 have changed my son name from Abhinav to Abhinav Luda (Bihar)-841203 have changed my son name from Abhinav to Abhinav Luda (Bihar)-841203 have changed my son name Luda (Bihara)-841203 have changed my son name have changed

LVINOD KUMAR S/O HARI SINGH R/o.H.No.246,Bazar Lane.No.2, Narendranagar,Tehri Garhwal,Uttarakhand,have changed my name to VINOD KUMAR BAGHEL.

I,VIJAYPAL SINGH,S/O CHHATER SINGH,R/O,HOUSE.NO-198,DELHI ROAD,MOHKAMPUR, MEERUT, UTTAR PRADESH-250103,have changed my name to VIJAY PAL. 0040779150-3

I,Shobha Rani,W/o Deepak Rathi,R/o,H.No.C-41,Street

Rathi,R/o,H.No.C-41,Street No.6,7 Main Road,Brahampuri, Ghonda,Delhi-110053,have changed my name to Shobha Devi. 0040779154-2

I,Service No.JC(NYA)15697851X,Rank:-Nb Sub Name:-MANOJ NARAYANRAO DHUDAS son of NAKAYANKAO DHUDAS son of Narayanrao Dhudas, Presently, residing at, ADGSI (SI-4,Room.No. 924,9th Floor, 'A' Wing, Sena-Bhawan, New Delhi-I10011, have changed my name from MANOJ NARAYANRAO DHUDAS to DHUDAS MANOJ NARAYANRAO Vide-

Affidavit.date-11.03.2025.

0040779150-7

Pranabesh Bhowmick R/o Flat.No-1202, Tower-5 Unitech Verve Sector-Pi-2, Greater Noida(U.P) have changed my name to Satorupa Das Bhowmick for all future

purposes. 0040779035-1 LSUDHANSHV KAINTHOLA.S/O BAIKUNTH NATH.R/o C-1001, Express Zenith, Sector-77, Noida, Gautambudh Nagar (UP) have changed my name to SUDHANSHU KUMAR 0040779163-5

I,Tahir S/o Nanhu Khan R/o-H.No.340,First-Floor Paschim Puri Paschim Vihar Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Mohd Tahir. 0040779150-1

I,Ruby Chauhan W/o Agnivesh R/o House No-Q375,South City-1,near Sector-40 Gurgaon,Haryana-122001, have changed my name to Ruby Kumar. 0040779154-1

Kumar. 0040779154-1. **Rishita** Thakur Bhattacharyya Wo Ananga Bhattacharyya R/o 4052 ATS-Pristine Pusta Road, Sector-150, Noida(U.P) have changed my name to Rishita T Bhattacharyya for all future purposes. 0040779035-2

I,Rashid S/o Mohd Tahir R/o-H.No.340.First-Floor Paschim Puri Paschim Vihar Delhi-110063, have changed my name to Rashid Khan. 0040779150-2

to Rashid Khan. 0040779150-2 LRAMESHWARS,/O SATPAL R/O B-19,GALI.NO.1,MOLARBAND SCHOO ROAD OM NAGAR SADARPUR,DELHI-110044,have changed my name RAMESHWAR to ARJUN KASHYAP for all purposes,in future 0040779163-1

future 0040779163-1

LPUIA SINGH, wife of, SANTOSH
KUMAR SINGH, Presently,
residing at, SHIV KRIPA SADAN,
VILLAGE-SHOBHNATHPUR, PSKAHALGAON, DISSTBHAGALPUR, BIHAR-813203,

BHAGALPUR,BIHAR-813203, have changed my name,from PUJA SINGH to POOJA SINGH,vide-Affidavit date-11.3.2025 0040779163-7

11.3.2025 0040779163-1
LPRIYANKA GOEL,W/O-MANU
GAUTAM,R/O,FLAT.NO.K8119,gaur-green city,VAIBHAVKHAND INDIRAPURAM,
GHAZIABAD,UP-201014,HAVE
CHANGED MY MINOR SON'S
NAME TO VEDARRTH
SHARMA,FOR ALL,FUTURE
PURPOSFS 00040779154-PURPOSES

SPARAGA-ON ALL-PUTURE

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JOSEPHAPPS-SAMAMAG-SA-

days. 0020489910-1

I,ANIL KUMAR S/O OM PRAKASH
R/O FLATNO.WZ-45,HARI SINGH
PARK,NEW MULTAN
NAGAR,DELHI-110056.HAVE
CHANGED MY NAME TO ANIL

0040779172-2

I Manoj Kumar Jain, S/o-Prem Chand Jain, R/o-313 Jwala Nagar, Church-Road, Shahdara, North-East Delhi, 11032, have changed my name to Manoj Jain, for all purposes. 0040779154-5

I,MANORMA,W/O CHANDAN KUMAR,R/O,B-801,TOWER-KUMAR,R/O,B-801,TOWER-B,BLGC SUPERB SOCIETY,SECTOR-110, NOIDA,GAUTAMBUDH NAGAR,UTTAR PRADESH-201304,have changed my name to MANORMA THAKUR.

0040779154-3

0040779154:

| Kum Sona Kumari Gupta W/o
Deepak Aggarwal R/o A-189,
Sector-20, Noida(U.P.) have
changed my name to Sona
Aggarwal for all future
purposes. 0040779089| HARSH BHAGAT,S/O-MADAN
LAL,R/O A-15S,MALIS
PARK,ADARSH NAGAR,DELHI110033,HAWE CHANGED MY
NAME TO HARISH KUMAR.

0040779172-1

I,GOWRI DEVI K,Mother
of,MURALI GANESH
K,Presently.residing at,G-2,
Tirumala K,Presently.residing at,G-2 Tirumala nilayam,Road.no.2,Balaji-nagar,Medchal,Medchal nagar, Medchai, Medchai Malkajgiri district, Telangana-501401, have changed my name.from GOWRI DEVI K to KURMA GOWRI, vide-Affidavit, date-11.3.2025.

0040779163-8

I,Disha D/O-Dhiraj Kaushik,R/O,RZ-F-905/21A LBS Marg Palam-1, Dwarka, Sector 8, Raj-Nagar Part-2, New Delhi-110077, Have Changed My 8, Kuj. 110077, Have Criss. Name To Disha Kaushik, Permanently

I,Bhvi Singh S/o Manish

LBMY Singh S/o Manish Chaudhari R/o RC-83,Sani Bazar,Subash Park,Khora, Ghaziabad,Uttar Pradesh-201309,have changed my name to Bhavishya Choudhary for all,purposes. 0040779163-2 I,Chanchal Khirwar, Wife of,vivek Khirwar,

ICHARTONIA (NIPARA) MEDICAL (NIPARA) MED

I,ASHOKS/O-SHRISHIV

NATH,R/O,E-39/16,JHUGGI,GEETA-COLONY,GANDHI-NAGAR S.O,EAST-DELHI, DELHI-110092,THAT INSTEAD OF HIS NAME IN ALL EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATE'S,VOTER ID-CARD NO. CARD.NO.
NBJ0255927,MENTIONED IS
"ASHOK"HE WOULD BE KNOW

ASHOK HE WOOLD BERNOWN & CALLED "ASHOK KUMAR" AS PER AADHAR-CARD "ASHOK and ASHOK KUMAR"BOTH NAMES ARE SAME-PERSON.

0040779172-3 I,ADITI RAI W/O-ABHISHEK SUMAN,R/o A4-506,Krishna Apra Gardens, Indirapuram,Ghaziabad(UP)-201014,have changed my name to ADITI RAI SHARMA.

0040779163-3

LALAVENA JENIFFER,wife of,S

I A. LAVENA JENIFFER, wife of, S AROKIANATHAN, Presently residing at, 14/19E1, Kalpana Cottage, Kotagiri, The Nilgiris, Tamilnadu-643217, have changed my name. from A. LAVENA JENIFFER to R LAVENA JENIFFER, vide-Affidavit date-11.3.2025. 0040779163-9

11.3.2025. 0040779163-9

L, VIMMI BANSAL W/O SANJAY
KUMAR BANSAL R/O D-3/1 (FF)
RANA PRATAP BAGH, MALKA
GANJ, DELH-IO'T have changed
my name to VIMMY BANSAL
W/O SANJAY BANSAL for all
purposes. 0040779038-1

J. Shubham S/o Raman Gupta R/o D-5/20, Ratiya Marg, Sangam Vihar, Delhi-62 have changed my name to Subhan Gupta 0070955906

L Sani Abhilash G I S/O Gopala L Sani Abhilash G I S/O Gopala Krishana Naie Employed as Scientist E in Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology R/o 90, Deluxe Apartment, Vasundhara Enclave, Mayur Vihar, East Delhi, Delhi-11096, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Sani Abhilash. 20070955914-1

Abhilash. 0070855914

Ladjev Ray S/o Punedev Roy R/O H.No. 18, Vill-Bansghat, Masuaria, Gopalgani, Bihars 484409, Inform that in my polit no 13535643 my wife's name wrongly written as Devantee instead of Dmyanti Devi. Dmyanti Devi and Devantee both are same and one person and shallbe known as Dmyant Devi for all future purposes.

0040779041-1 0040779041-1

"RAJKUMAR RAMNIWAS PATEL,

"CO RAMNIWAS B PATEL, RO,

VIIIlage & Post Karoundi, Tehsil

Gudh, Dist-Rewa, (M.P.), 486553

have changed my name from

Patel Rajkumar Ramniwas to

Rajkumar Ramniwas Patel for

all purposes in future.

0040779018-1 0040779018-1

I, Parvati Devi Tamta W/o Late
Shri Hari Ram Sharma R/o
2929A, Sushant Lok C1,
Gurgaon-122001, have changed
my name to Parwati Sharma 0070955904-1

I, Maidol S/o Abdul Aziz R/o S-46/394, Indra Gandhi Camp-2, Taimoor Nagar, Delhi-65 have changed my name to Mohidul 0070955924

I, Muzammil alias Muzamil Khan S/O Waheed Khan Employed as Dy Commandant in Border Security Force R/O House No 161-A, Pocket-12, Jasola Vihar, New Friends Colony, South Delhi, Delhi-110025, have changed my name and shall hereafter be Known as Muzammil Khan. 0707955918-1 Muzammil Khan S/O Waheed

, Muzammil Khan S/O Waheed Khan, R/o 161-A, Pocket-12. Khan, R/o 161-A, Pocket-12, Jasola Vihar, New Friends Colony, South Delhi, Delhi 110025, I have changed the name of my minor Son Mohd Hayyan Khan alias Md. Hayyan Muzammil Khan aged about 15 Years and He shall hereafter be known as Mohammad Hayyan Muzammil Khan 0070955910-1

Muzammil Khan UV USISSIO I., MAHI PAL SINGH S/O OM Prakash Singh R/O A 14, Sector-35, Noida, UP-201301, have changed my name from MAHI PAL SINGH CHAUHAN to MAHI PAL SINGH for all future purposes. 0070955955-1

PAL SINGH OF All INTURE PURPOSES .

