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Tanaya Pattnaik

Geologist - Zawar Group of Mines
Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

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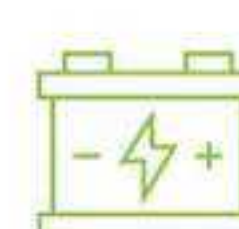
ALUMINIUM



COPPER



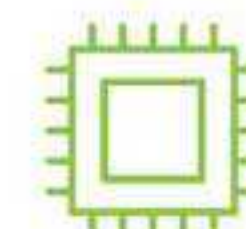
IRON, STEEL & FERRO ALLOYS



NICKEL



POWER



ELECTRONICS



DISPLAY GLASS

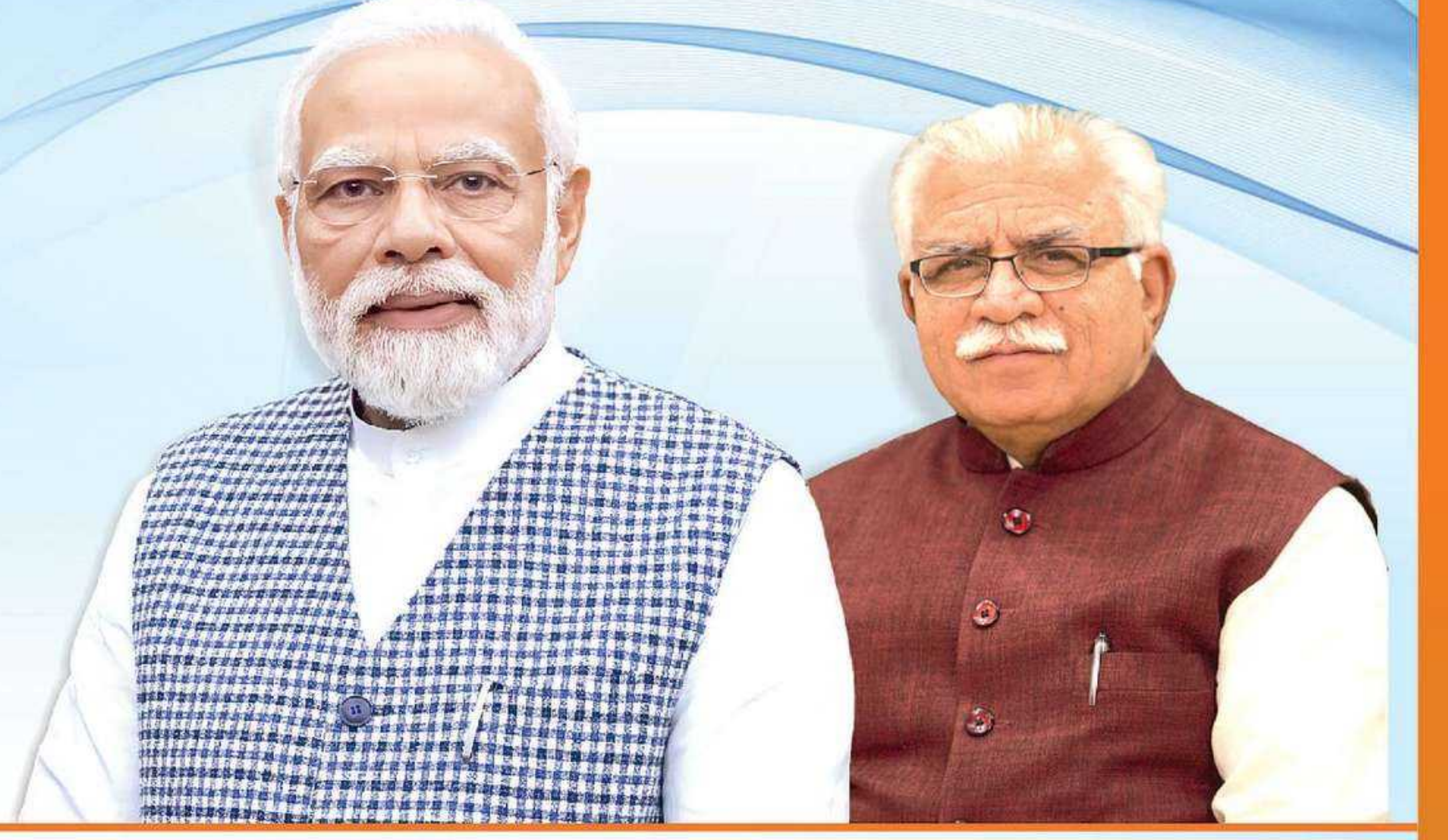


Govt. of Haryana



“दीनदयाल उपाध्याय जी ने हमें अंत्योदय का मार्ग दिखाया था।
यानि जो समाज की आखिरी पंक्ति में हैं, उनका उदय।
21वीं सदी का भारत इसी विचार से प्रेरणा लेते हुए अंत्योदय के लिए काम कर रहा है।
जो विकास के आखिरी पायदान पर है, उसे विकास के पहले पायदान
पर लाने के लिए काम हो रहा है।”

- नरेन्द्र मोदी



Antyodaya's Vision Haryana's Pledge to Reach Every Edge

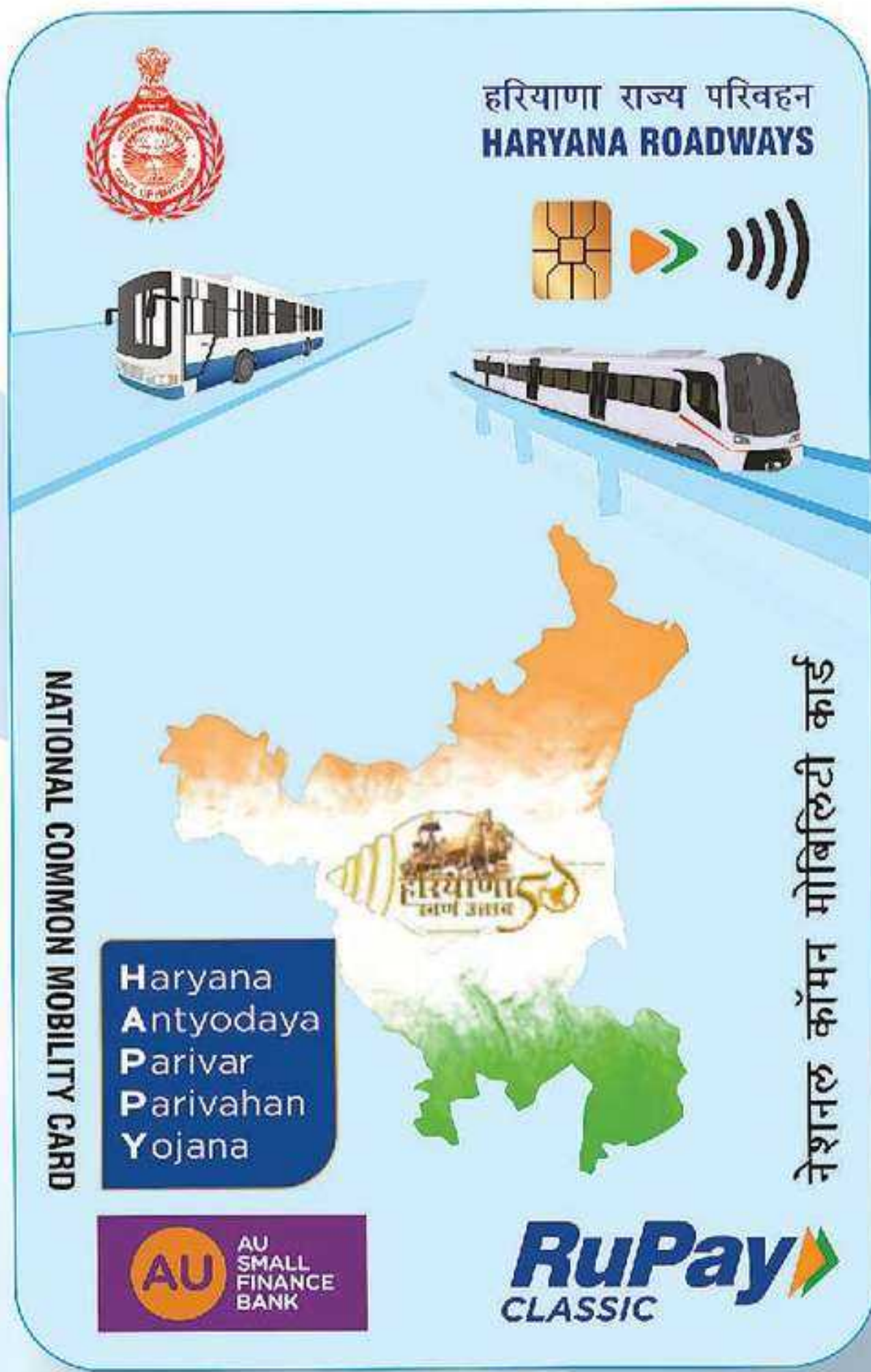
Launch of

Haryana Antyodaya Parivar Parivahan Yojana (HAPPY)

by

Sh. Manohar Lal

Chief Minister, Haryana



Free travel facility of upto 1000 kilometers every year in Haryana State Transport buses

About 84 Lakh members of about 22,89,000 families with annual income of upto Rs. 1 Lakh **will be benefited**

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Hindustan Times

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M.P. PASHCHIM KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD.
Office of the SE (O&M) Circle, Agar, Shakti Nagar Colony, Opposite Care Hospital
Ujjain-Kota Road, Agar Malwa, Pin-465441, Phone No. : 0732 280174
(CIN : U40109MP2025GCO15121, Email : seagarpwz@gmail.com)
No. SE/O&M/NIT-AGR02/1008 Agar, Dated : 07.03.2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
Online tender is invited for Outsourcing of Manpower services as per tender specifications given below :-

TS No.	Particulars	Tender Value (Approx. in Cr.)	Last Date of Online Submission of Bid	Due Date of Online Bid Opening
AGR02	Outsourcing of Manpower required for Miscellaneous Works in the (O&M) Circle M.P.K.V.V. Co. Ltd., Agar.	20.01	28.03.2024 Up to 15:00 Hrs.	01.04.2024 At 15:00 Hrs.

Note : Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at The Meeting Hall, Jyoti Nagar Campus, MPKVVCL, Ujjain at 18.03.2024 from 03:00 pm onwards. For further information visit our website <http://www.mpwz.co.in> or portal <https://www.mptenders.gov.in> M.P. Madhyam/114178/2024

UJVN LIMITED
(An Uttaranchal Govt. Enterprise)
H.O. "JALAWAL" MAHARAJ BAHU, GMS ROAD, DEHRADUN - 248006, CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC25886
Tel: 0135-2763802, Fax: 0135-2763508, Website: www.ujvn.com

RO No. 345 e-Tender Notice Date : 07.03.2024

Office of Executive Engineer (Generation) Ramganga Power Station, UJVN Limited, Kalagarh, Dist. Pauri Garhwal invites online tender from interested parties. Detail of tender is given below.
e-T. No. 07/EE/Klg/2023-24
Name of work/supply/services: Procurement of Consumables.
Estimated cost: ₹ 9.92,280/- GST Extra.
Date of availability of bid document on website: 08/03/2024 16:00 at Hrs
Last date for submission of tender: 28/03/2024 up to 16:00 Hrs.
Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal "http://uktenders.gov.in"
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (GENERATION)
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

MADHYA PRADESH TOURISM BOARD
Lity Trade Wing, 6th Floor, Jehangirabad, Bhopal-462008
Phone : 0755-2780600, E-mail : dirtpu.mptb@mp.gov.in
TENDER No : 1451/232/MPTB/MP/Vyayan/2024 Dated - 07.03.2024

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR INVESTMENT IN TOURISM SECTOR**

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board is pleased to offer the following Lands and heritage properties to the potential investors on unique locations to set up tourism project as mentioned against each land parcels on DBFOT basis :-

Num.	Name of District and Tehsil	Name of Village	Khasra Number and Area (in hectares)	Financial Qualification	Proposed Tourism Project	Proposed Investment
1	Burhanpur Teh. Burhanpur	Rahipura	179 Area 5.000	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 50.00 lakh (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort or fixed tenting unit or water park	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
2	Betul, Teh. Bhaishdehi	Bothia	52/2 Area 4.047	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 0.50 crore (Financial Year 2022-23, 31.03.2023)	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crores
3	Shajapur, Teh. Momen Barodia	Bijana	2106 And 2123 Area 6.650	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Hotel or resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
4	Shahdol, Teh. Jaisinghnagar	Dhodha	35/1 Area 4.000	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resorts and other tourism projects	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
5	Sidhi Teh. Manjholi	Chamradol	923, 924 And 925 Area 1.29	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Wild Life Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
6	Khandwa, Teh. Punasa	Bhoganwa	580 Area 6.000	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
7	Vidisha, Teh. Vidisha	Kagpur	115/2/1 Area 4.000	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Hotel or resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
8	Shivpuri, Teh. Pohri	Madkheda	268 Area 4.000	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
9	Shivpuri, Teh. Pohri	Madkheda	191 acreage 3.210	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
10	Shivpuri, Teh. Pohri	Madkheda	34 Area 2.86	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.75 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Wild Life Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 3.00 crore
11	Shivpuri, Teh. Pohri	Madkheda	187 Area 3.470	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
12	Anuppur	Harratola	Khasra- 3/1 Area - 6.069 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs.5.00 crore
13	Mandla Tehsil Bichhiya	Sarhi	Kh.No. 401, 408, 409 Area 2.940 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Eco Tourism Activities (Eco Friendly Materials)	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
14	Mandla Tehsil Bichhiya	Sarhi	Kh.No. 410, 411 Area 2.630 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Eco Tourism Activities (Eco Friendly Materials)	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
15	Mandla Tehsil Bichhiya	Sarhi	Kh.No. 429, 430, 431 Area 2.620 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Eco Tourism Activities (Eco Friendly Materials)	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
16	Raisen Tehsil Bareilly	Samanapur kala	Kh.No.132/2 Area 12.222 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resorts and other tourism projects	Minimum amount Rs. 10.00 crores
17	Seoni Tehsil Kural	Sarrahiri	Kh.No. 510 Area 1.890 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Wild Life Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
18	Niwari Tehsil Orchha	Orchha	Kh.No. 701/1/B Area 6.506 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resorts and other tourism projects	Minimum amount Rs. 10.00 crore
19	Dewas Tehsil Sonkachhina	Sumrakhedhi	Kh.No. 31/1 Area 5.00 hectares out of 18.900 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resorts and other tourism projects	Minimum amount Rs. 10.00 crore
20	Katni Tehsil Katni	Gulwara	Kh.No. 1307/1 Area 5.240 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resorts and other tourism projects	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
21	Vidisha Tehsil Shamshabad	Nehraiya	Kh.No. 43/1 Area 22.890 hectares. Out of 4.046 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crore
22	Ashoknagar Tehsil Chanderi	Falehabad	Kh.No. 8 Area 2.00 Hect.	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 0.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 2.00 crore
23	Shahdol, Tah. Buaahuri	Pahadiya	Kh.No. 451/1 to 451/4, 452/3, 505/1 to 505/2, 506/1 to 506/2, 507/1 to 507/2, 540/1 to 540/2, 541/1 to 541/2, 542, 543, 544/1 area 45.000	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 6.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort and water tourism and other tourism projects	Minimum amount Rs. 25.00 crore
24	Mandla Tehsil Bichhiya	Sirhi	Kh.No. 244, 247, 248 acreage 1.330 hectares.	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 0.25 Crore (Financial Year 2022-23, 31.03.2023)	Eco Tourism Activities (Eco Friendly Materials)	Minimum amount Rs. 1.00 crore

Num.	Name of Village/Tehsil and District	Khasra Number and Area (in hectares)	Plot Number and Area/ Total Area Result	Financial Qualification	Proposed Tourism Project	Proposed Investment
25	Village Bassi Tehsil Rampura District Neemuch	Kh. Number 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 127 Total Area 24.282 hectares.	Plot No. 01 Khasra No. 127 Area 4.00 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crores
26			Plot No. 02 Khasra No. 119 Area 4.00 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crores
27			Plot No. 03 Khasra No. 120 Area 4.00 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crores
28			Plot No. 04 Khasra No. 121 Area 4.00 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 1.25 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 5.00 crores
29	Village Lotwas Tehsil Rampura District Neemuch	Khasra No. 35/1 Area 16.075 hectares. Khasra No. 27/1, 27/2, 27/3, 27/4, 27/5, 27/6, 27/7, 27/8, 27/9, 27/10 Area 10.00 Hect. area 26.075 hectares.	Plot No. 03 Area 7.21 hectare	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 10.00 crore
30			Plot No. 04 Area 9.83 hectares	Minimum net worth amount is Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs. 10.00 crore
31	Village Gandhi Sagar Tehsil Bhanpura District Mandsaur	Khasra No. 150/935 out of total area 50.00 hectares	Plot No. 01 Area 9.10 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs.10.00 crore
32			Plot No. 02 Area 8.71 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs.10.00 crore
33			Plot No. 03 Area 8.70 Hectare	Minimum net worth amount Rs. 2.50 crore (FY 2022-23), d. 31.03.2023	Resort	Minimum amount Rs.10.00 crore

The RFP documents can be downloaded from website www.mptenders.gov.in. RFP documents can also be seen at www.tourism.mp.gov.in
M.P. Madhyam/114189/2024 MANAGING DIRECTOR

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
L/No.: 220-E/Med/Investigation Dated-04.03.2024

Expression of Interest (EOI)

Chief Medical Superintendent, North Central Railway, Prayagraj on behalf of the President of India, invites expression of interest on the prescribed form for the following work:-

Name of Work: Expression of interest from reputed, registered and licensed diagnostic centres for empanelment for providing diagnostic services for patients of Health Unit Fatehpur, Naini, Manikpur, Mirzapur & Chunar. **Completion Period:** One Year from the Date of starting.

Application Cost money:NA Earnest money:NA Cost of Application form on cash/by post: NA

Date and time availability & Place of procuring application form: Form can be had any working day from office of Chief Medical Superintendent, North Central Railway, Prayagraj in from 11.03.2024 to 10.04.2024 upto 12:00 Hrs..

Place of submission of bids: Chief Medical Superintendent, North Central Railway, Prayagraj.

Date and time of submission of application form: Upto 11 Hrs on 10.04.2024. Opening of bids at 12:30 Hrs on 10.04.2024.

Chief Medical Superintendent
North Central Railway, Prayagraj
394/24 (ADM)
@CPNCRNCR @northcentralrailway @northcentralrailway www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

WATCO
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WATCO
Ground Floor, Unnati Bhawan, H.B. Colony, Salyangan, Bhubaneswar-751007, Odisha, India
Telefax: +91-674-2391444 / E-mail - ceowatcodisha@gmail.com md@watcodisha.in

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB)
Bid Identification No. WATCO/WI-49/2023/24 Dtd.02.03.2024
WATCO No. 1530 Date: 02.03.2024

1. Name of the work: Sewerage Network and Pumping Station for Slums from ward no. 1 to 6 in work BMC area.
2. No. of works: 10(Ten) Nos
3. Estimated cost: Rs.1899.29 Lakh to Rs. 3645.93 Lakh
4. Cost of Tender Paper: Rs 11800.00 (18% GST Included)
5. Class of Contractor: "A", "Super" and "Special"
6. Period of Completion of work: 12(Twelve) months
7. Date & time of availability of bid document: From Dt.12.03.2024 to 5.00 PM of 28.03.2024 in the website
8. Date & time of opening of technical bids: 12.30 PM of 30.03.2024
9. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid: E-Mail: ceowatcodisha@gmail.com
10. The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only.
Further details can be seen from the web site www.tendersodisha.gov.in

(CEO)
WATCO
OIPR - 13194/11/0085/2324

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RAYAGADA (R & B) CIRCLE, RAYAGADA
e-mail ID - sepwd_rgdg@yahoo.com / Phone/Fax No - 06856 - 223049
B-1888
e-Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No. C.C.E (RANDB) RGDG-19/2023-2024 (Online) 26.02.2024
No. 379 Date 26/02/2024

INVITATION FOR BIDS

1. The Chief Construction Engineer, Rayagada (R&B) Circle, Rayagada on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover mode to be received in online mode only for the construction of works as detailed in the table below:

2. Nature of work	Building & Bridge Works
3. No. of works	13 (Thirteen) nos. of works
4. Estimated Cost. (Approximately)	Rs. 175.89 Lakh, Rs. 172.79 Lakh, Rs. 135.27 Lakhs, Rs. 195.76 Lakhs, Rs. 188.38 Lakhs, Rs. 585.44 Lakhs, Rs. 239.48 lakhs Rs. 606.48 lakhs Rs. 261.91 lakhs Rs. 245.96 lakhs Rs. 638.65 lakhs Rs. 596.87 Lakhs Rs. 618.01 lakhs
5. Bid Cost (Online)	Rs. 10,000/- (each)
6. EMD Bid Security Amount (Online)	One Percentage of the Estimated Cost.
7. Class of Contractor	"B, A and Special" Class as per Financial Eligibility.
8. Availability of Bid Documents in the website	11.00 Hrs of Dt. 07.03.2024 to 17.00 Hrs of Dt. 21.03.2024.
9. Date of opening of Bid	11.00 Hrs of Dt. 22.03.2024.

10. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <https://tendersodisha.in>. Any Addendum/Corrigendum/cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website. The authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids without a signing any reason therefor.

Chief Engineer
Rayagada (R & B) Circle, Rayagada
OIPR - 34154/11/0026/2324

**उत्तराखण्ड शासन
न्याय अनुभाग-1
विज्ञापन संख्या-112/XXXVI-A-1/2024-492/2007**

देहरादून दिनांक: 06 मार्च, 2024

विज्ञापित/प्रेस नोट

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा अधिकरण, देहरादून में योजित वार्डों के विचारण/निस्तारण हेतु क्रमशः उपाध्यक्ष (प्रशासकीय) एवं सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) के पदों पर नियुक्ति हेतु निर्धारित अर्हता रखने वाले सेवानिवृत्त प्रशासनिक सेवा के अधिकारियों इस विज्ञापन के माध्यम से आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं।

2 रिक्त पदों का विवरण:-
उपाध्यक्ष (प्रशासकीय) - 01 पद
सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) - 01 पद

3. निर्धारित अर्हता -
i. उत्तर प्रदेश लोक सेवा अधिकरण अधिनियम, 1976 (यथा उत्तराखण्ड राज्य में प्रवृत्त) की धारा 3 की उपधारा (4-क) में प्राविधानित उपाध्यक्ष (प्रशासकीय) के पद हेतु निम्नलिखित अर्हता निर्धारित की गयी है:-
उपधारा (4-क) कोई व्यक्ति उपाध्यक्ष (प्रशासकीय) के रूप में नियुक्ति के लिए अर्ह नहीं होगा जब तक कि-
(क) उसने प्रशासकीय सदस्य का पद धारण न किया हो. या
(ख) उसने राज्य सरकार के अधीन सचिव का पद या भारत सरकार के संयुक्त सचिव के पद के समकक्ष पद धारण न किया हो और उक्त राज्य सरकार की राय में न्याय करने का पर्याप्त अनुभव हो।
ii सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) के पद हेतु लोक सेवा अधिकरण अधिनियम की धारा-3(6) में निम्नलिखित अर्हता निर्धारित की गयी है:-
"भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा का अधिकारी या रुपये 18400-22400 (यथा संशोधित 7वें वेतन आयोग के अनुसार वेतनमान) या उससे अधिक के वेतनमान में प्रांतीय सिविल सेवा (कार्यकारी शाखा) का कोई अधिकारी किसी प्रशासनिक सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्ति के लिए अर्ह होगा, परन्तु कि उसे न्याय व्यवस्था का पर्याप्त अनुभव हो।"
नोट- अस्थायी पत्रनामा के माध्यम में वांछित अर्हता के दृष्टिगत आवेदन पत्र में स्पष्ट रूप से पूर्व में की गयी सेवा के पद, कार्य तथा अनुभव का समग्र विवरण प्रमाण सहित उल्लेख करें।

4. नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया:-
लोक सेवा अधिकरण अधिनियम, 1976 की धारा-3(7) के अनुसार उपाध्यक्ष (प्रशासकीय) एवं सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) की नियुक्ति राज्य सरकार द्वारा मां उच्च न्यायालय के मुख्य न्यायाधीश से परामर्श करने के उपरान्त की जायेगी, जिसका प्रस्ताव राज्य सरकार द्वारा मां उच्च न्यायालय को सन्निहित किया जायेगा।
परन्तु कोई व्यक्ति यथास्थिति उपाध्यक्ष या अन्य सदस्य का पद धारण नहीं करेगा, जब तक कि उसने यथास्थिति भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा से या उपाध्यक्ष या सदस्य के रूप में सेवा से भिन्न किसी अन्य सेवा से, जिसमें वह सेवावत था, त्याग पत्र न दे दिया हो या सेवानिवृत्त न हो गया हो।

5. पदावधि
उत्तर प्रदेश लोक सेवा अधिकरण अधिनियम, 1976 की धारा-3(8) के अनुसार उपाध्यक्ष या अन्य सदस्य के कार्यकाल की पदावधि कार्यभार प्रारंभ करने की तिथि से 05 वर्ष तक होगी, जो कि अन्य 05 वर्ष के लिए पुनर्नियुक्ति का पात्र होगा।
परन्तु उपाध्यक्ष एवं अन्य सदस्य अपने पद को धारण नहीं करेगा, जब उसने:-
(क)
(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश (उत्तर प्रदेश) लोक सेवा अधिकरण (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2022 से यथासंशोधित, अधिनियम की धारा-3(8) (ख) के अनुसार उपाध्यक्ष एवं किसी अन्य सदस्य के कार्यकाल की पदावधि मामले में 67 वर्ष की आयु प्राप्त कर ली हो।

6. वेतनमान
नियुक्त होने वाले अधिकारियों को उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा अधिकरण (अध्यक्ष, उपाध्यक्ष एवं सदस्यों) के वेतन, भत्ते तथा सेवा की शर्तों (संशोधन) नियमावली, 2018 में निम्नानुसार निर्धारित वेतन अनुमत्य होगा-
i- उपाध्यक्ष - ₹ 2,25,000/- (रु० दो लाख पच्चीस हजार) प्रतिमाह
ii- सदस्य - ₹ 1,82,200-2,24,100 (रु० एक लाख बयासी हजार दो सौ-दो लाख चौबीस हजार एक सौ) प्रतिमाह, परन्तु यह कि उपाध्यक्ष या सदस्य के रूप में नियुक्त किसी व्यक्ति का, जो केन्द्र या किसी राज्य सरकार के अधीन सेवा से निवृत्त हुआ हो, वेतन ऐसी सेवानिवृत्ति के समय उसे भुगतान किये गये या देय वेतन से कम नहीं होगा, परन्तु यह और कि प्रथम परन्तुच में निर्दिष्ट कोई व्यक्ति, जो पेशन के रूप में सेवानिवृत्ति के किसी लाभ को प्राप्त करता है या प्राप्त किया है या प्राप्त करने का हकदार हो गया, तो उसके उपर्युक्त वेतन से पेशन की सकल राशि को, जिसमें व्यक्ति की सराशीकृत पेशन का भाग यदि कोई हो, भी सम्मिलित है, कम कर दिया जायेगा।
नोट- उक्त अधिकारियों को भत्ते एवं अन्य सुविधाएँ समय-समय पर जारी राज्य सरकार के शासनादेशों/नियमावली के अनुसार अनुमत्य होंगे।

7. अस्थायी का चरित्र एवं शारीरिक स्वस्थता पदानुरूप होना चाहिए। अस्थायी आवेदन पत्र भरी जाने के पूर्व विज्ञापन में वर्णित समस्त निर्देशों का गंभीर-भाति अध्ययन कर लें। किसी भी स्थिति में अपूर्ण आवेदन पत्र स्वीकार नहीं किये जायेंगे तथा अस्थायी का अस्थायी स्वतः ही निरस्त समझा जायेगा।

8. आवेदन कैसे करें:-
इच्छुक पात्र अस्थायी निर्धारित संलग्न आवेदन पत्र के प्रारूप में अपना आवेदन पत्र सुसंगत संलग्नको/प्रमाण सहित, विज्ञापित प्रकाशन की तिथि से 15 दिन के भीतर, कार्यालय प्रमुख सचिव, न्याय एवं विधि परामर्शी, उत्तराखण्ड शासन, सोनबन सिंह जीना भवन, मृत, उत्तराखण्ड सचिवालय परिसर, 4 सुभाष रोड, देहरादून-248001 को संबोधित करते हुए स्वीड पोस्ट/पंजीकृत डाक/कोरियर अथवा व्यक्तिगत रूप से उपलब्ध करा सकते हैं। अन्तिम तिथि के पश्चात प्राप्त होने वाले आवेदन पत्रों पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा। (रजनी शुक्ला) अपर सचिव

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा अधिकरण, देहरादून में उपाध्यक्ष (प्रशासकीय) तथा सदस्य (प्रशासकीय) के एक-एक पद पर नियुक्ति हेतु आवेदन पत्र का प्रारूप

आवेदित पद का नाम
1. अस्थायी का नाम
2. पिता/पति का नाम
3. जन्मतिथि/वर्तमान आयु.....
4. स्थायी पता.....
5. पत्र व्यवहार का पता.....
6. मोबाईल नम्बर.....
7. ई-मेल आई०डी.....
8. अन्तिम धारित पद का वेतनमान सहित पूर्ण विवरण.....
9. सम्युक्त सेवाकाल में धारित पदों एवं कार्य अनुभव का विवरण (प्रमाण संलग्न करें)

क्र०सं०	पदनाम जिस पर कार्यरत रहे।	न्यायालय/विभाग/कार्यालय, जहाँ तैनात रहे	सेवाकाल की अवधि कब से कब तक	अनुभव
1	2	3	4	5

10. सेवानिवृत्ति/स्वैच्छिक सेवानिवृत्ति की तिथि.....
11. क्या पूर्व में किसी न्यायालय/अधिकरण से दोषसिद्ध तो नहीं किये गये अथवा कोई अभियोजन लम्बित तो नहीं है? यदि हाँ तो पूर्ण विवरण.....
12. क्या पूर्व पदों पर रहते हुए, नियुक्ति प्राधिकारी द्वारा कोई अनुशासनिक कार्यवाही आदि तो नहीं की गयी? यदि हाँ तो पूर्ण विवरण.....
13. पूर्व या वर्तमान में भारत सरकार/किसी अन्य राज्य सरकार के प्रतिष्ठान/विभाग/निगम/प्राधिकरण/न्यायाधिकरण/निजी प्रतिष्ठान/समकक्ष पदों पर सेवावत रहे हैं तो पूर्ण विवरण.....

अधोस्ताक्षरी द्वारा यह घोषित/प्रमाणित किया जाता है कि उपरोक्त बिन्दु 1 से 13 तक की समस्त सूचनायें स्वयं की जानकारी अनुसार सत्यतापूर्वक एवं प्रामाणित अभिलेखों के आधार पर दी गयी है। यदि उक्त सूचनाओं में कोई असत्यता पायी जाती है, तो अधोस्ताक्षरी स्वयं उत्तरदायी होगा।
दिनांक
स्थान

अस्थायी के हस्ताक्षर

**WESTERN RAILWAY
RATLAM DIVISION
E-TENDER NOTICE**

Tender Notice No. M247GNTWFRP CMR2404, Date: 02.03.24. Name of work: Development & Provision of FRP made Crew Friendly Driver Cab & Material Room of 8 Wheeler DETC (Under Slung type). Location: Office of CWM / Dahod W.Rly. Estimated Cost of work: Rs. 3,87,04,000/- Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.3,43,600/- Date & time of Submission & opening of E-Tender: Submission of E-tender Up to 14.30 Hrs. on 27.03.2024 and Opening of E-Tender at 15.00 Hrs. on same day. Tender Notice and documents available at: www.ireps.gov.in / E-Tenders / Works / IREPS Electrical.
By:CPM (Elect.) W.Rly. Dahod
AsstT/11416
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**NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE**

For and on behalf of the President of India, Chief Administrative Officer (Const.), 5th Floor, North Western Railway Headquarter office, Near Jawahar Circle, Jaipur-302017 (Rajasthan) invites Online Open Tenders on IREPS portal (Single stage Two Packet System) through Engineering, Procurement and Construction (the "EPC") contract for the following work on prescribed form:- Tender No.: NWR-SC-EPC-ABR-TRAH-T-6R. RFP No.: Dy.CE/CAII/Taranga Hill/T-01 Name of the work: CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAY STATION BUILDING, FACILITIES FOR PASSENGER, PLATFORMS, UNDERPASS, P/F SHELTERS, CIRCULATING AREA AND OTHER MISC. WORKS AT TARANGA HILL IN CONNECTION WITH TARANGA HILL - AMBAJI - ABU ROAD NEW LINE PROJECT. Mode of Tender: Single Stage, Two packet on EPC mode. Estimated Project Cost: ₹ 37,86,39,495.58. Bid Security: ₹ 18,93,200.00. Construction Period: 24 (Twenty Four) Months. Pre-bid Conference details: Date-11/03/2024; Time-3:00 PM; Venue: Dy. Chief Engineer (Const.), Mall Road, Near DRM office, North Western Railway, Ajmer-305001. Bid due date and time for On-line submission on E-procurement portal: By (15:00 hrs) (IST) on 02.04.2024. Physical submission of all documents: Before 11:00 hrs (IST) on Bid due date + 5 (Five) working days at Dy. Chief Engineer (Const.) Office, Near DRM's office, Mall Road, Ajmer. Date and Time of Opening of Bid: 7th working day from Bid due date (inclusive) after 16:00 hrs. (For 1st packet containing Technical bid). For opening of second packet containing Financial bid, date will be notified subsequently to those bidders whose Technical bid is found acceptable. Website particulars where complete details of E-tender can be seen: www.ireps.gov.in Note: No manual tenders will be accepted. 314-AK/24
Follow us on: [NWRRailways](https://www.facebook.com/NWRRailways) [NWRRailways](https://www.instagram.com/NWRRailways)

**CENTRE FOR RAILWAY INFORMATION SYSTEMS
CRIS**
Chandigarh, New Delhi-110021

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR
HIRING OF OFFICE SPACE
(EOI NOTICE NO. 2024/02/CRIS/LEASING-SPACE/9845)**

CRIS, an autonomous body under Ministry of Railways invites two packets offer (Techno-commercial offer & Financial offer both in a separate envelopes) for office space for a minimum period of 3 years with 3 years lock in period, further extendable every 3 years. The requirement is for Built-up area with minimum area i.e. of 11000 sqft to 12000 sqft in Ready to move infurnished & finished office space on one or subsequent floors excluding basement with dedicated free parking space for minimum 20 Cars and 20 Scooters/Bikes covered/open within offered premises. The space should be approved for office use and located in the Commercial/Institutional area in New Delhi. The premises should be mandatorily at a maximum distance of 05 KM from CRIS Office Complex at Chandigarh. The distance from public transport i.e. 3 KM to Metro station/s and 1 KM to Bus Stand is mandatory

POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD. (A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise) OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (OPERATION & MAINTENANCE), GARHWAL, ZONE-26-CIVIL LINES, ROORKEE E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM

PUNJAB STATE TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED Corporate Identity No: U40109PB2015GCG033814 www.pstcl.org

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, MAHARANA BHUPAL GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, UDAIPUR No./SO/Online Tender/2024/43 Dated: 28.02.2024

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001 Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2015GCG033813

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग, संभाग कोटा क्रमांक: 2739 दिनांक: 01.03.2024

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड उत्तराखण्ड विद्युत परीक्षण खण्ड (नगरीय), 18 ईंसीओ रोड, देहरादून ई-मेल-eldurban@yahoo.in

बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग 15, नेहरू पथ (बेली रोड), पटना-800001 आवश्यक सूचना

कार्यालय वैसिक शिक्षा अधिकारी फिरोजाबाद दिनांक 07.03.2024

उपरो लोक सेवा आयोग विज्ञापित सार्वजनिक विज्ञापन निम्नवत् है:- Sr. Advt. No. Deptt. Name Post Name Deptt. No.