Geeta Batra WO VIShal Director of the Control of the Control

0040779008-1

0040779008-1
TULSI DEVIRAWAT W/O DILLIP
SINGH RAWAT, Ex. MWO Service
No. 261754-6 PPO No.
601200101037 Sparsh (Corr
PPO) R/O Semalkhaliya,
Ramnagar Nashibid
Anaped my
name from TULSI DEVIRAWAT
TULSI RAWAT. 23.02.2024 at
Ramnagar 0040779009-1

to TULSI RAWAT. 23.02.2024 at Ramnagar 0040779009-1 Rameshwar Lai Khadolia S/o Haru Ram R/o Children Home for Boys-1, Alipur, Delhi-110036, have changed my name to Rameshwar Lai 0070955912-1

Namical Waseer alias
Sarvjeet Singh Vaseer alias
Sarvjeet Singh, S/o Sh. Bahwinder
Singh Vaseer, R/O-WZ-7, PlotNo. 26A, Vishnu-Garden, New
Delhi-110018, have changed my
name to Sarvjeet Singh, for all
purposes and both are one and
the same person. 0040779003-1

I.Jasbir Kaur.w/o Raiinder Singh and,D/o Gurmukh Singh,R/o Cottage No.34,Ground-Floor,West Patel Nagar,New,Delhi-110008,have changed,my name,to Jasbir Kaur Kohli.

0040779246-1

#### LOST & FOUND

Lost the original allotment letter, offer letter, few receipts etc. of Flat No-A-1/1223, Aster Tower, Krish City, Heights-II, Shiwadi, Rajasthan FiR has letter, offer letter, few receipts and the second control of the State No. 2657901/2025. Ender please contact-Love Kumar 5/0-64, Boodwill Apartments, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi-110085

0040779023-1 O040779023-1
Sunii Kumar Nagpal, S/oSh. Nand Lai Nagpal, R/o1/23, Satyawati Nagar, Delhi1/052, have lost my original 
property documents complete 
chain of Giff 
Deed (Regd. No. 15225 dated28/10/2011), Sale Deeds and 
Rectification Deed etc.LR 
NO.2659879/2025, if

NO.20598/9/2025,IT found,please contact: ijatinchadha@gmail.com. 0040779150-11

0040779150-11

LPeram Lokeshlost the marksheets of 1st,2nd and 3rd semesters' marksheet in JNU,New Delhi.No.me-Peram Lokesh En.No. 20/11/EC/025,Reg.No-200310408996 CONT-9515516650.

#### RECRUITMENT

#### SITUATION VACANT

#### OTHERS

VIBA Press Pvt. Ltd., Delhi is seeking skilled professionals: Content Writers & Copy writer (Eng. & Hindi) Exp: 3-5 yrs. Diploma / Degree in Journalism Diploma / Degree in Journalism Graphic Designer Exp: 3-5 yrs Mail CV to: info@vibapress.in

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for the departmentmental promotion for the post of principal for Maxfort School Rohini. Eligible candidates may apply at school reception up to 17.03.2025 in school hours.

Email: manager@maxfortrohini.in 0040779022-1

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Constrain public notice to function for control public days of the control public days for safety for safety five starting for safety for safety five safety for safety for

PANKAJ GUPTA ADVOCATE C-159, GROUND FLOOR, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI-110 024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Shubham (Advocate) Ch. No.537, Saket Court, New Delhi-17

Cott. No. 5.01; cobes coors.

EULIHATOTICE:
Be it known to all that my clerific Sh.
Babilinder Kumar Sto. Lie Matar. Lin RoBabilinder Kumar Sto. Lie Matar. Lin RoHaryana (2000). Inc. en sealing at H2017. Karampous. New Delhi-H0015. is the coly
legal hebinepher of aller the death of his
Uncle List Surender. Pal expired on
INB-2004. and his wide Lish Nestam
Kumari expired on 64.07 2014. Wo Liste
Surnder Pile, nomes of resident of the 2017.

Surnder Pile, nomes of resident of the 2017. "IMPORTANT" Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that of LINE SMT\_GRAPM\_GRAPTA WE SN. Herma Kurnar Bugta, is the owner and in possession DOA STS FAR No. 344., on GP., in Piki-Shauted at Vikas Puri Eut, N.D.-1100181, away of Sale Deed Regul, as registered document No. 2004/25/119552, on data 18.07.2004 excuted by (1). Smt. Man Adalaha, & (2), Ms. Varnica Kherz, Who had caparied the above properly as legal heirs:

PUBLIC NOTICE Komis Benist Dis Neber Des Britan Vivil Cate Mr. RK. Bibstall PG. 138. Prest Vihar. New Celti-cial State Communication of the Communication original documents—Possession feller and allohment letter of my property Mr. Magnum Fouse 4. Communication Mr. Magnum Fouse 4. Communication or Communication of the Communication of the Indiana Communication of the Communication of the Indiana Communication of the Co

PUBLIC NOTICE ctient Prehlad Kaur W/o La is Singh Sehgal, R/o D-29, ony. Lajpat Nagar-IV, hi-24, had lost/misplace-jual Sale Deed. dt. 178/0/104

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Puri, New Dalth has been Lost. An FI or this effect has been lodged in Police 3 t a t i o n . V i d e N C R / L I No. 2653151/2025 dated: 08/03/2025 have 26803/2025 dated: 08/03/2025 have presents) claiming any righ miseast, having any objection or found it occasession of original document ma write/contact with above named parso write/contact with above named parso

PUBLIC NOTICE

Dath-10034, there insplaced test in original Agresment to Sell and WILL is respect of Property No. No. C-61 Materians Pritiage Endise, Platinguis Delh-110034, A FRANCE has been lodged vide IR No. 26579062025 dated 10.03.2025 with Potice Station Granch. Delh-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

enders for the work desc are invited by CWM, N

Eligibility Criteria as mentioned it ender document. In ender document media to the control of t

Date of opening of tender: 25-03-2025 at 15-30Hzs. Notes- (J) at 15-30Hzs. Notes- (J) tender booklet of above. E-tenders will be available-uploaded since 17-30 hrs. of 10-03-2025 and shall emain no obstee own-areas of 10-03-2025 of tender opening (J) Bide obstee than those in the form of e-Bide of 10-03-2025 of tenders (P) and the form of the for

pect of E-Tendering shall be accepted ough Net Banking or paymen teway only. ly. CME (Prod.), Mech. Worksh

नगरीय वितरण खण्ड हाथर य हेतु कम्प्यूटर परिचालक उपल

निविदा सं0 111/2024-25 विद्युत वितरण खण्ड द्वितीय हाधर कार्यालय हेतु कम्प्यूटर परिचालक उपल

। वितरण खण्ड तृतीय सासनी हाथर लय हेतु कम्प्यूटर परिचालक उपल

निविदा सं0 114/2024-25 निविदा सं0 115/2024-25

"राष्ट हित में बिजली बवायें"

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 CrPC

See Section 82 CrPC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused
Nagraj Slo Sh. Mekuram Rlo H. No.12947, T-Hut, Nanak
Plao, Khilona Bagh Gurudwara. Model Town, North-West,
Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the
offence in case registered vide FIR No. 53/24, U/S
80/457/41/134 IPC, P.S. Jaffarpur Kalan, Delhi and th been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Magraj, cann other found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Nagraj, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Nagraj, of FIR No. 53/24, U/S 380/457/411/34 IPC, P.S. Jaffarpur Kalan, Delhi is required to appear before this courl (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of 14.04.2025.

Judicial Magistrate First Cla South-West District, Court No. 314
DP/2988/DW/2025 (Court Matter)
District Courts Dwarka, New Delhi

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING The appearance of accused Person

#### (SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) Amit S/o Girish Chand Mishra R/o 156-E, Jai Puria Mill, Clock Tower Subzi Mandi, Malka Ganj, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 127/22 U/s 223/341 IPC, PS Roop Nagar, Delh case FIR No. 127/22 UIs 223/341 IPC, PS Roop Nagar, Delhi and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) Amit can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) Amit has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation are hereby made that the said accused person(s) Amit of case FIR No. 127/22 U/s 223/341 IPC, PS Roop Nagar, Delhi are required to appear before this court to answer the said complain required to appear before this court to answe on or before dated 24.04.2025 at 10:00 AM.

#### PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) Tofik, S/o: Hanif, R/o: E-44/C 65 Jhuggi New Seema Puri. Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed the offence in FIR No. 02899/2021, U/s 379/411 IPC P.S.: GTB the offence in FIR No. 02899/2021, U/s 379/411 IPC P.S.: GTE Enclave, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) Toffic cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) Tofik has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s Tofik of Fir No. 02899/2021, Us 379/411 IPC P.S.: GTB Enclave, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 21.05.2025.

Sanghmitra
Judicial Magistrate First Class-01
Room No. 54 Second Floor DP/2955/SHD/2025 (Court Matter) Shahdara District Karkardooma Court, Delhi

#### DISTRICT SONIPAT (HARYANA) NOTICE INVITING SHORT TENDER

ealed tenders are invited by the Principal and Directed Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai for supplying o cameras (along with operator) for recording PESAT (Physical Efficiency and Sports Aptitude Test) for admission for the Session 2025-26 to Class V & other classe scheduled in the month of March, 2025 (tentative).

Supply of Cameras 6 Video cameras for the video recording of PESAT alongwith Operator for 4 different days. Quote rate as for camera per day

Last date of submission of quotations to undersigned in 10 days of publication of this advertisement. For more information visit www.mnssrai.com

PRINCIPAL AND DIRECTOR RO NO. 32719-HR MNSS, RAI

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 (2) (ii) Cr.PC

See Section 82 (2) (ii) Cr.PC
Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Namely:
Niranjan @ Rasiya, Rio.: Ram Vihar, Banthla, Ghaziabad, U.P. &
Village Nagva, District Gredi, Jharkhand has committed (or is
suspected to have committed) the offence in a case wide FIR
No.306022016 Uls. 37941134 IPC registered at P.S GTB Enclave,
Delhi and it has been returned on a warrant of arrest thereupon issued
stating that the said Niranjan @ Rasiya could not be found and
whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that accused Niranjan @
Rasiyas is abspronded (or is compeating himself to avoid the service of the Rasiva is absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Niranjan @ Rasiya is required to appear before the court to answer the said complaint on or before 10.06.2025.

.06.2025.

By Order

Ms. SANGHMITRA

Judicial Magistrate First Class-01,
Second Floor, Shahdara District,
Karkardooma Court, Delhi

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C./84 BNSS)

DP/2958/SHD/2025

Whereas complaint has been made before Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused Vishal Slo Mohal Lal Rio B-31 Mini Market Mangolpuri, Delhi 110083 has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 95/2016 U/s 33 Delhi Excise ACT P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Vishal cannot be found and whereas if has been shown to my eatification. found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Vishal has absconded (or is that the said accused Vishal has absconded for is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant) Proclamation is hereby made that Vishal in FIR No 95/2016 U/s 33 Delhi Excise ACT P.S. Mangolymout Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 15.04.2025.

nt on or before 15.04.2025. By order

Ms Reetika Jain

Judicial Magistrate First Class (North west)

Court No. 105

Rohini Courts, Delhi

## DP/3037/OD/2025

APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(See Section 82 Cr. P.C./84 BNSS)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused Kuldeep Singh S/o Surjeet Singh R/o Plot No.28

Thuts, near Tola Ram School, Kasturba Nagar, Shahdrar, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 251/2016 U/s 325/341/427 IPC Ps.

Vivek Vihar, Delhi and it has been returned to warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused Kuldeep Singh cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Kuldeep Singh has absonded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that Kuldeep Singh in Fire No. 251/2016 U/s 325/341/427 IPC Ps.

Vivek Vihar, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 19.04.2025.

By order

By order Ms Swati Sharma Chief Judicial Magistrate Third Floor Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

#### DP/2810/SHD/2025 PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accu person namely Aakash @ Khatri S/o Gulab Singh R/o A-20 person namely Aakash @ Khatri Sio Gulab Singh Rio A-Zu, Ganga Ram Colony, Tikri Khurd, Narela, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No 828/2019 U/s 356/379/411 IPC at PS: Raj Park, Delhi and tihas been returned to a warrantof arrest thereupon issued that the said accused Aakash @ Khatri can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Aakash @ Khatri has absconded (or is competition beneal to succeed the said to senter the paid that the personal time beneal the said the souther of the call starters. concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant) Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Aakash @ Khatri of FIR No 828/2019 U/s 356/379/411 IPC at PS Raj Park, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 15.04.2025. By order

Ebbani Aggarwal Judicial Magistrate First Class-03 North West Court No.107, 1st Floor. Rohini Court, Delhi

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that Person namely Raiu S/o: Gulam, R/o: H. No. L-81 Mango Puri, Delhi (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. 112/2020, U/s 12/9/55 Gambling Act, registered at P.S.: Raj Park, Delhi and the warrant has been returned writing upon that the said Raju cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Raju has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said Raiu accused FIR No. 112/2020. U/s 12/9/55 Gambling Act, registered at P.S.: Raj Park, Delhi required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 17.04.2025.

By Order By Order Ebbani Aggarwal Judicial Magistrate First Class-03 Court No. 107, 1st Floor Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/2886/OD/2025

epaper.indianexpress.com

News Gupta, & Mr. Kavita Gupta Wr. Vinod Kumar Gupta R/o F-14i sakpura, Moti Bagh-2, New Delhi

अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सुचना

निविदा सं0 112 / 2024-25

निविदा संव 113/2024-25-विद्युत वितरण खण्ड चतुर्थ सादाबाद हाधरस कार्यालय हेतु कम्प्यूटर परिचालक उपलब्ध कराया जाना।

एण्टी पावर थैंपट थाना हाथरस एवं प्रवंत दल हाथरस कार्यालय हेतु कम्प्यूट परिचालक उपलब्ध कराया जाना ।

निविदा विक्रम तिथि एवं खुल की दिनांक 28.03.2025 अन्य सम्बन्धि जानकारी ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट पोर्ट Never travel on roof and foot boards.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

TAMIL NADU GREEN ENERGY CORPORATION LIMITED

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY

TENDER NOTICE No.RWF/S/146/2024-25/09 Dated: 08.03.2025

ADDITIONAL AUCTION DATE/TIME FOR SALE OF SCRAP LOT THROUGH E-AUCTION

1 March/2025 GSDPNO22N23105 27-03-2025/11:00:00

nterested bidder are advised to bid through IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in. for registration, training, participation in e-auction Dy. Chief Material Manager/Pandu

ditional auction Date/Time for Sale of Scrap Lot through fer the jurisdiction of Dy CMM/Pandu for the month of Ma iven below as per following details:-

CE/NCES

| Refer Randle | Refe

#### **NORTHERN RAILWAY**

Ref: i) Tender Notice No.73/2024-2025 dated 19 ii) Tender No.15245204 due on 13/03/2025

In reference to above tender, Eligibility criteria has been revised. Al other terms & conditions remain unchanged. The Corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in. 773/202

SERVING CUSTOMER WITH A SMILE



# ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, SHANKAR VIHAR (NEAR MAHIPALPUR) DELHI CANTT-10 TELE NO - 011- 26153558/9 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EQI)

EOI is solicited from the leading vend washroom for Balvatika (Size 20 x25°). Site quoting the rates. Details for the above and school counter against DD/NEFT/RTGS/L duly filled be submitted by 23 Mar 2025.



#### VICTORIA HOSPITAL

VICTORIA HOSPITAL
Bangalore Medical College & Research Institute
Office of the Medical Superintendent, Victoria Hospital,

No: VH/GS/14/2024-25

Dated: 07-03-2025

#### E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

E-Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 - 2000 for the **Outsourcing of Manpower**, **Hardware**, **Software and Stationery Requirements** for the Implementation of ABARK at Victoria Hospital, BMCRI.

The tender documents may be downloaded from E-Procurement Portal Website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 12-03-2025 and Last Date for Submission of Tenders through E-Procurement Portal is 26-03-2025 upto 4.00 PM. Those tenders which are not submitted with EMD will be rejected

For further details contact Medical Superintendent, Victoria Hospital, Bengaluru. Sd/- Medical Superinte

Victoria Hospital, Bengaluru.

# PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

#### See Section 82 Cr.P.C. complaint has been made before me that accuse

Raju, S/o Girdhari Lal, R/o B-Block, Ramgarh, Jhangirpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 328/2019, U/s 33/38 Delhi Excise Act. P.S. Mahendra Park. Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Raju cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Raju has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid

the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Raju accused of P.S.

Mahendra Park, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 16.04.2025.

By Orde

Sh. Niharika Kumar Sharma Sh. Niharika Kumar Sharma Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate, North Room No. 117 Rohini Court, Delhi

#### NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

भारत 🖏 राजपत्र The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-आर.जे.-अ.-15052023-245879 CG-RJ-E-15052023-245879

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग-II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii) PART II-Section 3 - Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 2087] नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, मई, 15, 2023 / वैशाख 25, 1945 No. 2087] NEW DELHI, MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023/VAISAKHA 25, 1945

# MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS [North Western Railway (Construction Organization)] NOTIFICATION

NOTIFICATION

Jaipur, the 12" May, 2023
exercise of the powers cor
ys Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) (he section 20 F(6) c said Act), the Ce column (2) of the the said Act, with to lot Raiways Act, 1998 (24 of 1999) Inerdiater referred to as the Central Government hereby appoints the arbitrator renetioned in (1the Table below to perform the functions as such authority under with affect from the date of publication of this notification in the title, in respect of the special railway project of Rewari-Sadulpur way Line Project in the State of Haryana relating to District Column (3) of the said Table for the purpose of execution,

IABLE					
S.No.	Designation of Officer	Revenue District	State		
1	2	3	- 4		
1	Divisional Commissioner, Gurugram	Rewari	Haryana		

Varthana Finance Private Limited varthana (Formerly known as Thi stered Office at : No. 5BC-110, Var ck, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bar

POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule 8(1)) (F

#### Metro Railway, Kolkata

s invited by Principal Chief Engineer, Metro Rail behalf of the President of India for the following Renovation of RPF Office/Barracks at Rabi , Tollygaunge (G+3) and Kavi Subhas of Metro Rai nder Notice No.: Civil-2490-2024 (O

Follow us at: Metrorailwaykol metrorailkolkata

#### MEGHALAYA ENERGY CORPORATION LIMITED

"ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT"

SHAI SHORT ROUND ROAD SHILLONG-793 001,

#### Notice Inviting Request for Proposal

est for Proposal for the engagement of Internal Auditors of th subsidiary Companies of MeECL from reputed and experience firm/LLP of Chartered Accountants for the FY 2025-26 Please visit our website meecl.nic.in

(A. Sh

MIPR NO: 1957

Chief Accounts Officer

#### जस्थान स्कूल शिक्षा परिषद्

ा सं इ. सं सम्बन्धित प्रक्रिया जिला परियोजना समन्वयक, समग्र शिक्षा कार्यालय सम्बनि

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME STATION HEADQUARTERS (ECHS CELL) MATHURA PHONE: 0565-2470041, email: shipmahraf@echs.gov.in

GEM PORTAL NOTICE FOR EMPANELMENT OF LOCAL STORE/CHEMIST FOR

HATHRAS IN UTTAR PRADESH FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS

GEM BID NO: GEM/2025/B/5940583

Please refer advertisement in newspaper in Indian Express, Delhi Edition (English) and Amar Ujala, Agra Edition (Hindi) dated 17 Dec 2024. Online bids for the advertisement will be received via GeM Portal. The terms and conditions of tender documents can be downloaded from the GeM Portal Using Bid

No GEM/2025/B/5940583 where interested from 11 Mar 2025 to 10 Apr 2025. The

ES TO ECHS POLYCLINIC MATHURA, ALIGARH &

### NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

#### **NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY** CORRIGENDUM EMPANELMENT NOTICE

plications were are invited for MPANELMENT OF SIDING ONSULTANTS FOR PROVIDING ONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ough "FFE" Document No. CEG/FFE

Dy. Chief Engineer (Gen. North Western Railway, Jaipur

Authorised Officer (Canara Bank)

# last date for bid submission is 10 Apr 2025 1200 hours. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME STATION HQ (ECHS CELL) MATHURA CANT PHORE: 0565-247001, 8970-60374 e-mail: shigmathura@echs.gov.in EMPLOYMENT NOTICE Please refer advertisement for employment in newspaper in indiant press, 20th licition (English) and Amar Ujala, Agra dated 17 January 2025. The details of

Min Work Experience Desirable Min Qualification (VFs)

| Continue | Co

For Terms and Condition, Application Form & Remunneration. Kindly see our website www.echs.gov.in. For additional details.
 Last date of receipt of application is 01 April 2025 by 1400 hrs.

## 🛹 Canara Bank

Notice under Sec. 13 (2) read with Sec. 13 (3) & 13(8) of Securitiza and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 2 of 2002) curitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets

S. No.	Name of Branch Name & Add. of Borrower/ Guarantor	Nature of Loan Sanction Amt. (In Lakh)	Description of Immovable Property	Date of NPA/Date of Demand Notice	Total Outstanding Amount
1.	Muzaffarpur II Branch Borrower - Anoop Flower Meel, Prop. Guddi Devi, Prahladpur Musahari, Dholi (Moraul), Muzaffarpur - 483119, Mob - 5006010607, Proprietor - Guddi Devi, Co Anii Mahno, Ward No. 6, Prahladpur, Dholi (Moraul), Muzaffarpur - 483119, Mob - 187416-508, Morator - 483119, Mob - 187416-508, Morator - 508119, Mob - 187416-508, Marian - 508119, Mob - 187416-50819, Morator - 508119, Mob - 187416-50819, Mob - 187416	AGRI TL Rs. 24,53,220/- Ram Sah and Others, E West-Khesra No. 2075, Loc Anchal-Mushahri, Dist – M	Area 20.0 Decimal (5 Kattha), Boundary:- North - Shivchandra Sharma, South- Khesra No, 2066 Sita ast- Khesra No, 2062 Sokhi Sah, action:- R T No 417, Mauza Prahaladpur, uzaffarpur - 843119,	01.03.2025	Rs. 24,74,766.71 as on 10.03.2025

# केनरा बैंक 📣 Canara

RECOVERY & LEGAL SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE
Dumri Road, Gobarsahi, Muzaffarpur, Dist- Muzaffarpur, Bihar- 842002, Mob: 8437350570
PROPERTY FOR E-AUCTION