Government of Punjab (Department of Health & Family Welfare) Bid Ref No.- E-tender/PHSC/Proc/2024/134

Government of Punjab (Department of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab) Tender Notice Ref. No.- e-tender/PHSC/Proc./RCA/2024/133

NORTHERN RAILWAY Tender Notice Invitation of tender through E-tendering (e-Procurement Systems)

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, JODHPUR Tel. 0291-2651700, E-mail: rj_cajod@nic.in

UJVN LTD. H.O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006

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छत्तीसगढ़ पर्यावरण संरक्षण मंडल पर्यावास भवन, सेक्टर-19, नया रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला- रायपुर (छ.ग.)

M. P. PASHCHIM KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD. GPH Company, Patnagarh, Indore, Ph. No. : 0731-2426144, 2426204, 2426186

GOVT. OF JHARKHAND CABINET SECRETARIAT & VIGILANCE DEPARTMENT (CIVIL AVIATION DIVISION)

GOVT. OF JHARKHAND CABINET SECRETARIAT & VIGILANCE DEPARTMENT (CIVIL AVIATION DIVISION)

GOVT. OF JHARKHAND CABINET SECRETARIAT & VIGILANCE DEPARTMENT (CIVIL AVIATION DIVISION)

Kalyan Singh Super Specialty Cancer Institute C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002

PANCHAYAT R&B DIVISION BHARUCH CORRECTIONAL DEPARTMENT ONLINE E-TENDERING PUBLIC TENDER NOTICE NO.33/2023-2024 (3)

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE No.: 05/2024/RS/JHS Date: 06.03.2024

Public Works Department Sector-19, North Block, Naya Raipur (C.G.) E-Procurement Tender Notice



Hindustan Times

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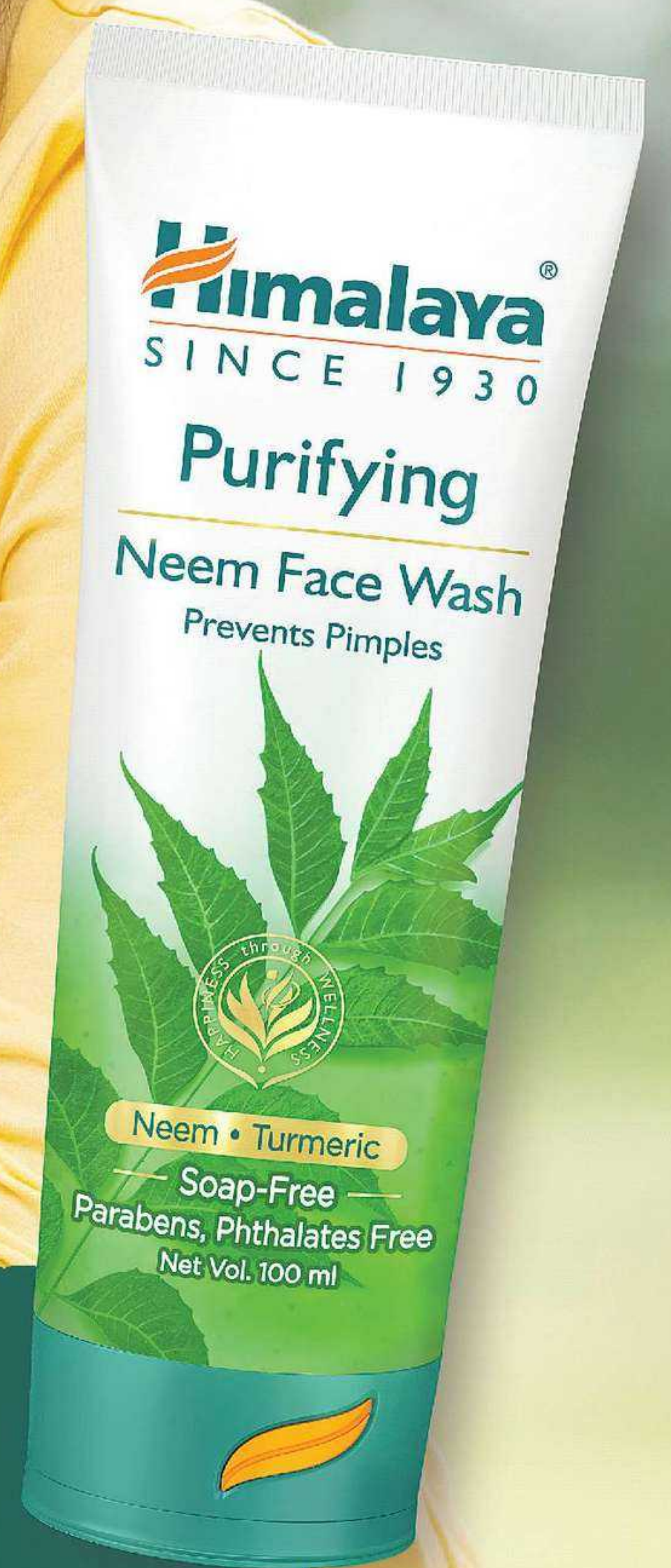
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Original refers to first facewash launched by Himalaya.



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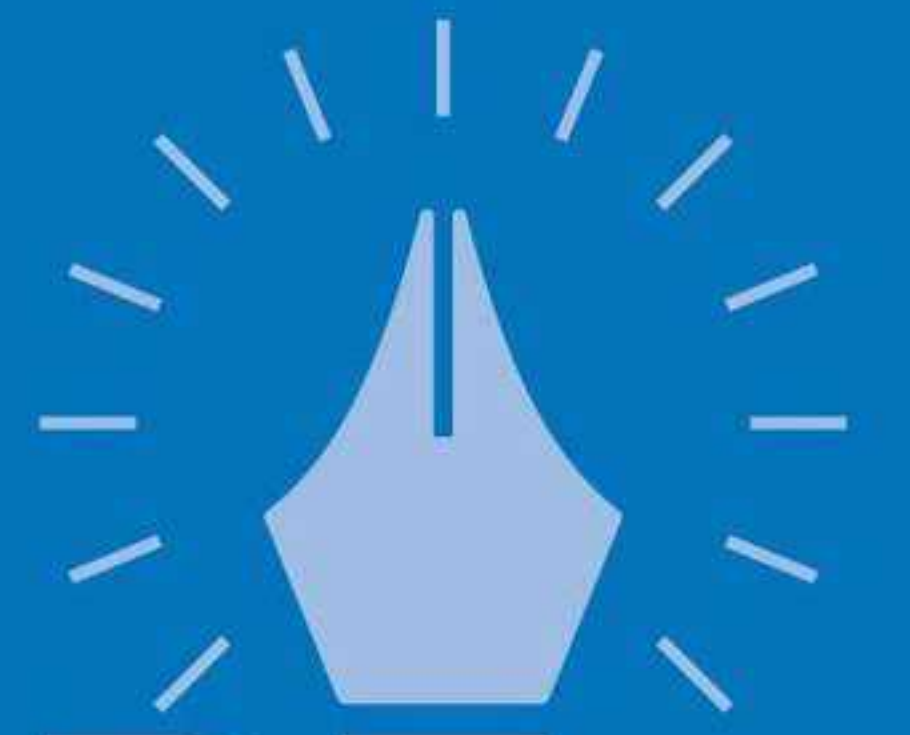


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Hindustan Times

Cabinet clears AI mission with ₹10,372 crore outlay

Aditi Agrawal
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Cabinet on Thursday approved the national IndiaAI mission with a budget outlay of ₹10,371.92 crore in a major push for the country to become an artificial intelligence hub by developing large language models, building AI infrastructure and upskilling its workforce.

The IndiaAI Mission aims to establish the country as a leader in AI through initiatives like developing computing infrastructure involving over 10,000 GPUs (graphics processing units) in partnership with the private sector, setting up an AI datasets platform to give startups and researchers access to non-personal data and other measures to foster innovation.

"It will act as a one-stop solution for resources critical for AI innovation," the Union

Other key decisions

DA hike to benefit 4.9mn govt employees: A four percentage point hike in Dearness Allowance for central govt employees and Dearness Relief for pensioners to benefit 4.9 million employees and 6.7 million pensioners

Ujjwala scheme to continue for 2024-25: The targeted subsidy of ₹300 per 14.2kg cylinder for up to 12 refills per year at a total expenditure of ₹12,000 crore

₹285 per quintal rise in MSP for raw jute: The MSP has been fixed at ₹5,335 per quintal for 2024-25 season to ensure a return of 64.8% over the all India weighted average production cost

Reservation for STs in Goa: Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes Bill, 2024 will make way for ST reservation in the 40-member Goa Assembly

UNNATI scheme for industrial growth in NE: Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme, 2024, envisages 2,180 applications and 83,000 jobs over 10 years at a cost of ₹10,037 crore

ministry of electronics and information technology (Meity) said in a statement following a Cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"The Prime Minister has democratised technology. With the AI mission, we will now make computer power availa-

continued on →15

ANKIT SAXENA'S KILLERS HANDED LIFE IN PRISON

Deepankar Malviya and Jignasa Sinha

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Thursday sentenced three people to life in prison for the 2018 murder of 23-year-old photographer Ankit Saxena, who was stabbed to death by his girlfriend's family members in full public view in west Delhi's Raghbir Nagar.

→P6

COURT ORDERS JUDICIAL PROBE IN FARMER'S DEATH

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab & Haryana high court on Thursday ordered a judicial probe into the death of a 21-year-old man from Punjab who was killed in police action during a clash between agitating farmers and the Haryana security personnel at Khanauri border last month. The court criticised the protestors for creating a "war-like situation", and using women and children as shields.

→P11

ISRO PLANS RETURN MOON MISSIONS STARTING 2027

Soumya Pillai
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) is gearing up for a return lunar mission, where samples from the Moon will be brought back for the first time, officials from the agency said, setting the stage for the next leap in the country's space programme after the Chandrayaan-3 launch last year.

"We are currently focusing on return lunar missions, which might take shape by 2027 or 2028," said Isro chairman S Somnath.

→P13

Indians in war zone: CBI busts traffickers

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Thursday said it has busted major human trafficking networks operating across India that targeted young people with promises of lucrative jobs abroad, including in Russia and Ukraine, but sent them off to people who then forced them to fight on the front lines of the war between those countries.

The agency conducted searches at 13 locations in Delhi,

Thiruvananthapuram, Mumbai, Ambala, Chandigarh, Madurai and Chennai. It identified at least 35 instances of victims sent abroad by the alleged traffickers.

"These traffickers have been operating as an organised network and were luring Indian nationals through social media channels like YouTube etc. and also through their local contacts or agents for highly paid jobs in Russia," a CBI spokesperson said. "Thereafter, the trafficked Indian nationals were trained in combat roles and deployed at

continued on →14

JAISWAL JOINS GAVASKAR IN ELITE '700-SERIES' CLUB

Vivek Krishnan
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NEW DELHI: Yashasvi Jaiswal on Thursday, during his knock against England, became the second Indian to score over 700 runs in a series, joining Sunil Gavaskar, who did it twice against West Indies.

→P20

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NUMBER THEORY

Political and social battles that women in India fight

By Roshan Kishore, Abhishek Jha and Nishant Ranjan

The 114th International Women's Day will be celebrated in India with the 2024 elections just about a month away. What role have women played in Indian politics, both as leaders and voters? Have things changed on this front in the recent past? An HT analysis of various data points shows that women have overcome their entrenched disadvantages in India's demographics and economy to play a game-changing role in politics. However, it remains to be seen whether they can win this battle at home. Here are four charts which explain this in detail.

1 Women are outnumbered in the overall popn, voters and elected representatives

According to the 2011 census, there were 943 women per thousand men in India. While there has not been a census in India after 2011, and some survey estimates do suggest that the gender ratio has improved – the 2019-21 National Family and Health Survey (NFHS) claims that it is 1020 – official data released by the Election Commission of India (ECI) shows that men outnumber women among voters for the 2024

general elections. When it comes to gender gap in political representation in India, things are much worse than the gap in terms of population. India ranked 145 among 193 countries in terms of the number of women in the parliament according to the latest global data on national parliament of Inter-Parliamentary-Union.

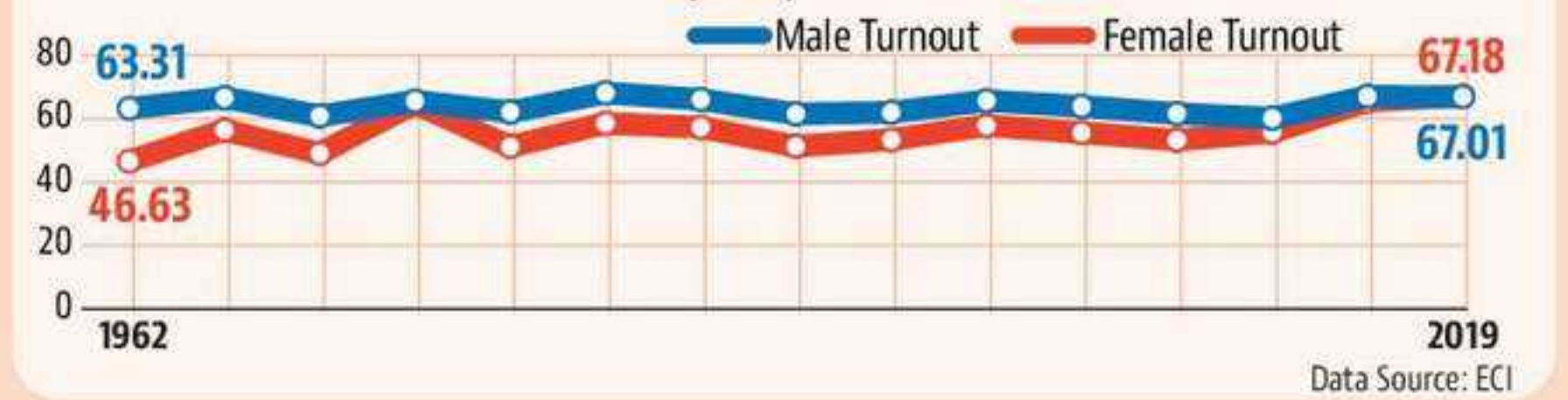
Women per 1,000 men, according to a range of reports



2 But Indian women have been trying to close the gap in grassroots political participation

The data is unambiguous on this. ECI's published statistics on gender-wise voter turnout are available from 1962 onwards. Barring the exception of the 1977 elections which were held in the aftermath of the emergency and saw an almost equal turnout of men and women voters, the gender gap in voter turnout – difference in share of turnout among men and women voters – has been continuously falling in India. The 2019 general elections were the first in the country when voter turnout for women exceeded that of men in the country.

Genderwise turnout rate in the Lok Sabha elections from 1962 (in %)



3 Turnout of women voters is gender agnostic when it comes to the constituency level

This is another interesting insight one can draw from parliamentary constituency (PC) level gender-wise voter turnout data. ECI has published this data for the 2014 and 2019 general elections. It shows that the turnout of women voters at the PC level is agnostic of there

being a women candidate in the fray. HT has checked this result by looking at the relation between turnout of women voters at the PC level with whether or not a woman candidate finished in the top two positions.

Female voter turnout versus competitive women candidates



Note: A female candidate was considered competitive if she finished in top two positions

Data Source: ECI

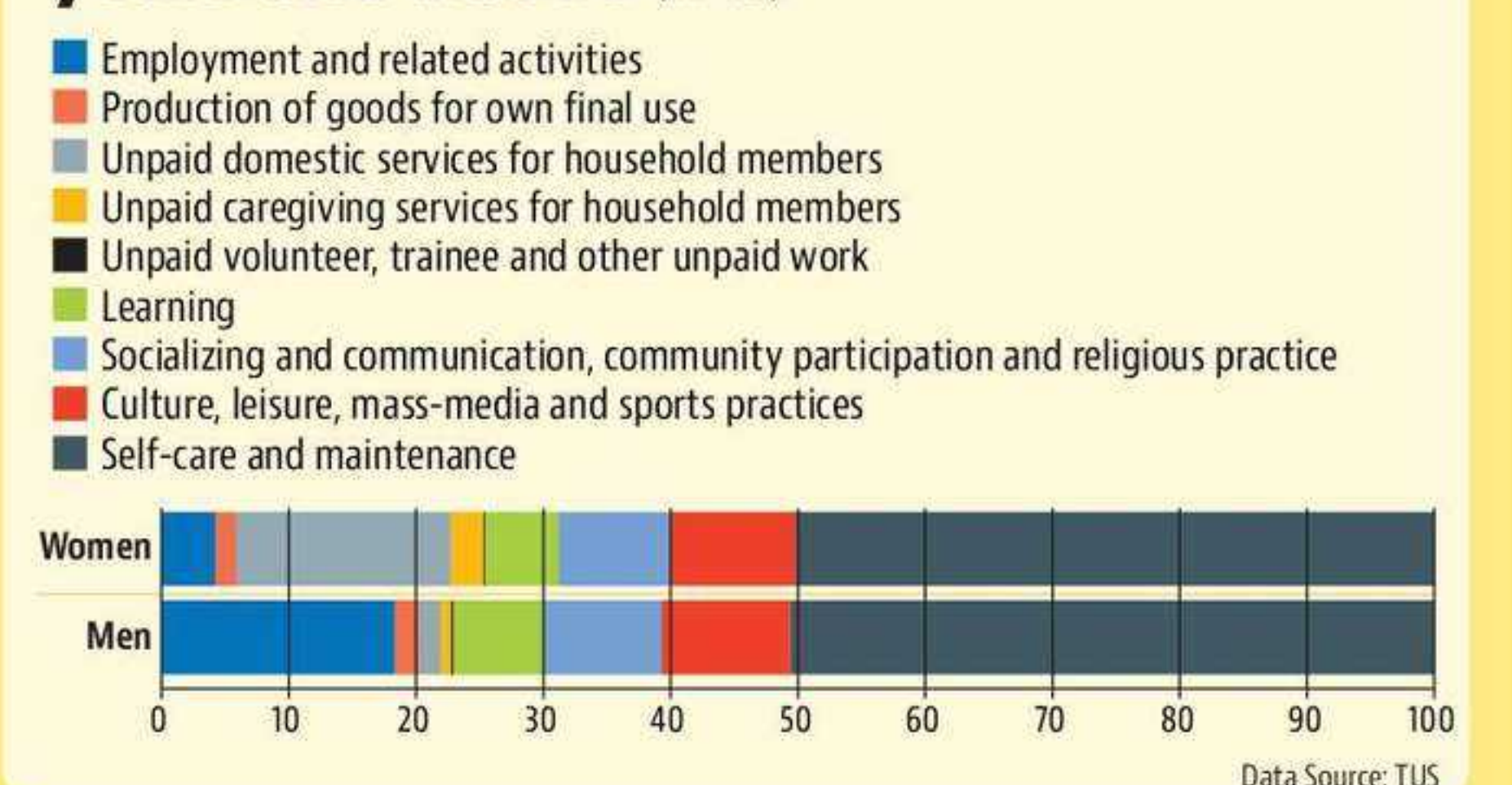
4 Rising turnout of women voters has forced male dominated political parties to take note

This is now a well-established fact when it comes to electoral politics in India. No serious political party – an overwhelming majority of them are controlled by men -- can afford to go to elections without appealing to the women voter. Parties have taken different routes to achieve this goal, from promises of imposing prohibition such as by Nitish Kumar in Bihar to targeted cash transfers by Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal, targeted entitlements such as free bus travel for women in Karnataka and Delhi, and, of-course, large-scale asset transfers such as toilets, LPG cylinders, tap water etc. all unleashed by the BJP under Narendra Modi. This is a trend which is only likely to get stronger including in the 2024 general elections.

5 Another govt survey shows women are still struggling to change attitudes of men at home

The 2019 Time Use Survey (TUS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO) shows this clearly. Women are still forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of household and care giving responsibilities and this unfair burden does not disappear with rise in education or incomes. The costs which this unfair burden imposes on women's well-being, their upward mobility and productivity in the overall economy is immense. Can Indian women win this battle at home? It is a question which might not matter for the next set of elections, but will definitely play a crucial role in shaping India's future.


Distribution of time spent in a day on various activities by people of age 6 years and above (in %)





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Here to win hearts: Modi on first Valley trip in 5 yrs

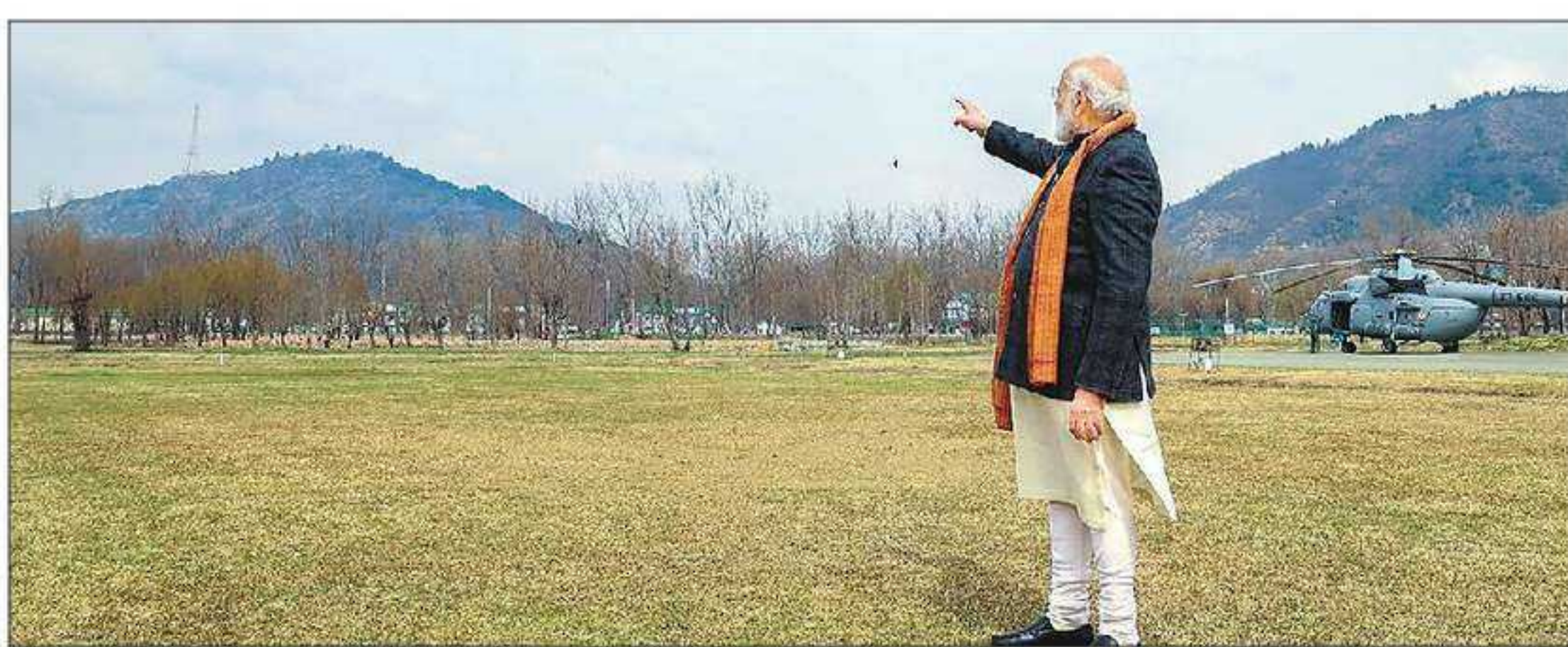
Mir Ehsan

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SRINAGAR: A developed Jammu & Kashmir is a priority for a developed India as the region sits at the head of the country and a head held high is a symbol of progress and respect. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday as he promised to "win hearts" on his first visit to the Valley since the abrogation of Article 370 five years ago.

At a massive rally in Srinagar, Modi hailed the scrapping of the erstwhile state's special status, blamed previous governments for choking development funds for poor, backward communities and women, and credited his administration for spurring jobs and infrastructure, and cracking down on corruption. In his 27-minute address, he also did not mention Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, a rarity for a Prime Minister visiting the restive region. "Jammu-Kashmir is not just a place, Jammu-Kashmir is the

continued on →10



PM Narendra Modi points to the Shankaracharya hill soon after reaching Kashmir on Thursday. PTI

Top govt panel clears project to develop 5th Gen stealth fighter

Rahul Singh

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NEW DELHI: The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved a highly anticipated project for the design and prototype development of an indige-

nous fifth-generation stealth fighter, or the advanced medium combat aircraft (AMCA), at a cost of around ₹15,000 crore, officials said on Thursday.

It is perhaps the most significant military project to be cleared by the government

before the general elections.

The project will involve the design and development of five twin-engine AMCA prototypes, with the stealth fighter likely to go into production only after a decade, the officials said, asking not to be named. →P12

SC QUESTIONS LOGIC OF MAHA SPEAKER ORDER ON 'REAL' SENA

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday wondered if the Maharashtra assembly speaker's decision to hold state chief minister Eknath Shinde's faction as the "real Shiv Sena" by applying the test of "legislative majority" is tenable, raising a question that lies at the heart of an intriguing legal-political tussle ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

"Look at the speaker's decision. It has gone by the test of legislative majority. Isn't it contrary to our judgment last year?" a bench led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud asked.

The bench recalled the May 2023 Constitution bench judgment in a related case, holding that in case of a vertical split in a party it would be futile to assess which group enjoys a majority in the legislature.

The judgment by the five-judge bench had added that other tests such as an evaluation of the majority in the organisational wings of the political party, an analysis of the provisions of the party constitution, or any other appropriate test may come handy in deciding which group represents the real party. →P11

ADR moves SC on delay by SBI in poll bond data

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: A day after the deadline for the State Bank of India (SBI) to submit details of electoral bonds (EBs) purchased since April 12, 2019, to the Election Commission of India (ECI) ended, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) approached the Supreme Court on Thursday demanding contempt action against the state-owned bank for defying the court's directive.

ADR, a non-profit organisation which is the lead petitioner

SBI'S PLEA FOR AN EXTENSION TO RELEASE POLL BONDS DATA IS LIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP ON MARCH 11

in the judgment striking down the Centre's 2018 EB scheme, mentioned the matter before Chief Justice of India (CJI) Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud, seeking a hearing on March 11 when SBI's application for an extension till

June 30 is likely to be taken up. Advocate Prashant Bhushan submitted before the CJI that ADR has sought initiation of contempt proceedings against SBI for not abiding by the court-mandated deadline of March 6 to submit to ECI full details of EBs purchased.

Responding, justice Chandrachud, who headed the bench that delivered the landmark EB verdict, said that the contempt plea will come up with SBI's plea if the petition has been duly numbered and verified. Bhushan assured the court that he would

continued on →15

Cong LS meet: Rahul to contest from Wayanad

NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is set to contest from Kerala's Wayanad seat again in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the party's central election committee (CEC) decided on Thursday evening, said people aware of developments.

There is speculation that Gandhi may also fight from Uttar

Pradesh's Amethi, a seat he won in 2004, 2009 and 2014 before losing in 2019, said the people cited above, though seats from the state were not discussed in Thursday's meeting.

About 50 candidates were cleared by the Congress CEC in its first meeting to finalise names for the Lok Sabha polls. →P13

PARLEYS OVER SEAT SPLIT AS BJP, BJD CLOSER TO DEAL

Sunetra Choudhury

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NEW DELHI: The BJP and the BJD on Thursday inched closer to announcing a reunion after 15 years, people aware of the matter said, with the former likely to get a higher share of seats in the Lok Sabha polls and the latter a bigger chunk in assembly polls. →P12






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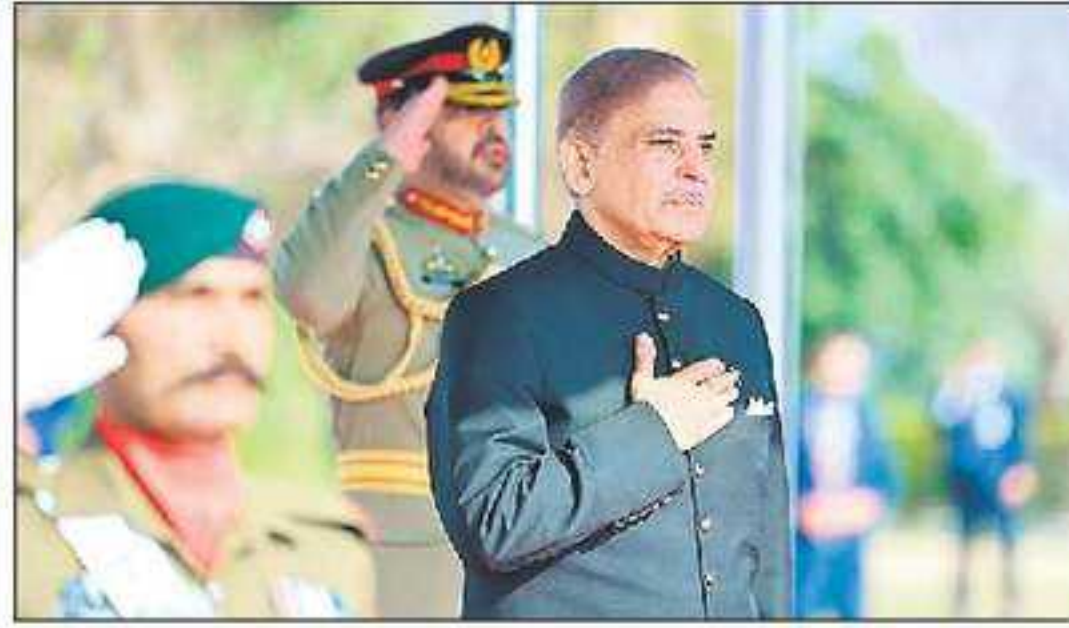
{ MY INDIA } FOUR SHOTS FIRED

BJP leader shot dead in Jaunpur, probe on

A local Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader was shot dead in Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh on Thursday. Superintendent of police (city) Brijesh Kumar said that a member of the BJP's district unit, Pramod Kumar Yadav, a resident of Bodhapur, was travelling in his car when some motorcycle riders signalled to stop his car and shot him. The incident took place around 10am. "The assailants fired four shots at Yadav. He was taken to a hospital where doctors declared him dead," said Kumar. Superintendent of police Ajay Pal Sharma said investigations are underway and that the people involved in the incident will be arrested soon.

-P2

{ WORLD } ELECTED PM

Pak's Sharif thanks PM Modi for wishes

Pakistan's newly-elected PM Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday thanked his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi for felicitating him on his re-election. Sharif, 72, took the oath as the premier of Pakistan on Monday, assuming the cash-strapped country's reins for a second time, nearly a month after an inconclusive polls marred by allegations of vote rigging. "Thank you @narendramodi for felicitations on my election as the Prime Minister of Pakistan," Sharif said on X. In his speech on Monday, he had said, "We will keep ties with neighbours on the basis of equality."

P1

{ MY INDIA } BENGALURU CAFE BLAST

Footage shows bomber may have got on bus to Tumakuru

The National Investigation Agency (NIA), which is probing the March 1 blast at a popular restaurant in Bengaluru, is examining new CCTV footage from the city that suggests the suspect bomber may have changed clothes and boarded a bus to Tumakuru in Karnataka after placing the improvised explosive device (IED) at Rameshwaram Cafe, people familiar with the matter said on Thursday. "The new video footage of the suspect with a backpack, wearing a full-sleeved shirt, cap, facemask, and spectacles moving in the bus is being examined," an officer familiar with matter said. "We are verifying the footage."

-P11

{ WORLD } RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

Rocket lands close to Ukrainian, Greek PM

A deadly Russian missile strike on Wednesday on the Ukrainian port city of Odesa appeared to land near the motorcade of President Volodymyr Zelensky and the visiting Greek prime minister, who described the "intense" moment of the surprise attack. Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said Zelensky was giving him a tour of the Odesa port — a vital outlet for Ukrainian exports across the Black Sea — when "we heard sirens." "We did not have time to get to a shelter. It is a very intense experience," Mitsotakis said through a translator in Odesa.

-P17

{ MY INDIA } FOCUS ON ART 370 MOVE

Right to dissent part of democracy: Court

The right to dissent in a lawful manner must be treated as a part of the right to lead a dignified life under the Constitution, the Supreme Court held on Thursday, noting that every citizen of India has a right to be critical of the abrogation of Article 370 and the change of Jammu & Kashmir's status. The remarks came as it quashed a criminal case lodged against Javed Ahmad Hajam, a Kashmiri Muslim professor working in a Kolhapur college, Maharashtra, who was booked under section 153A of IPC for putting out a WhatsApp status in a group termed 'August 5 - Black Day for Jammu & Kashmir' and celebrating Independence day of Pakistan on August 14.

-P14

CBI nabs UCO bank app developers for ₹820-crore 'fraud'

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NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation said on Thursday it has uncovered a fraud worth ₹820 crore involving unauthorised transactions into accounts at UCO Bank, adding that it had carried out raids at 67 locations in seven cities in Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

The agency alleged that two support engineers from a private company engaged by UCO Bank to develop and maintain its mobile banking app initiated lakhs of immediate payment service (IMPS) inward transactions from over 14,000 accounts across seven banks into 41,000 UCO accounts between November 10 and 13.

The agency identified the two as engineers Avishk Srivastava and Supriya Mallick of LCode Technologies, who allegedly changed settings on UCO's IMPS server, causing ₹53,049 transactions to be credited to UCO accounts without actual debits from originating banks being posted.

In other words, the money reflected in both accounts — the destination (UCO) one and the originating accounts.

The agency said numerous account holders then withdrew the wrongfully credited funds, totalling ₹820 crore. "Numerous account holders have exploited this situation, making wrongful gains by withdrawing funds through various banking channels," the spokesperson said.

CBI said several account holders conspired and collaborated with the accused and took these transactions in their accounts in a

"syndicated manner".

In the FIR, seen by HT, the agency described the core of the problem: UCO Bank's app uses an intermediary tool called Connect24, which interfaces with the core banking system (CBS) that banks use to exchange information about fund transfers.

Software logs showed Srivastava and Mallick changing settings, without authorisation from officials, which caused a failed response to be sent to originating banks despite UCO accounts being credited, allowing customers to withdraw the amounts.

CBI registered its case on November 21 after a UCO Bank complaint. Raids were conducted at 67 locations on Thursday after initial raids in December targeting 13 sites. Dozens of suspects have been examined.

Over 330 police personnel in 40 teams and 80 independent witnesses were involved in the action spread across multiple cities. "Approximately 130 incriminating documents... 43 digital devices were seized for forensic analysis. Additionally, 30 suspects were examined," the spokesperson said. LCode did not respond to emails sent seeking a comment.

Cyber fraud incidents related to digital payments and banking technologies have been a growing concern in India's financial sector, but incidents involving a bank's contractors have been rare. The National Cybercrime Reporting Portal in 2021 received over 450,000 complaints, which grew by 113.7% in 2022 when over 966,000 cases were registered, the agency's chief, Rajesh Kumar, said in January.

{ CLIMATE CRISIS } COPERNICUS DATA

FEBRUARY BREAKS ALL TEMPERATURE RECORDS

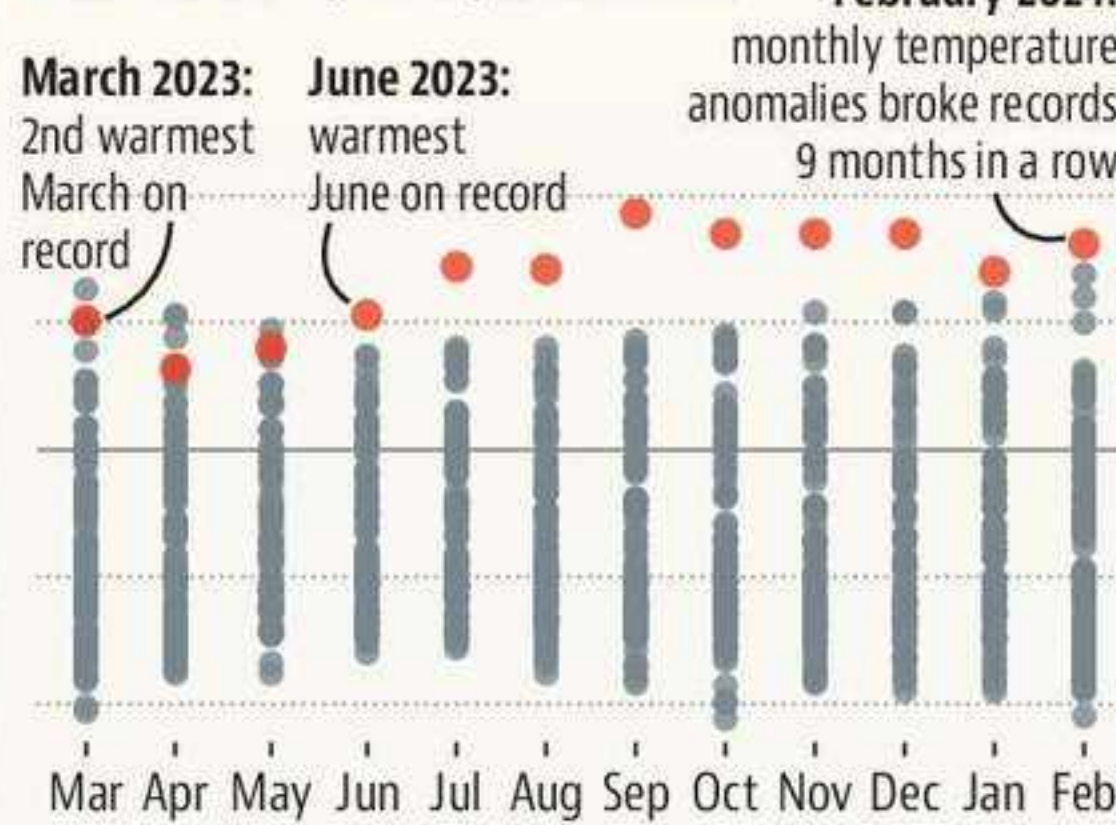
February 2024 was the warmest February on record globally, with a surface air temperature of 13.54°C — 0.81°C above the 1991-2020 average, and 0.12°C above the temperature of the previous warmest February in 2016. A look at the state of the climate

NINTH WARMEST MONTH**1.77°C**

warmer than the pre-industrial average for 1850-1900, February was the ninth consecutive month to register as the warmest on record, Europe's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) data showed. Since June, every month has set a new high for the global average during that time of year. The surge comes on the back of storms, drought and fire that have lashed the planet as climate change, supercharged by the El Niño phenomenon, stoked record warming in 2023.

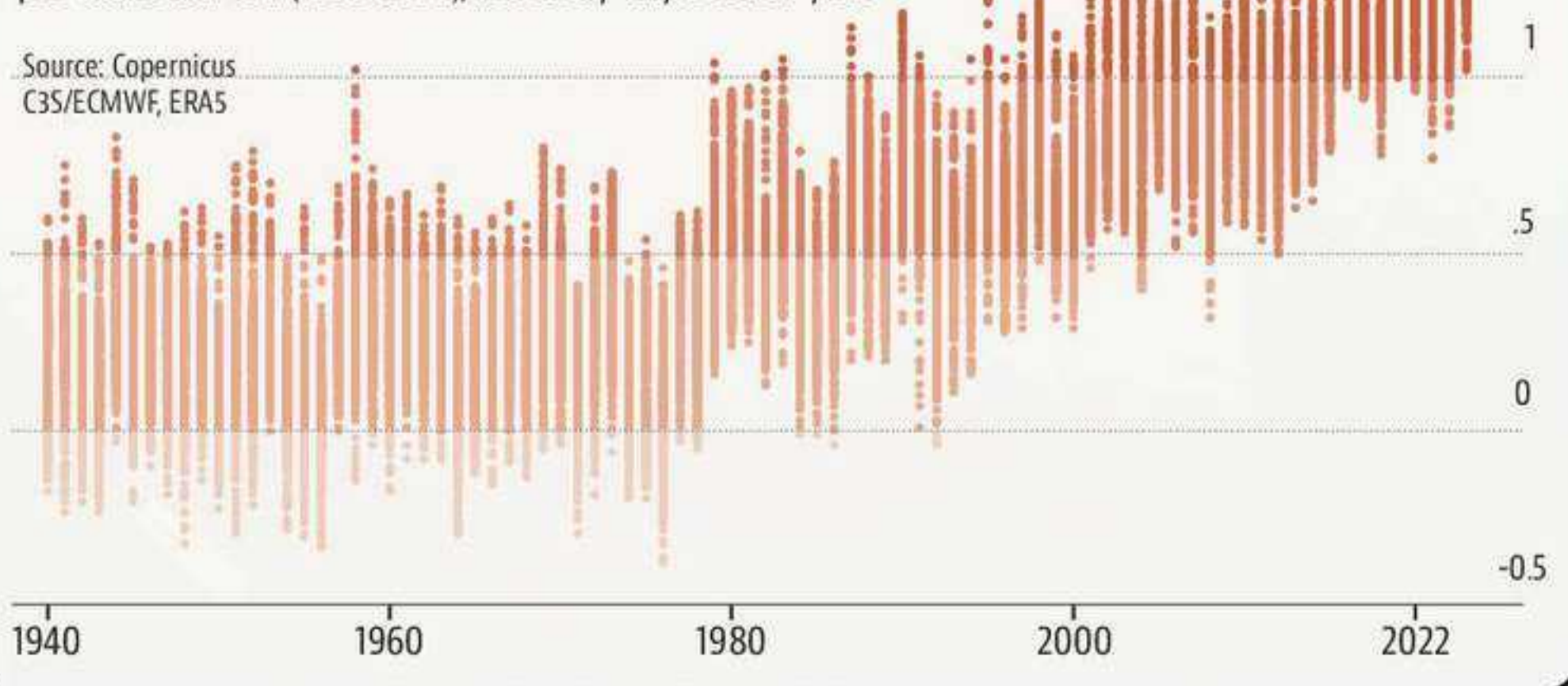
FEBRUARY 2024: 9TH CONSECUTIVE MONTHLY TEMPERATURE RECORD

● Last 12 months (March 2023 to February 2024)
● Same months in previous years (since 1940)

**CLOSING IN ON 2°C**

On Feb 8 and 11 the daily global temperature reached 2°C above the 1850-1900 levels — the second time the threshold was reached after Nov 17-18

IN FEBRUARY 2024, NEW ANOMALIES ABOVE 2°C
Anomaly of global average temperature compared to the pre-industrial era (1850-1900), for every day of each year



Source: Copernicus C3S/ECMWF, ERA5

GLOBAL SEAS CONTINUE TO BOIL

The North Atlantic sea surface temperature has been at record level every day for a solid year since March 5, 2023. The warmth in the oceans is a symptom of GHGs trapping heat over decades which is now emerging and pushing air temperatures into uncharted territory, experts said

END TO WARMEST WINTER

This was the warmest winter — December, January and February — by nearly a quarter of a degree, beating 2016, which was also an El Niño year. The three-month period was the most any season has been above pre-industrial levels in Copernicus record keeping, which goes back to 1940

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR PARIS GOALS

In the 2015 Paris Agreement, the world set a goal of trying to keep warming at or below 1.5°C. Copernicus' figures are monthly and not quite the same measurement system for the Paris threshold, which is averaged over decades

{ DU PROFESSOR CASE } KEY JUDGMENT BY BOMBAY HIGH COURT

Literary pursuit vs criminal intent: Decoding the Saibaba verdict

Utkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: In the labyrinthine corridors of justice, the distinction between possessing literature and committing a crime often blurs, casting shadows on the fundamental rights of freedom of expression and thought.

The Bombay high court judgment acquitting former Delhi University (DU) professor GN Saibaba and five others for suspected Maoist links and "waging war against India" comes as a nuanced judicial precedent, stressing that individuals cannot not be prosecuted for their intellectual pursuits — not unless there is concrete evidence linking them to illicit activities.

The 293-page judgment in the 2013 case presents a fine illustration of exploring the intricate process of discerning criminality from intellectual curiosity and the pivotal role that courts ought to play in the realm of safeguarding individual rights. Simultaneously, the judgment also shines light on the imperative of procedural compliances that serve as a check against abuse of power and ascertains the accountability of law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities.

Possession of literature alone can't be a crime

The Maharashtra government had cited recovery of material contained in electronic form in Saibaba's computer to link him with the banned organisation, CPI(Maoists), adding that the material demonstrated that he had knowledge about the activities of the organisation. This

included pamphlets of CPI (Maoists), his interview as the vice-president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (RDF), the alleged frontal organisation of the CPI (Maoist) and review for RDF.

Basing its judgment on intellectual freedom being the cornerstone of a democratic society, the high court was emphatic that "the contents of these documents read and understood by any person, by themselves would not constitute an offence" under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) or the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

"The content of these documents if taken cumulatively, would perhaps demonstrate that the accused were sympathisers of a Maoist philosophy or sympathised with the cause of certain tribal groups or certain people who were perceived to be marginalised or disenfranchised...and mere possession of such literature, having a particular political and social philosophy by itself is not contemplated as an offence under the UAPA," held the division bench of justices Vinay G Joshi and Valmiki SA Menezes.

In Thwaha Fasal Vs Union of India (2021), a two-judge bench of the Supreme Court categorically held that a mere association with a terrorist organisation was not sufficient to attract Section 38 of UAPA, which penalises the commission of an offence relating to membership of a terrorist organisation. "The association and the support have to be with intention of furthering the activities of a terrorist organisation. In a given case, such intention can be inferred from the overt acts or acts of active participation of the accused..." the top court said, granting bail to Fasal who was

found in possession of various materials relating to CPI (Maoist). Again, in July 2023, the Supreme Court dismissed a conservative approach in attributing criminality solely based on the possession of controversial literature.

While granting bail to Vernon Gonsalves and Arun Ferreira in the Bhima-Koregaon case for having alleged Maoist links, the court held that mere possession of literature, "even if the content thereof inspires or propagates violence," by itself cannot constitute any of the offences under UAPA. When there is nothing to prima facie establish the complicity of the accused in overawing any public functionary by means of criminal force or causing death of any public functionary or attempt to cause death, the top court said, mere holding of certain literature through which violent acts may be propagated would not ipso facto attract the provisions of UAPA.

Relying on these judgments, the Bombay high court underlined that passive membership, even if demonstrated from the material seized from Saibaba, is not contemplated as an offence under UAPA.

The high court further highlighted the Constitutional right of individuals to explore and discuss a wide array of ideas without fear of retribution or censorship. "In any event, merely because a particular philosophy is contained in the literature, which in any case has not been proved is under the authorship of any of the accused, or because a person chooses to read such literature which is otherwise accessible from the internet from various websites containing Communists or Maoists literature and philosophy, would to a certain extent be violative of



Saibaba was released from Nagpur central jail on Thursday. ANI

the fundamental rights of any citizen under Article 19 of the Constitution of India," it said.

The high court asserted that merely because a citizen downloads certain materials or even sympathises with a particular philosophy, would itself not be an offence unless there is specific evidence led by the prosecution to connect an active role shown by the accused with particular incidents of violence and terrorism. And in this case, the court said, the prosecution could adduce no evidence to connect Saibaba to any incident, terror attack or act of violence, either by participating in its preparation or in any manner providing support to its commission.

"Playing several videos or requesting the court to read through hundreds of pages of literature does not constitute evidence. In our opinion, there should have been specific evidence led through witnesses to connect with the making out of an offence," stated the judgment.

Procedural compliance as the bedrock of criminal prosecution in terror cases
The handling of terrorism cases

presents a delicate balance between swift action and procedural integrity. Therefore, the importance of procedural compliance in such cases cannot be overstated because the gravity of charges warrants fairness, transparency, and accountability.

The Bombay high court judgment delved into the significance of adhering to procedural norms in terrorism cases and its implications on human rights and legal integrity while trashing the entire case against Saibaba and five others over incurable procedural violations.

Saibaba and five other individuals were exonerated by the high court initially in October 2022 because of the state's failure to meet two essential procedural safeguards — the sanction to prosecute and an independent evaluation of the sanction prior to the invocation of severe terror accusations. Asked by the Supreme Court in April 2023 to decide the case afresh, the high court reached the same conclusion.

The high court first held that the sanction to prosecute the six, including Saibaba was invalid because it not only showed non-application of mind by the

reviewing authority's but also since there was no material on record by an independent authority to guide the former in reaching this decision. The first sanction for the five accused, who were arrested in 2013, was granted on February 15, 2014. The second sanction for the prosecution of Saibaba was received on April 6, 2015, after the charges were framed by the trial court.

"The laconic half page communication cannot be called a report since there is no material found therein to infer that the authority has reviewed the evidence gathered and formed a particular opinion on that basis," said the court, adding the sanction accorded in the absence of compliance with the mandatory prerequisite cannot be termed as a valid sanction within the meaning of the UAPA.

As regards the sanction for Saibaba, the bench said that "the position is even worse". The record showed that when the trial court framed the charges, there was no sanction to prosecute Saibaba. "Without a valid sanction, the trial court could not have heard the case since it essentially lacked jurisdiction. Thus, there is total non-compliance with the sanction provision which goes to the very root of the case, vitiating everything against accused No.6 (Saibaba) from its inception for want of authority of the trial court to proceed," it held.

As the very foundation for initiation of prosecution was not in consonance with law, the bench maintained, the order of taking of cognisance by the special court vitiated the entire further proceedings.

Arrest and seizure in the case were also held to be invalid by the high court, noting the police

failed to abide by the norms laid down under the UAPA, besides the failure to prove electronic evidence against the accused.

While UAPA stipulates authorisation from a high-ranking state officer, not below the rank of the secretary of the government, before arrest and seizure, the prosecution claimed that the general provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) also entitled a police officer to do so.

Rejecting this proposition, the high court noted that although the scheme of UAPA empowers a high-ranking police officer at the level of deputy superintendent of police to investigate, the power of arrest and search are specifically kept under the control of the designated authority i.e. the principal secretary of the government.

"The legislative intent was therefore to confer powers of arrest and search on an officer specifically authorized in that behalf by the competent authority and such search and arrest can be conducted by only under the supervision and control of this high-ranking government officer (designated authority) which is independent to police authority," said the bench, adding UAPA is a special statute which will override the CrPC provisions as regards the statutory scheme for powers of arrest or seizure.

Based on it, the high court held that the arrest of Saibaba and search and seizure from his premises by a DSP-level officer without an authorisation from the designated authority vitiated the entire action of the police. "The prosecution has failed to establish legal arrest and seizure from the accused," it held.

Another important marker from the judgment pertained to recording the hash value of digital

devices, such as mobile phones and laptops, confiscated during investigations. Hash value is an electronic fingerprint of a digital device, and records changes if contents in the device are tampered with after seizure.

Underlining that the prosecution's case solely rests on the electronic evidence seized from Saibaba on September 12, 2023, the bench wondered why electronic devices were not secured by drawing their hash values.

"Apart from hash value, unique identification number of the hard disk and electronic gadgets have not been recorded in panchnama to vouch for its credibility. The description of the electronic gadgets in the nature of outer appearance, cover, serial number, or some other factors, which could have been easily incorporated in the panchnama with the help of experts, have not been done. The seizure was like an ordinary article of crime," lamented the bench.

The court ultimately declared that the "prosecution has failed to prove seizure and search of incriminating material from the house search of Saibaba."

While the Maharashtra government has challenged the acquittal of Saibaba and others the Supreme Court, the high court judgment upholds the principles of intellectual freedom by distinguishing between literary interest and criminal intent. Even as the terror cases may tempt authorities to circumvent established procedures in the name of expediency, the Bombay high court judgment highlights that erosion of procedural safeguards comes at the risk of compromising the very principles that underpin a democratic society and fundamental rights.

Govt says power subsidy to continue till March '25

Paras Singh
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi cabinet on Thursday approved the extension of the power subsidy scheme for the financial year 2024-25. In a meeting chaired by chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, it was announced that the scheme would be in force till March 31, 2025, even as Kejriwal and power minister Atishi alleged the Opposition has made repeated attempts to derail the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government's scheme.



Finance minister Atishi and chief minister Arvind Kejriwal before presenting the Delhi Budget on Monday. RAJ KRAJ/HT

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) refuted the claims and said it did not oppose the scheme. The party, however, reiterated its long-standing demand that both residential and commercial units should be able to avail the subsidy. Under the scheme, the Delhi government provides free electricity for a monthly consumption of up to 200 units. A 50% subsidy is also given where the consumption is between 201-400 units. The government pays ₹3,500 crore per annum for the power subsidy scheme. Commercial and industrial consumers have to pay ₹13 per unit in the Capital.

Kejriwal said that free electricity was available only in Delhi and Punjab. "In the rest of the country, there are long power cuts and electricity bills worth thousands of rupees have to be paid. This is possible (in Delhi

and Punjab) because there is a government of honest and educated people in Delhi," he said.

"I congratulate the people of Delhi that the 24-hour electricity with zero power cut and free electricity has been extended till March 31, 2025. This also includes free electricity for the lawyers' chambers. Many people had apprehensions about the continuation of the electricity subsidy and whether they will get the benefits over next year or not... Let me tell you that these people tried their best to stop it. But your son got this work completed," the chief minister posted on X.

In a briefing after the cabinet meeting, power minister Atishi said the AAP government has been fulfilling this promise for the past nine years. "Our opponents tried to ensure that Delhiites do not get zero power bills. Officers were threatened but since our government has committed to providing zero bills to consumers, we will ensure that they get it," Atishi said.

'Officers threatened'
She alleged that the "officers were being threatened that if they help in the implementation of AAP schemes, they will face vigilance, ED and CBI cases".

The Delhi BJP dismissed the allegations. "The BJP has no opposition towards free electricity being given to residential consumers for up to 200 units a month. We welcome the extension of power subsidy through the exchequer. But we repeat our demand that all consumers, be it residential or commercial, should be given the first 200 units free of charge," said Praveen Shankar Kapoor, BJP media head and spokesperson.

"The allegations are atrocious... on one hand the Delhi government claims to give 200 units free to a section of the society but on the other hand most commercial, industrial and even residential consumers are forced to buy electricity at the highest rates in North India. While industrial users of Delhi have to pay ₹13 per unit, their counterparts in Haryana pay a maximum of ₹8.5 per unit. Similarly, meter, load, and pension charges make Delhi electricity bills hefty," said Delhi BJP secretary Harish Khurana.

While presenting the Delhi Budget on March 4, Atishi said Delhi has around 5.86 million domestic electricity consumers, out of which around 68.33% or 4.02 million domestic consumers availed the benefits of electricity subsidy. Out of these, over 2.2 million consumers also received zero bills. In 2023, around 3.41 crore zero electricity bills were issued to consumers.

2 nabbed for running sextortion racket

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police has busted a gang that extorted money from people by tempting them into performing sex acts, video recording them, and then using the video to blackmail the victims, officers aware of the case said on Thursday, adding that two people have been arrested in connection with the case.

Officers identified the accused

as Mahfuz Rehman, 39, and Amir Khan, 26, both residents of the Mewat region in Rajasthan. They said the suspects have allegedly extorted money from at least 25 people across the country, including residents of Delhi, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan, UP, and Bihar.

Giving details of the case, deputy commissioner of police (east) Apoorva Gupta said that in January, a 71-year-old doctor filed a

police complaint at the cyber police station in east Delhi, stating that he was blackmailed into paying ₹8.6 lakh after his private videos were recorded. As the criminals continued to demand money, the doctor decided to report the matter to the police and filed his complaint.

A case was registered and during the probe, DCP Gupta said, the team found that the money had been transferred into various accounts in Haryana, Punjab and

Maharashtra. All the accounts were opened digitally and lacked proper Know Your Customer (KYC) verification. "Investigators obtained the phone call detail record and internet protocol detail record related to the suspects and the location of the phone numbers was traced to the Mewat," she said. Subsequently, police conducted a raid at the Solpur Peeli village in Deegh district of Rajasthan on February 29, and Rehman and Khan were arrested.

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Delhi court summons Kejriwal on Mar 16 after ED files fresh complaint

Deepankar Malviya
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Thursday ordered chief minister Arvind Kejriwal to appear before it on March 16 after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) filed a fresh complaint alleging he was evading summons for questioning in a money laundering case related to the alleged irregularities in the now-scrapped 2021-22 excise policy.

Additional chief metropolitan magistrate Divya Malhotra took cognisance of the complaint while directing Kejriwal to appear physically in court. Kejriwal was earlier directed to appear before the court on March 16 in connection with a separate ED complaint

The proposed accused was legally bound to comply... but allegedly failed to do so.

DIVYA MALHOTRA, ACMM

filed on February 3. "Even though this is a second complaint against the same person with similar allegations, there is merit in the argument that every non-compliance of summons issued by a public servant would tantamount to a separate offence," said ACMM Malhotra.

ED submitted that Kejriwal has no legal right to know whether he is being summoned as a witness or an accused. "It is a wilful and intentional disobedience to the summons, making out an offence under Section 174 of the IPC... the grounds raised by him for not complying with the summons are frivolous and vexatious and therefore, prima facie the offence is made out," argued additional solicitor-general SV Raju, who appeared for ED.

He referred to Kejriwal's replies and said it was unheard of that a person wants to know whether he is being summoned as a witness or an accused.

"As per the mandate of Section 50(3) of the Act, the... proposed accused was legally bound to

comply... but allegedly he failed to do so," the court said.

On ED's first complaint, the court on February 7 directed Kejriwal to physically appear before it. The court said he was legally bound to appear before ED. Kejriwal on Monday wrote a letter to the agency saying he is ready to answer its questions via video conferencing after March 12.

AAP minister Atishi said: "ED did not respond to questions by CM. It seems ED believes it is above the court of law."

Meanwhile, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said that Kejriwal evading ED notices gives reason to believe he is guilty.

"The arm of law has reached Kejriwal's neck, and soon he may have to face trial," he said.

SIGNAL SNAG HITS METRO OPERATION FOR THREE HOURS ON YELLOW LINE

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Metro operations were impacted for around three hours on the Yellow Line (Millennium City Centre Gurugram to Samaypur Badli) on Thursday due to a signalling issue. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) said this led to trains being run at restricted speeds for around three hours between 2.15pm and 5.15pm, after which the issue was resolved.

DMRC said the problem occurred between Vishwavidyalaya and the Kashmir Gate station, owing to a track circuit drop. This also led to bunching of trains.

"Trains are running at restricted speed in this small section resulting in bunching of trains. Normal train services are available on rest of the sections of the Yellow Line," said the DMRC in a statement, and later announced that normal operations resumed from 5.15pm.

Commuters also took to social media during this period, complaining of long queues at metro stations.

"There was no service to the Millennium City Centre from Kashmir Gate. Made me miss my train from NDLS..." said Devendra Pai on X.

DMRC SAID THAT THE PROBLEM WAS BETWEEN THE VISHWAVIDYALAYA AND KASHMIRE GATE METRO STATIONS, DUE TO A DROP IN THE TRACK CIRCUIT

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DP/9635/2024

EMPOWERING

The landscape in Uttar Pradesh has undergone a profound transformation under the double-engine government. Advancement in women's empowerment, driven by the effective implementation of diverse women-centric schemes, robust safety measures to ensure a secure environment for women in the state. From ensuring safe motherhood to meritorious students, the government's initiatives encompass a wide spectrum of welfare measures. Free self-help groups have collectively formed a comprehensive safety net, enveloping half the population of the state under the PM Svamitva Yojana. These efforts have resulted in a noticeable shift, with women in the state taking center stage.



The security and honour provided to women in Uttar Pradesh by the double-engine government and the way their dignity has been enhanced is unprecedented. The government is continuously working without discrimination or partiality to empower the future of women.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



Construction of 55.83 lakh houses

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

With the pledge of housing for all, this scheme has proved to be a boon for all eligible persons. Along with houses, the beneficiaries have been given free basic facilities like electricity, toilets, free gas connections, tap water connections, Ayushman cards, ration cards, etc.

I received information about PM Awas Yojana and applied for allotment of a house in the DUDA department. A house was allotted after the fulfillment of the conditions. Today, due to this housing scheme, I have my own house which has changed my life a lot. I am living happily with my family.



Sadhna Shukla, Badaun

Awareness campaign under Mission Shakti programme reaching 9 crore people

Distribution of fortified wheat, porridge, gram, pulses and fortified edible oil to 2.06 crore beneficiaries

Free travel for 1.03 crore women in all categories of government buses on Rakshabandhan

Best conviction rate in the country to provide punishment under the POCSO Act and crimes against women



1.75 lakh families benefited

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana

This scheme has played an important role in empowering women, improving their health and freeing the entire family from the ill effects of smoke. Air pollution and the cutting of trees have been effectively curbed. Due to this, both life and the environment have been protected.

Cooking on a traditional mud chulha, I once feared that my life might end there. The smoke took a toll on my health. However, everything changed when I received a free gas connection under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. Now, I no longer struggle to gather wood and sticks. I also have more time to spend with my family.



Premvati, Bareilly



Construction of 2.75 crore toilets, 10 crore people benefited

Swachh Bharat Mission

The dream of a healthier India is becoming a reality thanks to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. By putting an end to open defecation, the initiative has not only increased respect for women but also reduced unnecessary medical expenses, thereby improving overall quality of life.

My family and I used to face numerous difficulties while defecating outdoors. My daughter-in-law and granddaughter felt scared every time they had to go. However, since toilets were constructed in our house under the Swachh Bharat Mission, this problem has been resolved.



Parveen, Bulandshahr



Tap connections to more than 2.11 crore houses

Har Ghar Jal

The Jal Jeevan Mission is turning the dream of clean water in every household into reality by providing tap connections. Villagers, especially women, no longer have to travel long distances for drinking water. This has led to a decrease in diseases caused by contaminated water.

Previously, fetching water from distant sources was a major challenge, consuming much time needed for sending children to school and cooking meals. However, with tap connections installed in every household, the water problem has been resolved. Now, children can attend school on time, and health-related issues have decreased significantly due to the availability of clean water.



Aarti Soni, Jhansi



More than 2 lakh women benefited

Pradhan Mantri SVANidhi Yojana

Launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, the scheme aimed to provide street vendors with capital without the need for any guarantees to start or expand their businesses. It has also played a key role in promoting digital transactions, thereby fostering economic development at the grassroots level.

The PM SVANidhi Yojana has been a lifeline during times of crisis. Previously, due to limited funds, I could only sell 'chaat' on a cart. However, after knowing about the scheme, I applied for a loan and was immediately approved for Rs. 10,000. This has enabled me to expand my range of products and has significantly boosted my business.



Madhumita, Varanasi



9 crore people benefited

Ayushman Bharat Yojana

9 crore people benefited, the first state in the country to make 5 crore Ayushman cards. This scheme aims to provide improved medical facilities to impoverished families and alleviate the financial burden of medical expenses. It offers health insurance of up to Rs. 5 lakh to eligible families.

I was afflicted with cataracts and lost my vision due to the lack of funds for treatment. In my hour of need, the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana came to my rescue. After obtaining a card under this scheme, I received top-notch treatment at an empaneled private hospital, all without any financial burden. Thanks to this support.



Munni Devi, Bareilly

Safety and



- Provision of free education to girls till graduation
- Awareness campaign under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Yojana reaching to 1.90 crore women and girls
- Appointment of more than 58,000 women as Banking Correspondents (BC Sakhi), payment of honorarium of Rs. 4,000 per month with incentives on better performance, financial transactions of more than Rs. 20,278 crore and dividend of Rs. 53.85 crore.
- 40 lakh girls trained under Rani Lakshmbai Self Defence Training Programme
- Criminals punished in 7,320 cases under POCSO Act
- Conviction in 19,415 cases of crimes against women and minors
- Establishment of 218 new fast-track courts, 81 magistrate-level courts and 81 additional sessions courts
- Formation of women PAC battalions in Badaun, Lucknow and Gorakhpur, Decision to establish in Jalaun, Balrampur, Mirzapur, Shamli, Bijnor
- Establishment of 7 new women police stations
- Construction of an additional 4,500 pink toilets for women under Swachh Bharat Mission
- Formation of women's help desk in all 1,584 police stations (including GRP), Women cyber cells operational at all 18 zone headquarters
- Formation of 61 women reporting police outpost counseling centers/women police stations in remote tehsils
- Punishment of accused in 19,415 cases of crimes against women and minors
- 99.55% disposal of complaints in women's helpline 1090 service
- 3,195 anti-Romeo squads formed. At 79,68,771 places, checking of 2,58,01,293 persons
- Arrangements for escorting the woman to their safe destination by UP 112 In case of a call for assistance from 10 pm to 6 am
- Operation of cyber crime stations in 75 districts
- One Stop Centre : So far 1.49 lakh women have benefited from the centers established in all the districts for women suffering from violence
- Inauguration of 100 pink booths/pink outposts, and 1090 analytical centers in Lucknow Safe City Project
- Establishment of one additional Mahila Police Station/Mahila Chowki (counseling centre) in every district
- Government health units established in rural and urban areas in the state under the Maternal Health Programme, a total of 5547 delivery centers are operational
- 421 Birth Centers marked as F.R.U

Budget 2024-25

Rs. 22000 crore
Jal Jeevan Mission

Rs. 7377 crore
Old Age Pension

Rs 5129 crore
Nutritional Programme

Rs. 4073 crore
Destitute Women's Pension

NG WOMEN

ent through meticulously planned and phased strategies the state has witnessed a tangible schemes and policies at the grassroots level. In addition, the government has implemented hood and free vaccinations to celebrating the birth of girl children and providing rewards for education up to graduation, support for marriage, healthcare provisions, and promotion of e state. Priority has been given to women's property rights under schemes like PMAY and ge and setting examples across various developmental spheres.



Mission Shakti
WOMEN SECURITY
WOMEN DIGNITY
WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

WOMEN WORK FORCE (%)

2017-18	2022-23
14.2%	32.10%



MOTHER MORTALITY RATE (PER LAKH)

2014	2022
285	167



CHILD MORTALITY RATE (PER THOUSAND)

2014	2020
48	38



The state government is committed to ensuring respect of every daughter and every woman of the state as well as their self-reliance. There is no place on the soil of new Uttar Pradesh for those who try to tarnish the dignity and self-respect of women.

Yogi Adityanath
 Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Pension of Rs 1000 per month to **31.50 lakh** destitute women

Assistance to more than **5.62 lakh** women through helpline 181

Government jobs for more than **1.50 lakh** women

Shakti Mobile in all 1,584 police stations of Uttar Pradesh, formation of 10,417 women police beats, appointment of 20,740 women beat policemen.

d Respect



- Under the Janani Suraksha Yojana, a total of 20,60,963 mothers gave birth in the financial year 2023-24 till January 2024
- Under the Janani Shishu Suraksha Programme, a total of 16,38,428 women have been provided free medicines, 10,13,098 free food and 20,62,382 free check-up facilities have been provided to pregnant women till January 2024 in the financial year 2023-24
- Under the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan, 39,790 camps organized at a total of 1667 units and 2,53,891 high-risk pregnant women identified in the year 2023-24, till January 2024
- Treatment of 95836 critically ill infants in 74 sick newborn care units from April to December 2023 in the state
- 81 nutrition rehabilitation center units operational in the districts
- Under the regular vaccination program, a total of 41,41,003 (96.45 percent) children have been fully vaccinated against the targeted 42,93,472 beneficiaries in the financial year 2023-24 from April 1, 2023, to December 30, 2023
- Fortified wheat, porridge, whole gram, pulses and edible oil to 1.77 crore children and pregnant women
- Formation of 51,300 Mahila Mangal Dals
- Monitoring of nutrition level of beneficiaries on 'Nutrition Tracker' app by Anganwadi worker
- 1,89,796 Anganwadi centers approved, 1,89,014 Anganwadi centers operational
- Distribution of free ration to 15 crore people from Anganwadi centers under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana
- Establishment of Mission Shakti Rooms in the secretariats of all 58,858 gram panchayats
- Facility for Muslim women to go on Haj without Mahram
- Age limit requirement in pension to destitute women abolished
- Grant of Rs. 75,000 per daughter for the marriage of a maximum of two daughters of registered construction workers (male and female)
- Granddaughter (son's daughter), niece (real brother's daughter), and niece (real sister's daughter) also have land rights in the Revenue Code
- Distribution of 56 lakh free gas cylinders under PM Ujjwala scheme in the year 2023-24
- Operation of 50 air-conditioned buses under the Nirbhaya scheme
- 740 electric/air-conditioned buses with CCTV and panic buttons operational under Fame India Scheme 1 and 2

PM Svamitva Yojana
 The scheme aims to provide "Record of Rights/Property Cards" to rural households, especially women, settled in villages. The scheme covers diverse aspects. These include facilitating monetization of properties and enabling bank loans, reducing property-related disputes.