E-AUCTION Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets an Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision 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) and Guarantor (s) that the below describe immovable property mortgaged / hypothecated / Pledged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive / physical possession which has been taken by the Authorsed Officer of Canara Bank will be sold on "As a lwerie is", "As is what is" and "Mhatever ther

is	on 29.03.2025. Details are as under:								
SI. No.	Name / Add. Contact No. of the Branch	Name and Address of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor (s)	Outstanding in Rs.	Details of Property	Reserve Price (R: /EMD/Bid Multipli Amt./A/c No./ IFSC 0				
1	Gyan Bharathi School Branch (17441) Bihar. Mob. 9471628448 Borrower N Agency Pri Income Tax Darbhanga- Properitor-2 Nazir Ahem (Near Whit Lalbagh, Disl Guarantor-2 Khatun Wo	Kalighat Senapat (Near White House), Ward No. 21, Po. L. Darbings - 846004, Guaranto Marings - 846004, Guaranto Alhar, Oist-Darbings - 846004, Guaranto Alhar, Oist-Darbings - 846004, G. 2. WA Paramount Mobile op-Sahnawaz Ahemad, Near Chowk, Mirjapur Road, Dist-846004  - Sahnawaz Ahemad, Sio- Late ad, Mohalla - Kalighat Senapat House), Ward No. 21, Po. 1, Po. 1, Wortgapor 2, Bibl Mariyam Sahnawaz Ahamad, Mohalla - enapat, Po. Latbagh, Dist-	31,18,198/- as on 05.04.2021 +interest & Other Cost thereon till realization albagh, Dist -1 - Khurshid - IH Barai, PO- Rs. 32,64,980/- as on 05.04.2021	For Borrower No.1 - Mrs Agro Traders, All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Sahnawaz Ahemad S/o- Late Nazir Ahemad. As per ded Khesara Non-17949, 17951, 17952, 17953, 17916, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17997, 17916, 17917, 17916, 17917, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17918, 17916, 17997, 17998, 7aux IV-20331, Jamband Jones Chengal, Per Service No. 2 - Mrs Paramount Mobile Agency, All that part and parcel of the property consisting in the name of Bibli Maryjam Khatum Wio-Sahnawaz Ahamad. All that part and parcel of the property measuring 4 dhur, Municipal Knesara No-17949, 17951, 17952, 17955, 17915, 17916, 17997, 17998, Tauxi No-3331, Jambandi No-54, Ward No-2018, Naka No.5, Pagana-Haweli Darbhanga, Senaga Saha Susta, Basal Basal, Boundary: North - Girja Nand Jha, South-Rasal, Basal-Ajrichmad, West-Járhama, Chasta, Basal, Bas	Reserve Price for Combined property Rs. 71,37,000/- Rs. 7,13,700/- Rs. 10,000/- A/c - 2092724: IFSC Code - CNRB000174				
		Last Date of EMD 27.03	.2025 For De	tailed terms and conditions of the sale,					

Authorised Officer (Canara Bank) epaper indianexpress.com

🕼 उत्तर प्रदेश पावर ट्रॉन्समिशन कारपोरेशन लिए

शुद्धिपत्र E-Tender Notice No. 01/ECTD/Agra/2024-25 पर ऑकत निविद्या को व्यक्ति का समय बुटिवा १ १००० को अधिक हो गया है जिसे निविद्य को खोलने का समय बुटिवा १ १००० को आधिक हो गया है जिसे निविद्य को खोलने का समय १२०० को पढ़ा जाती ३ जय सभी शर्त व्यवस्था १ १ १ विद्या सम्बाद्धित http://uppicl.org से भी प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। 'चार हिस में विजर्क वयार्थि आधिकारी आधिकता, विद्या जानगर पार्थम खाल्ड-आपार्थ उठाव पार्व १ इत्या हो भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त अधिक पार्थ कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त भी स्वाप्त भी स्वाप्त भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त भी स्वाप्त भी स्वाप्त भी स्वाप्त कारपार्थ भी स्वाप्त स

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E-Tender Notice

UJVN LLD, Dikopathar (Definadurs) invites sealed tenders from insureaum parties. Brief summary of tenders is given below.

Tender No: 18/EE/PCM-DKP/TN/2024-25, 19/EE/PCM-DKP/TN/2024-25, 19/EE/PCM-DKP/TN/DKP/TN/2024-25, 19/EE/PCM-DKP/TN/2024-25, 19/EE/PCM-DKP/TN/2024-25, 19/EE/P

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

# U.P. RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD. HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION KASHIND IK (LIGARH) E-TENDER NOTIGE

Superintending Engineer, ECMC, "ETPS, Kasimpur, (Aligarh)

1- E-Tender No ET-08/ECMC/CMD-IHTPS/2024-2025, Online
bids invited for "Monitoring of environment parameters a
HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh)" E-tender has been uploaded or
60.3 0.20 26 on https://elender.up.nicia. Estimated cost of voris
is Rs 2.3.55.87.200 only (excluding GST). Time Period is two
years. The Earnest money is Rs. 47000.00. The last date of
submission of e-bids 09.04.2025 upto 14.400 hours.

submission of e-bids 9.9.0.4.2025 upto 14:00 hours. Superintending Engineer, C&MC-V, DTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh) 2- Tender No. STET-16/0&MC-V/CHD-IJHTPS/2024-2025, In Coal Handling Division-II 'D' TPS, Work of Painting of Structure and auxiliaries in Coal Handling Area of DTPS HTPS, Kasimpur, For Period of 60 Months. The same will Upload on e-procurement system of UP Government <a href="https://etender.up.nic.in">https://etender.up.nic.in</a> on dated 05.03.2025. Esimated cost Rs 37.9 1 Lacs. Earnest Money Rs 78,000-r, Last date of E-bid Submission 26.03.2025 up to 14:00 Hrs.

nrs. Superintending Engineer, ECMC, Kasimpur (Aligarh)

Superintending Engineer, EcMic, Kasimpur (Aligam)
3- Short Tem E-Inder No. 17/ECM/CEMDH/HTPS/2024-25,
Online - ebids are invited for the "Housekeeping works in
plant/lownship area at Harduagan; Thermal Power Station,
Kasimpur, Aligarh, UTTAR PRADESH\*. E-Tender has been
uploaded on 04.03 2025 on http://letender.up.nic.in, Estimated
cost of work Rs. 193.19 lakh (IGST Extra), Time Period 24 months,
Eamest money Rs. 3.9,0,000.00, Last date of E-bid Submission
26.03.2025 (upto 14:00 hrs.)
4-E-Tender No. 18/ECMIC/ECMD-JHTPS/2024-25. Online e-bids

28.03.2022 (upto 14:00 lbs.)

28.03.2022 (upto 14:00 lbs.)

4.E-Tander No. 18ECMic/ECMD-I/HTPS/2024-25, Online e-bids were invited for the works of 'Construction of Shed. Providing & fixing of channel gate, interfocking bids, work et. in: colory area at Harduagan; Themal Power Station, Aligarh, UTTAR PRADESH', Which will be uploaded on http://etender.up.nilc.in.on.06.3.2025. Estimated Cost of works it 8.6. 70 Lac. Time Period G3 months. Estimated Cost of works it 8.6. 70 Lac. Time Period G3 months. Earnest Money is Rs. 13,500.00 Last date of bid submission 14.4.2025 (14.00 fbrs)

Superintending Engineer, OPERATION & MAINTENANCE CIRCLE-II, 'D'TPS, HTPS, KASIMPUR (Aligarh)

CIRCLE-II. DTTS. HTPS. KASIMPUR (Aligant)
5- ET-13/O&MC-IIBMO-IIDOTPS/24-25, Online s-bids are invited
to the wind from the control of the co

17:00 Hrs.

7: ET-15/05/MC-I/IBMD-I/IDTPS/24-25, Online e-bids are invited for the work of "Deployment of Radiography Team with remote operated Gamma Radiography Shots, thickness survey and Phase array ultrasonic testing during Overhauling of Unit 9, 2X2560MW, HTSP, Kasimpur". E-Tender will be uploaded on 11.03.2025 on <a href="http://letnder.up.nic.in.Estimated Cost of works is Rs. 20,220,250 on only. Time period 60 Days Bar to Bar r. E.M.O. cost Rs. 40,000.00. Last date of submission of Tender is 15.04.2025 at 17:00 Hrs. 15.04.2025 at 17:00 Hrs. Superintending Engineer, MMC, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh)

superintending Engineer, MMC, HTPS, Kasimpur (Aligarh)
8. E-Tender No. 8. Name of Division: ET-414MMC/PDIMTPS/2025, Online e-bids are invited for the Procurement of Push Button 8. Microswitch Element for soot blowers and vall blowers and Smart positioner for pneumatic actuators for DTPS. E-Tender will be uploaded on dated 10.3.2025 on https://etender.up.nic.ln. Estimated cost: Rs.3,97.600.00, EMD: Rs. 4.000.00, Last date of tender submission is 16.04.2025 up to 14.00 Hrs.

14.00 Hrs.

9 - E-Tender No.-ET 15/MMC/PD-II/HTPS/2025, Online e-bids were invited for the 'Refilling supply of hydrogen gas in DTPS HTPS departmental Hydrogen gas cylinders and repaining renting, vacuuming & purging works on empty DTPS HTPS departmental Hydrogen gas cylinders for EMD-I DTPS, HTPS departmental Hydrogen gas cylinders for Material Supply is Rs. 15.92,115.00. Earnest Money is Rs. 31.500.00, Last date of bid submission 07.4.2025 (16:00 Hrs) Rs. 31,500.00, Last date of bid submission 07.4,2025 (16:00 Hrs)

De -Ender No: ET-16/MMC/PD-IMTPS/12025, online bids are invited for "Supply of Lab Instrument for Chemical Lab of 0G&CD
DTPS, HTPS, Kanispur, Tender will be uploaded on 11.0 3.025 on 16:00 on portal http://etender.up.nic.in Estimated cost is Rs 87,100.00 only, Earnest money is Rs, 1600.00. The bid online submission End date is 14.04.2025 (16:00 Hrs).

11- E-Tender No: ET-17/MMC/PD-I/HTPS/2025, online bids ar invited for "Supply of Castable Refractory for bottom Ash Hopper for O&M of Ash Haddling Plant, CTPS, DTPS & ETPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Tender will be uploaded on 11.03.2025 on 16.00 on portal <a href="http://tender.up.nici.in.estimated">http://tender.up.nici.in.estimated</a> cost is Rs 6,42.470.00 only, Earnest money is Rs 12600.00. The bid online submission only, Earnest money is Rs 12600.00. The bid online submission End date is 14.04.2025 (16:00 Hrs).

12- E-Tender No: ET-18/MMC/PD-I/HTPS/2025, online bids are invited for "Supply of Submersible Pump for Ash Handling Division CTPS, HTPS, Kasimpur, Tender will be uploaded orth 10.3.2025 or 16:00 on portal http://fetender.up.nic,in\_Estimated cost is Rs 4.36.800.00 only. Earnest money is Rs 8600.00. The bid online submission End date is 14.04.2025 (19:00 Hrs).