More than **66 lakh** Gharauni distributed

My land was in the possession of others, and I felt helpless. However, when the government launched the Svamitva Yojana, my hopes were renewed. With assistance from local authorities, I obtained ownership rights to my land. The speed with which this was achieved exceeded my expectations

Bala Devi, Baghpatt

PM Matru Vandana Yojana
 A healthy mother and child are the foundation of a healthy nation. The scheme addresses the issue of malnutrition among women and is playing an important role in reducing this serious problem by providing timely and adequate support to pregnant women and lactating mothers for their first child.

54.44 lakh families benefited

As a first-time mother, I received Rs. 3000 in two installments during my pregnancy through the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana. This financial assistance greatly supported my nutrition needs. The government's support through this scheme has been invaluable.

Krutika Mandowal, Varanasi

Livelihood Mission
 The scheme has helped women, especially from rural areas to become self-dependant. It has not only been instrumental in revolutionizing the rural economy but has also given growth to banking transactions. Women are now able to make decisions for themselves and their families.

1 crore women connected by forming **10 lakh** self-help groups

A few years back, I became the secretary of the Jai Mata Di Mahila Self-Help Group and subsequently added 11 other women to the group. At that time, I did not have my own house and took a loan from the group. This government scheme has not only empowered women but has also instilled a sense of self-respect in us.

Shivakumari, Chitrakoot

Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangala Yojana
 Along with the education of daughters, this scheme has proved to be a milestone in establishing the gender ratio and making girls self-reliant by encouraging their health and education. Through this scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 25000 is provided to the girls of the state.

More than **18.66 lakh** girls benefitted

We were overjoyed when my daughter, Aastha, received Rs. 1000 from the Kanya Sumangala Yojana. The money was used for her nutrition and care, and she was also enrolled in school. This scheme has been a great help to our family.

Poonam Gupta, Prayagraj

Mukhyamantri Samuhik Vivah Yojana
 This scheme promotes social harmony and universal religious equality and avoids unnecessary expenses besides arranging marriages of girls from economically weak families as per their respective religious customs. It also covers widows/abandoned and divorced women.

Marriages of more than **3.50 lakh** couples

Money was the biggest hurdle in my marriage. However, my father applied for the Mukhyamantri Samuhik Vivah Yojana, and I was deemed eligible for the benefits. Thanks to this government scheme, I was able to get married and received financial assistance during Samuhik Vivah Yojana.

Aarohi, Meerut

Mukhyamantri Bal Sewa Yojana
 This scheme was started to take care of children orphaned by the Covid-19 pandemic. Apart from this, under the Mukhyamantri Bal Sewa Yojana (General), financial assistance for maintenance, education, and rehabilitation is being provided for children freed from the clutches of child labour, child beggary.

More than **57,766** children benefitted

This scheme has been instrumental in supporting my education and shaping my future. During challenging times, the government has stood as a guardian, and I am grateful for the opportunities provided by this scheme.

Harshita Singh, Lucknow

Rs. 3695 crore National Rural Livelihood Mission | **Rs. 700 crore** Mukhyamantri Kanya Sumangala Yojana | **Rs. 600 crore** Mukhyamantri Samuhik Vivah Yojana | **Rs. 322 crore** PM Matru Vandana Yojana

3 convicts in Ankit Saxena murder case given life term after a 6-year-long trial

Deepankar Malviya and Jignasa Sinha
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Thursday sentenced three people to life in prison for the 2018 murder of 23-year-old photographer Ankit Saxena, who was stabbed to death by his girlfriend's family members in full public view.

The court also imposed a ₹50,000 fine on each of the three convicts — the 18-year-old woman's father Akbar Ali, 46, her mother Shahnaz Begum, 46, and maternal uncle Mohammad Salim, 49, who killed Saxena in Raghuraj Nagar in west Delhi on February 1, 2018, because they disapproved of their relationship.

"Taking into consideration your age, background, antecedents and the work that you did before the incident, I am sentencing you to life imprisonment," additional sessions judge Sunil Kumar Sharma said while sentencing the convicts, who were present in court.

The court also sentenced Begum to an additional imprisonment of three months and a fine of ₹1,000, convicting her for voluntarily causing hurt to Saxena's mother Kamlesh, who was attacked while she was trying to save her son.

On February 1, 2018, Saxena was returning home after meeting his friends when he was waylaid by the accused at Raghuraj Nagar.

Police said the woman's family had found out about her relationship with Saxena after seeing her texts and call logs. They were against the relationship, and had warned the couple to break up, but after the couple failed to heed to their threats, they decided to attack Saxena.

Police said the three accused beat Saxena for around 10-15 minutes, before slitting his neck with a knife in full public view. Officers said that while Saxena was being beaten, his family, who live nearby, were informed about the assault and rushed to rescue him, but they too were manhandled.

Saxena, who lived with his parents, worked as a freelance

photographer. His father Yashpal died of Covid-related complications in 2021, and the victim is now survived by his mother Kamlesh.

The murder stunned the national capital, even as communal tensions gripped the west Delhi neighbourhood for weeks thereafter. Salim was apprehended from the spot, and he and the girl's parents were formally arrested on February 3, 2018.

The three had been convicted on December 23, 2023.

Kamlesh, however, said she was disappointed by the sentence and stressed that she wanted the three to be handed the death penalty.

"I have suffered enough. Losing a young son to a brutal murder. Losing my husband during the Covid-19 pandemic. I am tired now. I just want justice for my son. When the court has all the witnesses and evidence, why not punish the men?" she said.

"I have no hatred towards any community or group, but I want the culprits to be punished fairly," she said, speaking to reporters outside the Tis Hazari court on Thursday afternoon.

In its order, the court noted that "mitigating circumstances" meant that the case was "not fit for the imposition of the death penalty".

"Considering the mitigating and aggravating circumstances, age, gender, social background, previous antecedents and the period of custody already undergone as well as their family responsibilities, this court is of the opinion that it is not a fit case for imposition of death penalty," said the order.

The prosecution relied upon 28 witnesses with key witnesses being Saxena's father Yashpal, his mother Kamlesh, and his friends Nitin, and Anmol.

The court also observed that their testimony was consistent with the postmortem examination report, with the testimony of the doctor who conducted the autopsy and with the testimony of the forensic sciences expert.

It added that the defence witnesses' testimonies were motivated, tutored, contradictory and unreliable.



How events unfolded

According to the investigation, the woman's family opposed their relationship because they were from different communities

February 1, 2018

Around 8pm, 23-year-old Ankit Saxena is waylaid by the family members of his 18-year-old girlfriend; his neck is slit. His mother Kamlesh tries to save him but she is also assaulted, while his father is pushed

February 3, 2018

The woman's parents and uncle are arrested, and younger brother detained. A huge knife with an aluminium handle is recovered from their possession, which was used to kill Ankit

April 2018

Charge sheet prepared against Akbar Ali, his wife Shahnaz Begum, and their relative Mohammad Salim

March 7, 2024

The court gives final judgment; three sentenced to life imprisonment

December 23, 2023

Judgment announced after 5 years of the crime, court convicts the three for murder and assault

December 9, 2023

Arguments conclude

May 25, 2018

The court frames charges against accused

May 3, 2018

The court takes cognisance of all offences against accused

I have suffered enough. Losing a young son to a brutal murder. Losing my husband during the Covid-19 pandemic (in 2021). I am tired now. I just want justice for my son. When the court has all the witnesses and evidence, why not punish them?

KAMLESH SAXENA, victim's mother



PARENTS OF ANKIT SAXENA

Police charge sheet points to key moment before murder took place

Hemani Bhandari
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The charge sheet filed by the Delhi Police in May 2018 in connection with the murder of Ankit Saxena had said that it was the events that transpired at his girlfriend's house on February 1, 2018, that led to Saxena's murder on the same day.

Police also submitted a list of 32 witnesses out of which 28 were examined in court during the trial. The witnesses included Saxena's late father Yashpal Saxena, the star witness who saw the incident unfold, his mother and three

friends — Ankush, Nitin and Anmol Singh — who were with him at the time of the incident.

Police had charged three people — the woman's father Akbar Ali, mother Shahnaz Begum and her maternal uncle Mohammed Salim — under sections 302 (murder), 323 (causing hurt) and 34 (common intention) of the IPC.

The charge sheet also went into the details of the hours leading to the murder. According to the charge sheet, the woman's minor brother and Ali were watching a cricket match on the day of the incident. "She told me that she cooked porridge, and I

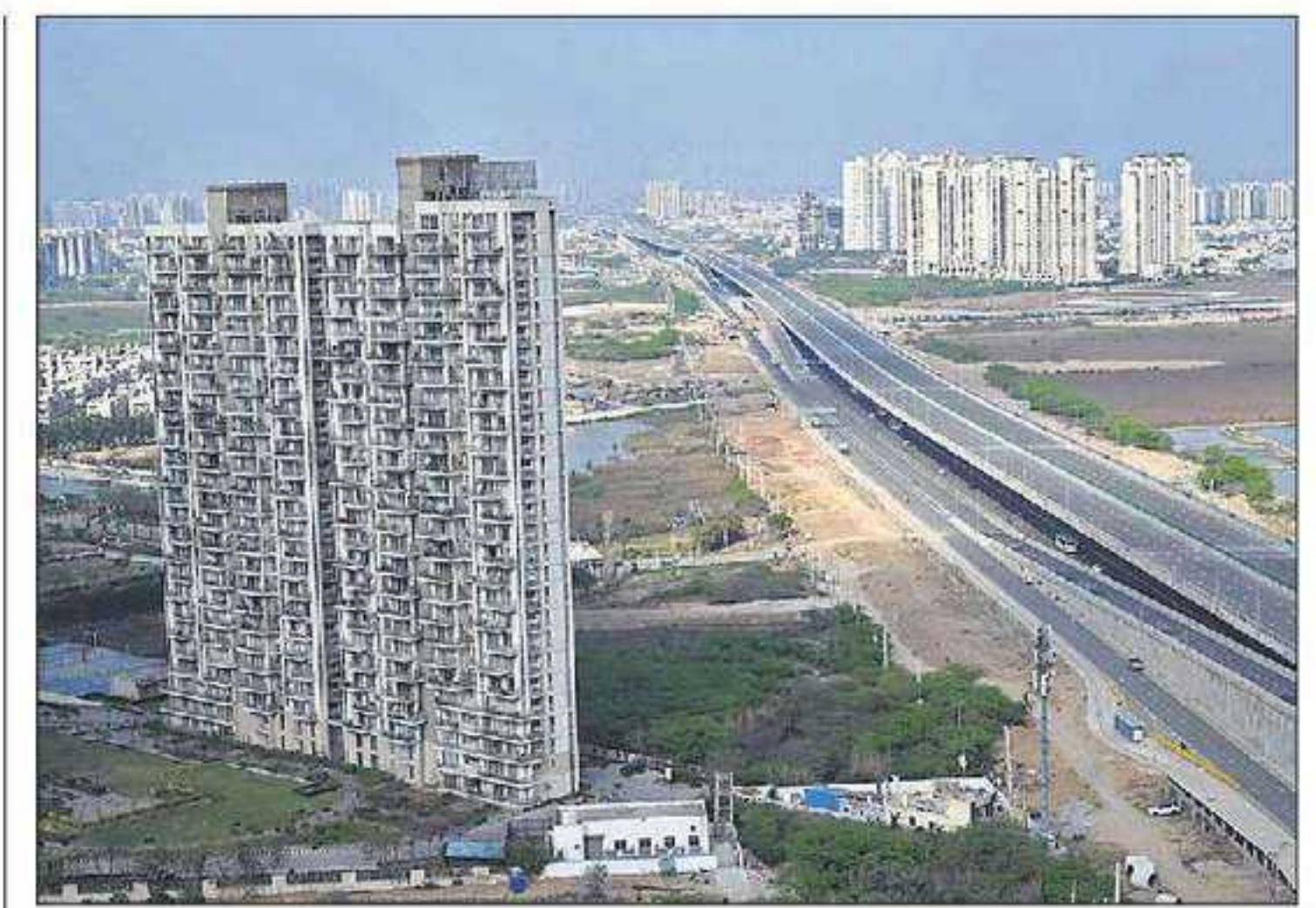
should check how it tasted. As soon as I went to the kitchen, she went out of the house, locked it from outside and fled. I called the neighbours, got the door unlocked and called my wife and brother-in-law." Ali was quoted in the document.

Fearing that the woman was possibly eloping with Saxena, Ali took a knife and went to the main road and the three attacked Saxena. "Ankit was asked about his girlfriend's whereabouts. He said he did not know. Her mother, father and uncle started punching him. He told them they could go and talk at the police station

but they continued the assault," the charge sheet said.

The document added that when Saxena was being thrashed by the woman's family, he whispered into his friend Nitin's ear that she was at Tagore Garden Metro station.

"When I tried to hold Ankit, he kept his hand on my shoulder and told me that his girlfriend was at the Metro station. He said I should bring her to the Khyala police station and he would meet us there," Nitin said. The charge sheet also said the technical and forensic evidence helped secure conviction in the case.



The Dwarka expressway section at Basai Chowk. PARVEEN KUMAR/HT

PM Modi to launch Dwarka e-way on March 11, 50k may attend rally: Admn

Abhishek Behl
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GURUGRAM: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is scheduled to inaugurate the Gurugram leg of the Dwarka expressway on March 11, will also hold a roadshow in which 50,000 people are expected to be present, the district administration said on Thursday, adding that preparations are in full swing for the event.

Sharing the itinerary for March 11, Gurugram deputy commissioner Nishant Yadav said that the Prime Minister will start his roadshow from Mahipalpur in south Delhi, before moving towards Baghara on the Delhi-Haryana border, where he will be greeted by Haryana chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar, governor Bandaru Dattatreya, and other dignitaries.

"The Prime Minister will inspect the four-layer trumpet interchange of the expressway near the Central Peripheral Road on foot, after he accepts the greetings of the citizens near village Basai. It is expected that around 50,000 people will attend this rally," Yadav said.

According to Yadav, Modi's rally will be held on a large plot of land in Sector 82, which is being cleared and sanitised by workers. A helipad is also being readied for the Prime Minister to return to Delhi by a helicopter. Yadav said, adding that he held a review meeting with officials at the venue on

Thursday. The 29km Dwarka expressway, that will connect Dwarka in Delhi to Kherki Daula in Gurugram, cost around ₹9,000 crore and is being built in four packages — two in Delhi, and two in Gurugram. According to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials, around 99% of the work in the Gurugram leg of the expressway has been completed, while around 10% of the work in the Delhi segment remains.

Yadav said the site of the rally has been divided into 40 sectors, and separate space will be given to women in the front rows. "We have also earmarked five large sites for parking, as people from across Haryana are expected to participate in this rally. Adequate arrangements for public conveniences, drinking water, and medical teams are being made," he said.

Modi will also watch an exhibition on the construction of the expressway and other projects executed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) across Haryana, the DC said.

Yadav said that there shall be no curbs on traffic movement on the Delhi-Gurgaon expressway during the event. "Adequate arrangements for safety and the smooth movement of traffic are being made. The roadshow and the rally will be under CCTV surveillance. We have also imposed a ban on the flying of drones during the PM's visit," he said.

10th Year Remembrance



SH. S. K. KAPOOR
(21.05.1926 - 08.03.2014)

In loving memory of a beautiful soul. Ten years may have passed, but still your presence lingers in our hearts. Your values, ideals & beliefs continue to inspire us. - : Deeply missed by :-

Smt. Romila Kapoor (Wife) & entire Kapoor Family
Thakar Dass & Co. (J)
K.R.S. Chemical Co.
Ph: 9810050866

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTICE OF INVITATION E-TENDER

Divisional Railway Manager, N.W. Rly, Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites sealed open tender for the following works on the date shown as below.

E-Tender No.S&T/BKN/ET281.

Name of work with its Location: "S&T associated work in c/w Provision of additional loop line at Kishangarh Balawas station over Bikaner Division." Approx. cost of work: Rs. 3,18,27,532.84. Bid Security: Rs. 3,09,100.00. Date & time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Upto 15:00 Hrs of 28.03.2024.

Website from which complete Tender details can be seen & download: www.ireps.gov.in

310-AK/24

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RAJASTHAN STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT CORPORATION LTD.

(A Rajasthan Government Undertaking)
Udyog Bhawan, Tilak Marg, Jaipur-302005, Phone-0141-2227751, 4593201
Fax: 0141-4593210 E-mail: ricco@ricco.co.in Website-www.riico.co.in

TENDER NOTICE
RIICO invites sealed tenders/bids through eproc.rajasthan.gov.in for the following works/services/supply etc.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)
1.	Unit Head, Jaipur (North)	
1.1	Construction of RCC Drains & Approaches at Industrial Area Mandla Phase-II, Jaipur. UBN-RDC324WLOB01698	669.02
2.	Unit Head, Baramanda	
2.1	Development of Industrial Area Kakani. UBN-RDC324WLOB01716	3881.00
3.	Unit Head, Bharatpur	
3.1	Re-Carpeting and Widening of BT Roads at Industrial Area, Growth Centre (Ext.) Dholpur. UBN-RDC324W50B01729	439.28

Bidders/contractors may download and submit tender online. Detailed information of tenders and any kind of corrigendum/ date extension, if any in future, may be seen by bidders on websites www.riico.co.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in. For queries please contact: AGM (Civil) Ph. 0141-4593243 Raj. Samwad/C23/14451

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Rakesh Kumar S/o Chobhey Lal R/o Bhusan Kirana Store, Krishna Market, Jhilmil Colony, Shahdara, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in Case FIR No. 82/2020 dated 08.03.2020 U/s 129/55 Gambling Act, PS Vivek Vihar, Shahdara, Delhi and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Rakesh Kumar** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Rakesh Kumar** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Rakesh Kumar** of Case FIR No. 82/2020 dated 08.03.2020 U/s 129/55 Gambling Act, PS Vivek Vihar, Shahdara, Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated 12.04.2024.

By Order
Ms. Vidhi Gupta Anand
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 59, Third Floor,
Shahdara, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/2652/SHD/2024
(Court Matter)

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

ANSARI NAGAR, NEW DELHI

Adv. No. ICMR/BMHR/Rect./2024/1-Pers.

RECRUITMENT NOTICE FOR FACULTY POSITIONS

Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), an Autonomous Organization under Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare invites application(s) up to 26th March, 2024 till 5.30 PM for the following vacancies at ICMR-Bhopal Memorial Hospital and Research Centre (BMHRC), Bhopal from Indian Citizens for appointment on regular basis under Direct Recruitment with all India transfer liability under the Council in the following Departments:

S.No.	Post	Total Vacancies	Pay Level	Department	Vacancies
1.	Specialist Grade III	11 Vacancies* SC-01 ST-01 OBC-02 EWS-01 UR-06	Level-11	Medicine	06
2.	Clinical Psychologist	UR-01	Level-10	Psychiatry	01

*Note: Reservation for PwBD candidates (Four percent (4%) of total vacancies, i.e. one out of 11 vacancies) will be given on horizontal basis.

For detailed advertisement, please visit ICMR website at www.icmr.nic.in or <https://recruit.icmr.org.in>

CBC 17152/12/0044/2324 Assistant Director-General (Admn.)

Man kills 29-year-old son hrs before his wedding, held in Jaipur: Police

HT Correspondent
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A 29-year-old man was murdered with sharp-edged weapons in Devli Extension in south Delhi on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday, hours before his wedding procession was to leave for his would-be bride's residence, police officers aware of the case said on Thursday, adding that his father has been arrested for the murder.

The police identified the deceased as Gaurav Singhal, a gym owner, and his father as Ranglal Singhal, who was arrested from Jaipur in Rajasthan late on Thursday night.

Investigators probing the case said that a long trail of



Gaurav Singhal, the victim

blood led to the room where Singhal's body was discovered, suggesting that the body was dragged inside the room to avoid immediate discovery of the crime. Police also discovered several shoe marks of different sizes in and around the room, leading them to suspect that more than one person was involved in the murder.

"The father was found pos-

sessing gold ornaments worth around ₹50 lakh and ₹15 lakh cash that he had taken from his house while leaving. He has no remorse for killing his own son. He justifies his crime by saying he did the right thing. Three more people were involved in the crime. We are now looking for them," said deputy commissioner of police (south) Ankit Chauhan.

According to police, other members of Singhal's family, along with the wedding guests, were dancing to music in a different building in the neighbourhood when the crime is suspected to have taken place.

Police said that Singhal was allegedly killed by his father following a physical confrontation, during which the victim slapped his father. It irked the

father who then killed him with the help of three other people.

"We will verify all aspects in the case once the father is brought back to Delhi," Chauhan said.

Another police officer aware of the case said that an initial investigation into the case has revealed that Singhal did not want to get married, but was being pressured by his father.

"Through local enquiry, we have learnt that Singhal was in love with another woman and wanted to marry her. His family did not approve of his relationship. We have learnt that Singhal and his father often had altercations over that issue. All these claims are subject to verification. Further probe is on," the officer said, on condition of anonymity.

{ 14TH MOST POLLUTED IN INDIA } 'Delhi February air cleanest in 8 years'

HT Correspondent
htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Delhi, which was the most polluted city in the country in January, recorded significant improvement in air quality in February, logging its lowest monthly average PM 2.5 concentration in eight years, an analysis carried out by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) released on Thursday has revealed.

According to the analysis, the Capital in February was the 14th most polluted city in the country with an average PM2.5 concentration of 103 µg/m3 — far better than the 206 µg/m3 in January.

"Delhi, which was the most polluted city in India in January showed some improvement and was the 14th most polluted in February recording the lowest PM2.5 level for February since 2016. But it was still severely polluted, recording PM2.5 concentration of 103 µg/m3 — which was nearly two times the prescribed daily national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) and seven times the World Health Organisation (WHO) pre-

scribed safe levels," said CREA in its analysis.

The analysis looked at 253 cities across the country, finding Bymat on the Meghalaya-Assam border as the most polluted across the country — recording an average PM2.5 concentration of 183 µg/m3, followed by Araria in Bihar (131), Hapur in Uttar Pradesh (125), Hanumangarh in Rajasthan (120), and Nalbari in Assam (117).

The national daily safe standards for PM 2.5 are 60 µg/m3, and WHO standards are 15 µg/m3.

Sunil Dahiya, analyst at CREA said 160 out of the 253 cities surveyed had data for more than 80% of days in the month. Out of these, only one city — Satna in Madhya Pradesh — met the WHO standard.

"Delhi in February has shown a significant improvement from January, but this also shows what an important role meteorological conditions play. The average PM 2.5 levels have almost halved from January, mainly due to rain and good wind speed, but even then, this is two times the national standard and well away from WHO guidelines," he said.

Ration card is not address proof: HC

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The Delhi high court has said that ration cards cannot be considered a reliable proof of address, as they exist only to ensure the provision of food grains at a reasonable price to citizens.

"The aim of the ration card is to ensure that the citizens of this country are provided food grains at a reasonable price. Hence, it is not a reliable source of proof of address since the scope is limited to distribution of food items by way of Public Distribution System," a bench of Justice Chandra Dhari Singh said in a February 29 verdict, the order of which was uploaded on Wednesday.

The court passed the judgment while considering a plea filed by erstwhile residents of Kathputli Colony in west Delhi, who before the redevelopment of the area lived in the first floor of JJ colonies in the area. The residents had sought the quashing of a July 2020 letter by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), which rejected their claim for allotment of houses following the redevelopment of the area.

The authority had rejected

their claims on the grounds that they failed to fulfil the requirements of the DDA Rehabilitation and Relocation Policy, 2015, which states that people claiming rehabilitation for the first floor of a JJ colony house can be eligible only if they have a separate ration card as proof that they are a separate family unit.

During the hearing, the DDA counsel submitted that the petitioners were not entitled to alternate accommodation as they failed to furnish a separate ration card.

However, the court took note of a March 2015 gazette notification issued by the Union ministry of consumer affairs, which disallowed the use of ration cards as documents of identity or proof of residence, and remarked that the mandatory requirement of separate ration cards was very arbitrary.

"The mandatory requirement of a separate ration card is very arbitrary since it cannot be used as an address proof as directed by way of the aforesaid gazette notification," the court said, directing DDA to allocate an alternative dwelling unit to the petitioners, saying that the right to housing shall be kept at the highest pedestal.

MCD to build three parking lots for ₹312 crore to house 2,335 vehicles



Mayor Shelly Oberoi during session on Thursday ARVIND YADAV/HT

Key proposals passed

- ₹312 crore** The total cost of multi-level parking lots in Shastri Park (capacity 935 vehicles), Rajendra Nagar and Rani Bagh (700 vehicles capacity each)
- Redevelopment of the Ambedkar Football stadium at Delhi Gate at a cost ₹4.5 crore
- Extension of contracts for data entry operators and horticulture staff
- Development of Community complex at Aman Vihar in Rohini

Paras Singh
paras@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) on Thursday cleared three major parking lots, redevelopment of Ambedkar Stadium and development of a community complex at Aman Vihar in Rohini among a slew of projects at a House meeting, which is probably the last before the Model Code of Conduct comes into force for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, senior civic officials aware of the matter said.

The officials said the House of councillors on Thursday cleared three major parking lots which will come up at Shastri Nagar and Rani Bagh in northeast Delhi and Rajendra Nagar in central Delhi. MCD has cleared sum of ₹312 crore for the three parking lots which will accommodate a total of 2,335 vehicles, helping decongest the residential areas.

Though no discussion was held on the proposals as the BJP mem-

bers rushed to well of the House over the delay in the formation of the standing committee and other House panels, the projects were cleared by a voice vote. Mayor Shelly Oberoi said 29 proposals were placed before the House, of which 21 were passed and eight were postponed till the next House meeting which is yet to be scheduled.

"The parking lot in Shastri Nagar will have a capacity of 935 cars. The Rajendra Nagar and Rani Bagh facilities will have a capacity of 700 vehicles each. The construction work on these parking lots will start soon," Oberoi said at a press conference after the House meeting. All three parking lots will be multilevel facilities, she said.

Oberoi said the House meeting for March was called early to ensure policy matters can be taken up before the Model Code of Conduct comes into force. "As always, the BJP councillors continued to engage in hooliganism

and disrupted the proceedings of the House. I want to tell the BJP councillors that they are also representatives of the public and they should allow discussions on proposals related to the people of Delhi," said Oberoi.

The mayor added that the House has also passed the project for the beautification and reconstruction of the corporation's Ambedkar Stadium located at Delhi Gate. "The stadium will be redeveloped with a new cafeteria, green rooms and other amenities at a cost of ₹4.5 crore," she said.

She said that MCD is also going to open a new community centre in Rohini's Aman Vihar.

Leader of the opposition Raja Iqbal Singh blamed the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) for delaying proceedings. "The session was scheduled to start at 2pm, but the mayor and Aam Aadmi Party members arrived at 2.45 pm, indicating that they did not want to run the session," Singh said.

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: The scheduled demolition drive by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) at Majnu Ka Tila in north Delhi did not commence on Thursday even as the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) engaged in a war of words over the matter.

In a press conference on Thursday, Delhi minister Saurabh Bharadwaj alleged that DDA was targeting hundreds of Hindu refugees from Pakistan. The Delhi BJP hit back and said the AAP was indulging in "dirty politics" over judicial orders of the National Green Tribunal (NGT). Several Hindu outfits also protested against the demolition drive.

In a statement, DDA said NGT has directed to clear encroachments on the Yamuna floodplains. "The area comes under Yamuna floodplains. NGT in its order directed that floodplains cannot be allowed to be occupied because it may damage the ecol-



Residents of the area protest the DDA demolition drive at Majnu Ka Tila in north Delhi on Thursday. RAJ KRA/HT PHOTO

ogy... NGT has imposed a fine of ₹25,000 on DDA for non-compliance... However, any eviction exercise has been postponed," the statement said.

Bharadwaj said the BJP-led central government should withdraw the order. "There has been an uproar in the Delhi Assembly regarding the continuous demolition of people's homes over the last 15 years... DDA should have opposed this order in NGT and gone to the Supreme Court," Bharadwaj said.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said that the party took up the matter with LG VK Saxena. "We took up the matter with LG and got the eviction stalled... AAP leaders never visited the refugees in the nine years," he said.

Mayor seeks early ruling on aldermen

HT Correspondent
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NEW DELHI: Mayor Shelly Oberoi on Thursday urged the Supreme Court to deliver the verdict on nominated members of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) — called aldermen — so that the civic body's standing committee, that controls the MCD's purse strings, can be constituted and work on major pending projects can start.

"We are urging the Supreme Court that the pending decision on the aldermen should be announced so that we can form the standing committee and execute the pending projects of MCD. We hope that the court will deliver a verdict in the coming days," Oberoi said after a meeting of the house of councillors.

The Supreme Court on May 17, 2023 reserved judgment on a plea asking whether the lieutenant

governor (LG) of Delhi has the authority to nominate aldermen to MCD without the aid and advice of the Delhi government.

The question of aldermen is crucial to constitute the standing committee — six out of 18 members of the powerful panel are elected in direct elections by the house, and 12 members are elected by members of the Wards Committees, which in turn include aldermen who have voting powers.

The BJP's stated position is that powers of one important municipal authority cannot be usurped by the other authority. Leader of the opposition and former mayor Raja Iqbal Singh said, "AAP should hold the elections for the standing committee as the Supreme Court has not issued any stay on the matter. The election needs elected councillors, nominated aldermen and legal clearance—all of which are in place."

10, including wholesalers, nabbed for running fake medicines racket

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Thursday said they have busted an inter-state gang involved in selling spurious medicines used by patients of diabetes, migraine and other ailments, adding that 10 people have been arrested in connection with the case.

Senior police officers said those arrested include manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, and pharmacists.

Additional commissioner of police (crime) Sanjay Bhatia said the accused were identified as Vikas Chauhan, 36, Surender Malik, 40, Parvez Khan, 33, Upkar Singh alias Mami, 33, Jasdeep Singh, 23, Abdul Basit, 21, Danyial Ali, 25, Mukesh Kumar, 42, Anil Kumar, 23, and Chander Pal Singh, 70. They were arrested in different raids across Delhi, Uttar

Pradesh and Haryana.

According to police, Chauhan and Malik were the kingpins of a gang that manufactured fake medicines and sent them to wholesalers and retailers through courier. "The forensic department will verify if the medicines contained harmful compounds which had an adverse impact on human health," Bhatia said, adding that hundreds of thousands of tablets that they suspect are spurious were seized from a store in east Delhi's Geeta Colony and a courier company in Panipat.

The additional commissioner said that the action against the racketeers came on a tip off that fake medicines were being supplied by Upkar and Mukesh to different stores in Delhi-NCR. An initial probe indicated the involvement of several people in the racket, Bhatia said.

"A team was constituted and

divided into three parts to conduct simultaneous raids at different places. An inspector along with medical representative of two major pharmaceutical companies intercepted a vehicle under Tilak Bridge in central Delhi and arrested two people, later identified as Upkar and Jasdeep. A total of 44,530 tablets including fake Ultracet, Amaryl IM, Gluconorm, Defcort were recovered from the vehicle," Bhatia said. He added that the two suspects told the police that they procured the medicines from Abdul Basit of Geeta Colony and Vikas Chauhan of Mandoli.

A second team apprehended Mukesh Chand from Uttam Nagar and recovered 730 tablets of different medicines from him, and a third team nabbed Abdul Basit and Danyial Ali from east Delhi, recovering 57,000 tablets from them, Bhatia said.

Explaining the modus operandi, Bhatia said the suspects told police during interrogation that the fake Ultracet tablets were being manufactured in a factory in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi by Anil Kumar, who is an employee of Surender Malik. Police said that Parvez used to collect the spurious medicines from the courier company and sold them to Danyial, who in turn sold these spurious medicines to Basit, a pharmacist in Geeta colony.

Upkar revealed that he also used to get fake medicines from Vikas Chauhan, who manufactured the drugs at his factory in Rajender Nagar Industrial area in Ghaziabad.

At the instance of the accused, a raid was conducted at the office of the courier company in Panipat and over 200,000 tablets along with packing material were recovered.

OFFICE OF THE ELECTION OFFICER
SURAJMAL MEMORIAL EDUCATION SOCIETY,
C-4, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-110058
Website : www.surajmalmemorialeducationsociety.org

Ref. No.:SMES/Elec.Off./2024/09/19 Date: 07.03.2024

NOTICE

I, Ashish Chakraborty, in my capacity as Election Officer for election of twenty one members of the Executive Committee of the Surajmal Memorial Education Society, C-4, Janakpuri, New Delhi, hereby give Notice to all Members of the Society to inform that the poll and counting of votes scheduled to be held, respectively, on 10/03/2024 (Sunday) and 11/03/2024 (Monday) has been deferred by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi vide its Order dated 6th March, 2024 in W.P.(C) 11799/2019 and CMAPPLs. 48379/2019, 53842/2019, 11041/2024.

Sd/-
Ashish Chakraborty
Election Officer, SMES

Tel: 011-45656183/45037193 Former Secretary, Election Commission of India

LALIT NARAYAN MITHILA UNIVERSITY
Kameshwaranagar, Darbhanga

Adv. No. - 01/2024 / CET-B.Ed.-2024
TENDER NOTICE
CET-B.Ed.-2024

Sealed tender in hard copy (two bid system) is invited for hiring agency for online processing of pre and post examination works of CET-B.Ed.-2024 for the year 2024 admission to be conducted at the Bihar State level.

Tender Notice in detail and Tender Document giving scope of the work and other details can be downloaded from the University website (www.lnmu.ac.in) from 08.03.2024 to 23.03.2024 by 4:00 PM.

- By order of the Vice-Chancellor
Prof. Ashok Kumar Mehta
State Nodal Officer
CET-B.Ed.-2024

IDBI BANK LTD
Website: www.idbibank.in

Office Premises Required in Delhi South West & NCR

Bank desires to acquire office premises on long lease. Interested parties owning suitable premises may apply to the Regional Head within 10 days (excluding the date of advertisement). Proposals received by 6.00 pm on 18th March, 2024 will only be accepted. Proforma and other details can be downloaded from our website www.idbibank.in under Notices & Tenders or collected from any of our branches.

Date: 08th March, 2024 Sd/-
Place: Delhi South West Chief General Manager - Delhi Zone

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF DELHI

ADVERTISEMENT DEPARTMENT
Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Civic Centre (25th Floor),
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, New Delhi-110002, Ph-011-23227508

E-TENDER NOTICE

Bids are invited from eligible bidders on behalf of Commissioner, MCD through e-Tender Notice No. CO/Advt/E-Tender-29/MCD/NIT/D-2951 dated 07.03.2024 for allotment of advertisement rights through Pole Kiosks on Street Light Poles under the jurisdiction of MCD on monthly license fee basis in two bid system (Technical and Financial), for a period of one year. The Last Date of Submission of bids in above e-tender is 15.03.2024, till 16.00 Hours. The detailed tender document are available on MCD's website i.e. www.mcdonline.nic.in and https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.