Note- E-Tender No. ET-14/15/16/17/18. Eligibility Conditions: Onl reputed Manufacturers/ their Authorized Dealer can participate in

Note: Tender specification may be downloaded from the website (http://dender.up.cin.cin.) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website (www.upruml.org. Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender considerable of the specific of the sp Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)

"Save Electricity for Nation"

# CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED (A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Family 4.7

## GeM tender Id: GEM/2025/B/5948531

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

CMRL invites online bids for the tender "Secondary Suspension Assembly for Rolling Stock Maintenance Activities"

Tender documents can be downloaded from https://gem.gov.in. Chief General Manager (RS, S&T)

#### बिहार 擽 सरकार

जल संसाधन विभाग क अभियंता का कार्यालय

अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सचना संख्या -04/2024-25 (केवल ई— निविदा पद्धति के अनुसार बेबसाईट www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

2.17	काव का विवरण :-					
गुप स०	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्कलित राशि ( रू० में)	अग्रधन की राशि ( रू० में) (ऑन लाईन अथवा बैक गारंटी मोड में मुगतेय)	परिमाण विपन्न का मृत्य (आरव्यर्पणीय) (कंवल ऑन साईन मोड में भुगतेय) क० में	बेल्ट्रॉन को देय बिंड प्रोसेरिंग की (अप्रत्यर्वणीय) (केंदल औन लाईन मोड में भुगतेय) रू० में	कार्य समाप्ति की तिथि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	चरित्रारी वितरणी एवं नरमतर्गज वितरणी का गाद की सकाई कार्य तथा प्रदेशनी वितरणी का एक्वाडक्ट एवं बेनसारा चय वितरणी के SLR Bridge का मरम्मति कार्य।	27,22,126.00	54500.00	5000.00	590.00	25.05.2025

Email id –ee.irrigationdivision.npg@gmail.com मोबाईल नंत –9534733672 / 7463889216 दिनांक- 08 03 202

दिनांक-17.03.2025 से 24.03.2025 के अपराहन 3 बजे तक दिनांक-25.03.2025 के अपराह्न 3.90 मध्ये केवल वेबसाईट पर। os तकरीकी बीड खोजने की विधि एवं समय — सक्षम प्रवाधिकारी द्वारा बाद में घोषित की जाएगी। केवल येवसाईट पर। केवल येवसाईट पर।

07. वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :--

 निविदा की वैद्यता की अवधि बिस्तृत जानकारी state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर मी देखी जा सकती है। PR- 21476 ( W R D ) 2024-25

नशे की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार।

(ई0 कन्हेंया प्रसाद) कार्यपालक अभियंता सिंघाई प्रमंडल, नरपतगंज (अर्रा मो0 गं0-7463889216

(on website www.eproc2.bibar.gov.in) दिनांक- 20.03.2025 समय 13.00 बजी स्थान- कार्यालय कस परियोजना निदेशमः बुकतो, (एया) दिनाक-28/03/2025 के 17.00 बजी तक

## विहार शहरी आधारभृत संरचना विकास निगम लि**०** प्राक्तिकार (सिंत क्लास, क्लास) (बिहार सरकार का उपकम) परियोजना निवेशक का कार्यालय, जहानाबाद-अरवल। Mob- 829276391, E-mail- pdbuidcojehanabad@email.con

निविदा आमंत्रण सचना

मीनेता संस्था-0/2024-2025 निविदा आर्थत्रण सूचना (ई-टेडपि सार्थत्रण सूचना (ई-टेडपि सीचना निरंक, दुक्को, (क्रव्स) विज्ञान तमा का तम एवं सा गया समाहरमात्मय परिसर में डी०आर०डी०ए० के सामने, गया। दिन्सेम - 17/03/2025 दिन्सेम 17/03/2025 से 28/03/2025 के 17:00 बजे तक ।

निविदा आमंत्रम सूचना निर्मत की तिथि निविदा कागजत उत्तनलोंड करने की अवधि 4 प्री बीड मीटिंग का समय स्थान / तिथि

तकनीकी बीड सोलने की तिथि /समय वितीय बीट खोलने की तिथि/समय

a अक्रमन, सभी शमध-पत्र,Exatteg Commitment (मृत में), परिशा विषत्र के मूख का बैंक द्वापट जमा करने की अंदिम दिखिं/ समय एवं स्थान

कार्य का विवरण:--कार्व का नाम 1,76,12,913.00 3,52,300.00 17,700.00 As Per Ep

नेतः – 1. Bidders should submit Bid Processing fee through on line payment as per amount generated on website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in १० विस्तुत निविदा आमंत्रन सूनना विमानीय गेनसाईट www.buidco.in एवं www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in प

n हैं। state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। UDCO] 2024-25 युडको, (अरवल) नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार



अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना सं0–01/2024–25

(केवल ई-टेन्डर पद्धति के अनुसार वेबसाईट http://eproc2bihar.gov.in पर)

रहे पुष	कार्य का नाम	प्राक्थित शर्वि (लाख रूप्या में)	अक्रम ही चित्र (स्वयं में)	परिमाण विवत्र का मूच्य (सप्रत्यवेगीय संपया संबत्त जीनलाईन नोड में मुनतेय)	बेस्ट्रॉन करे देव बिंह प्रोतेसिंग की (अप्रत्यंगीय रूपमा केवल ऑनसाईन मोठ में मुगतेय)	जिला का नाम	कार्य समिति की कार्यि
1.	2	3.	- 10	5.	6.	7.	8.
10	क्षार्येश क्रिमिट्ट के क्रिमीय 600 में 1006 का बंध मान महाई जार करते. उसके का बंध मान महाई जार करते. उसके मान महाई जार करते. उसके मान महाई जार करते. उसके महाई अपने करते के उसके करते. उसके मान महाई जार करते. उसके मान महाई अपने अपने करते. उसके मान महाई अपने अपने अपने अपने अपने अपने अपने अपने	8133	127100	10002.00	3540.00	परिवम बम्बारम	31.05.2035

तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय

कार्यभावक वार् 08.03.2025 दिनांक 24.03.2025 10.30 बजे पूर्वाहन से 27.03.2025 के 3 बजे अपराहन तक सिर्फ मेक्स्काईट http://eproc2bihar.gov.in पर) 28.03.2025 को समय 3:30 बजे अधराह्न । (सिर्फ बेबसाईट http://eproc2bihar.gov.in पर)

, वित्तीय बीढ खोलने की तिथि एवं समय

: सक्षम पदाधिकारी द्वारा बाद में घोषित की जायेगी। (शिर्फ बेबसाईट http://eproc2bihar.gov.in पर) (शिर्फ बेबसाईट http://eproc2bihar.gov.in पर)

कार्यपालक अभियंता, तिरहत नहर प्रमंडल-2. बेतिया।

विशेष जानकारी प्राप्त करने हेतु बेबसाईट http://eproc2bihar.gov.in एव http://wrd.bihar.gov.in

state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है। कार्यपालक अभिवंता तिस्हुत नहर प्रमंडल-2, बेतिया नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार



GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

#### **HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT**

Tiruvannamalai Highways, (Construction & Maintenance) Circle TENDER NOTICE

T.N. No.31 / 2024-25 / HDO / Dated : 11.03.2025

For and on behalf of the Governor of Tamil Nadu. Percentage tender under Two cover system pertaining to Tiruvannamalai (H) C&M Division through online only will be received upto 23.04.2025 / 12.00 hours by the Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Tiruvannamalai Circle for CRIDP 2024-25 (5 Works).

Details of works, approximate value of works, EMD, availability of tender documents and all other details are available from 19.03.2025 onwards in the Government website https://tntenders.gov.in. If any Changes / Corrections in the tender, it will be published in the above Government website only.

DIPR/ 962 /TENDER/2025

Superintending Engineer (H), C&M, Circle, Tiruvannamalai.

#### बिहार 🌺 सरकार

ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग बिहार ग्रामीण पथ विकास अभिकरण क्रांति मार्ग बैरक नं0–03 (हज भवन के बगल में), पटना–800001 अति अल्पकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

विहार ग्रामीण पत्र दिवस विकास अभिकरण, ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग, विहार सरकार के नियंत्रणाधीन एक एंजेसी है। विहार दिवस 2025 के अवसर पर दिनाक 22 मार्च 2025 में 24 मार्च 2025 ते कर गींधी नैदान, पटना में ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग का पैवेतियन स्थापित करने से संबंधित कार्य का निष्पादन विहार ग्रामीण प्रथ विकास अभिकरण द्वारा किया जाना है। इस कार्य हेतु बिहार दिवस पैवेतियन सं संबंधित कार्य का विशास दिवस पैवेतियन से संबंधित कार्य के विस्तृत विवरणी निवेदा अभिलेख में वर्णित है।

वाशत हो।

उन्न कार्य हेतु आवश्यक अहंता रखने वाले इन्धुक फर्मी/संस्थानों से वांधित कागजातों के साथ अपर मुख्य कार्यपालक पदाधिकारी-लह-सचिव, ब्राडा के पद नाम से दिनांक-18032025 को आपाहन 300 बजे तक निम्मांकित हार्ती के साथ मुहस्त्वेद पुर दिक्काफ में तहनकी पुर दिनीय निविद्या असा-अता निकाल में) निविद्या आमित किया जाता है। तकनीकी निविद्या दिनांक-18032025 को अपराहन 330 बजे खोला

निविदा की शर्ते विस्तृत निविदा अभिलेख में वर्णित है, जिसे ग्रामीण कार्य विभाग के बेवसाइट से प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

PR. No. 21654 (RWD) 2024-25

प्रशासनिक पदाधिकारी, बिहार ग्रामीण पथ विकास अभिकरण, पटना

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

## गया नगर निगम

ई-कोटेशन आमंत्रण सूचना सं0-E-Quotation-12/2024-25 (ई-टेंडरिंग हास https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in) विज्ञापन दाला का पदनाम एवं पता : नगर आयुक्त, गया नगर निगम

. कोटेशन आमंत्रण सूचना निर्गत की तिथि : दिनांक— 10.03.2025 . कोटेशन प्रारम्भ करने की तिथि / समय : दिनांक— 01.04.2025 को 10:00 बजे से

(on website https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in ) 4. प्री बिंड भीटिंग का समय स्थान / तिथिं ः समय 11:00 बजे, स्थान—कार्यालय, गया नगर निगग

विनांक— 02.04.2025 5. संवेदक द्वारा कोटेशन अपलोड करने की : दिनांक— 08.04.2025 के 15:00 बजे तक (on website https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

अंतिम तिथि / समय 6. तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि/समय : दिनांक- 11.04.2025 के 15:30 बजे से

(on website: https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in) : तकनीकी बीड निष्पादन के बाद। 7.वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि / समय (on website https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