Commercial Officer,
Advertisement Department

RO No. 94/DPI/MCD/2023-24

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Tender Notice No.: 14820232024 Dated: 06.03.2024
Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering)/North Central Railway, Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites online open tenders (E-tender) as detailed below:

S.N.	E-Tender Notice No.	Approx Cost (₹)	Earnest Money (₹)
1	14820232024-374	1,33,50,000.00	2,16,800.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Station/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
2	14820232024-375	1,58,26,000.00	2,29,100.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Traffic/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
3	14820232024-376	2,00,00,000.00	2,50,000.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Rajapur/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
4	14820232024-377	2,21,06,424.00	2,60,500.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Naini/PRYJ - P.E. 30.06.2025			
5	14820232024-378	2,96,00,000.00	2,98,000.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Railgaon/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
6	14820232024-379	1,72,19,000.00	2,36,100.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/SFG, PRYJ, for staff quarters & colony P.E. 30.06.2025			
7	14820232024-380	178,85,000.00	2,39,400.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/SFG/PRYJ, for service building P.E. 30.06.2025			
8	14820232024-381	1,23,81,209.06	2,11,900.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/DSA/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
9	14820232024-382	1,57,40,000.00	2,28,700.00
Name of work: Execution of annual repairs and maintenance Zonal works in the Jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Hospital/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
10	14820232024-383	1,07,50,000.00	2,03,800.00
Name of work: Execution of annual maintenance of Horticulture works of Railgaon colony officers Bungalow, Stadium, Club, Kalrav, Park No. 1, 2, 3 and in front of quarters, Lawns etc in the jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Horticulture/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
11	14820232024-384	74,50,000.00	1,49,000.00
Name of work: Execution of annual maintenance of Horticulture works of GM Office Campus, Nursery SFG etc. in the jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Horticulture/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			
12	14820232024-385	96,40,000.00	1,92,800.00
Name of work: Execution of annual maintenance of horticulture works of Prayagraj area, GM & DRM Bungalow, Prayagraj, Naini & Prayagraj Chhoek stations area etc. in the jurisdiction of SSE/Works/Horticulture/PRYJ, P.E. 30.06.2025			

Date & Time of Closing of All Tenders is 01.04.2024 at 15.00 PM, Completion period: 12 Months. Nature of work: Sr.No. 1 to 9- Any civil Engineering work & Sr.No. 10 to 12- Any Horticulture work. Note: 1. For full details and submission of tenders, please see the Indian Railway website www.ireps.gov.in 401/24 FA

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(REGD. OFFICE: PSEB HEAD OFFICE, THE MALL, PATIALA)
(O/D Superintending Engineer/TL Circle Jalandhar)
(Address: Office Room No. 310-311, 2nd Floor, Shakti Sadan, G.T. Road, Jalandhar, Contact No. 96461-07248)
Corporate Identification Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813

Tender Inquiry No. 40/TL Circle Jal/2023-24 Dated: 06.03.2024

Dy. Chief Engineer/TL Circle, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited, Room No. 310, 2nd Floor, Shakti sadan, Jalandhar, invites one no. E-Tender of:

- Laying of tower foundations, Erection of towers and Stringing & Sagging of conductor with earth wire for the construction of 66KV line from 220 KV Lalton Kalan to Gaspur T-off for Alamgir (Balance work).

For detailed NIT & Tender specifications please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 11.03.2024 from 05.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in C202/24 33374

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Procurement Tender Notice No. 24/14 Dt. 07.03.2024

On behalf of the President of India, The Principal Chief Materials Manager, North Central Railway, Prayagraj, (An ISO 9001:2015 certified unit) invites the following E-Procurement Tenders.

S. N	Tender No.	Short Description	Qty.	Tender Opening Date
1	20231973	SET OF FIXED AND MOBILE CONTACT	129 Set	26.03.2024
2	30242315	BRUSH HOLDER ASSEMBLY	857 NOS.	23.04.2024
3	20243198	MOTOR FOR TRANSFORMER OIL COOLING (MVRH) 22 KW	13 Nos.	02.04.2024
4	20245005	Power contactor	40 Nos.	03.04.2024
5	20243199	MOTOR FOR TRACTION MOTOR BLOWER (MVM/T) 26 KW	30 Nos.	09.04.2024
6	20243197	THREE PHASE INDUCTION MOTOR FOR COMPRESSOR	28 Nos.	07.05.2024
7	63235456A	SGCI Insert to RDSO Drawing No. T-6901	40000 Nos.	01.04.2024
8	63235455A	SGCI Insert, Drawing No. RDSO/T-381	50000 Nos.	03.04.2024
9	64245086	CLUTCH PUMP	29 Nos.	16.04.2024
10	60231177A	Hydrant Control Valve 50 mm	1475 Nos.	03.04.2024
11	60231192	Stainless steel seamless pipe 25 mm	1968 MTR	03.04.2024
12	64245012	Set of famping Arm/Tool Holder and Swivel Bearing	101 Set	04.04.2024
13	64245030	Tamping Arm	322 Nos.	08.04.2024
14	64245025A	FLEXIBLE COPPER CABLE	800 MTR	10.04.2024
15	64235192A	LED LIGHT 24VOLT	118 Nos.	05.04.2024
16	64235096C	Disc Clamp Roller & Bush	38 Nos.	05.04.2024
17	10245001A	Fuel Pump Motor Assembly.	8 Nos.	02.04.2024

Note: The complete information of above tenders can be seen and downloaded from IREPS website i.e. https://www.ireps.gov.in. For any change/corrigendum in tender, please visit this website regularly. No separate corrigendum/change will be published in news paper. 411/24(AN)

Our government is working steadfastly to make the life of every person in society easy. Be it senior citizens, divyangjan, tribal people or the deprived sections of the society, our topmost priority is to serve and protect the interests of 140 crore Indians.

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Empowerment Through Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana & ADIP Scheme

Distribution of Assistive Devices to Senior Citizens and Divyangjan Under RVY & ADIP Scheme

For Senior Citizens of BPL category or having monthly income not more than 15000/-

Facility of registration is also available for new beneficiaries at the camp

Total cost being borne by the Government of India

Date	Place	Time
08.03.2024	Shree Ram Rangmanch, Kota	
09.03.2024	Divine Public School, Maruti Nagar Khairabad, District Kota	11:00 AM
10.03.2024	Kashipuri Hindu Dharamkala Ground, Sangod, District Kota	
11.03.2024	Krishni Upaj Mandi, Keshavpurai Patan, District Bundi	10:00 AM
	Purani Krishni Upaj Mandi, Bundi	12:00 PM

In the August Presence of
SHRI OM BIRLA
HON'BLE SPEAKER, LOK SABHA

Transforming Lives of Senior Citizens

Free distribution of assistive devices at the camp to 5700 identified beneficiaries

Distribution of 20476 devices under Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana and ADIP Scheme

Toll Free National Helpline for Senior Citizens
14567

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https://socialjustice.gov.in/

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cbc 38101/13/0074/2324

DELHI STATE CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED
AAPURTI BHAWAN, 7-9, ARAM BAGH, NEW DELHI-110055
 (AN UNDERTAKING OF GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI)
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER FOR MISC. INSURANCE POLICY FOR LIQUOR VENDS
Tender ID. No. 2024_DSCSC-255106_1

E-Tenders are invited separately for the procurement of misc. insurance covers from Govt. owned insurance companies for 16 Country liquor vendors of the Corporation situated on Delhi/New Delhi for the period from 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2025.

The NIT has been uploaded and available along with the terms & conditions and instructions. It can be seen/downloaded at/ from the website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/nicgp/app>. The last date/time of receipt of tender through e-procurement system is 21.03.2024 upto 2.30 P.M. for misc. insurance cover.

Task	Last date & time of submission of Bid	Date & time of Opening of Technical Bid	Date & time of Opening of Financial Bid
Procurement of misc. Insurance Cover	21.03.2024 upto 2.30 P.M.	21.03.2024 at 3.00 P.M.	22.03.2024 at 3.00 P.M.

All the tenderers are requested to have digital certificate (class II b and above) and then to get themselves registered with the application service provider of DGS&D (C.I. India Pvt. Ltd.). The application service provider of DGS&D can be contacted for registration, training (if required) on any working day (Monday to Friday) between 9.30 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.

Sd/-
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0371/23-24
GENERAL MANAGER

Hindustan Times

SHIVA CALMS MY SOUL. AKSHAY KUMAR

CHECK OUT TODAY'S EDITION

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Procurement Tender Notice No. E.T/D/C.N.B./2023-24/34 Date:06.03.2024

E-Procurement Tender Notice

On behalf of the President of India, The Senior Materials Manager, E.T.D./Kanpur invites the following E-procurement tender.

Tender No.	Description	Qty.
57235026D	Supply, installation and commissioning of 01 Set	

Lightweight towing trolley set for (for tracking axle lock of DSL/Electric loco, coach and wagons) to N.Rty. drawing no. CME/SK. No. 01-448/DSL and as per specification attached.

Tender Opening Date:27.03.2024 EMD :NIL

Note : 1. The Complete information of above E-Procurement Tender are available on IREPS website i.e. <http://www.ireps.gov.in>. 2. Bids other than in the form of E bids shall not be accepted against above tenders for this purpose vendors are required to get themselves registered with IREPS Website along with class III digital signature certificate issued by CCA and IT act 2000. 3.Rules entered into financial rate page is duly signed digitally signature shall only be considered rates and any other financial entry in any other form/letter had if attached by vendor shall be original straight way ignore and shall not be considered. 396/24(DG)

North central railways @CPDROR @northcentralrailway www.nctr.indianrailways.gov.in

REGIONAL FOOD RESEARCH & ANALYSIS CENTRE
 An Autonomous Organisation of Department of Horticulture & Food Processing
 Udyan Bhawan Campus, 2 Sargu Marg, Lucknow-226014 (U.P.)

HOW TO EARN MONEY & DEVELOP BUSINESS IN FOOD TECHNOLOGY & CLOUD KITCHEN

CONTENT:- How to start a cloud kitchen, Difference between cloud kitchen and normal restaurant, Licence and regulations, Kitchen equipment, raw material and packaging systems, Staff recruitment and job pattern, Implementation of the process, Sourcing and costing, Software and web solutions, Digital Marketing, Customer support and future expansion, integration with online portals as Zomato and Swiggy, Pre-requisites for food business, Food safety act, Food safety to be followed in industry, Food hygiene, safety, Possible food businesses, Certifications needed, Mandatory rules to be followed, Food business operations, Food processing technology- fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, poultry, dairy and dairy products, Bakery, Nuts and confectionery, Packaging technology, Laboratory testing for food and water, Branding and marketing of food products.

DATE - 9th & 10th MARCH, 2024 **TIME: 10.00 AM TO 5.30 PM** **FEES: Rs. 5,500/-**
 (Inclusive of Lunch, Tea, PPT Soft Copy of Study material)

VENUE: YWCA, 1 Ashoka Road, Gate No.1, Near Bangla Sahib, Gurudwara, Delhi
M. : 8178836164, 9811047670, 9599713406
 E-CERTIFICATE WILL BE AWARDED, Website: www.rfracgov.in

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY RAIPUR
 (An Institute of National Importance)
 G.E. Road, Raipur - 492010 (C.G.)

Phone: (0771) 2252700
 Email: registrar@nitrr.ac.in
 Website: www.nitrr.ac.in

Recruitment Notice
 No.NITRR/R-1/Advt/2024/947 Raipur, Date: 04/03/2024

National Institute of Technology Raipur is an Institute of National Importance under the aegis of Ministry of Education - Government of India. Applications in the prescribed format (online prescribed form and its hard copy) are invited from Indian Nationals for recruitment to the following Non-Faculty positions in the Institute:

Regular Appointment:

S. No.	Name of the post	Department	Pay Level-6 (PB-2, GP Rs. 4200/-)	Number of Vacancies	Total
1.	Technical Assistant	Architecture	UR-1	2	
		Biomedical Engineering	EWS-1		2

Please read further detailed information from the Institute website www.nitrr.ac.in. Opening date of online application is on 06/03/2024. Last date for online application is on 22/04/2024 (5 PM) and the last date for receipt of hard-copy application with supporting documents at the Institute is on or before 30/04/2024. Candidates are requested to regularly visit the Institute website i.e., www.nitrr.ac.in for updated information regarding the recruitment.

-Sd-
Registrar (I/c)

Government of Punjab
Municipal Corporation Ludhiana
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (SBM)
NIT No. 399/SE(TIC), dated: 07.03.2024

The department of Municipal Corporation Ludhiana (B&R) invites online double bids for "Selection of Concessionaire for Execution/Installation and Operation & Maintenance of a 200 TPD Waste to CG (WtG) Plant based on Segregated Municipal Solid Waste (organic) and other Biodegradable Waste as feed under PPP mode on Design, Build, Finance, Operate & Transfer at Jamalpur site, Ludhiana, Punjab". (2nd time) as per schedule given below:-

Closing date & time: 03.04.2024 up to 05.00 PM

For details log on to: eproc.punjab.gov.in

Note: Detail of works, other terms & conditions & tender documents any corrigendum/addendum to the tender notice shall be published on above website only.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer (TIC)
Municipal Corporation Ludhiana
33390

Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Department of Official Language
NOTICE

The Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs circulates list of books in Hindi language marked by qualitative excellence, with recommendation for their purchase by Libraries of the Central Government Ministries/Departments/Organizations etc. Accordingly, list of books of a range of subject published in Hindi during the period from 01.01.2023 to 31.12.2023 and meeting the parameters of excellence is to be circulated by this Department. Books are invited from writers, publishers, printers, distributors and NRIs persons of Indian origin for the above-said purpose.

Complete details in this regard are available at the department's website www.rajbhasha.gov.in. The last date for submission of books is 30 April 2024.

(Prem Narain)
Deputy Secretary (Patrika)

CBC 19201/11/0011/2324

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HONDA

SALE HIGH Profile Lawyer Maintained White (Honda Amaze)2014 Vx Petrol, Manual Top Model Super Exclnt.Cond. Sparingly Used, No Expenses Regrd. For Appointment, Call:981101002.

MERCEDES/ BMW/AUDI

FOR SALE : 1) AUDI A-6-35 Tdi Ice Silver Diesel Metallic Colour 2015 Owner Done 62000 Km, 2) Volkswagen Beetle 2.0 (At) Petrol, L.Blue Pearlfe Colour 2010 Owner Driven 40500 Km (Both Cars In Excellent Condition Only Genuine Buyer may Ph: 97736517

SALE OWNER Driven Mercedes 200C Excellent Condition 45,000 kms Done, Registered Delhi 2008 Contact: Owner 9810038180

CAR FOR SALE

BMW 320D Luxury Line (Top Model), White colour, June 2018, Mileage-10,000 kms. First Owner. Brand New Condition, Company's MD Car. BMW maintained, full coverage insurance. Serious Buyers contact:9818520300

BUSINESS

FOR SALE

2 DG sets for sale at La Laguna, Sec.-54, GGI, Cummins 1250 KVA, Model KIA 50 C28 1500 KVA KTA 50 GB, Contact: 88514 42610

CHANGE OF NAME

1.NEHA D/o Sh. Praveen R/o A-290,Gali No. 3A, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, Delhi 110045, have changed my name to Vansh Verma to Yuvraj for all future purposes

1. ZAHIDA W/o Noor Mohd Khan, R/o E-111/A, Abul Fazel Enclave-1, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, South Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Zahida Khan for all future purposes.

1. GAURAV Sethi S/o Sh. Narender Kumar R/o B-83, Raju Extra, Kakrola, New Delhi-110078 declare that my name is wrongly mentioned in my passport as Gaurav but my actual and correct name is Gaurav Sethi. Gaurav Sethi and Gaurav both are same and one person.

1. NEPAL Singh S/o Shri Khushbali R/o Village Uncha Gaon Ward No 39, Near Saini Shiv Mandir Tehsil-Ballabgarh, Faridabad, Haryana-121004 declare that my wife's name is wrongly written in my documents as Sunita Saini. But her correct name is Sunita Rani amend accordingly.

1.RITIK Sharma S/o Pawan Sharma R/o D-1/A, CC Colony, Shiv Mandir Opp Rana Pratap Bagh New Delhi-110007, hereby declare that Ritik Sharma and Ritish both are one and same person.

1. NAHID & Nahid Yusuf, W/o Mohammad Yusuf Ansari, R/o 1852, Lal Darwaza, Bazar, Sriwastan, Lal kuan, Delhi-110006 have change my name to Nahid Yusuf Ansari for all future purpose.

1. MAMTA Kumari D/o. Ganesh Tiwary W/o. Rupesh Tiwari R/o. Etl, 100, Piplampura, Saraswati Vihar, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Mamta Tiwari for all future purposes

1. DEEPAK Verma, S/O Shri Raj Kumar R/O 2/23B, F5, Block-2, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi- 110015, my name is Deepak Verma & Deepak both are the one & same person.

1.UMA Sharma W/o Satvir Singh Vashisti R/o 110, Top Floor, Near Saral Diagnostic centre, Anand Vihar, Piplampura, Sarawati vihar, New Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Uma Vashisti.

1. MOHD Anis S/O Late Shri Abdul Qudus R/O 119-A, Arjun Nagar, Kirti Mahabagar, New Delhi-110003, have changed my name to 110003, have changed my minor daughter name from Zarin to Zarin Mansoor for all purposes.

PROPERTY/DLF - SUSHANT LOK

WANTED/SALE
EMAR URBAN OASIS
 Sector-63

PURI THE ARAVALLIS
 Sector-61

ALL SIZES ARE AVAILABLE
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WANTED/SALE
DLF ARBOUR
 Sector-63A

DLF GROVE
 DLF-5

9810199927

RENTED
BROKERS WELCOME

TENANT	RENT/M	TENANT	RENT/M
USA Pharma	56,000/-	Kotak Bank	4.50 Lacs
Fleet X	78,000/-	Ind. Bldg.(Retail)	5.00 Lacs
MCCANN	1.75 Lacs	Japanese MNC	6.20 Lacs
Axis Bank	2.88 Lacs	Jubilant food Retail	6.50 Lacs
Archer UAE	3.47 Lacs	Ind. Bldg.(Retail)	11.00 Lacs
USA Pharma	3.75 Lacs	Floor Plate	20.00 Lacs

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CHANGE OF NAME

1. DHERE Bandu Dattaraj, Father of No.14834304F Sep/MT Dhere Mohan Bandu, R/o Vill- Dherewadri, Post- Tilgauri, Teh- Raichanagri, Distt- Kolhapur, Maharashtra-416208, have changed my name from Dhere Bandu Dattaraj to Banda Dattu Dhere, vide affidavit dated 06/03/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

1. POOJA W/o No.15578493N Hav-Bardache V D, R/o- Vill- Kudi BK, PO-Paranand, Distt- Pune, Maharashtra-412301, have changed my name from Pooja to Pooja Vinod Badache, vide affidavit dated 06/03/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

1. MONI Velpula W/o Mr. Velpula Vamsi Krishna R/O-11006, Aims Panged Japan to PK Ajiya, Sector-50 Metro Station, Sector-75, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP-201301 have changed my minor daughter's name from Arunika to Arunika Sinha Velpula for all future purposes.

1. DHERE Laxmi Bandu, Mother of- No. 14834304F Sep/MT Dhere Mohan Bandu, R/o Vill- Dherewadri, Post- Tilgauri, Teh- Raichanagri, Distt- Kolhapur, Maharashtra-416208, have changed my name from Dhere Laxmi Bandu to Laxmi Banda Dhere, vide affidavit dated 06/03/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

1. GEETIKA w/o Late Aditya Sharma, R/O 16/9803 Behind I-C/3 New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh New Delhi-110005 have changed my name to Geetika Sharma after marriage for all future purposes. Both Geetika & Geetika Sharma is same person.

RENTED FOR SALE
 GURGAON

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DOMINOS	5,90,000
HDFC BANK	5,16,000
KOTAK BANK	4,50,000
BANDHAN BANK	2,76,000
ATTHAH	1,71,000

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9810247999,9810582916

FOR SALE
AMBIENCE CREATIONS
 SECTOR-22

SMART WORLD THE
 EDITION SECTOR-66

9810024517

CHANGE OF NAME

1. HITHERTO known as Km Mahenoor D/O Lyaqat Ali R/O H.No-109-A, Siya Ram Enclave, Bhandsi, 168, Po Bhandsi, Distt Gurgaon, Haryana-122102 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Mahenoor.

1. SHIKSHA Devi W/o- Panjab Singh (W/O - No. JC-332755K Sub Maj Parvindra Kumar),R/o-Vill-Jaganpur, PO- Kandela, Teh- Kairana, Distt-Shamli, U.P.- 247774, have changed my name & DOB from Shiksha Devi 21.05.1962 to Shiksha 01.01.1959, vide Affidavit dated 06/03/2024 before Notary Public Delhi

1. PRIYANKA Devi W/o No-6940997K Hav Ratnesk Kumar Singh R/O Vill- Bahroli, Po & Teh-Mashrakh, Distt- Chhapra, Bihar-848417, declare that I have changed my name from Priyanka Devi to Priyanka Singh for all future purposes vide affidavit before public notary Delhi dt 07-03-2024.

1. RAM Avtar Diwaker S/o Hukme, R/O Gali No. 06, Lochandas Mandir, New Colony, Ghospora, Morar, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh-474006, declare that, in my Army's service record my son's name is mentioned without surname. My son's actual & correct name is Rahul Diwaker.

1. SHAMINA Shaheen W/o JC-332513F Sub Md Jahir Abbas R/O Vill-Simraha Po-Akbarnagar, Teh-Dist-Bhagalpur Bihar-813223, declare that I have changed my name from Shamina Shaheen to Samina Shaheen for all future purposes vide affidavit before public notary Delhi dt 07-03-2024.

1. DHARAM Vir S/O Nathu Ram Gupta R/O RZ 39B, B-Block, Gali No-6, Kailash Puri, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, Have changed my name from Dharan Vir to Dharam Vir Gupta for all future purposes.

1. MOHAMMAD Aseem Ansari S/O Anees Ansari, R/O H.No. E133, E-Block, Shaheed Nagar, Chikamampur, Ghaziabad, UP, declare that in my 10th marksheet, my father's name is wrongly mentioned as Mohammad Ais Ansari. My father's actual & correct name is Anees Ansari as per my all other documents.

1. PANJAB Singh S/o Jawan Singh (F/O- No. JC-332755K Sub Maj Parvindra Kumar) R/O- Vill- Jaganpur, PO- Kandela, Teh- Kairana, Distt- Shamli, U.P.- 247774, have changed my DOB from 15.05.1959 to 01.01.1955, vide Affidavit dated 05/03/2024 before Notary Public Delhi

1. SEEMA Singh W/o- No. JC-775709W Sub Pravek Kumar Singh, R/O- Vill- Isipur, Post- Dhekal, Distt- Pratapgarh, U.P. - 230001, have changed my DOB from 02.08.1977 to 01.10.1978, vide Affidavit dated 05/03/2024 before Notary Public Delhi

LOST & FOUND

1. MONIKA SINGH W/o Late Anil Kumar has lost the RC of vehicle No. DL5CAN0861 along with bank NOC and RC of vehicle No. DL45C1671. Further Property documents of property bearing no-83/493, 2nd floor, Tara nagar, sector 15 Dwarka DL-78 are also misplaced while travelling in metro, if someone find please contact at aforesaid address.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

FORM NO. URC-2
Advertisement giving notice about registration under Part 1 of Chapter XXI (Pursuant to section 374(b) of the companies Act, 2013 and rule 4(1) of the companies (Authorised to Register) Rules, 2014)

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 366 of the Companies Act, 2013, an application has been made to the Registrar at ROC-Delhi & Haryana that **TANGENT ADVISORS LLP** a LLP may be registered under Part 1 of Chapter XXI of the Companies Act 2013, as a company limited by shares,

2. The principal objects of the company are as follows: To takeover the running business of **M/s. TANGENT ADVISORS LLP** relating to the profession of consultants on all financial matters.

3. A copy of the draft memorandum and articles of association of the proposed company may be inspected at the office at 227 SFS PKT C TRIVENI, PH I, New Delhi-110017.

4. Notice is hereby given that any person objecting to this application may communicate their objection in writing to the Registrar at Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Plot no. 6,7 and 8, Sector 5, IMT, Manesar, District-Gurgaon, Haryana, India PIN- 122052 within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notice, with a copy to the company at its registered office.

Dated this 06th day of March, 2024
Tangent Advisors LLP
 Sd/-
Anil Kumar Misra (Partner)

1. HARVINDER Singh Sethi S/o Sh. M. S. Sethi R/O 023, 4th Floor, South City 1, Sector-40, Gurgaon, Haryana have lost his Property Documents (Sale Deed) of C-53, 3rd Floor, Janta Flat, Pandav Nagar, Delhi

ORIGINAL POSSESSION certificate letter issued by Unitech Limited, Unitech house 6, community center, Saket, New Delhi, 110017 for plot no. 17a in South City 1 measuring 300 sqmts (358.82 sqyds) Gurgaon in favour of Ashok Singh S/o Mohinder Saini S/O R/O 102/12 Silver Oaks Apartment, DLF Phase-1, Gurgaon is lost, misplaced, or untraceable, finder may contact Ashok Syal at contact on Mobile 8035562834.

1. PREM W/o Sh Ganga Ram, Resident of Hn 720 sec 23 Sonapat (Haryana) have my builder buyer agreement and endorsement letter for plot no 602, Block B, Omaxe City, Sonapat Haryana. If found pl contact on Mobile 8035562834.

1. SANJEEV Sahay (Advocate) 268, Lawyers Chambers, Delhi High Court, ND-03

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The intending bidders can obtain the detailed tender documents from the office of the Deputy Director, APEDA, Tezu Division by submitting Application in its letter head with the proof of being manufacturer of specified equipments or being system integrator credentials along with a Demand Draft / Cash of Rs. 15000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand) only in favour of Deputy Director, APEDA, Tezu Division on any working days from the office of the Deputy Director, APEDA, Tezu Division w.e.f 07/03/2024 upto 1400 hours of 14/03/2024.

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FROM PAGE 1

MODI ON VALLEY TRIP

head of India. And a head held high is a symbol of development and respect. Therefore, Viksit (developed) Jammu & Kashmir is the priority of Viksit Bharat," he said to loud cheers at the iconic Bakshi Stadium. Modi dedicated to the nation agriculture projects worth ₹5,000 crore and tourism projects worth ₹1,400 crore. He also launched the "Dekho Apna Desh People's Choice Tourist Destination Poll" and "India Global Diaspora Campaign" in addition to distributing appointment orders to about 1,000 new government recruits and interacting with beneficiaries of various schemes, especially women.

"Modi will not leave any stone unturned to repay this debt of affection. I am doing all this hard work to win your hearts and I believe that I am on the right path," he said. "My attempts to win your hearts will continue, and that is a Modi guarantee," he added.

The Opposition termed the PM's speech as disappointing and said that it failed to meet the expectations of the people. Modi's speech came just weeks ahead of general elections — the first large-scale polls to be held in the region that has only voted in local-body elections since 2019.

It was his first address in the Valley roughly five years after his government controversially scrapped the region's special status on August 5, 2019, put a host of regional leaders in temporary detention, suspended internet services for several years, and bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union territories — Jammu & Kashmir with a legislative assembly, and Ladakh without one.

Since then, the Union government has repeatedly credited the decision to revoke Article 370 as responsible for a drastic reduction in terrorism and corruption, and increase in employment and development. Modi, too, repeatedly praised the decision to nullify Article 370, a step the Opposition has termed undemocratic but one that has been upheld by the Supreme Court.

"Jammu & Kashmir is touching new heights of development after the abrogation of Article 370. Jammu & Kashmir is touching new heights of development today because it is breathing freely. Jammu &

Kashmir has broken the shackles after abrogation of Article 370," he said at the "Viksit Bharat, Viksit Jammu Kashmir" rally.

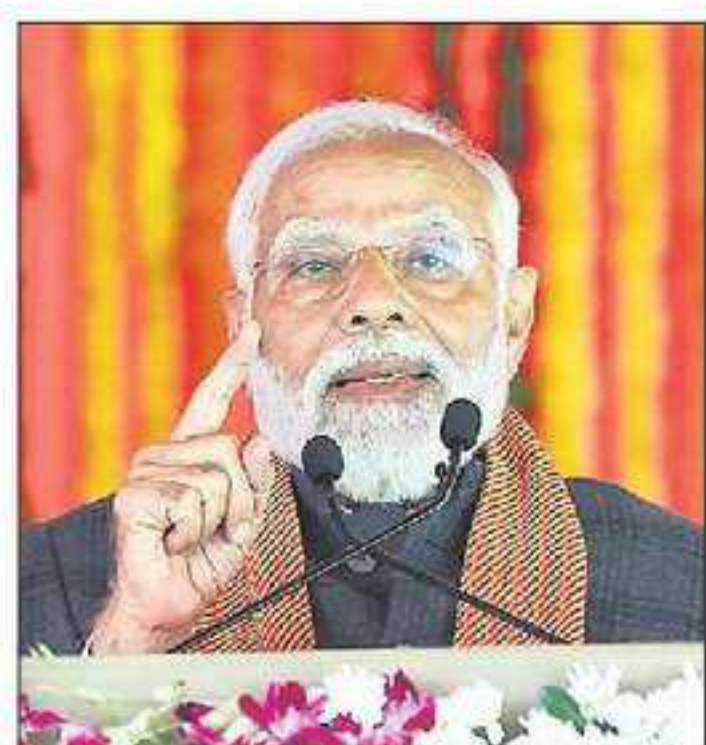
The PM said there was a time when laws and welfare schemes implemented in the rest of the country were not enforced in Jammu & Kashmir. "Now see how time has changed. Today from Srinagar, schemes for not only J&K but the whole country have started. J&K is ahead in promoting tourism for the whole country."

Modi said that Article 370 benefited only political parties with dynastic rule, a reference towards the Congress, National Conference and the Peoples Democratic Party, all of whom have opposed the abrogation of the special status.

"Today, Jammu & Kashmir is touching new peaks of development because Jammu & Kashmir is openly breathing now. This freedom from fetters has come after the abrogation of Article 370. For decades, the Congress and its allies deceived the people of J&K and the country in the name of Article 370 for political benefit," he said.

The PM questioned if Article 370 benefited the people or only some political families. "They (political families) were benefiting from it. J&K's people have now understood that they were being deceived. J&K was trapped in chains for the benefit of some families. Today, Article 370 is not there, hence the abilities of the youth of J&K are fully respected. Today there are equal opportunities and rights for all," he said.

Modi said that refugees from Pakistan, people from the Valmiki communities and sanitation workers had no voting rights for 70 years, which had



PM Modi at a gathering at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar on Thursday. ANI

now changed. "Valmiki community got the benefits of scheduled caste category after demanding for years. Seats have been reserved for scheduled tribes. Pahari, Gada Brahmin and Koli communities have been included in STs," he said, blaming "dynastic parties" for depriving people of these rights for decades.

"Every section is seeing a return of their rights. In J&K, dynasticism and corruption has been in a secret union."

The PM said that the feeling of arriving in "heaven on earth" — a quote often attributed to Mughal emperor Jahangir — cannot be put into words. "This unparalleled form of nature, the air, the valley, the environment and the love and affection of Kashmiri brothers and sisters," he said. The PM also acknowledged the presence of citizens outside the venue, and more than 100,000 people from 285 blocks connected to the event via video link. Underlining that the new Jammu & Kashmir is one that was awaited for decades, Modi said, "Dr Shyama Prasad Mookerji had sacrificed for this Jammu & Kashmir."

He said that the new Jammu & Kashmir had the sparkle for the future in its eyes and the determination to clear all obstacles. "140 crore citizens feel at peace when they see the smiling faces of the people of Jammu & Kashmir... The success story of Jammu and Kashmir will be the centre of attraction for the world."

The PM blamed what he called the mismanagement of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank, which was embroiled in a ₹1,110 crore scandal in 2019, and called it a victim of dynasty politics and corruption. He mentioned ₹1,000 crore assistance to the bank and action against wrongful appointments. He highlighted transparent recruitments in the last five years.

"As a result, the J&K Bank profit has reached ₹1,700 crore and business has reached ₹2.25 lakh crores from ₹1.25 crore rupees five years ago. Deposits also increased from ₹80,000 crores to ₹1.25 lakh crores... When there is an honest government, the intention is for the welfare of the people, then the people can be brought out of every difficulty," he said.

Modi highlighted the successful hosting of the G20

events in the region and the boom in tourism. "There was a time when people questioned who would visit Jammu & Kashmir for tourism. Today, Jammu & Kashmir are breaking all tourism records. In 2023 alone, Jammu and Kashmir welcomed over 2 crore tourists, surpassing previous records. Over the past 10 years, the Amarnath Yatra has witnessed the highest number of pilgrims participating, and Vaishno Devi also recorded a significant increase in devotee footfall," he said.

He mentioned two new AIIMS in the region, seven new medical colleges, two cancer hospitals and institutes such as IIT and IIM in the region. He urged the tourists visiting Kashmir to spend at least 5-10% of their tour packages on shopping that will generate livelihood and job opportunities for locals. "You cannot come, see and go back. You should spend 5-10% on shopping. I have also purchased from here," he said.

Encouraging tourists to contribute to the local economy, he also called upon NRIs to participate in the "Chalo India" initiative. He said under the "Dekho Apna Desh People's Choice" campaign, 40 places were identified by the government to be developed as tourist destinations in the next two years. As a part of this, the government would develop the most preferred tourist destinations based on public opinion.

Reacting to Modi's comments, National Conference general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar said, "It is the same worn-out rhetoric that Jammu and Kashmir has been hearing for the past five years, yet there's still a lack of confidence in holding elections. People were eagerly awaiting announcements regarding statehood, a promise of a democratically elected government by September, job packages for the unemployed, relief from the power crisis, and major development projects. Unfortunately, none of these expectations were met. Instead, they were presented with recycled projects."

PDP additional spokesperson said, "He should have spoken on land and job rights of people of J&K, statehood and assembly elections. Unfortunately, he didn't touch that topic."

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Mayank Austen Soofi



Michael for Sunny

The story of a 40-year bond

PRIVATE CAPITAL

Michael Marchant bends down by Sunny's grave, holding a pack of marigolds he had brought some minutes ago this afternoon from florist Rajesh at the cemetery gateway. He suddenly lifts his arm to wave at Ram Kumar, the graveyard attendant walking towards Michael with a rag and a water bucket. They silently wash the winged angel installed atop the grave, working their way down, scraping off the hard encrusted dust from the tombstone. The grimy engraving gradually becomes decipherable. Some of the inscription's black granite is lost, but the outlines of the alphabets remain.

A photographer from Zurich in Switzerland, Michael has been coming on-and-off to India for the last 40 years. Each time he is in Delhi, he faithfully visits Sunny's grave at the Indian Christian Cemetery in Paharganj.

"During my first visit to Delhi in the autumn of 1984, I was staying at the Vivek hotel in Paharganj, and one afternoon I walked into this cemetery, and stumbled into Sunny, discovering on his gravestone that we were born around the same

time."

Sunny, the gravestone reveals, was born in 1959, the year of Michael's birth, and lived for only five months.

After adorning Sunny's grave with marigolds, Michael plops down on the dusty ground. The cemetery is empty except for its hundreds of graves, its hundreds of trees, and its handful of friendly dogs. "I like to think I'm living Sunny's share of life as well," Michael talks of Sunny as if they were long-time intimates. "When I sit beside him, I think about the things I have been able to do in my life, about the pleasures and experiences I have encountered in my beloved India... while Sunny lived too briefly."

Michael draws out his mechanical German-made analogue camera from a threadbare jungle-green Billingham bag, and methodically snaps portraits of Sunny's grave from various perspectives. At one point, after the manner of early photographers, he covers his head, and covers his elaborate camera, with a red cloth. Some time later, he returns the camera to its made-in-England bag, and gets up to leave.

Flying back to Zurich in a week, Michael turns towards the cemetery's exit, muttering, "See you, Sunny."



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

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यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की विभिन्न योजनाओं हेतु परियोजना विभाग की आवश्यकतानुसार, ग्राम मेहन्दीपुर बांगर सुनियोजित विकास अर्थात् 60 मीटर चौड़ी सेक्टर रोड के निर्माण व अन्य विकास कार्यों हेतु खसरा संख्या जिसकी अन्तर घनराशि का वितरण किया जाना आवश्यक है, का वितरण निम्नवत् है :-

ग्राम का नाम	सेक्टर	खसरा संख्या
मेहन्दीपुर बांगर	60 मीटर चौड़ी सेक्टर रोड के निर्माण व अन्य विकास कार्यों हेतु अर्जित खसरों	967, 982, 983, 1126, 1132, 1161, 1164, 1165, 1166, 1167, 1168, 1169, 1170, 1171, 1172, 1173, 1174, 1177, 1180, 1181, 1182, 1183, 1185, 1186, 1187, 1188, 1189, 1197, 1205, 1208, 1210, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1231, 1240, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1267, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1299

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ग्राम का नाम	सेक्टर	खसरा संख्या
ग्राम खेरली	सेक्टर-22 डी, 45 मीटर चौड़ी सड़क	437, 417, 431, 438, 525, 526, 519, 520, 683, 684, 685, 705, 610, 590, 645

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(सेक्टर-33, ग्राम मुन्ना तगा)

क्रम सं.	खाता संख्या	खसरा संख्या	गाटे का कुल क्षेत्रफल (हे० म०)	तहसील की आख्यानुसार कार्तकार का भाग	तहसील की आख्यानुसार कार्तकार का हिस्सा	कार्तकार का नाम
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2.	209	400	2.4810	में से	0.1265	देव शर्मा पुत्र सुन्दरलाल नि० म० न० 339 पछाला पश्चिम, बुढाना, मुजफ्फरनगर
3.	80	435 399	1.7270 0.8640	1/4	0.4317 0.2160 0.6477	दीनदयाल पुत्र चन्द्रपाल नि० मुन्ना तगा
4.	80	435 399	1.7270 0.8640	1/4	0.4317 0.2160 0.6477	प्रेमचन्द पुत्र चन्द्रपाल नि० मुन्ना तगा
5.	80	435 399	1.7270 0.8640	1/4	0.4317 0.2160 0.6477	सुशील पुत्र चन्द्रपाल नि० मुन्ना तगा
6.	80	435 399	1.7270 0.8640	1/4	0.4317 0.2160 0.6477	शशी पत्नी रामनारायन, हिमांशु व कुलदीप ना० बा० सं० माता शशी पुत्र रामनारायन शर्मा नि० मुन्ना तगा
7.	156	432स	0.2530	सम्पूर्ण	0.2530	मुकेश, अशोक, कमल पुत्रगण विक्रम नि० ग्राम मुन्ना तगा

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- सामुदायिक केन्द्र भवन/प्राथमिक विद्यालय/पंचायत भवन, ग्राम खेरली भाव।
- प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट पर।

आबादी विनियमावली के बिन्दु संख्या 5.5 के अनुसार परीक्षित सूची में वर्णित किसी विवरण के संबंध में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित आपत्ति प्रकाशन के दिनांक से 15 दिनों के अंदर यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के कार्यालय में प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।

विशेष कार्याधिकारी

Maharaja Agrasen Medical College

Agroha (Hisar)-125047 (Haryana)

(Recognized by NMC/MCI/Govt. Aided)

Website: www.mamc.edu.in, Email: me1@mamc.edu.in

Phone No. 8930200819

RECRUITMENT

Applications are invited for filling up the posts of Faculty (Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor & Senior Resident) in various Departments in MAMC, Agroha. Qualifications as per NMC & salary as per Haryana Govt. with good perks with NPA, New Pension Scheme. Starting salary: Senior Resident-138610/-, Assistant Professor-142110/-, Associate Professor-239171/-, Professor-242850/- + HRA + CA as per rule. For more details, the interested candidates may visit at our website: <https://mamc.edu.in/jobs-2/>

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused **Guddu @ Bake**, S/o Bake Lal, R/o D-522, Jahangir Puri, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR no. 1138/2021, Dated 28.08.2021, U/s 379/411 IPC**, registered at **P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi**, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Guddu @ Bake**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Guddu @ Bake**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Guddu @ Bake**, of case **FIR no. 1138/2021, Dated 28.08.2021, U/s 379/411 IPC, P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi**, is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **10.05.2024**.

By order
Neeti Suri Mishra,
A. C. M. M.,
Rohini Court,
Delhi

DP/2435/NW/2024
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

(See Section 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused **Sudhir**, S/o **Vikram**, R/o B-194, Transit Camp, Govindpur, New Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 338/2018, U/S 323/341/506/34 IPC**, PS Govindpur, New Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Sudhir** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Sudhir** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Sudhir** of **FIR No. 338/2018, U/S 323/341/506/34 IPC**, PS Govindpur, New Delhi is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **24.05.2024**.

By Order
Devanshi Janmeja
Metropolitan Magistrate-04
South-East District, Court No. 10
Saket Court Complex, New Delhi

DP/2717/SE/2024

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **1. Kusum Devi, W/o Kuldeep, 2. Sachin, 3. Amit Singh, S/o Kuldeep, R/o A-100, B-Block, Gali No. 7, Pavi Pusta Loni, Ghaziabad, U.P.** has committed (or are suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 115/2016, U/s 498A/406/34 IPC, 4/5 D.P. Act, P.S. Jyoti Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **1. Kusum Devi, 2. Sachin, 3. Amit Singh** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **1. Kusum Devi, 2. Sachin, 3. Amit Singh** has absconded (or are concealing themselves to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **1. Kusum Devi, 2. Sachin, 3. Amit Singh** accused of **FIR No. 115/2016, U/s 498A/406/34 IPC, 4/5 D.P. Act, P.S. Jyoti Nagar, Delhi** required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **01.05.2024**.

By Order
Ms. Nidhi Bala
Metropolitan Magistrate (Mahila Court-03)
Shahdara, Room No. 08
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/2618/NE/2024

'Isn't it contrary to our judgment?': SC questions speaker's Sena order

Utkarsh Anand
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday wondered if the Maharashtra assembly speaker's decision to hold state chief minister Eknath Shinde's faction as the "real Shiv Sena" by applying the test of "legislative majority" is tenable, raising a question that lies at the heart of an intriguing legal-political tussle ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

"Look at the speaker's decision. It has gone by the test of legislative majority. Isn't it contrary to our judgment last year?" a bench led by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud asked.

The bench, which also comprises justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, recalled the May 2023 Constitution bench judgment in a related case, holding that in case of a vertical split in a party it would be futile to assess which group enjoys a majority in the legislature. The judgment by the five-judge bench had added that other tests such as an evaluation of the majority in the organisational wings of the political party, an analysis of the provisions of the party constitution, or any other appropriate test may come handy in deciding which group represents the real party.

The bench was on Thursday

hearing a petition filed by the Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) against the assembly speaker's decision to dismiss disqualification petitions against Shinde and the legislators who supported him during the rebellion in 2022 and holding Shinde's faction to be the "real Shiv Sena".

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal, Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Devdatt Kamat, representing the UBT group, assailed the January 10 judgment by Maharashtra speaker Rahul Narwekar on the ground that his reliance on the legislative majority was in the teeth of the 2023 judgment of the apex court.

"Legislative majority cannot be the basis of determination in cases of a defection. This court also said it in its judgment. This court said that UBT is the leader of the party," Singhvi emphasised.

At this, the bench questioned the speaker's decision. "If we look at the findings of the Speaker on the legislative majority, the whole finding is contrary to our judgment," it told senior counsel Harish Salve, Mukul Rohatgi, Maninder Singh and Mahesh Jethmalani, who were appearing for the Shiv Sena camp.

Responding, Salve said that the questions of law were "miles away" when the UBT group has forged and fabricated crucial documents during the proceedings



Eknath Shinde (left) and Uddhav Thackeray

before the speaker and also before this court. "Documents produced by them on the resolution passed in June 2022 are brazenly fabricated," he said. Salve questioned the authenticity of documents, specifically the resolution of June 2022 by which the UBT group sought to remove Shinde as the leader of the legislature party. He added that the signatures on the resolution were forged and the UBT faction interchangeably used working committee and governing body in different fora. Jethmalani, on his part, said that the Shiv Sena will move an application citing forgery by the other side.

Rohatgi, also appearing for the Shiv Sena faction, implored the bench to send back the matter to the Bombay high court where the Shiv Sena has already filed a petition against the speaker's decision not to disqualify MLAs of the UBT faction.

Sibal, however, countered this

submission, contending that they have a constitutional right to approach the SC and the dimension of the matter required the top court to hear it. "The term of the present assembly will end in October-November. So, time is the essence here and I request the court to hear this matter at an earliest date so that it does not become infructuous," Sibal added.

To this, the bench said that it would hear the matter in detail in the week commencing April 4. The court also called for the original records from assembly speaker's officer to consider the Shiv Sena's allegations.

On January 22, the bench issued notices to all the 39 MLAs, including Shinde, against whom the disqualification petitions were filed by the Thackeray-camp under the anti-defection law for defying the party whip in the House for the election of the speaker and the floor test in 2022.

The Shiv Sena suffered a vertical split in June 2022 when Shinde and 38 other legislators walked out of the party then led by Uddhav Thackeray and joined hands with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to form the government. The rebellion brought down the then Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government.

In the petition filed through Thackeray-loyalist and legislator

Sunil Prabhu, the UBT group called Narwekar's January 10 order a "colourable" (it probably meant coloured) exercise of power. It added that such a conclusion was "erroneous" and went against the anti-defection law and the SC's judgment of May last year directing the Speaker not to solely base its decision on the group possessing majority in the House by distinguishing between "legislative party" and "political party".

By its judgment on May 11, 2023, a Constitution bench invalidated the Maharashtra governor's decision asking then CM Thackeray to face a floor test last year and flagged a flurry of errors during the political drama that toppled the MVA government, but refused to put Thackeray back in the saddle because he voluntarily resigned instead of facing the trust vote in the assembly.

At the time, the court left it for Narwekar to decide the disqualification petitions pending against both Shinde and Thackeray groups, rejecting Thackeray camp's plea that the court should decide the disqualification petitions by itself because of the alleged bias of the speaker. By a separate decision on February 17, 2022, the Election Commission ruled that Shinde's faction would inherit Shiv Sena party's name and its bow-and-arrow symbol.

GOVT DESIGNATES PoK-BASED LASHKAR MAN AS TERRORIST

NEW DELHI: The ministry of home affairs (MHA) has designated Mohammad Qasim Gujjar, a resident of Reasi district in Jammu & Kashmir but is currently in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), as an individual terrorist under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) for "carrying out a wide-range of terrorist activities".

Announcing the decision on X, Union home minister Amit Shah said Gujjar has caused numerous deaths and injuries through terror attacks and is involved in planning a war against India. "Anyone found involved in activities against the unity and integrity of the nation will be dealt with ruthlessly," he posted on X.

A notification issued by the MHA said: "Gujjar, 32, with the intention to wage war against the country has been involved in carrying out a wide-range of terrorist activities, including coordinating, supplying, identifying locations for drones for dropping arms, ammunition, improvised explosive devices and cash, and delivering and managing consignments from across the border." It added that Gujjar has been "involved in creating new terror modules through recruitment and radicalisation by various means, including social media and other online encrypted communication applications".

"He has been involved in various terror attacks and bomb blasts, and is responsible for the death and injury of a number of people in these terror incidents. This led to the decision to designate Gujjar a terrorist," it said. HT

{ FARM AGITATION }

HC orders probe into protesting farmer's death

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab & Haryana high court on Thursday ordered a judicial probe into the death of a 21-year-old man from Punjab who was killed in police action during a clash between agitating farmers and the Haryana security personnel at Khanauri border last month.

The court criticised the protestors for creating a "war-like situation", and using women and children as shields. A division bench led by acting chief justice GS Sandhawalia also questioned the Haryana government about the kind of bullets and pellets used by the security personnel during clashes on February 21, and asked it to submit details.

For "obvious reasons", the bench observed, the investigation cannot be handed over to either Haryana or Punjab. The court ordered the probe will be conducted by a retired high court judge and two additional director general of police (ADGP) rank officers from both the states.

A detailed order was awaited. The bench, also comprising justice Lapita Banerji, was hearing a batch of petitions pertaining to the farmers' agitation. Some of the petitions sought restraint orders on the "Delhi Chalo" march while another bunch of pleas prayed for the removal of barricades and restrictions put in place by the Haryana government to stop the protesting farmers from marching towards the national capital.

After the death of the protesting farmer on February 21, few more pleas were filed seeking a probe into the action by the Haryana security personnel against the protesters at Shambhu and Khanauri borders.

Shubh Karan Singh, a resident of Ballo village in Bathinda district, was killed and 12 police personnel injured in clashes at Khanauri on the Punjab-Haryana border. The autopsy report indicated that he



Shubh Karan Singh

died of a firearm injury to his head. A CT scan conducted before the autopsy also detected several metal pellets in his head.

The incident took place when some protesting farmers were trying to head towards barricades and were stopped by security personnel from crossing the Haryana border and march to Delhi.

When the Haryana government showed some photos of the agitation on February 21 with children and women allegedly in the front, the court slammed the petitioners from farmers' side. "Children are being used as shield; this is absolutely shameful. It is a sad state of affairs. Children who are supposed to study in school are shown what they should not be...it was a war-like situation," the bench said.

The bench also questioned Punjab over the delay in initiating a probe into Singh's death causing a delay in his cremation, which eventually took place on February 29 after Punjab Police registered a first information report (FIR) into his death.

The protesting farmers have been staying at the Shambhu and Khanauri borders after their march was stopped by the security forces. The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (non-political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM) are spearheading the protest to press the Union government to accept their demands, including a legal guarantee for minimum support price for crops and a farm loan waiver. So far, four rounds of talks of farmer leaders with the Centre have failed to break the deadlock.

New footage shows B'luru bomber changed clothes, boarded bus



The NIA released the image of the suspect in the blast case on Thursday.

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The National Investigation Agency (NIA), which is probing the March 1 blast at a popular restaurant in Bengaluru,

is examining new CCTV footage from the city that suggests the suspect bomber may have changed clothes and boarded a bus to Tumakuru in Karnataka after placing the improvised explosive device (IED) at Ram-

eshwaram Cafe, people familiar with the matter said on Thursday. The bomber, the people added, used multiple public buses to reach the cafe on the morning of the incident.

"The new video footage of the suspect with a backpack, wearing a full-sleeved shirt, cap, face mask, and spectacles moving in the bus is being examined. It appears that after noticing the camera in the bus, he moved in a direction where he cannot be

seen," an officer familiar with matter said, requesting anonymity. "We are verifying the footage." Meanwhile, an unverified photograph of the suspect wearing a T-shirt, without facemask, cap and spectacles, sitting inside another bus has also surfaced.

Karnataka home minister G Parameshwara on Thursday said the prime suspect changed his clothes after the incident and travelled by bus. He said the suspect travelled towards the dis-

trict headquarters town of Tumakuru by a bus after the explosion and sleuths are verifying his movement till Ballari.

"We have got more important leads, as to the direction in which he (suspect) has gone and him having changed his clothes. Some information cannot be revealed. We have got good leads in the last couple of days. I feel that he will be nabbed at the earliest," Parameshwara said. The NIA, which earlier this

week took over the probe into the blast at the popular eatery in Bengaluru that left nine people injured, on Wednesday announced a ₹10-lakh reward for information about the suspect.

As reported by HT on Tuesday, NIA is looking at all possible angles, including role of Islamic State operatives. Investigators have also drawn similarities between the March 1 blast at the cafe and October 2022 blast at a temple in Tamil Nadu.

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30 प्रो लोक सेवा आयोग
विज्ञापित
आयोग के विज्ञापन संख्या ए-1/ई-1/2024 दिनांक 01-01-2024 के अन्तर्गत विज्ञापित सम्मिलित राज्य/प्रवर अधीनस्थ सेवा (प्रो) परीक्षा-2024 के सन्दर्भ में एकद्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि आयोग द्वारा प्रस्तावित परीक्षा 17 मार्च, 2024 को प्रस्तावित थी, उक्त परीक्षा अपरिहार्य कारणों से स्थगित की जाती है, प्रस्तावित परीक्षा माह जुलाई में सम्भावित है, जिसकी सूचना वया समय दी जागीगी।
संख्या- 04/06/ई-2/2023-24 (आंकर नाथ सिंह)
दिनांक: प्रयागराज, 07 मार्च, 2024 अनुसूचित

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
Department of Water Resources
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, NORTHERN MINOR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR
E-Mail Id. - senmicsbp@yahoo.co.in
"e" Procurement Notice
Bid Identification No: ACENMIC_SBP - 05/2023-24
1. Name of the Work: Improvement to Distribution system of Girischandrapur MIP in Naktideul Block of Sambalpur District under ERM 2023-24.
2. Total No. of Works: 01 (One) No.
3. Estimated Cost: - Rs. 137.50 Lakh (Approximately).
4. Period of Completion: 9 (Nine) Calendar Month
5. Date & Time of Availability of Bid Document in the Portal: From 11.00 A.M. of Dt 18.03.2024 Up to 5.30 P.M. of Dt. 28.03.2024.
6. Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids in the Portal: Up to 05.30 P.M. of Dt. 28.03.2024.
7. Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-1): Dt. 30.03.2024 at 11.00 A.M. onwards.
8. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Tender: - Additional Chief Engineer, Northern Minor Irrigation Circle, Sambalpur.
9. Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal. "<https://tendersodisha.gov.in>".
Additional Chief Engineer, Northern Minor Irrigation Circle, Sambalpur
OIPR - 32208/11/0009/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCLE, SAMBALPUR, ODISHA.
E-mail id - sephsbp@yahoo.in / sephsbp@gmail.com
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Bid Identification No. ACEPHSBP-11/2023-24 Dt. 04.03.2024
01. Number of Work : 03 nos
02. Type of Bid : Two Bid System
03. Estimated Cost : Rs. 122.13 to Rs. 371.11 lakh
04. Period of Completion : 9 (nine) Calendar Months
05. Class of Contractor : 'B' & 'A' Class
06. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal : From 11.00 Hrs. of Dt. 12.03.2024 to 17.00 Hrs of 27.03.2024
07. Last date / time of seeking clarification : 17.00 Hrs of 18.03.2024
08. Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal : 17.00 Hrs of 27.03.2024
09. Date & Time of opening of Technical bids : At 11.30 Hrs. of 28.03.2024
10. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Additional Chief Engineer, P.H. Circle, Sambalpur, Brooks' Hill, Near Stadium, At/PO- Moljharan, Dist- Sambalpur-768 001.
Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "<http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in>"
Additional Chief Engineer, P.H. Circle, Sambalpur.
OIPR - 13018/11/0009/2324

भारतीय पशु चिकित्सा परिषद
Veterinary Council of India
भारत सरकार, मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेयरी मंत्रालय का वैधानिक निकाय
(Statutory Body of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India)
'ए' विंग, दूसरी मंजिल, अगस्त क्रांति भवन, भीकाजी कामा प्लेस, नई दिल्ली-110066
'A' Wing, 2nd Floor, August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi - 110066
PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed that Veterinary Council of India will be using National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) (UG)-2024 Merit List for admission of students to B.V.Sc. & A.H. Degree course during the academic year 2024-25 for filling up of seats in recognized Veterinary Colleges under 15% All India Quota. The other criteria for selection/admission of students for admission to B.V.Sc. & A.H. Degree course shall be as per Veterinary Council of India - Minimum Standards of Veterinary Education - Degree Course (B.V.Sc. & A.H.) Regulations, 2016.
Students desirous to take admission to B.V.Sc. & A.H. Degree course under 15% seats on All India Basis are hereby advised to appear in NEET (UG)-2024 to be conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA) on 5th May, 2024 [Sunday]
This Notice is issued in Public Interest.
Dated : 06.03.2023
CBC 01222/12/0004/2324
Sd/-
SECRETARY, VCI (ADDL. CHARGE)

Municipal Corporation Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar
Dated: 06.03.2024
No. 586
The Municipal Corporation Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar (Mohali) invites Bids (Technical & Financial Bids) through E-Auction platform from Outdoor Media Agencies for allotment of sites of Advertisement through Unipoles, Gantry, LED, Bill Board, Bus Queue Shelter, B.O.T Toilet Block & Toilet Blocks on DBOMT (Design, Build, Operate, Maintain & Transfer Basis) for a period of 7 years as per schedule mentioned below. All the bidders have to get themselves registered with www.tenderwizard.com/DLGP and get user ID for participation.
E-Auction Schedule:-

Availability of Auction for start of Technical bidding online	Date, Time & Venue of Pre-Bid Meeting	Last Date & time of on-line submission of Technical Bids	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid	Date & Time of Financial Bid (only Technical Qualified bid will be considered)	Date & Time of E-Auction Starts from highest bid quoted in the financial bid
11.03.2024 (Monday) at 11.00 AM	18.03.2024 (Monday) at 11.00 AM in the office of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation SAS Nagar	upto 01.04.2024 (Monday) at 5.00 PM	02.04.2024 (Tuesday) at 03.00 PM	Will be intimated after technical bid evaluation	Will be intimated after financial bid evaluation

For details log onto : www.tenderwizard.com/DLGP
Note: 1) If any of the above date is declared holiday, the activity scheduled for that day will take place on the next working day.
2) Any further corrigendum(s)/addendum(s) to the e-Auction shall be published on the above website only.
Sd/- Commissioner
Municipal Corporation Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar
33409

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION, SAMBALPUR.
Phone No. (0663)-2412135, Fax No. : (0663) 2412335 :
E-Mail ID : sephsbp@gmail.com
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Bid Identification No. SEPHSBP-14/2023-24 Dt. 04.03.2024
1. Name of the Work : 1 no Work
2. Type of Bid : Two Bid System
3. Estimated Cost : Rs. 448.64 lakhs
4. Class of Contractor : Manufacturer
5. Period of Completion : 60 (Sixty) days.
6. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal : From 11.00 AM of dt. 11.03.2024 to 5.00 PM of 27.03.2024
7. Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal : 5:00 PM of 27.03.2024
8. Date & Time of opening of tender : At 11.30 AM of 28.03.2024
9. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid : Executive Engineer, P.H. Division, Sambalpur, Brooks' Hill, Near Stadium, At/PO- Moljharan, Dist- Sambalpur-768 001.
Further details can be seen from the web site <http://tenders.ori.nic.in> or www.tendersodisha.gov.in
Additional Chief Engineer P.H. Division, Sambalpur
OIPR - 13026/11/0023/2324

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, JODHPUR
(An autonomous body set-up by Government of India)
Basni, Jodhpur (Rajasthan) Pin code: 342005
Website: <https://www.aiimsjodhpur.edu.in>, Phone: 0291-2740741
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4.	Nursing Superintendent	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	03
5.	Asst. Controller of Exam	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
6.	Senior Programmer (Analyst)	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
7.	CSSD Officer	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
8.	Senior Librarian	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
9.	Chief Dietician	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
10.	Chief Medical Social Service Officer	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
11.	Hospital Architect	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
12.	Executive Engineer AC & R	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
13.	Deputy Chief Security Officer	A	Level 11 as per 7th CPC	01
14.	Chief Medical Record Officer	A	Level 10 as per 7th CPC	01
15.	Stores Officer	A	Level 10 as per 7th CPC	01

Note:
1. The number of post is tentative and is liable to be changed based on the Institute's requirements.
2. Maximum age limit for applying for the aforesaid posts on deputation is 56 years as on last date of receipt of application.
3. The initial period of deputation shall be 3 years.
4. The Officers, who fulfil the qualifications/Eligibility may submit their application through proper channel to the Deputy Director (Admin), All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Jodhpur - 342005 (Rajasthan) by speed post/Registered A.D. The last date of receipt of application in AIIMS, Jodhpur will be 45 days from the date of publication of this advertisement in the employment News.
The detailed advertisement and online application form are available on our website: <https://www.aiimsjodhpur.edu.in>
Sd/-
Deputy Director (Admin.)

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(A GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKING)
SANTARAPUR, BHUBANESWAR - 751002.
Tel - MD 0674-2340573, E-mail- mdosscitd456@gmail.com
NIT No. OSSC/ Mktg (Hort)-81/2024
Short e-Tender Call Notice for Procurement of PassionFruit Planting Material for the Year-2024-25
OSSC Ltd. invites e-Tender from Registered Private Nursery Owner Licensed from Directorate of Horticulture or any other Govt Institute or Licensed Suppliers dealing with Horticultural Planting Materials on item wise rate contract basis for Procurement of Passion Fruit Planting Material for the year 2024-25 in double cover system through online mode only for the work below

Name of the work	Purchase of Passion Fruit Planting Material for the year 2024-25.
No of work	One
Availability of bid documents in portal	15.00 hours on dt.11.03.2024 to 17.00 hrs of dt.20.03.2024
Last date of receipt of tender in portal	17.00 hrs of dt.20.03.2024
Date and time opening of Bid	10.30 hrs of dt.21.03.2024

The detailed descriptions of crops, varieties, quantity, parameters, terms and conditions and other details of tender specified in the tender schedule would be made available in the e-Tender portal www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum/ corrigendum/ cancellation can also be seen in the said website.
Sd/-
Managing Director
OSSC Ltd
OIPR - 01106/11/0119/2324

Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Forensic Sciences
Piparsand Sarojinagar, Near Kanpur Road, Lucknow-226008
Website : www.upsifs.ac.in E-mail : recruitment@upsifs.ac.in
Adv. No. ₹ /01/2024 Date : 07.03.2024
Notification for Recruitment of Teaching & Non-Teaching Positions
On-line applications are invited from eligible Indian Nationals for filling up various Teaching & Non-Teaching posts in regular scale of pay (7th PRC) at Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Forensic Science (UPSIFS), Lucknow as follows:

S.N.	Name of posts	Level in the 7 th Pay Matrix
Teaching Positions		
1	Professor	Level-14 (AGP)
2	Associate Professor	Level-13A (AGP)
3	Assistant Professor	Level-10 (AGP)
Non-Teaching Positions		
1	Assistant Registrar	Level-10
2	Scientific Officer	Level-10
3	Assistant Librarian	Level-10

Online link for filling up the online application form will be displayed on the Institute website www.upsifs.ac.in during third/fourth week of March, 2024. The detailed information regarding number of posts, eligibility criterion, application format, last date of submission of application etc. shall be available on the website. The interested candidates are advised to visit Institute website regularly during this period.
UP-205310, Dt. 07.03.2024
Website : www.upgov.nic.in
Director
UPSIF, Lucknow

Cabinet panel clears new indigenous stealth fighter project in defence push

Rahul Singh

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NEW DELHI: The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has approved a highly anticipated project for the design and prototype development of an indigenous fifth-generation stealth fighter, or the advanced medium combat aircraft (AMCA), at a cost of around ₹15,000 crore, officials aware of the matter said on Thursday.

It is perhaps the most significant military project to be cleared by the government before India's general elections due in April-May.

The project will involve the design and development of five twin-engine AMCA prototypes, with the stealth fighter likely to go into production only after a decade, the officials said, asking not to be named.

The Indian Air Force's (IAF) modernisation map envisages the deployment of around 120 stealth fighters (six squadrons) 2035 onwards, with the advanced planes forming an important element of future air combat.

The Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Aeronautical Development Agency and state-run plane maker Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will be involved in the AMCA project, which will be developed in two phases, as previously reported by HT.

The first two squadrons will consist of the Mk-1 version of AMCA powered by the American F-414 engines, while the remaining four squadrons will have the more advanced Mk-2 version equipped with an even more powerful engine to be built in India with foreign collaboration.

The joint production of GE Aerospace's F-414 engines in India will help the country overcome a striking technology gap, lay the foundation for indigenous development of bigger jet engines and possibly open doors to exports; and the American company and HAL could hammer out a deal this year.

Fifth generation fighters come with stealth features to increase survivability in combat, advanced avionics, smart weapons stored internally, top-end mission computers, 360-degree situational awareness, and super-cruise capability that will allow it to fly at supersonic speeds for extended periods without kicking in fuel-guzzling afterburners.

"The critical design review of

Highlights of the project

₹15,000 cr to be spent on development of stealth fighter

To be designed from scratch

- The project will involve the design and development of five twin-engine advanced medium combat aircraft (AMCA) prototypes
- The stealth fighter is likely to go into production only after a decade
- DRDO's Aeronautical Development Agency and state-run plane maker HAL will be involved in the AMCA project

A FILLUP TO SELF-RELIANCE GOAL

- Achieving self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector is a top priority for the central government.
- In a big push for the ongoing self-reliance drive, the defence ministry on March 1 signed five contracts worth ₹39,125 crore

Cabinet nod to bill to reserve seats for STs in Goa Assembly

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved a bill to provide reservations to Scheduled Tribes in the Goa legislative assembly.

Addressing reporters on the decisions taken by the Cabinet, Union minister Piyush Goyal said the ST community has no seats reserved in the 40-member assembly.

Amid demands from the community, the Cabinet approved the 'Readjustment of

Representation of Scheduled Tribes Bill, 2024, which will empower the Census Commissioner to notify the population of STs in Goa. Based on it, the Election Commission will amend the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 2008, to make way for ST reservation.

The bill could now be brought in the next Lok Sabha to be formed after the upcoming general elections.

AMCA was cleared some time ago and the CCS approval was much awaited. This paves the path for the full-scale development of AMCA, which is crucial for IAF's future combat capabilities and India's Atmanirbharta drive.

As China is pushing ahead with deploying its own fifth generation aircraft, we need to hasten the AMCA project to give IAF a matching capability," said Air Marshal Anil Chopra (ret), director general, Centre for Air Power Studies.

GE and HAL signed a memorandum of understanding in Washington in June 2023 to produce 99 F-414 engines for India's light combat aircraft (LCA) Mk-2 programme during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's US visit last year. The deal will involve 80% transfer of technology (ToT) and is estimated to be worth around \$1 billion. Also, French engine maker

Safran is willing to transfer 100% technology to build fighter jet engines in the country.

DRDO was earlier looking at incorporating sixth-generation technologies in AMCA and examining the possibility of equipping it with directed energy weapons, superior anti-missile systems, advanced missile approach warning systems and teaming it with unmanned systems. Sixth-generation technologies are more advanced than those in any fighter jet currently in service globally.

India was earlier planning to co-develop a stealth fighter with Russia, but the proposed fifth-generation fighter aircraft project was abandoned after IAF expressed strong reservations over high cost and limited technology of transfer.

Achieving self-reliance in the defence manufacturing sector is a top priority for the government.

Dearness allowance hiked to 50%, 4.92 mn central govt staff to benefit

Rajeev Jayaswal

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NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Thursday raised the dearness allowance (DA) for 4.92 million central government employees by four percentage points to 50% along with a similar increase in the dearness relief (DR) for 6.8 million pensioners ahead of the general elections even as retail inflation moderated in January.

The new rates will be applicable retrospectively from January 1. Union commerce minister Piyush Goyal said after the Cabinet meeting. The decision will have an annual impact of ₹12,868 crore on the central exchequer, he added.

"As DA has reached the 50% level, therefore, consequential increases have also been made in other allowances such as house rent, gratuity limit and other benefits," he said.

The consequential increases in HRA for various categories are— from 9% to 10%, from 18% to 20% and from 27% to 30%, he said. Similarly, gratuity ceiling has also been raised to ₹25 lakh from ₹20

THE DECISION WILL HAVE AN ANNUAL IMPACT OF ₹12,868 CRORE ON THE CENTRAL EXCHEQUER

lakh, while all other benefits will go up by 25%, he added. The total financial impact of these hikes in the financial year 2024-25 would be around ₹24,400 crore.

The Cabinet took the decision on Thursday, amid speculation that the Election Commission (EC) could announce poll dates next week, which will trigger the model code of conduct (MCC). From the time elections are announced by EC, the Centre is expected not to announce any financial grants.

Experts said the move to increase dearness allowance (always expressed as a percentage of the basic salary) will bring double cheer as it comes after retail inflation — as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) — fell to a three-month low of 5.1% in January from four-month high of

5.69% in December 2023 mainly due to cooling of food prices. It was 6.52% in January 2023.

Both employees and pensioners will get the raised amount retrospectively from January 1, an official said requesting anonymity. "This increase is broadly in accordance with the accepted formula, which is based on the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission," he said.

Central Pay Commissions are periodically constituted to go into various issues of emolument structure, retirement benefits and other service conditions of central government employees and to make recommendations on the required changes. According to the Commission's report, DA is paid to central government employees to protect their basic pay from erosion in the real value on account of inflation. The allowance is currently based on the consumer price index-industrial workers (CPI-IW).

DA and DR are given to employees to mitigate impact of the inflation. Generally, DA and DR are raised twice annually — often in January and July.

₹300 LPG subsidy for Ujjwala beneficiaries extended till 2025

Rajeev Jayaswal

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NEW DELHI: The Centre on Thursday gave a ₹12,000 crore bonanza to 102.7 million poor households by extending ₹300 subsidy on cooking gas refill for one more year up to March 31, 2025. The decision came on the eve of International Women's Day and ahead of imminent announcement of the general elections schedule.

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the continuation of targeted subsidy of ₹300 per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 12 refills per year to be provided to the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) in 2024-25, commerce minister Piyush Goyal announced



The total expenditure will be ₹12,000 crore for 2024-25.

the decision after the meeting. Average cooking gas consumption of PMUY consumers are, however, less than four refills per year.