0	योजना का नाम	परिमाण विपन्न का मूल्य (Through online payment)	Bid Processin g Fee (Through online payment)	कार्य अवधि
	गया नगर निगम अंतर्गत वार्ड संख्या 01 से 20 में पूर्व से अधिष्ठापित स्ट्रीट लाईट, मिनी हाईमास्ट लाईट, हाईमास्ट लाईट, एल0ई०डी० लाईट के मरम्मति एवं रख-रखाब का कार्य	10000	AS PER EPROC	03 Year
	गया नगर निगम अंतर्गत वार्ड संख्या 21 से 37 में पूर्व से अधिष्ठापित स्ट्रीट लाईट, मिनी हाईमास्ट लाईट, हाईमास्ट लाईट, एल0ई०डी० लाईट के मरम्मति एवं रख-रखाव का कार्य	10000	AS PER EPROC	03 Year
	गया नगर निगम अंतर्गत वार्ड संख्या 38 से 53 में पूर्व से अधिष्ठापित स्ट्रीट लाईट, मिनी हाईमास्ट लाईट, हाईमास्ट लाईट, एल0ई0डी0 लाईट के मरम्मति एवं रख-रखाव का कार्य	10000	AS PER EPROC	03 Year

#### नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

#### बिहार 🌋 सरकार

| 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 1504 | 3 अरयल जिलान्तर्गत मृद्धिका सिंह कॉलेज के पास मिजीपुर, किंजर में रपोर्ट्स कॉम्पलेक्स का निर्माण कार्य As per 15 website (पुन्द्रप्र) समा मुख्यमंत्री खेल विकास योजनान्तर्गत रपोर्ट्स कॉम्प्लेक्स, जहानाबाद के परिसर में विभिन्न खेल अवसंस्वनाओं का निर्माण कार्य। 727,95,74,752.00 गया T27,46,50,097,00 ₹37,46,500.00 ₹10,000.00 As per 15 website (모델링) 학리

PR. No. 021529 (B&C ) 2024-25

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epaper.indianexpress.com

मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, विहार राज्य भवन निर्माण निगम लि0, पटना



#### **Urban Development and Housing Department**

1" Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, patna-800015 (Tel: 0612- 2215580, Fax: 2217059 Email: urban

#### 13/SBM-01/2025943 Tender Cancellation Notice

Tender Cancellation Notice P.R. No.-018084 (B&C) 2024-25,

Due to some unavoidable reason the Tender of "Request for Setting Up of Project Management Unit (PMU) at State Level for SBM (U) Scheme. \*\* (PR No.-018084 (B&C) 2024-25 is being cancelled.

Deputy Secretary, Urban Development and

PR. No. 021653 (Urban) 2024-25

SB

Housing Department

संपूर्ण सुरक्षा केन्द्र में आएँ, नि:शुल्क एच.आईवी. व यौन जनित रोग जाँच एवं उपचार पाएँ।

## Govt. 🌋 of Bihar

SOUTH BIHAR POWER DISTRIBUTION CO. LTD., PATNA Registered Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-21. ed Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, A Govt. of Bihar Undertaking CIN No. U40109BR2012SGC018890

Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for Insurance Coverage of Assets And Properties of South Bihar Power Distribution Company Limited.

(Through e-procurement mode only – http://eprocz.bihar.gov.in)
Short Tender Notice No - 2TPR/SBPDCL/2029.

Online Tenders are invited by CFO-cum-GM (F&A), South Bihar Power Distribution Company Ltd. from eligible biodiers to participate in the bidding process for Insurance Coverage of Assets And Properties of South Bihar Power Distribution Company

Limited.				
Sale of tender document	Any time from 17.03.2025 (16:00 Hrs.) to 07.04.2024 (12:00 Hrs)			
Pre Bid Meeting	24.03.2025 (15:00 Hrs)			
Deadline for submission of bids	Online submission: 07.04.2025 (12:00 Hrs.)			
Date & time for Bid opening (Technical Bid Only)	Bid opening 07.04.2025 (15:00 Hrs.)			
Date of opening of Price Part	To be notified after Technical Bid Evaluation.  (http://eproc2.bibar.gov.in.)			

While participating in e-tendering process, the agencies shall have to get themselve registered to get user ID, Password and digital signature. This will enable them access the Website: http://.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.

The RFP Bid documents are available at website http://.eproc2.bihar.gov.in/

E-tendering introduced in SBPDCL for tenders above Rs. 25 lacs. For registration log no to http://eproc2.blina.gov.in/ and e-Procurement Help Desk First Floor, mjunction services limited, RJ Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura,Ashiyana Road, P.S.-Shastri Nagar, Patna-800014, Bihar at 18005726571.

वेस्तृत जानकारी www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। PR. No. 21534 (B & C) 2024-25

(Pradip Maji) General Manager (F&A)

### नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।



Jharkhand Urja Sancharan Nigam Ltd.

(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001704)
General Manager, Contracts & Materials, Multi-Laterial Funding Projects
JUSNL Building, Kusan Colony, Doranda, Ranchi – 834002 (Jharkhand)
Email: piujusnl@gmail.comVisit us on: www,jharkhandtenders.gov.in
(E-mail:ecjusnl@gmail.com)

#### e-TENDER EXTENSION NOTICE

NIT No.	Name of work	Last date of submission/	Date of Opening of
	(Request for Bid (RfB))	uploading bid by the bidder	technical part of Bid
366/PR/	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing &	24.03.2025	25.03.2025
JUSNL/	Commissioning of 132/33kV GIS Substations	upto	at
2024-25	at Chhatarpur (Leftover Work)	16:00 Hrs	16:30 Hrs
367/PR/	Design, Supply, Installation, Testing &	24.03.2025	25.03.2025
JUSNL/	Commissioning of 132/33kV GIS Substations	upto	at
2024-25	at Sundamagar (Leftover Work)	16:00 Hrs	16:30 Hrs

PR 348347 Jharkhand Uria Sancharan Nigam Ltd (24-25) D

Rajasthan Urban Drinking Water Sewerage and I (A Government of Rajasthan Undertaking) Old Working Women Hostel, Jaipur-302015 Ph: 0141-2742240; E-mail: rudsko@rajasthan.gov.in, ruifdco@

#### NIB No. 12/2024-25

Notice inviting online bid for Sewerage works in Jalore under Budget Ghoshna on Drinking Water Sewerage & infrastructure Corporation Limited (RUDSICO), a Governor of Rajasthan through e es online unconditional bids on behalf of the Governor of Rajasthan through e nan gov in from eligible bidders in accordance with the RTPP Act 2012 and RTPP Rules 2013

S. No.	Name of Work	Project Cost Amount in Cr.	Bid Security Amount in Cr.	Period of completion
1	Jalore Sewerage work	24.98	0.4996	24 months

RUDSICO, Jaipu



कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता चतुर्थ वृत, लोक निर्माण विभाग, रुद्रपुर (ऊधम सिंह नगर)



राष्ट्रीय प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक निविदा (e- tendering)

महामहिम राज्यपात उत्तराखंड की ओर से अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, चतुर्थ चृत, लो.नि.चि. रुपुर (कथम सिंह नगर) हारा निम्नलिखि कार्य हेतु ई-टेडरिंग हारा टू-बिट बिट सिस्टम के अन्तर्गत निविद्य आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविद्य से संबंधित सभी सुचनाएं वेबसाईन

क्र. सं.	कार्यका नाम	धरोहर धनराशि (रु. (लाख में)	निविदा प्रपत्र की लागत	निविदा की वैधता (दिवस)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि (माह में)	ठेकेदार की श्रेणी
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	वार्षिक अनुरक्षण के अंतर्गत वर्ष 2025- 26 में काशीपुर टाकुरद्वारा मार्ग में बी.सी. द्वारा नवीनीकरण का कार्य।	5.20	5000.00 + 18% GST	120 दिन	०६ माह	केंद्र/राज्य सरकार के विभाग/उपक्रम में मार्ग कार्यों हेतु श्रेणी A एवं उच्चतर में पंजीकृत

अधीक्षण अभियंत

Establishment of New self supported wireless Tower with Fabrication Erection & Installation Commissioning (20,25,30 and 45 Mr.) कार्योलय पुलिस दूरसंचार मुख्यालय, मध्यप्रदेश,

भदभदा रोड, भोपाल.-462003 Fax No. 0755-2443674, E-mail: ssp\_radio@n

ई-निविदा सूचना

सामग्री का नाम रुपये 10,000 Establishment of New self supported wireless Tower with Fabrication Erection & Installation Commissioning (As per technical specification: Annexure-A) 47 नग 9,00,000/

Amousurs.A)

लिंदा प्रथम प्रमुख विशेष पुष्का क्रियों के विशेषी में स्थानी स्रोम जो हो न की राम में हमने प्रथम को पूर से आलेगी प्रमुख किये को मी तमित पुष्का किये को मी तमित प्रथम को प्रश्न के कार महान के कार के कार महान के किए के कार म

#### RONALDO SCORES FOR AL-NASSR

Cristiano Ronaldo was on target as Saudi Arabia's Al-Nassr beat Iran's Esteghlal 3-0 to progress to the quarterfinals of the AFC Champions League Elite. —Al

#### **HOME-GROWN CHAMPION**

# Making of India's AX-factor

Studious and skilled, Axar Patel used the serene Nadiad landscape to hone a game that unshackled his batting

EVERY AXAR Patel anecdote in the city that raised him begins with the same question: "Have you seen the canal?" It's hard to miss the winding channel that runs through the centre of Nadiad, lending the dusty, arid place a soothing touch.

this through the centre of Natiat, renuing the dusty, and place a soothing touch. It Right on its edge, on a tree-laden dirt. Right on its edge, on a tree-laden dirt. As the standard of the single standard the single single standard the single single standard the single si

meal with tea — less water, ginger, a little sugar and some cardamm. For the 15-20 years that he's been coming here, he's had his tea made the same way. 
The rest of the day would be spent at the cricket ground — located inside his college campus — less than 500 metres from here. 
By evening, Axar would be back at the canal, pouring Thums Up in a glass and emplying a packet of sing brilging in it. "He survived on that," laughs Keval Patel, Axar's childhood friend; still unable to wap his head around one of India's fittest cricketer's eating habits. Even today, "says Keval, "when he returns home, you can spot Axar at the canal, relaxing with his friends over endless cups of tea. To the world, he might be 'Axar', for us, he is still the same, old 'Akshar' what's in a name, you ask? The man's Complete identity. 
'Adstar' remains a simpleton at home, a lange-hearted fired and ar furthess pranister who binges on padilias' (tiny snack packets) and home-made the halardipped in ginger tea.

and home-made bhaakri dipped in ginger tea. On the cricket field, 'Axar' — the spelling change thanks to an administrative error at school -devours wickets and feeds on big hits.

Like the T20 World Cup last year, throughout India's Champions Trophy cam-paign, Axar had an out-sized impact on the outcomes in a typically understated manner, very much personifying his city. In some ways, if Nadiad defined Axar, Axar is now redefining Nadiad, bringing the foreotten town back into prominence.