"The total expenditure will be ₹12,000 crore for financial year 2024-25," he said. The government transfers the subsidy amount directly into the bank accounts of 10.27 crore eligible beneficiaries. Unless given an extension, the scheme would have lapsed this

month on March 31.

Since May 21, 2022, the government has been providing budgetary support for a targeted subsidy of ₹200 per 14.2kg LPG cylinder for PMUY beneficiaries for up to 12 refills a year. Initially, the subsidy was announced for two financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24. At the beginning, the subsidy amount was ₹200 per 14.2kg cylinder. Later, with effect from October 5, 2023, the government raised the amount of targeted subsidy to ₹300 per 14.2kg LPG cylinder for the PMUY beneficiaries.

Effectively, PMUY beneficiaries pay ₹603 for every 14.2 kg cooking gas cylinder in Delhi, while for the general customers it costs ₹903. Prices are proportionately priced for 5kg cylinders for PMUY beneficiaries.

Seat-sharing talks: BJP to get larger share in LS polls, BJD for assembly

Sunetra Choudhury

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NEW DELHI: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on Thursday inched closer to announcing a reunion after 15 years, people aware of the matter said, with the former likely to get a higher share of seats in the Lok Sabha polls and the latter receiving a bigger chunk of seats in the assembly elections that are scheduled to be held simultaneously.

The formal announcement of the alliance is likely to come on Saturday and the seat-sharing agreement next week, when Union home minister Amit Shah is scheduled to visit the eastern state, said the people cited above.

The return of the BJD to the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) fold will bolster the latter's quest for 400+ seats in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

The BJD has continuously ruled Odisha, which sends 21 members to the Lower House, for the last 24 years.

For now, the two parties — which came together in 1998 but parted ways before the 2009 gen-



The return of the BJD to the NDA fold will bolster the latter's quest for 400+ seats in the upcoming Lok Sabha polls

eral elections — appear to have agreed that the BJP will fight 14 Lok Sabha seats and the BJD seven, said two people aware of negotiations. In the 147-member assembly, the BJD is likely to contest 100 seats and the BJP 47, the people added.

The local units of both parties, however, are unhappy and have conveyed their dissatisfaction to their respective leadership.

In 2019, the BJD won 112 assembly seats to form the government in the state, while the BJP won 23, 13 more than its tally in 2014.

In the Lok Sabha, the BJD won 12 seats, the BJP eight, and the Congress one. The BJD is consid-

ered a "friendly party" to the ruling BJP, having lent support to the Union government for the passage of crucial bills.

The BJD aims to use the alliance to cancel any threat to Naveen Patnaik's impending sixth term as chief minister of the state. The 77-year-old has been in power since 2000 and if he manages to win, he will become the longest-serving CM in India, overtaking Sikkim's Pawan Chamling. "The lure of the BJP has been growing. In two of the 21 constituencies, Bargharh and Bhubaneswar, voters very clearly voted for the BJP in the LS seat and BJD in the assembly seat," said one of the leaders quoted above.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP had a vote share of 38.4% as compared to 42.8% for the BJD. In the assembly polls, the BJP won 32.8% of the votes, compared to 45.2% for the BJD.

For the BJP, the 21 seats of Odisha are key to attaining the goal of more than 400 seats for the NDA. "It's something the PM has always been keen on," said the second person aware of details, adding, "Since 2014, there have been overtures and this seemed to be the



Former DU professor GN Saibaba and his wife Vasanta GN celebrate his release from jail, in Nagpur on Thursday.

Ex-DU prof freed, calls time in jail 'rigorous, brutal'

Pradip Kumar Maitra

letters@hindustantimes.com

NAGPUR: Former Delhi University professor GN Saibaba was released from a prison in Nagpur on Thursday morning, two days after the Bombay high court acquitted him and five others for suspected Maoist links and "waging war against India".

His wife, Vasanta GN, brother Ramdev, friend Ravi Chandra, and lawyer Nihal Singh Rathod welcomed him outside the jail around 11 am. Saibaba's family waited outside the prison the previous day but were informed that the jail authorities had not received a confirmation order.

Nagpur jail superintendent, Vaibhav Aage, mentioned that the order had not arrived within the deadline of 6pm on Wednesday, causing a delay in the release.

Saibaba said he was targeted for working for the rights of tribals in central and eastern parts of the country and called his arrest an "afterthought". "There was every chance that I would not have come out alive," he said.

Recalling his incarceration at the Nagpur jail, which he described as "very rigorous and brutal", Saibaba said it barely provided any accessibility. "I couldn't pull up. I could not move out of my wheelchair. I could not go to the toilet (on my own). I could not take a bath. It's a wonder that I came out of the prison alive today."

The former professor also called the case against him a fabricated one.

"Today, you can see, not once but twice, that the higher judiciary confirmed that this case is without facts, evidence and any legally viable matter. Why has it drawn so long? Ten years of my life and my co-accused's life.

Who will bring them back?" The other five accused acquitted along with Saibaba were Mahesh Tirki, Pandu Pora Narote, Hem Keshwadda Mishra, Prashant Rahi, and Vijay Nan Tirki. Narote passed away in prison on August 26, 2022, and Vijay Tirki was granted bail.

Shikha Rahi, a filmmaker and the daughter of Prashant Rahi, said that her father, who was held in Amravati jail, was released on Thursday morning. Mishra, who was detained in Kolhapur jail, was released on Thursday afternoon. Mahesh Tirki, in Nagpur central jail, is yet to be released.

Saibaba said he had entered prison with polio and his dependence on a wheelchair, but now had a host of other health issues, including heart, muscle and liver problems. "Doctors said I had to undergo multiple operations and surgeries but nothing was done. My heart is working at only 55% capacity and this has been recorded by the doctors," said Saibaba.

Saibaba was arrested by Gadchiroli police in May 2014 from his residence in Delhi after which he was suspended from his position as professor of English in Delhi University.

The Gadchiroli sessions court found Saibaba and the others guilty of "waging war" against the state. But on Tuesday, the high court held that the sanction to prosecute under UAPA was null and void.

During his imprisonment, Saibaba contracted Covid-19 twice and swine flu once. He was diagnosed with several health conditions, including hypertrophic cardiomyopathy with left ventricular dysfunction, a brain cyst, kidney stones, and acute cervical spondylitis, his wife said.



Cong's Padmaja Venugopal joins BJP in Kerala

NEW DELHI: Congress leader and daughter of former Kerala CM K Karunakaran, Padmaja Venugopal, on Thursday joined the BJP. "I decided to quit because I was not happy with the Congress for so many years, especially since the last assembly elections in the state (Kerala)," she said.

Two Tipra Motha leaders take oath as ministers

AGARTALA: Senior Tipra Motha leader Animesh Debbarma and party MLA Brishaketu Debbarma on Thursday took oath as ministers in Tripura. They were administered the oath of office by Governor Nallu Indrasena Reddy in a ceremony at Durbar Hall of the Raj Bhavan.

Govt depts told to organise events to mark Women's Day

NEW DELHI: The women & child development ministry has asked all government departments to organise programmes to commemorate International Women's Day on Friday. "Focused, clear and well pronounced initiatives, programs and events may be organised so as to showcase women's achievements and initiatives undertaken for eliminating gender based discrimination and violence may be highlighted for bringing about a perceptible change..." a letter issued by secretary Anil Malik said.

S JAISHANKAR | MEA

(India-Japan) agreed on the need for new steps... to make this relationship prepared for, and responsive to, the emerging geopolitical, geo-economic and geo-technological trends.

During talks in Tokyo

SHOT FROM CLOSE RANGE | JAUNPUR

Armed assailants gun down UP BJP leader

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

LUCKNOW: A local Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader was killed in a sensational broad daylight shooting after two unidentified assailants pumped six bullets into his body from close range in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh on Thursday, police said.

The deceased, Pramod Kumar Yadav (55), a resident of Bodhapur village, was the BJP district unit secretary and a popular other backward classes (OBC) leader in the area.

Yadav was in his car and had travelled a little distance from his residence in Bodhapur when two assailants, who came on a two-wheeler, signalled to stop his car and shot him from close range at around 10am, Jaunpur superintendent of police (SP) Ajay Pal Sharma said. "Yadav's family members and locals rushed him to the district hospital, where doctors declared him dead," the SP said.

During preliminary investigation, locals informed the police that the assailants fired around 10 rounds at Yadav from close range, he said. "Yadav suffered six bullet wounds — three in the abdomen and one each in the shoulder, hand and thigh," the SP said. "We have deployed teams to investigate the case. So far, family members have not raised suspicion on any-



Pramod Kumar Yadav

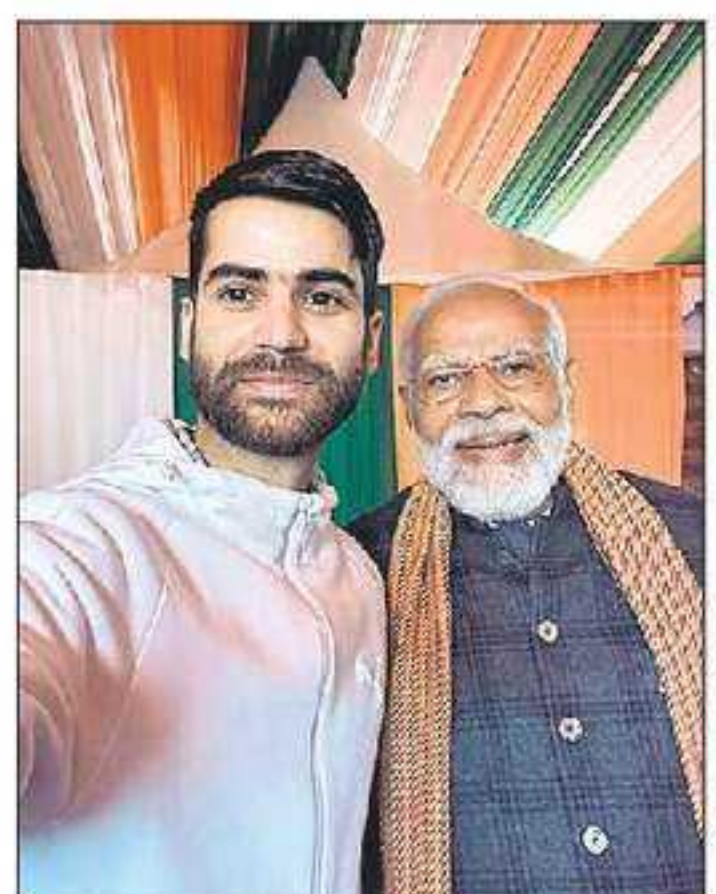
one..." The senior officer said they suspect involvement of three suspects as a third person was spotted with the bike at some distance and allegedly helped the two shooters flee. The body has been sent for the post-mortem examination, the SP said. Till late on Thursday, no first information report (FIR) was registered in the incident.

Yadav, who had been associated with the BJP for long, also unsuccessfully contested the assembly polls from Rari seat, later renamed as Malhani, in 2007 as an independent candidate.

"Police teams are also looking into the angle of old enmity as Yadav's father Rajbali Yadav was also murdered in a similar manner around 35 years ago," another police officer said. The incident came within 24 hours of former Jaunpur MP Dhananjay Singh and his aide were jailed for seven years in a 2020 case of kidnapping.

'DREAM FULFILLED'

PM shares 'memorable selfie' with a beekeeper



Prime Minister Narendra Modi poses for a selfie with Nazim Nazeer, in Srinagar on Thursday.

Mir Ehsan

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SRINAGAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday fulfilled the dream of a Kashmiri youngster, Nazim Nazeer, by taking a selfie with him after his Srinagar rally, and lauded his efforts for bringing a "sweet revolution" in the beekeeping sector.

Nazeer, who runs a successful beekeeping unit, was one of the few achievers selected to interact with Modi after his public rally at the Bakshi stadium. During the interaction, Nazeer, a resident of Sambaora village in Pulwama district, said it was his "dream" to get a selfie with Modi. After get-

ting a selfie with Modi, Nazeer said: "It was my dream to get a selfie with PM Modi, which was fulfilled today."

The PM later posted the selfie with Nazeer on X, referring the youngster as his "friend". "A memorable selfie with my friend Nazim. I was impressed by the good work he's doing. At the public meeting he requested a selfie and was happy to meet him. My best wishes for his future endeavours," he wrote on X.

During his interaction with the PM, Nazeer said he started his beekeeping venture with two boxes as a hobby but soon availed the benefits of a central scheme to increase the number of boxes to 25.

"The first extraction was 75 kg which earned me ₹60,000. I took a PMEGP (PM Employment Generation Programme) loan of ₹5 lakh and added 200 boxes. The yield was good and through online marketing, we sold around 5,000 kg of honey," he said.

Nazeer further said he has increased the number of boxes to 2,000 and added 100 more youngsters to his beekeeping venture. "We got FPO (farmers producer organisation) membership in 2023. Now we earn ₹1 lakh per stall at different exhibitions," he added.

After listening to Nazeer's story, Modi lauded the man for bringing a "sweet revolution" in the beekeeping sector.



N Chandrababu Naidu and Pawan Kalyan

NAIDU, KALYAN CALL ON SHAH IN DELHI AMID TALKS OF POLL ALLIANCE

Srinivasa Rao Apparasu

letters@hindustantimes.com

HYDERABAD: Telugu Desam Party (TDP) president N Chandrababu Naidu and JanaSena Party chief Pawan Kalyan met Union home minister Amit Shah in Delhi on Thursday night amid speculation of forging an alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to fight the assembly and Lok Sabha polls in Andhra Pradesh together, people aware of the matter said.

Naidu left for New Delhi by a special flight from Hyderabad in the afternoon following a call from BJP top leadership a day before. Actor-turned-politician Pawan Kalyan, too, joined Naidu in Delhi. "Both of them went to Shah's residence together and began the talks," a TDP leader said, requesting anonymity. The leader added that BJP president JP Nadda also took part in the negotiations.

It is almost confirmed that the BJP would join the TDP-JanaSena alliance, which has already declared a list of 99 candidates for the state elections, people aware of the matter said.

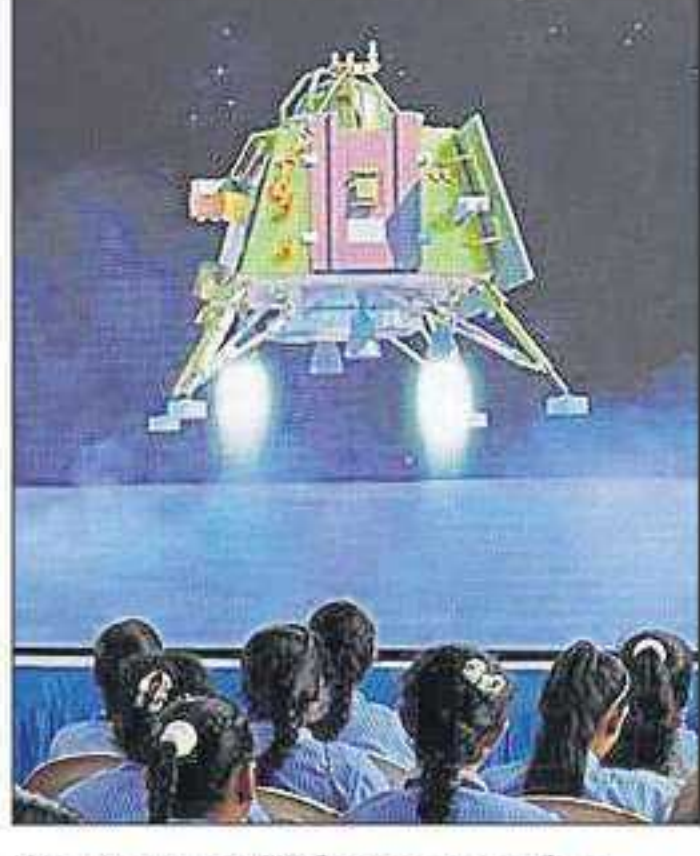
"Naidu and Pawan would be discussing the number of seats and constituencies where the BJP wants to contest in Andhra," the leader said. "Both the TDP and JanaSena chiefs would stay put in Delhi on Friday to continue talks."

In Andhra Pradesh, both Lok Sabha and assembly polls are held simultaneously. Sharing details of the ongoing negotiations, the TDP leader quoted above said the BJP has asked for five Lok Sabha seats and a dozen assembly seats to contest in the southern state. "Naidu has no objection in giving five Lok Sabha seats to the BJP, but he may not offer it more than eight assembly seats," the leader added.

After Chandrayaan-3, Isro eyes return moon missions

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NEW DELHI: The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) is gearing up for a return lunar mission, where samples from the Moon will be brought back for the first time, officials from the agency said, setting the stage for the next leap in the country's space programme after the success of the Chandrayaan-3 mission last year.



On August 23 last year, the Indian space agency created history by successfully landing the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft near the lunar south pole.

aims to collect samples from the lunar surface, demonstrate docking and undocking capabilities in the lunar orbit, demonstrate transfer of samples from one module to another, and to ensure that the module safely re-enters Earth and delivers the collected samples, senior Isro officials said.

Isro officials also said that unlike the previous Chandrayaan missions, the fourth mission will likely be launched in two phases, and on board two launch vehicles — Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) and the Launch Vehicle Mark-3, which was formerly known as the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mk-3.

The mission will also have five modules this time — the propulsion module, descender module, ascender module, transfer module and re-entry module.

Like previous missions, the propulsion module will guide the craft till the lunar orbit; the descender module will help the craft make a controlled landing

on the lunar surface just like the lander module did for Chandrayaan-3; after the mission experiments and sample collection, the ascender module will be relaunched and begin its journey back to Earth; the transfer module will eject the ascender module from the lunar orbit and detach itself before the module enters the Earth orbit from where the re-entry orbit will take over and guide the samples to Earth.

The Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft had only three modules — the propulsion module, the lander module and the rover module. While the propulsion module ejected itself in the lunar orbit, the lander and rover module conducted a slew of experiments on the lunar surface.

Isro's heavier launch vehicle, LVM-3, is likely to carry three modules, while PSLV, which launched Chandrayaan-3, will launch two modules in the upcoming mission, the space agency said in its mission documents.

Earth's orbit to test its capabilities for a return mission, the Isro chief said.

On August 23 last year, the Indian space agency created history by successfully landing the Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft near the lunar south pole, a feat that had not been achieved by any other country.

The fourth lunar mission

U.P. COURT GIVES DEATH PENALTY TO 8 OVER 2014 TRIPLE MURDER

Press Trust of India
letters@hindustantimes.com

BAREILLY: A local court in Uttar Pradesh on Thursday sentenced eight people to death in a 10-year-old triple murder case, a court officer said.

Special Fast Track Court Judge Ravi Kumar Diwakar gave death sentence to eight members of Chhaimar Hassen gang for the murders of the mother, brother, and sister-in-law of Ravikant Mishra, an inspector at the time in the Income Tax Department in Pilibhit, during a robbery bid in 2014.

The ninth accused, the jeweller who had bought the stolen metal, has been sentenced to life imprisonment. During investigation, police found that the accused had broken into the house at night through the neighbouring under-construction house by removing the grill of the window.

Father of gang rape victim dies by suicide, accused's kin booked

HT Correspondent
letters@htlive.com

KANPUR: Days after two girls were found dead after they were gang-raped, the father of one of the victims allegedly died by suicide in Hamirpur district of Uttar Pradesh, police said on Thursday, adding that an abatement of suicide case has been registered against the family of the gang rape accused.

"An FIR has been registered against the wife and daughter of a brick kiln contractor, Ram Roop Nishad, under section 306 (abatement of suicide) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)," a senior police officer said, requesting anonymity.

The deceased is the father of one of the two girls — both aged 14 and 15 — who were found dead in a village in Kanpur district on February 29. The victims and accused hailed from the same village in adjoining Hamirpur district, the police said.

THE DECEASED IS FATHER OF ONE OF THE TWO GIRLS WHO WERE FOUND DEAD AFTER THEY WERE GANG RAPED

"The body of a 45-year-old man, resident of a village under Sisolar police station area, was found on Wednesday under unknown circumstances," Hamirpur superintendent of police (SP) Deeksha Sharma said.

The deceased was the complainant in the case of gang rape and suicide of the two minors lodged with Ghatampur police in Kanpur. Relatives of the deceased man alleged that he was being threatened by the family of the accused to withdraw the gang rape case. SP Sharma, however, refused to comment on the allegations. "Further action regarding the

incident will be taken based on the complaint filed by the family members," the SP said.

Earlier, the family of the minor victims alleged that they were gang-raped a few days before their deaths by the contractor of the brick kiln, Nishad, (48), his son Raju (18) and nephew Sanjay (19). The accused also made a video of the act to blackmail the girls, which was recovered during the investigation, the police had said.

The bodies were recovered on February 29 and the three accused were arrested and sent to jail by Kanpur police the same day. The accused have been booked under IPC sections 376D (gang rape), 306 (abatement to suicide) and the protection of Children from sexual offences (POCSO) act.

HELP IS JUST A CALL AWAY
SNEHI: 011-65978181
SUMAITRI: 011-46018404



Rahul Gandhi

WILL FILL VACANT GOVT POSTS, FUND START-UPS AFTER POLL WIN: RAHUL

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

JAIPUR: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday promised to fill three million government posts, which are reportedly lying vacant, and apprenticeships for youngsters, if his party is voted to power in the Lok Sabha elections.

Gandhi, a Lok Sabha MP from Kerala's Wayanad, also assured a law to curb government recruitment examination question paper leaks, social security for gig workers and a ₹5,000 crore fund for startups run by youngsters if the Congress wins the elections.

He made the series of assurances while addressing a gathering during his party's ongoing Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra in Banswara town of Rajasthan. "There are 30 lakh government vacancies in India. (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi ji doesn't get them filled. The BJP doesn't fill them. After coming to power, our first step will be to fill these posts," Gandhi said.

Referring to the issue of paper leaks, the Congress leader said the party will standardise the government recruitment exam process and stop its outsourcing. "A law would be enacted to curb government recruitment examination question paper leak," he said. He also promised a legal guarantee on MSP for crops to farmers, social security for gig workers and a ₹5,000 crore fund for startups run by youngsters.

"The Congress will ensure the right to employment," he said. "We are going to give the right to apprenticeship to all youngsters of the country. Every graduate will be given a one-year apprenticeship in a private company or a government office, and ₹1 lakh will be given to the person in a year."

Reacting to the promises, BJP spokesperson Laxmikant Bharadwaj said: "During the 2018 assembly elections, he had promised farm loan waiver and unemployment allowance but nothing was done after the party came to power. The youngsters are intelligent and will not fall in this trap."

{ CEC MEETING }

Rahul set to contest polls from Wayanad

Saubhadra Chatterji
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is set to contest from Kerala's Wayanad seat again in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the party's central election committee (CEC) decided on Thursday evening, said people aware of developments.

There is speculation that Gandhi may also fight from Uttar Pradesh's Amethi, a seat he won in 2004, 2009 and 2014 before losing in 2019, said the people cited above, though seats from the state were not discussed in Thursday's meeting. Apart from Gandhi, about 50 candidates were cleared by the Congress CEC in its first meeting to finalise names for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor's name was cleared from Thiruvananthapuram. Former Chhattisgarh CM Bhupesh Baghel, and former deputy CM of Rajasthan, Sachin Pilot, were asked to contest the polls, said the people quoted above. Both were present in the CEC meeting. Jyotsna Mahant's name was cleared from Chhattisgarh, the people said.

But the party couldn't fix the candidates for the three seats in Delhi where it is fighting in alliance with the Aam Aadmi Party. Women wing head Alka Lamba, former MPs Sandip Dikshit and JP Agarwal's names were proposed for the Chandni Chowk seat. For



Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and party leader Sonia Gandhi during the party's CEC meeting on Thursday. VIPIN KUMAR/HT

the North West Delhi constituency, former MP Udit Raj and Raj Kumar Chauhan were among the candidates shortlisted. For North East Delhi, state unit chief Arvind Singh Lovely, Anil Choudhury and one more name were placed before CEC, said the people quoted above. The body, led by Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, returned the proposals and sought from the screening committee a single name for each of the three seats in Delhi. The remaining four seats of the national capital will be fought by the AAP. Former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi, general secretary KC Venugopal, party veteran Ambika Soni and others attended the meeting.

Three members present in the meeting said Gandhi was the only candidate from Wayanad, a seat he first won in 2019. "Obviously there were no major discussion about that seat," said a senior leader, requesting anonymity.

On Thursday, CEC discussed all seats in the northeastern states, except Assam, which holds 14 of the 25 Lok Sabha seats in the region. A leader said all the NE seats were cleared. The top poll body of the Congress also discussed Kerala, Telangana, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh and Delhi seats.

While some of the seats in Kerala were cleared quickly, a few seats would be taken up later. "Roughly, 60 seats were discussed in the meeting. Nearly 50 candidates have been finalised," said a senior member of the panel, requesting anonymity.

Candidates' names for at least 3-4 seats each in Karnataka and Telangana have been put on hold for further discussion. The next meeting of CEC is expected soon. Meanwhile, the screening committee will meet on Friday to scrutinise candidates from other states. BJP has already named candidates for 195 seats.

Sukhu arrives in Delhi to meet Cong leadership

SHIMLA: Himachal Pradesh chief minister Sukhvir Singh Sukhu on Thursday visited the Capital to meet the Congress central leadership, days after the state government appeared to have staved off a political crisis triggered after cross-voting by 8 rebels during the Rajya Sabha election.

As he softened his stand towards the Congress rebels, Sukhu targeted the BJP-led Union government, suggesting that it had used official machinery to "destabilise" his government in the state.

MY RESIGNATION NOT ACCEPTED, SAYS PUNJAB GUV

CHANDIGARH: Punjab governor and Chandigarh Administrator Banwarilal Purohit on Thursday said the ground for his resignation last month was purely personal, and added that he was, however, told to stay and continue his work.

"I had sent it (resignation), but they are not leaving (me) and telling me (to) stay and work. They said 'nahi karenge' (won't accept resignation)," he said.

He was appointed as Punjab governor in August 2021. HTc

CM: Bengal safest state; rumours being spread about Sandeshkhali

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

KOLKATA: West Bengal is the safest state in the country for women, chief minister Mamata Banerjee said on Thursday, as she accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of "spreading rumours" about Sandeshkhali, a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi attacked the Trinamool Congress (TMC) government over alleged atrocities against women in the village.

Addressing a 'Mahilader Adhikar, Amader Angkar' (women's rights, our commitment) rally in central Kolkata, Banerjee, who is also the president of TMC, said: "Some people are spreading rumours about Sandeshkhali. Not all fingers in one's hand are the same. In some cases, we don't have the knowledge. If it is brought to our notice, we take action. I don't spare even TMC men... Women



Mamata Banerjee

from Sandeshkhali are here in the rally today. They came to share *sandesh* or positive messages. I thank them."

She added: "BJP has only one agenda - implicate TMC men in false cases, send the Enforcement Directorate and Central Bureau of Investigation after them, send them to jail and win the elections by force."

Banerjee also attacked the BJP over the security of women in states ruled by the party.

"I ask them why are they so angry with Bengal? If the BJP is confident of winning, why malign? Even yesterday, BJP

leaders said that cases of atrocities against women are highest in West Bengal. I challenge this. Bengal is the safest state for women. People don't get justice in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan," she said.

"Where were the BJP leaders when women were set on fire and paraded naked in Manipur? You talk about women's respect. Sakshi (Malik) is a proof. A BJP MP was accused of sexually harassing women wrestlers and his aide was elected as the president of the wrestling federation. Hathras victim didn't get any justice. Have you forgotten Bibika Bano?" she added.

Hitting back, BJP leader Rahul Sinha said: "Being a woman chief minister, Mamata Banerjee did not stand beside the woman victims of Sandeshkhali. Instead, her government and police tried to shield Sheikh Shahjahan (main accused). They went up to the Supreme Court. So all these statements don't suit her."

FORMER HC JUDGE GANGOPADHYAY JOINS BJP, MAMATA LAUNCHES ATTACK

KOLKATA: Former Calcutta high court judge Abhijit Gangopadhyay, who resigned from service earlier this week, on Thursday joined the BJP, a move that triggered a sharp reaction from West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee who questioned the credibility of the judgments he passed.

Gangopadhyay joined the BJP in the presence of state unit chief Sukanta Majumdar in Kolkata.

"I will be a disciplined soldier of the party. I will need advice from senior leaders. Our aim is to send off a corrupt government and a corrupt party. Bengal needs a BJP government," he said.

Without naming Gangopadhyay, Banerjee said: "He was in touch with BJP while hearing cases. BJP 'Babu' was passing one order after another under instructions from the BJP. The people realise very well what sort of judgments were passed by him." HTc

{ B'LURU WATER SHORTAGE }

Rates of water tankers fixed as crisis worsens

Sharath Sharma Kalaguru
letters@hindustantimes.com

BENGALURU: The Karnataka government on Thursday capped private water tanker rates in Bengaluru after multiple complaints of exorbitant rates, as the tech hub continued to grapple with one of its worst water shortages in recent years.

According to a circular issued by deputy commissioner KA Dayananda, the state government fixed prices for more than 200 private water tankers deployed to supply water in the city on a contractual basis, depending on the distance to be covered and size of the tanker, and said the services will be subjected to GST.

"Bengaluru city and Bengaluru rural district have been notified as drought hit districts. And to mitigate the crisis, we are ordering 200 private water tankers to be given to Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewage Board on temporary contract for a period of four months.

Since the water tanker prices are skyrocketing, in the interest of public, we have decided to cap the price for water tankers," it said.

Bengaluru, one of India's bonafide metropolitan cities with a population of above 13 million, is staring down the barrel of an unprecedented water crisis. Tankers laden with water are seen entering and exiting gates, buzzing around the city, answering panicked calls, and charging exorbitant rates, ranging from ₹500 to ₹2,000 for a tanker.

According to the circular, a 6,000 litre tanker travelling for a distance of 5km will cost ₹600. Likewise, a 8,000 litre tanker and a 12,000 litre tanker will cost ₹700 and ₹1,000, respectively, for the same distance. For a distance ranging between 5km and 10km, the rates have been fixed at ₹750 (6,000 litres), ₹850 (8,000 litres) and ₹1,200 (12,000 litres). The circular said the services by the private water tankers will fall under the GST ambit.

Onion, potato register decline in output: Data

Zia Haq
zia.haq@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: India's production of vegetables and fruits in 2023-24 is estimated to be 355.25 million tonnes, marginally lower than the previous year's 355.48 million tonnes, the agriculture ministry's first advance estimates of horticultural output for the year released on Thursday showed.

Among key vegetables, the country's output of onion, a volatile item, in 2023-24 is estimated to have dropped 16% to nearly 25.4 million tonnes, compared to 30.2 million tonne in the previous, the figures show.

Lower output and harvesting of summer-sown onion due to extreme weather had prompted the government to ban exports in December. A ban on onion exports by Turkey and Egypt, which grow onions similar in taste to ones in India, also kept supplies tight, causing local prices to jump.

The fall in onion production in 2023-24 is due to a decrease of 3.4 million tonnes in Maharashtra



The fall in onion production is due to a decrease of 3.4 million tonnes in Maharashtra alone.

alone, which is a large producer, the ministry said in a statement. Output of the vegetable was also lower than normal in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, which together account for a third of total production.

Potato output in 2023-24 is estimated to be around 58.9 million tonnes, which is 3% lower compared to 60.1 million tonnes in the previous year due to a decrease in production in West Bengal, the first advance estimates showed. The total production of tomatoes has been estimated to 20.8 million tonnes, marginally higher than 20.4 million tonnes produced in the previous year, data showed.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
New Delhi

Notice Inviting Tender

E-tenders are invited for "Providing Security and Allied Services at various properties of the Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi". For full details of the tender, please visit our website www.rbi.org.in or www.mstcecommerce.com/eprocurement/rbi or contact us at Estate Department, Reserve Bank of India, 6, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001. The last date of submission of e-tender is **April 03, 2024 up to 14:00 Hours.**

NOTE - Corrigendum, if any, issued on above tender, will be published only on the Bank's website.

Regional Director
New Delhi

IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
Navratna Company
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
CIN: L45203DL1976GOI008171, Website: www.ircon.org

e-Procurement Notice
No. IRCON/2071/JC/RL/ECT/0HE & P/SP/IKG-XB/OT/2024/2 Date: 08.03.2024

e-Tender for and on behalf of Jharkhand Central Railway Limited is invited from bidders meeting qualification requirements for the work of Design, Drawing, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 25 KV AC, 50 Hz, Single Phase, OHE & PSH, new and modification works from Lokhand (Ext.) (CH: KM 27.650) to Shivpur (Ext.) (CH: KM 49.085) and construction of 01 no. TSS in connection with Shivpur-Kathua new single BG track with electrification in Dhanbad Division of East Central Railways in the state of Jharkhand, India (Package-VB)

Estimated Cost of the work: ₹ 35,16,85,353.18 inclusive GST @ 18 %

Last Date & Time of e-Bid Submission: 01.04.2024, 15:00 hrs.

For further details, visit website <http://e-tenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>. Corrigendum, if any, would be hosted only on the website. Chief General Manager (Electrical), IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED, Sone Bhanwan (1st Floor), Daroga Prasad Rai Path, Patna - 800001

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
(Through e-tendering)

Name of Work with its location	Provision of Electrical lifting barrier in place of mechanical lifting barrier in interlocked LC gates of station section Delhi division.
Approx. Cost of the work (Rs.)	Rs. 1,44,15,817.85/- only
Bid Security (Rs.)	Rs. 2,22,100.00/-only
Address of the office	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM Office, New Delhi-110055
Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender	Tender uploading 07.03.2024 / closing date & time- 01.04.2024 up to 15.00 hrs.
Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.	See the Northern Railway website www.ireps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055.
Tender No. 558-Sig-16-M-TENDER-1418 Dated: 07.03.2024	

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 721/24

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar, (U.P)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firms for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & <https://e.tender.up.nic.in>. Please ensure to see these website for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

Sr. No.	Job Number	Name of the Work	Amount (Lac)
(1)	09/SPE/PE (PH-II)/ET/2023-24	Proposal for Empanelment of Agencies for Carrying Out Dog Sterilization and Immunization of Stray Dogs in NOIDA	Rs. 116.10

The above tender can be uploaded from dated **08/03/2024 to 14/03/2024 upto 5.00 PM**. Pre-Qualification shall be opened/downloaded on dated **15/03/2024 at 11.00 AM**.