Axar is now recletining Nadiad, Innigning the forgotten town back into prominence. Nadiad, in railway parlance, is a short two-minute sop between the country's milk capital, Anand, and trading hub, Ahmedabad, in the history books, it's a mere answer to trivia as the birthplace of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's hirthplace. The ancient city continues to draw be-lieves to its area of the patents of the linear parlaments.

lievers to its nearly 200-year-old temple and aspirants at many of its reputed education institutes. But on the 22-yards, it has always been dwarfed by Baroda and Saurashtra,

been dwarfed by Baroda and Saurashtra, places with proper cricketing heritage, Engineering, not cricket, might have been Axar's calling too if not for his father, Rajeshbhai, who sent him to the city's only ground to improve his fitness — not in terms of losing weight. Axar in his childhood was slender than he is right now, but to gain muscle. "We met for the first time at the ground," says Keval. "As is the norm, for a counle of days we were made to nur hans.

ground, "says Keval." As is the norm, for a couple of days, we were made to run laps. Axar got bored and began bunking. He'd leave home wearing whites but goto another place to play tensib-ball cricket." One morning. Rajesthbhai swung by at the groundonly tobe surprised by his son. "Proper podi hari (he had it properly)." Keval says in Gujanti. "After that, he never bunked practice." Axar didn't have to. He completely in-

mersed himself in his new routine, not knowing that the 2km stretch from the canal to his home, with the cricket ground and his



He didn't want any functions. He requested me to gather all the academy boys and girls at the ground and have a session with them. He not only shared his life experiences with them but also told stories behind the World Cup

college on the way, would shape his life.
It's where he would learn his craft, continue to shine academically, make lifelong friendships, meet his childhood sweetheart whom he'd eventually marry and build a new home that, unsurprisingly, is a short walk from the canal.

The wider cricketing world might have woken up to his batting exploits at No. 5 only wo after Gautam Cambhir promoted him to experiment with left-right combinations, strengthen the hasting depth and provide the captain with more bowling options. But those who have warded him grow since his childhood are hardly surprised. For, he has always played in that position — and rarely failed.

"Axar bowled pace in school competi-

coach, "He had long strides but didn't have

dismissed while attempting those shots in dismissed while attempting those shots in successive matches, wasting his good starts. Some selectors wanted to drop him as a pun-ishment for his reddess shots. But a couple of us backed him, advised him to be more ju-dicious with his shot selection." He was retained for the final match against Saurashtra in Rajkot. "And he scored a century there," adds Keval. "Since then, he has never looked back. Bowling was some-

thing he was always confident of doing well. But contributions with the bat have given

day, we lost 2-3 balls and by the end of the ses-

coach. "He had long strides but didn't have enough leg strength and would sometimes fall over while releasing the ball. When he would get tired, he'd swirch to spin: That's when he would et he'ne stride to spin: That's when he would et him him had spin-bowling all-rounder but in his mind. Asar was never in doubt that batting remained his predominant craft. "He enjoyed playing loffed shots," says former Gujarat Ranji Trophy player and selector Bharat Mistry. "Once, during the Under-16 West Zone tournaments, he was dismissed while attempting those shots in

But contributions with the bat have given him more pleasure."
Around four years ago, during the phase when he wasn't getting consistent game time. Axar returned to the ground where he began his journey, and spent 'three-to-four ours' every aftermoon polishing his game. "For the first half hour or so, he'd only block," says Quiraar's Kanji Trophy Jalyer Vishal Jayswal, who, like 'Axar, bats feth-handed and bowkleff, arm, sin' Affectha't be would and bowkleff, arm, sin' Affectha't be would

Vishal Jayswal, who, like Axar, bats left-handed and bowls left-arm spin. "After that, he would unshackle himself. He'd hit really long... every



(From top). A young Axar Patel. The roadside stall which Axar frequents to have kadak cha and lasaniya daabla. Axar talking to academy cricketers in Kheda. The only stand at the Kheda District Cricket Association ground.

sion, we'd be completely knackered."

sion, we'd be completely knackered."
During those sessions, he rediscovered his love for his 'favournte' shot: the slog sweep, 'He always loved to play that but har deduced it a lot in the last few years', says Keval. Until it resurfaced again. Once famously during the 120 World Cup final against South Africa last year, and then against New Zealand earlier in the Champions Trophy. Unshackling himself with a slog-sweep of Mitchel Santner and propelling India to a match-winning total.

Manish Desai, the president of the Kheda Manish Desai, the president of the Rheda District Cricket Association, gauges success not only by the trophies and individual awards Axar keeps piling up but also by the transfor-mational impact he has had on the game in Nadiad. After he first played in the Indian Premier League, there was an elaborate road-show where thousands lined up to welcome Axar. A similar procession was planned fol-lowing India's T20 World Cup title this year. lowing India's T20 World Cup title this year. When Axar learnt about it, he delayed his homecoming and returned only on one condition. The didn't want any functions. Desai says. "He requested me to gather all the acad-rup boys and grist at the ground and have session with them. He not only shared his fifeey-periences with them but also told stories behind the World Cup win."

Desai says that from 70-80 boys 'a decade ago, between 250 and 300 young players train at their ground daily, 'aspiring to be like Axar'. That number, he adds, will increase

Axar bowled pace in school competitions. He had long strides because but didn't have enough leg strength and would sometimes fall over while releasing the ball. When he would get tired, he'd switch to spin. That's when he would take wickets."

AMRISH PATEL

during the summer vacation camps

But while boys were always drawn to the sport, Desai says Axar's success has inspired many families in Nadiad to send their daugh-

sport, Desai says Axar's success has inspireumany families in Nadiad to send their daughters to the ground.

Ami Patel, who started playing just two years ago, says there used to be just one-odd girl who'd play along with hundreds of boys' earlier. "But after seeing Axar making a successful career in cricket, more girls have come forward. In last year's summer camp, there were 40 girls' "Ami. 25, says.

She was one of the players sitting in the audience last year when Axar relived the 120 World Cup title-winning campaign with them, hanging onto every word he spoke. By the end of the session, Axar's 'simplicity' left her amazed. "Whenever he is in Nadiad, he doesn't give a vibe rath he is such a big cricketer. He behaves like one of us, almost like. teer. He behaves like one of us, almost like saying 'This is my ground, my people, my Nadiad. I'll play, relax and just be myself.'"

#### INDIAN TEST DRIVER

#### Will Maini get a race in F1?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

KUSH MAINI became the third Indian

KUSH MAIN became the third Indian driver to join a Formula One team on Tuesday after the Alpine F1 team annunced that the 24-year-old has been added to their pool of reserves for the 2025 season, which kicks off with the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne later this week. Maini will continue as driver for Alpine's team in the lower-rung formula 2 series while also being their "Test and Reserve' driver for their F1 operation, meaning unlike his Indian predecessors Narain Karthikeyan and Karun Chandok, he is not yet guaranteed to be driving an F1 car in an officially licensed Grand Prix.

Who is Kush Main?
Maini, a 24-year-old from Bengaluru, comes from a family of races with his fa-ther Gautam being a driver in the F1 developmental categories in the past. He got his start in motorsport as young as seven - as amany drivers do to develop their motor skills behind a wheel - when he started karting, and rose through the ranks of open-wheel racing through his teenage years.

years.

Maini joined the Alpine academy in
October 2023, where he was mentored by
former two-time world champion Mika
Hakkinen. The 2025 season will be his third
in F2 after a successful campaign last year
with the DAMS team. The Indian had im-In F.d after 4 succession with the DAM steam. The Indian had impressed, with five podiums and a race win in Hungary, following which has earned the promotion with the French tautomotive company Renault).

Twish has impressed the team through his TPC performances and Formula 2 results whilst we have been working with him and we expect.

In the property of the property of the property of the will continue to do so in 2025," Julian Rouse,

Julian Rouse, Alpine Academy Alpine Academy
Director, was
quoted as saying
by formula1.com.
"His wider role allows us to further
expand our pool of driving talent who can
provide support and resources to the whole
team during the busy season."
Maini expressed happiness with the develooment.

opment. "I am delighted to step up to the role of Test and Reserve Driver for BWT Alpine Formula 1 Team this season," he said. "I am looking forward to getting more track time in Formula 1 machinery in this role and building on what I have already learned."

What is a reserve driver? Reserve drivers are kept on standby during Grand Prix weekends and may com-pete if a team's regular driver is unable to participate. That means that should one of Alpine's regular drivers - France's Pierre Gasly and Australia's Jack Doohan - miss out on a race, Maini may be asked to step

Ut. Traditionally, teams have stuck to announcing one official reserve driver for a season, but in recent times, teams have chosen to keep their options open by keeping a pool of reserve drivers, as Alpine have done with Maini. He will be their fourth Test and Reserve driver alongside Franco

iest and Reserve driver alongside Franco Colapinto, Ryo Hirakawa and Paul Aron. Maini will also use the driver-in-loop simulator at Alpine's bases in the British vil-lage of Enstone to support their car devel-opment and set-up objectives, as well as participate in the TPC (Testing of Previous Cars) programme.

#### Have reserve drivers made it big in the

st? Some of F1's most high-profile drivers Some of F1's most high-profile drivers got their starts a reserve drivers. Four-time World Champion Sebastian Vettel's first of-ficial Crand F1'x neac came in at the US CP in 2007 with the BMW-Sauber team at the age of 19. The German had impressed by finishing eighth.

Two members of the F1 paddock in 2025 also raced in their first Grand Pfix as reserve drivers. Oliver Bearman impressed by subbing in For Carlos Sainz last year, following which he earned a permanent place in F1 with Haas at the start of 2025.

in F1 with Haas at the start of 2025. Max Verstappen's latest teammate at Red Bull, Liam Lawson, also raced for the first time as a reserve driver for Alpha Tauri (now Racing Bulls) back in 2023.



Indian driver Kush Maini joined BWT

## Para athletics star Vanessa's return to India is a full-circle moment

PRITISHRAJ

12'57'N77'37' E is tattooed on the left arm of multiple Paralympic medalist Vanessa Low of Australia. The o-ordinates are of Bengaluru. Her first-ever visit to India in 2009 was to the Garden City. She was 19 then and it was her first international classification-event. She has three more coordinates of Christchurch, Iyon and Dolla, host cities of the World Para and Dolla, host cities of the World Para Athletics Championships

Over a decade and a half since her visit to Bengaluru, the 34-year-olds back in the coun-ryas three-time Paralymips gold medalist and three-time World Champion in the T63 Long Jump, She's in the capital to take part in the first-ever World Para Athletics Grand Prix hap-pening in the national capital. "2000 was not prist trip it was very chaotic. Transport didn't work well and there were struggles but I loved every minute of it. The reason we are here is the sport and I am so excited to be back," Vanesas told The Indian Express. When asked what has changed from least time Vanesas said." Alotha changed from

last time, Vanessasaid, "A lot has changed from the last time. This time the organization is very smooth and I am happy to see the facilities.

Over the years, the sport has become more professional and it is visible in how the tournament is being organized."

#### A trailblazer

A trailblazer

Currently, representing Australia, Vanessa
represented her birth country Germany from
2009 to 2017. Since getting married to
Paralympic champion sprinter Scott Readron,
she had settled down in Australia. Tiedes like
I have lived two different lives. But the good
thing is that I have been embraced by bott
countries. When I won in the 2020 Tokyo

countries. When I won in the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics, the German team celebrated alongside me" said Vanesa Born in Schwerin, Germany, Vanesas was into handball, snowboarding and long distance running. However, at the age of 15 she was struck by a train after she lost balance when standing on the platform Her left leg of sev-ered in the accident and doctors had to ampu-tate her right leg during a life-saving supery. She was in a coma for two weeks.

It took Vanessa two years to start walking using the prosthetics. "I woke up from the coma and slowly realized things have changed for me. I just wanted to run," Vanessa said. She turned to para athletics in 2009 and for the longest time Vanessa was the only active



Vanessa Low of Australia.

ars to win my first medal. It took me some

years to win my first medal. It took me some time to run on prosthetic but I found a way to make it work," she added further.

Vanessa has won eight medals at the World Championshipsand four Parallympic medals across two events (T63 Long Jump and T42 100m).

#### Motherhood and sport

Motherhood and sport

Apart from being a multiple-time Paralympic gold medialst, Vanessa is also a mother of a two-year-old sor. My day save when my side wakes me up, tu sually do foot when my side wakes me up, tu sually do foot when my side wakes me up, tu sually do foot when the side was to see the day care. A many sort may be side of the side of the

"His friends ask him about us and he feels very proud of us. He feels that we have com-puterised legs but I can see that he adores both of us." Despite winning a bagful of medals, Vanessa is still motivated to strive to remain on the podium at major events. "I thought I would

be done after Paris and would be able to let the sport go, but it didn't happen. I guess I just just be training. I am aware of my age but I feel there is a lot more I can achieve. I would love to touch the 6-metre mark it seems really far because when I started out the world forcut was 3-70m. Having ticked off a lot of milestones, I think 6m is in reach. I think I can jump 6 metres. The closest I got was 59.2 in practice before the 2024 Olympics. I was ready to jump 5.80 on the day (Paris) but I didn't get the board. It's not I far's he added. Vanessa! love for the sport, she feels, is the reason she keeps at it. the sport go, but it didn't happen. I guess I just reason she keeps at it.
"People recognise me due to this sport and

The piece of great lengths to train and be-come what I am today. I guess all those years, when I put in hard yards without thinking of the results, they kept me going," she said.

#### India win 31 medals

Indian para athletes won 31 medals on th first day of the World Para Athletics Gran rnx at the JLN Stadium, New Delhi. The Indian contingent won a total of eight gold, 13 silver, and ten bronze medals. Paris Paralympics medallist Preeti Pal clocked 14.85 seconds in the women's 100m T35 to win the silver medal. Prix at the ILN Stadium, New Delhi, The Indian

epaper.indianexpress.com

# **20** Sport

# Allying long rallies and tall tosses, Malvika ousts Jia Min

She pushed beyond her limits and tired out the better-seeded Singaporean in a three setter at Birmingham

#### SHIVANINAIK

MARCH1

MALNIKA BANSOD politely declined the offer of having legendary coach Irwansysh sit for her All England opening match against Singaporean Veo Ja Min. The Indonesian understood perfectly, as Malvika and her regular coach for the last two years at Than-Schrikant Vald Academy, Vignesh Devlekar, had a plan to Vald Academy, Vignesh Devlekar, had a plan to Vald Academy, Vignesh Devlekar, had a plan to Last down the World No 12.

The 23-year-old from Nagpur had lost to Ja Min previously and was coming off a first-round loss from Orleans. But pushing herself beyond limits of exhaustion, with both players utterly knackered by the end, Malvika recorded a stuming 21-13, 10-2, 21-1 victory to advance to the second round. Things were tricky at 11-9 inthe decider, but Malvika did well to conserve energy, and mix her usually well-executed high tosses and lifts with

attacking openings on cross shots as lia Min

attacking openings on cross shots as Jia Min tired out, Eding off at the baseline. Vignesh had won five national ranking ti-tes in 2019 in doubles, and played Maldives Open, the only international trip he could af-ford on his parents' salaries that year-mother aBMC teacher, and father a clerk in a PSU. The lockdown ended my playing dreams and Ihad no funds anyway, But when coaching Malvika, I lean on my weaknesses - Inever had a bigat-tick or mat who begins a large with the procedure. tack or great physical strength. I was good at finding solutions," Devlekar says. The long ral-

tak vi geta pjinyska sistenguri i was godo ai finding solutions. Poelekarays Jihe longraf-lies and tall tosses that voud strain jia Min, the coach and affilete had analyed thoroughly. In addition, Malvika dumped low servesin the large Birmingham hall for high serves-again pressuring jia Min's neck- and injected pace into her first stroke. The Indian was pre-pared for the long rallies, but had no intendio ace into her first stroke. The Indian was pre-pared for the long rallies, but had no intendio ace into her first stroke. The Indian's where she pist down details of fitness workouts she soerves when at tournaments and national camps. "She must be the only player at lose level (World No 28) who designs own fitness. We are desperately booking for an experience trainer but we don't have the funds for it yet. So, she plans it herself, "Viguesh notes. Same Shots different naths.

Same shots, different paths



Malvika Bansod won her All England opener 21-13, 10-21, 21-17. Badminton Photo

few months devising two strokes from the same position, guided by Vad and Vignesh, tweaking angles with wrist work, because a giant smash isn't suddenly going to materi-

alise. "We work within our limitations, but we are looking to get her stronger if we get a trainer," he adds.

Olympic bronze medallist Gregoria Tuniung Olympic bronze medalist Gregoria Tunjung at China, has immersed herself even deeper into badminton, and shut out all noise that questions if she has a future when 23 already. "Qualifying for the IAOlympics sith plant We are working towards it," Vignesh says, adding they hit it off, gesting out on the sport because he was in constant analysing/plotting mode as ocach. ABWI-Evel I certified coach, he Spursuing his MBA alongside, but the natural aprivate forces where the properties of the properti tude for coaching and the bond he struck with Malvika has brought good results.

One of the biggest tweaks is her preference for round the head strokes that are fetching

for round the head strokes that are fetching winners the backhand didn't. Three sessions a daybarely leave her with any time for anything less, and she's closed out all social media and communication to focus on badminton. At times, her worried mother, a self-tained sports science professional and nutritionist offers her a piece of chocolate to destress, but Malvida's rigorous self-control has seen her issue a rule that nobody in the family will ear through the product of the produ seen her issue a rule than tobody in the fam-ily will eat chocales or binge on chips for 7-8 months now. She is known to steal a glance at Pani puin aid bbel, two things she loves plenty, but not venture close to them, from fear of catching a sore throat. All evenings see her work on fiftness by her-self. "She's working hard like crazy. We don't have funds for beyond the coach hopfeully if we get results and few Top 10 wins, they will

consider funding her." Vignesh says.

#### Sen advances, Prannoy falters

PTI adds: Lakshya Sen fought his way back to reach the second round of the All England Championships on Tuesday, while compatriot HS Prannoy was eliminated in the opening round of the men's singles competition here.

Lakshva, ranked 15th in the world, came from behind to defeat Chinese Taipei's world No. 37, SU Li Yang, with a 13-21, 21world No. 37, SU Li Yang, with a 13-21, 21-17, 21-15 win in the opening round of the Super 1000 event. The 23-year-old from Almora will face Indonesias 15 third seed Jonatan Christie next. Lakshya had defeated Christie en route to his fourth Jace finish at the Paris Olympics last year. Prannoy, a bronze medallist at the 2023 World Championships and Asian Games, strug-gled against France's Toma Junior Popov, who is ranked 17th. Prannoy founts for 53 minutes before so-

Prannov fought for 53 minutes before go Pannoy fought for 53 minutes before go-ing down 19-21, 16-21. In the mixed doubles, Sathish Kumar Karunakaran and Aadya Ariyath had a tough outing against China's worldNo.7 pairof Guo Xim Wa and Chen Fang Hu, losing 6-21, 15-21 in 51 minutes. Two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and former World No 1 pairing Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Ching Shetty will start their campaign on Wednesday.

## WFI suspension revoked; office moved to yet another address

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

THE UNION government on Tuesday revoked the ban imposed on the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) imposed in December 2023 and restored on it the status of a National Sports Federation. The suspension was put in the aftermath of the sexual barassment charges levelled at former WFI president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. The Indian Olympic Association had put in place an adfairs of the federation, and barred the office-bearers, who had been elected in a subsequent election, from taking or implementing any decisions in this regard. One of the points raised, and verified by a report in The Indian Express was that the residence of former BFIP MF still functioned as the defacto headquarters of the federation even a first head of the still still functioned as the defacto headquarters of the federation even a first he was usual to the still functioned as the defacto headquarters of the federation even a first he was usual to the still functioned as the defacto headquarters of the federation even a first he designed in the first head of the still function and the still function as the defacto head and the federation even a first he federation has suspiced in 2023 but when this there after the federation was sus-pended in 2023, but when this newspaper visited that address in January 2025, a new tenant was found at the place.

found at the place.

An inspection was carried out in this regard and WFI claimed that it has recently shifted its HQto a new address - Es. J. Street No. I, West Vinod Nagar, Delhi - 110092.

"Whereas there have been media reports about WFI not functioning from the address, which it claims to function there.

functioning from the address, which it claims to function, therefore, in the public interest to check the weracity of the claims made by the WFI, a Committee was formed to have an in camera, on the spot inspection of the premises, as claimed by WFI. The WFI informed by email that it has shifted its office to a new premise as CEST STEWN DIL West Vision. at E-81, Street No.1, West Vinod Nagar, Delhi-110092. The report of the Committee has been re-ceived. The Committee has in its report stated that WH is function-ing from E-81, Street No.1, West Vinod Nagar, Delhi-110092, where it has recently shifted its office," a government order said. While the world governing body of the sport, United World

elected office-bearers as members of the national federation, the susof the national federation, the sus-pension of the WH and the pres-ence of the ad-hoc panel was ham-pering the sport and the athletes' participation in international events. The selection of wrestlers for the Senior Asian Championships scheduled from March 25 in Amman, Jordan, was at risk. The government sald that wrestling had been put in the high priority Cate-gory as it is a source of medals at major events, and the prevalent si-uation could hurt India's prospects at the 2026 Asian Games and the

uation could hurt India's prospects at the 2028 Asian Games and the 2028 Olympics.

"There does not appear to be a competent body which can be entrusted with the task of selecting the team and to make other arrangements so that the participation of the wrestlers in the aforesaid international event, which is no compense from 25 (3 2025 to commence from 25.03.2025, can be ensured. As far as the intercan be ensured. As far as the inter-set of the sports and athletes are concerned, there cannot be a more unhappy situation," the Delhi High Court had observed in its order dated March 6. Union sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya noted that revoking the suspension will now allow Indian wrestlers to participate in interna-tional competitions.

tional competitions.
"According to the High Court or-

"According to the High Courtor-der, it was necessary to recognise WFI so that we can send our wrestlers for the Asian Championship and World Championship Otherwise, it would have been an injustice to the future of our country's wrestlers," Mandaviya said. In its Tuesday order, the min-sity also directed the WFI that "any person who is not elected as an of-fice-bearer, as also the

person who is not elected as an of-fice-bearer, as also the suspended/terminated salaried of-ficials of the WFI, must remain completely dissociated from the federation and its affiliate units." The Executive Committee of the WFI has to provide an undertaking to this effect within four weeks. "The WFI must revert the

amendments carried out during the suspension period and have a balance of power among the desig-nated office-bearers and provide nated office-bearers and provide checks and balance in the decision-making process, and this process should be completed in four weeks," the order added. It also instructed WHT to ensure adherence to the Sports Code, prin-ciples of good governance, and ath-



Sanjay Singh was elected WFI president late in 2023 but the NSF was suspended three days later. PTI