Sd/-
Dy. GM / Sr. Project Engineer (Public Health)
Noida

Office Sector-94
CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

Sidho-Kanho Agriculture and Forest Produce State Co-Operative Federation Limited (SIDHKOFED)
Samet Bhawan, 1st floor, Kanke Road, Ranchi, Jharkhand 834008
Email id: sidhokanhofed@gmail.com Phone- 0651-2913012

Ref: 125 Date: 6/3/2024

NOTICE
Invitation for Engagement of Professionals on Contractual Basis

With reference to earlier advertisement no. 49 dated-02.02.2024 and advertisement no. 82 dated- 19.02.2024, the date for receiving the application is extended till 20.03.2024 upto 5.00 p.m. in order to formulate and implement state level planning, procurement, marketing and institutional development strategies. SIDHKOFED requires eligible and competent professionals to work on contractual basis. Applications are invited from suitable candidates for the following positions:

Sl. No.	Name of assignment	No. of Post	Emoluments per Month	Maximum Age as on 31.03.2024
1.	Senior Professional Consultant-Institutional Development	01	Rs.1,50,000.00	50 Years
2.	Senior Professional Consultant-Procurement & Marketing	01	Rs.1,50,000.00	50 Years
3.	Junior Professional Consultant-Procurement	01	Rs.1,00,000.00	45 Years
4.	Junior Professional Consultant-Marketing	01	Rs.1,00,000.00	45 Years

The Engagement of professionals will be made initially for a period of one year which may be extended further on satisfactory performance. The last date for receiving the application for the above posts is 20.03.2024 upto 5:00 PM. The Application format, Qualification, Experience, Terms and conditions of appointment and other details may be obtained from the office or downloaded from the website- www.sidhokfed.com Sd/-Secretary SIDHKOFED

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.PC.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Ramesh Sharma Manager of M/s Invitation Lucky Celebration, R/o G-23, H. No. 266, Sector-7, Rohini, Delhi** has committed the offences (or is suspected to have committed) in case U/s 21 (5) (b) of Delhi Shops Establishment Act, P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Ramesh Sharma Manager of M/s Invitation Lucky Celebration** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Ramesh Sharma Manager of M/s Invitation Lucky Celebration** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Ramesh Sharma Manager of M/s Invitation Lucky Celebration** accused of U/s 21 (5) (b) of Delhi Shops Establishment Act, P.S. Budh Vihar, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 21.05.2024.

By Order
Ms. Divya Arora
Metropolitan Magistrate
Room No. 112
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/2605/RD/2024

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one boy was found dead in DDA Land Jungle, Behind Laxmi Public School, Near Manglam Road, in front of AGCR Enclave, Delhi dated 06.03.2024. He was admitted in GTB Hospital. During the treatment declared dead by doctor. In the regard **DD No. 101A dated 06.03.2024** has been lodged in P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for identification at GTB Hospital Mortuary, Delhi for 72 hrs. The description of the dead body is given as under **Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: about 14-16 years, Height: 5'1", Complexion: Sallow, Build: Thin, Wearing: Black colour T-Shirt and Blue colour Trouser & Bare Foot.** Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead boy but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead boy please inform undersigned.

SHO
P.S. Anand Vihar, Delhi
Ph. : 011-22384300, 7065036022

DP/2776/SHD/2024

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
DELHI SUBORDINATE SERVICES
SELECTION BOARD
(P & P-1 Branch)
FC-18, INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KARKARDOOMA
DELHI-110092

No. F.1(101)/P&P-I/DSSSB/2023/5230-42 Dated: 04.03.2024

Public Notice

Applications are invited through online mode on the website <https://dsssonline.nic.in> from the eligible PwBD candidates in respect of Post Code 76/23, for the post of Sub Station Attendant Gr. II [Reserved for Male only] and Post Code-77/23, for the post of Asstt. Electric Fitter advertised vide advertisement no. 03/23 from 14.03.2024 to 03.04.2024 (till 11.59 PM). The details of revised vacancies and PwBd suitability are available on DSSSB's website.

Only online applications will be accepted. Applications received by post/by hand/by mail etc. will not be accepted and will be summarily rejected. No correspondence will be entertained in this regard.

The cut-off date for determining the eligibility with respect to Educational qualification, age, experience and other eligibility conditions for the post shall be as on 20.12.2023 (same as advertised earlier vide Advt.No.03/23).

The rest of the contents of Advt. No. 03/23 shall remain unchanged. This issues with the prior approval of Competent Authority.

Sd/
Deputy Secretary(P&P-1)
DSSSB

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0373/23-24

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board
FC-18, INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KARKARDOOMA, DELHI - 110092
Website: <https://dsssb.delhi.gov.in>

No. F.1(255)/P&P-I/DSSSB/2024/Adv./5253 Dated: 05.03.2024

VACANCY NOTICE
ADVERTISEMENT NO. 05/2024

The opening date and closing date for receipt of online applications are as under :-

Opening Date for Submission of Online Applications :- 19.03.2024 (19th March, 2024) (From 12.00 PM)
 Closing Date for Submission of Online Applications :- 17.04.2024 (17th April, 2024) (Till 11.59 PM)

Online Applications are invited for recruitment to the following posts under different Departments/Local/Autonomous Bodies under Govt. of NCT of Delhi :-

S No.	Post Code	Name of the Post	Name of Dept.	Group	Vacancies * (Incl. Backlog Vacancies)									
					UR	OBC	SC	ST	EWS	Total	PwBD (Incl.)	Ex-SM (Incl.)	SP (Incl.)	
1	09/24	Veterinary and Livestock Inspector	Animal Husbandry Unit	C	17	26	04	00	05	52	02	05	02	
2	10/24	Canteen Attendant	Directorate of Training (UTCS)	C	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
3	11/24	Salesman Grade-I	DTDC	C	10	05	03	01	01	20	00	02	00	
4	12/24	General Correspondent Assistant	DTDC	C	03	00	00	00	00	03	00	00	00	
5	13/24	Store Keeper	DTDC	C	06	02	01	00	00	09	02	01	00	
6	14/24	Account Assistant cum Cashier	DTDC	C	10	05	02	01	01	19	01	02	00	
7	15/24	PGT (Informatics Practices/Computer Science)	NDMC	B	03	00	00	00	00	03	00	--	--	
8	16/24	PGT (English)	NDMC	B	03	02	02	01	01	09	00	--	--	
9	17/24	PGT (Sanskrit)	NDMC	B	01	00	01	00	00	03	00	--	--	
10	18/24	PGT (Music)	NDMC	B	00	01	00	00	00	01	01	--	--	
11	19/24	PGT (Painting)	NDMC	B	03	01	01	00	00	06	01	--	--	
12	20/24	Assistant Architect	NDMC	B	02	02	00	00	01	05	00	--	--	
13	21/24	Assistant Director (Horticulture)	NDMC	B	03	01	00	00	00	04	00	--	--	
14	22/24	Chair Side Assistant	NDMC	C	05	02	01	00	00	08	01	00	00	
15	23/24	Dental Mechanic	NDMC	C	02	00	00	00	00	02	01	00	00	
16	24/24	Dental Operating Room Assistant Gr III	NDMC	C	04	01	00	00	00	05	01	00	00	
17	25/24	ECG Technician	NDMC	C	02	01	00	00	01	04	00	00	00	
18	26/24	Statistical Assistant	NDMC	B	01	01	00	00	00	02	00	--	--	
19	27/24	Welder	NDMC	C	02	00	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	
20	28/24	Assistant Director (Horticulture)	MCD	B	08	03	01	00	01	13	01	--	--	
21	29/24	Laboratory Assistant	MCD	C	17	10	04	03	03	37	02	03	00	
22	30/24	Public Health Nursing Officer	MCD	B	12	15	10	05	04	46	00	--	--	
23	31/24	B.C.G. Technician	MCD	C	03	01	00	00	00	04	00	00	00	
24	32/24	Assistant Community Organizer	MCD	C	07	05	03	01	02	18	00	01	00	
25	33/24	Assistant Sanitary Inspector	MCD	C	140	92	51	25	34	342	14	34	17	
26	34/24	Stenographer Grade 'D'	MCD	C	77	51	28	14	18	188	08	18	00	
27	35/24	Caretaker (Male)	Women and Child Development	C	36	22	12	06	08	84	04	08	04	
28	36/24	Caretaker (Female)	Women and Child Development	C	26	17	09	05	07	64	02	06	03	
29	37/24	House Father/Matron (Only for Male)	Women and Child Development	C	19	10	05	03	03	40	02	04	02	
30	38/24	House Mother/Matron (Only for Female)	Women and Child Development	C	11	07	04	01	03	26	01	02	01	
31	39/24	Nursing Orderly	Women and Child Development	C	02	01	01	00	00	04	00	00	00	
32	40/24	Physical Training Instructor (Male)	Women and Child Development	C	01	01	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	
33	41/24	Physical Training Instructor (Female)	Women and Child Development	C	02	00	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	
34	42/24	Investigator	Women and Child Development	C	06	02	01	00	01	10	01	01	00	
35	43/24	Protection Officer	Women and Child Development	B	02	02	01	01	02	08	01	--	--	
36	44/24	Dietician	MCD	B	04	02	01	00	00	07	01	--	--	
37	45/24	Physiotherapist	MCD	B	05	02	01	01	01	10	00	--	--	
38	46/24	Inspecting Officer	Labour Department	C	00	03	01	01	00	05	01	01	00	
39	47/24	Instructor Civil Defence/Technical Assistant	Directorate of Civil Defence	C	08	04	02	01	00	15	00	02	00	
40	48/24	Laboratory Attendant	Drugs Control Department	C	01	00	00	00	00	01	01	00	00	
41	49/24	Draftsman Grade-II	MCD	B	03	01	01	00	00	05	01	--	--	
42	50/24	Sample Carrier	Drugs Control Department	C	02	02	00	00	01	05	02	00	00	
43	51/24	Laboratory Assistant (Chemistry)	Drugs Control Department	C	00	01**	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
44	52/24	Assistant Archaeologist	Department of Archaeology	B	02	02	00	00	00	04	00	--	--	
45	53/24	Labour Officer	Delhi Transport Corporation	B	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	--	--	
46	54/24	Junior Engineer (Mechanical)	Irrigation & Flood Control Department	C	04	03	01	01	00	09	00	00	00	
47	55/24	Librarian	Directorate of Education	B	04	02	03	01	05	15	05	--	--	
48	56/24	TGT (Computer Science)	Directorate of Education	B	38	02	02	08	05	55	13	--	--	
49	57/24	Domestic Science Teacher	Directorate of Education	B	46	37	08	35	19	145	16	--	--	
50	58/24	Motor vehicle Inspector	Transport Department	B	08	04	01	03	04	20	03	--	--	
51	59/24	Junior Assistant	Urdu Academy	C	03	00	00	00	00	03	00	00	00	
52	60/24	Junior Laboratory Analyst	Excise, Entertainment & Luxury Tax	C	02	01	01	00	00	04	00	00	00	
53	61/24	Assistant Chemist/ Examiner	Excise, Entertainment & Luxury Tax	C	02	01	01	00	01	05	00	00	00	
54	62/24	Armourer	FSL	C	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
55	63/24	Programmer	DSCSC	C	04	01	00	00	00	05	01	00	00	
56	64/24	Assistant Manager (Accounts)	DSCSC	C	13	07	03	01	02	26	01	02	01	
57	65/24	Accounts Assistant	DSIIDC	C	23	14	08	04	05	54	04	05	02	
58	66/24	Personal Assistant	DSIIDC	B	03	01	00	00	00	04	00	--	--	
59	67/24	Personal Assistant (Hindi)	Delhi Transco Limited	C	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
60	68/24	Junior Environmental Engineer	DPCC	B	13	10	06	02	04	35	01	--	--	
61	69/24	Pharmacist	MAIDS	C	01	01	00	00	00	02	00	00	00	
62	70/24	Field Clerk	Directorate of Civil Defence	C	04	01	00	00	00	05	00	--	--	
63	71/24	Architectural Assistant	DUSIB	B	03	01	00	00	00	04	00	--	--	
64	72/24	Vaccinator	NDMC	C	04	01	00	00	01	06	00	00	00	
TOTAL VACANCIES					650	393	185	125	146	1499	96	97	32	

*The above vacancies are tentative and based on inputs of the indenting Departments/Bodies
 **Under Special Recruitment Drive For (OBC/SC/ST)

Candidates must apply online through the website <https://dsssonline.nic.in>. The closing date for submission of online application is up to **17.04.2024 (Till 11.59 PM)** after which the link will be disabled. The applicants are advised to visit DSSSB's website <https://dsssb.delhi.gov.in/current-vacancies/Delhi-subordinate-services-selection-board> to check the detailed advertisement and confirm their eligibility for the above vacancies based on the Recruitment Rules of the indenting departments. The date of conduct of examinations will be intimated in due course only through the website of the Board.

Further, candidate is advised to visit website of the Board on regular basis to get updates. The Board shall not be responsible for any lapse on the part of the candidate in this regard.

Sd/
Deputy Secretary(P&P-1)
DSSSB

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0369/23-24

Every citizen has right to be critical of Article 370 abrogation, says SC

Utkarsh Anand
 letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The right to dissent in a lawful manner must be treated as a part of the right to lead a dignified life under the Constitution, the Supreme Court held on Thursday, noting that every citizen has a right to be critical of abrogation of Article 370 and the change of status of Jammu & Kashmir.

A bench of justices Abhay Soka and Ujjal Bhuyan said that if every criticism or protest of the actions of the State is to be held as an offence under Section 153A of the IPC, "democracy, which is an essential feature of the Constitution of India, will not survive".

Section 153A of IPC penalises "promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony". The offence is punishable with imprisonment up to three

COURT QUASHED A CASE LODGED AGAINST A PROF FOR CALLING AUGUST 5 A 'BLACK DAY' IN A WHATSAPP STATUS

years, or with fine, or with both.

"The right to dissent in a legitimate and lawful manner is an integral part of the rights guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a). Every individual must respect the right of others to dissent. An opportunity to peacefully protest against the decisions of the Government is an essential part of democracy. The right to dissent in a lawful manner must be treated as a part of the right to lead a dignified and meaningful life guaranteed by Article 21," said the bench.

The top court's remarks came as it quashed a criminal case

lodged against Javed Ahmad Hajam, a Kashmiri Muslim professor working in a Kolhapur college in Maharashtra who was booked under section 153A of IPC for putting out a WhatsApp status in a group termed "August 5 - Black Day for Jammu & Kashmir" and celebrating Independence day of Pakistan on August 14.

The apex court held that describing August 5 as a "Black Day" is an expression of protest.

"Every citizen of India has a right to be critical of the action of abrogation of Article 370 and the change of status of Jammu & Kashmir," it said.

In its judgment, the bench said now, the time has come to enlighten and educate our police machinery on the concept of freedom of speech and expression guaranteed by Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution and the extent of reasonable restraint on their free speech and expression. "They must be sensitised about the dem-

ocratic values enshrined in our Constitution," it said.

Regarding the accusation that the image with the phrases "Chand" and "14th August - Happy Independence Day Pakistan" beneath it was released, the court ruled that it would not be subject to 153A of IPC.

"Every citizen has the right to extend good wishes to the citizens of the other countries on their respective independence days. If a citizen of India extends good wishes to the citizens of Pakistan on 14th August, which is their Independence Day, there is nothing wrong with it," the bench said.

"Motives cannot be attributed to the appellant only because he belongs to a particular religion," it added.

It further noted: "Merely because a few individuals may develop hatred or ill will, it will not be sufficient to attract clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 153-A of the IPC."

{ FROM PAGE 1 }

INDIANS IN WAR ZONE

front bases in the Russia-Ukraine war zone against their wishes, thus putting their lives in grave danger."

Some victims were grievously injured in the war zone, the spokesperson said.

At least two Indian nationals are known to have been killed while serving with the Russian army. The Indian embassy in Moscow confirmed the death of Indian national Mohammed Asfan in a post on X on March 6. The 30-year-old from Hyderabad travelled to Russia late last year and reports have said he was seriously injured along with two other Indians in hostilities in a

conflict zone last month.

Earlier, 23-year-old Hemal Ashwinbhai Mangukiyi, a resident of Surat in Gujarat, was killed in a Ukrainian air strike while serving as a "security helper" with the Russian Army at Donetsk, a part of Ukraine occupied by Russia. Mangukiyi travelled to Russia last December.

CBI registered a case on Wednesday against private visa consultancy firms, agents and others engaged in trafficking Indians to Russia under the guise of employment, the spokesperson said. "So far around 35 instances of victims sent abroad have been established. The identity of more trafficking victims are also being

established. Investigation is continuing."

Four accused consularties or agents were named: 24x7 RAS Overseas Foundation and its director Suyash Mukut; OSD Bros Travels and Visa Services Pvt Ltd. and its director Rakesh Pandey; Adventure Visa Services Pvt Ltd and its director Manjeet Singh; and Baba Vlogs Overseas Recruitment Solutions Pvt Ltd. and its director Faisal Abdul Mutalib Khan, also known as Baba.

Cash amounting to over ₹50 lakh, incriminating documents, electronics and CCTV footage were recovered during Thursday's raids, the spokesperson said.

The agency appealed to the public not to fall for false job promises from dubious recruitment agencies and agents.

Indian authorities have stepped up efforts to bring back all Indians serving with the Russian military, though the actual number remains unclear, with some reports suggesting it could be around 100.

Last month, India's external affairs ministry confirmed that 20 Indian nationals serving with the Russian military had approached the Indian mission in Moscow seeking help with their discharge, and several were discharged after Indian authorities took up their cases in Moscow and New Delhi.

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board
FC-18, INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KARKARDOOMA, DELHI - 110092
<https://dsssonline.nic.in>

F.No. 1 (258)/P&P-I/DSSSB/2024/Adv./5255 Dated: 05.03.2024

VACANCY NOTICE / ADVERTISEMENT NO. 06/2024

COMBINED EXAMINATION, 2024 FOR LAB TECHNICIAN (GROUP-III), LAB TECHNICIAN (GROUP-IV), LAB TECHNICIAN, PHARMACIST (ALLOPATHIC), JUNIOR PHARMACIST, DRAFTSMAN GRADE-III (CIVIL), STORE KEEPER, STORE SUPERVISOR, AUXILIARY NURSE MIDWIFE, ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTOR, DRIVER, STAFF CAR DRIVER (ORDINARY GRADE), DRIVER (LMV), STAFF CAR DRIVER

The opening date and closing date for receipt of online applications are as below :-

Opening Date of Application: 21.03.2024 (21st March, 2024) (FROM 12.00 PM)
 Closing Date of Application: 19.04.2024 (19th April, 2024) (TILL 11.59 PM)

Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board (DSSSB) invites online applications from eligible candidates for recruitment to the post of **LAB TECHNICIAN (GROUP-III), LAB TECHNICIAN (GROUP-IV), LAB TECHNICIAN, PHARMACIST (ALLOPATHIC), JUNIOR PHARMACIST, DRAFTSMAN GRADE-III (CIVIL), STORE KEEPER, STORE SUPERVISOR, AUXILIARY NURSE MIDWIFE, ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECTOR, DRIVER, STAFF CAR DRIVER (ORDINARY GRADE), DRIVER (LMV), STAFF CAR DRIVER** against vacancies in respect of various Departments / Autonomous Bodies / Local Bodies of Government of NCT of Delhi as per details given below :-

Sl. No.	Post Code	Name of Post	Name of Department	Pay Level	Vacancies * (Including Backlog Vacancies)									
					UR	OBC	SC	ST	EWS	Total	PwBD	Ex-SM	SP	
1		Driver	Drugs Control Department	2	00	01	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
2		Staff Car Driver (Ordinary Grade)	Department of Law, Justice and Legislative Affairs	2	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
3		Staff Car Driver (Ordinary Grade)	Lokayukta	2	00	01	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
4	813/24	Staff Car Driver (Ordinary Grade)	Directorate of Vigilance	2	02	00	01	00	00	03	00	00	00	
5		Staff Car Driver (Ordinary Grade)	General Administration Department	2	05	02	01	03	01	12	00	01	00	
6		Driver (LMV)	Delhi Archives	2	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
7		Staff Car Driver (Ordinary Grade)	Delhi Prisons	2	06	02	01	01	01	11	00	01	00	
1	814/24	Lab Technician (Group-III) (Cardiology etc.)	Health & Family Welfare	5	13	11	06	04	04	38	05	03	01	
2		Lab Technician (Group-IV) (Biochemistry etc.)	Health & Family Welfare	5	02	01	00	03	00	06	03	00	00	
3		Lab Technician	New Delhi Municipal Council	5	00	05	01	02	02	10	02	01	00	
4		Laboratory Technician	Drugs Control Department	5	01	00	00	00	00	01	00	00	00	
1	815/24	Pharmacist (Dispenser)	Municipal Corporations of Delhi	5	35	41	17	12	05	110	07	10	00	
2		Pharmacist (Allopathic)	New Delhi Municipal Council	5	03	08	02	04						



OPINION

The
Hindustan Times
ESTABLISHED IN 1924

[OUR TAKE]

Welfare politics targets women

How political parties are curating policies to target an emerging political constituency

The United Nations' theme for the International Women's Day (observed March 8) is "Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress". Among political parties in India, a consensus along these lines seems to be taking root. Cash support for women, among other benefits, has become a necessary poll plank for parties. The Delhi Budget announcement of such a handout to those whose incomes are below the taxable threshold was in the vein of similar guarantees being implemented in Telangana and Karnataka. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the Congress, and a host of other parties made similar promises in key states in the last round of assembly elections. Apart from cash support, free bus travel can be availed in Delhi, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Punjab. Some states are offering gas subsidies, given over the benefits under the Centre's Ujjwala Yojana. And the Trinamool Congress (TMC) government in Bengal has just announced higher honoraria for Asha and Anganwadi workers. Indeed, Mamata Banerjee's TMC and the AIADMK under Jayalithaa have been pioneers of women-centric welfare. At the national level, the BJP has preferred more spectacular offers through its Nari Shakti messaging that dovetails benefits, women-centric legislation including reservation for women in Parliament, and credit mobilisation to women's collectives.

This well-curated focus on women as economic entities signals that parties are recognising them as a political constituency. Indeed, PM Narendra Modi's positioning of women as one of the four new "castes" — the others being poor, youth, and farmers — draws more from realpolitik than any professed ideology. Women do form a significant chunk of the *labhaarthi varg* (beneficiary class), with the *laabh* (benefits) bolstering their economic agency, which, to some degree, is being reaped as an electoral dividend. Data from the elections in certain states bears this out. Who the bulk of women voters chose, played a significant role in the BJP and the Congress victories in Madhya Pradesh and Telangana, respectively.

The challenge, of course, will be moving the needle towards comprehensive empowerment. To that end, social empowerment needs to be pushed in tandem with economic empowerment. Ensuring greater political representation is certainly crucial. But everyday issues also matter as much. To illustrate, policies to support women better at the workplace to drive up their workforce participation, encouraging caregiving by males through reforms in parental leave policies, and addressing the wage gap between the sexes could go a long way.

SC mantra: Economy with environment

In its order on the shutdown of the Sterlite-Vedanta smelter in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court reiterated a fundamental principle that should guide decisions in all similar cases. The Court said, "It is an undeniable and fundamental truth that all persons have the right to breathe clean air, drink clean water, live a life free from disease and sickness... Without these basic rights, increased revenue and employment cease to have any real meaning." The Vedanta plant was closed in 2018 following an order by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, which was preceded by massive public mobilisation on the ground that the unit was causing serious environmental damage.

What the SC phrased beautifully in the Vedanta case is drawn from a broader reading of Article 21 that the right to life and liberty includes the right to a healthy environment. Since the 1980s, the judiciary has been taking an expansive view of the right to life to guide public policy. The rise in environmental awareness in the 1970s and the advent of activism and public interest litigation gave birth to green jurisprudence.

In the Vedanta order, the Court flags the polluter pays principle and the public trust doctrine to state that these serve as "a reminder that economic activities should not come at the expense of environmental degradation or the health of the population" and "the State must act as a steward of the environment, ensuring that the common resources necessary for the well-being of the people are protected against exploitation or degradation". It is a timely reiteration that the health of the environment can't be compromised for profits.

[BEYOND THE BYTE]

Rajdeep Sardesai



BJP's push to bridge the North-South gap

A political breakthrough for the party in southern India requires a commitment to the federal spirit and more accommodative politics that acknowledge linguistic diversity and inter-faith harmony

From the sun-kissed beaches of Lakshadweep to temple-hopping across Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, it is any coincidence that Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi has made four extended visits in the last two months to southern Indian states? With the BJP having reached saturation point electorally in northern and western India, the PM seems to be making a determined effort to change the poll arithmetic with a focused campaign on the South. But is this just well-choreographed optics or will the battle for 2024 actually see a break from a widening and troubling North-South political divide?

In 2019, the BJP won just 29 out of 130 Lok Sabha seats across the South, 25 of them from Karnataka alone. Fast forward to 2024 where the BJP has raised the pitch with a distinct strategy for each southern state. In

Karnataka, the party has tied up with Deve Gowda's Janata Dal (Secular), the very party it derisively referred to as a father-son family-run enterprise in assembly polls last year. By rehabilitating former CM BS Yediyurappa and his sons, the return to a Lingayat-centric approach is apparent: Yediyurappa is 81, but *mardarshak mandal* retirement rules don't apply to their tallest leader in the state.

Switch to Kerala where the BJP has never won a single Lok Sabha seat although the party did poll a significant 12.9% vote in 2019. While the PM's claim that the BJP would win double-digit seats in Kerala can be dismissed as election bluster, there is a clear attempt to increase vote share by occupying an Opposition space outside of the traditional Left-Congress bipolar fight. With both these parties part of the INDIA bloc, the BJP is questioning the incongruity of allying in Delhi but competing for power in Thiruvananthapuram.

In Andhra Pradesh, the BJP is still a marginal player in what is probably the only genuine two-party regional fight in the country. Whichever side wins in the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy versus Chandrababu Naidu battle, the BJP will probably align with the winning side. The stakes are higher in Telangana where the BJP won four seats and almost 20% of the vote in 2019. Last year's assembly polls, where the party was a poor third, was a setback to the BJP's ambitions. But Lok Sabha elections may throw up fresh oppor-

tunities, especially as the Bharat Rashtira Samithi is yet to recover from its assembly defeat to the Congress.

Which brings us to Tamil Nadu, arguably the most fascinating frontier for the BJP to breach. Historically, the BJP has struggled to make a mark in a state whose unique political culture offers a noticeable ideological challenge to the BJP's worldview. When, for example, DMK chief minister MK Stalin's son and minister Udhayanidhi Stalin triggered a row with his controversial remarks calling for an eradication of *Sanatana Dharma*, he was not just seeking to consolidate his own vote base but also pitting a non-Brahminical Dravidian identity as a counterpoint to the BJP's Hindutva appeal. In the Dravidian political formulation, the BJP's brand of politics represents an upper-caste Brahminical Hinduism wherein notions of social justice and equality lose out to rigidly hierarchical caste divides.

This radical anti-Hindutva, anti-Brahmin ideological positioning of the Dravidian movement may have stood the test of time but there is also a gradual shift taking place. Projecting a 39-year-old K Annamalai, an IPS officer turned politician, as the BJP's Tamil Nadu face and a crusader against corruption and family *raj*, is a reflection of this change. His 100-day *yatra* may not be a game-changer just yet but it has obviously raised the BJP's profile in the state at a time when the principal opposition party, the AIADMK, is struggling to recover



The Prime Minister seems to be making a determined effort to change the poll arithmetic with a focused campaign on the South

from the bruising factionalism of the post-Jayalithaa period. Not surprisingly, a recent opinion poll gave the BJP an impressive 20% vote share even if the seat count remained negligible.

In a sense, the BJP's southern push mirrors the scale of its ambition in the Modi era to emerge as a pan-India force. It may also force the Sangh Parivar to become more politically and ideologically flexible and move away from the one-nation-one-leader-one-religion credo. Despite winning two consecutive majorities in the Lok Sabha, the saffron force's roots lie in the Hindi-Hindu-Hindustan politics of the Hindi heartland. An expanded southern footprint beyond just Karnataka requires a more inclusive worldview that celebrates a multicultural Indian ethos.

Can Hindutva nationalism, for example, accommodate Tamil subnationalism, not just by symbolic gestures in placing a *sengol* (sceptre) in the new Parliament but also in recognising linguistic diversity by not imposing Hindi in any form? Can an attempt to woo the Christian community in Kerala be separated from how missionaries are targeted through anti-conversion laws in North Indian

states? Can bulldozers rampaging through Muslim homes in UP be disconnected from the inter-faith harmony that prevails in much of southern India?

Most importantly, a political breakthrough for the BJP across southern India requires a sincere commitment to the federal spirit rather than an imperious Delhi mindset which seeks centralisation of power. The concerns voiced by southern CMs over the allocation of financial resources can't be wished away as election posturing. Nor can the southern states be punished in any future delimitation exercise for successfully implementing population control measures. Truth is, the more economically advanced, literate, socially progressive southern states are already marching towards becoming *viksit* (developed); it is now for the rest of Bharat to catch up.

Post-script: A few weeks ago, after watching a Mood of the Nation opinion poll, an INDIA bloc leader remarked wistfully: "If the general election results South of the Vindhya counted as much as the North and West, we might have a shot at power!"

Rajdeep Sardesai is a senior journalist and author. The views expressed are personal

Lessons from Norway in smashing patriarchy

It was my second day in India. I was presenting my credentials to the President, Droupadi Murmu. As I entered the hall with my all-women Norwegian team to meet her, she looked at us and exclaimed words in Hindi that were translated to me as women power.

That was my introduction to the world's largest democracy, one with a woman President, a woman finance minister and a Parliament that had just adopted a Bill reserving two-thirds of the seats in the Lok Sabha for women.

I felt I was in the right place at the right time.

I represent the Norwegian foreign service, which presently has a ratio of 48% women and 52% men posted as ambassadors worldwide. It is important to underline that this is the first year of nearly 50% of women ambassadors, so it has taken us time to get here. In general, 55% of employees in the Norwegian ministry of foreign affairs are women, which has been the case for much longer, showcasing the extra time it takes for women to climb up the ladder.

The growing number of women in the Indian foreign service is also impressive and shows progress. The Indian ministry of external affairs sets a good example with an increasing number of divisions headed by women, an increasing ratio of women ambassadors posted worldwide and since 2022, the first ever Indian woman permanent representative to the United Nations in New York.

However, having said that, it is 2024, and being a woman ambassador is still noticed, making us continually reflect on what more must be done. Research done by several institutes globally refers to gender inequality among diplomatic corps worldwide, especially when it comes to appointments as ambassadors. The key to solving this challenge is to work at all levels, all the time.

It is no coincidence that we have managed to reach a near 50/50 ratio in our diplomatic service, our government and several businesses. Measures taken in Norway for the last several decades, like parental leave, right to childcare, and 40% reservation for women on boards in public limited companies have

given women greater manoeuvrability to work on an equal footing. In 2018, we had already celebrated 40 years of legislation promoting gender equality. Some studies suggest that Norway would have lost 3,300 billion NOKs (\$317 billion) in income in the 40 years preceding the law if it had not been applied.

In a historic move in 2023, the government took a step further and proposed that medium-sized and large companies should also have at least a 40% gender balance on the boards of private limited companies. This will be gradually introduced already from 2024 and the aim is to cover around 20,000 companies. Norway is the first country in the world to take this step. Our new action plan for women's rights and gender equality in Norway's foreign and development policy (2023-2030) outlines concrete measures Norway will take both internally and externally. It aims to contribute to achieving the SDGs by 2030, particularly Goal 5, on women's rights and gender equality.

We will continue to assert ourselves on the global stage to achieve gender equality and safeguard the rights of all girls and women through strategic cooperation with diverse partners, diplomatic efforts in multilateral and bilateral forums, and financial contributions, particularly through development funds.

Furthermore, we are committed to our objective of a minimum of 50% of all bilateral aid explicitly prioritising gender equality as a principal or significant target.

Internally, it is our aim that all staff should possess a solid understanding of efforts to combat sexual harassment, aligning with our international obligations. We will also continue to build competence and offer training on gender equality and women's rights including sexual and reproductive health and rights, as well as queer rights across the board. We are living in a post-pandemic era, with raging wars and the dire need for humanitarian assistance in several parts of the world. Therefore, we have also strengthened our existing action plans on women, peace and security (2023-2030) and efforts for women in humanitarian settings covered in Norway's humanitarian strategy.

Lastly, we are also focusing our efforts on technology and equality. To leave no one behind, all girls and women need access to digital technology, and they need to be taught the skills to use it. If technology is created by men — for men — we risk missing out on innovations that could have improved the lives of half of the planet's population.

To end with a few more examples, I would like to share that in Norway, Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre's cabinet has 45% women. At the Norwegian embassy in Delhi, we are 46% men and 54% women. As I attended my first Republic Day celebrations in India this January 26, India's focus on Nari Shakti resonated with me deeply.

We are not just breaking the glass ceiling. We are not just breaking patriarchal rules. We are aiming to break generations of habits, and (bad) habits die hard. It's time they did.

May-Elin Stener is Norway's ambassador to India. The views expressed are personal

[PUSHPA KAMAL DAHAL] NEPAL PRIME MINISTER

The recruitment of Nepali citizens in Russian military is illegal. We have heightened our diplomatic efforts to stop the recruitment and repatriate those already recruited



Small steps towards a gender-equal world

The fight for women's rights over the past 50 years is a story of progress. Women and girls have demolished barriers, dismantled stereotypes and driven progress towards a more just and equal world. Women's rights were finally recognised as fundamental human rights. Millions more girls are in classrooms around the world. And pioneering leaders have smashed glass ceilings across the globe.

But the progress is under threat. And full equality remains light years away. Billions of women and girls face marginalisation, injustice and discrimination, as millennia of male domination continue to shape societies. The persistent epidemic of gender-based violence disgraces humanity. Over four million girls are estimated to be at risk of female genital mutilation each year. Discrimination against women and girls remains perfectly legal in much of the world. In some places, that makes it difficult for women to own property, in others, it allows men to rape their wives with impunity.

Meanwhile, global crises are hitting women and girls hardest. Wherever there's conflict, climate disaster, or poverty, women and girls suffer the most. In every region of the world, more women than men go hungry. In both developed and developing countries, a backlash against women's rights is stalling and even reversing progress.

New technologies — which have such potential to dismantle inequalities — too often make matters worse. That can be because of unequal access, algorithms with baked-in bias, or misogynistic violence — from deep fakes to targeted harassment of specific women. At our current speed, full legal equality for women is some 300 years away; so is the end of child marriage. This rate of change is frankly insulting. Half of humanity can't wait centuries for their rights. We need equality now. That means accelerating the pace of progress. And that relies on political ambition, and investment — the theme of this year's International Women's Day.

We need public and private investment in programmes to end violence against women, ensure decent work, and drive women's leadership in digital technologies, peacebuilding, and across all sectors of the economy. We must also urgently support women's rights organisations fighting against stereotypes, battling to make women's and girls' voices heard, and

challenging cultural norms. Currently, they receive a paltry 0.1% of international development spending. That must change.

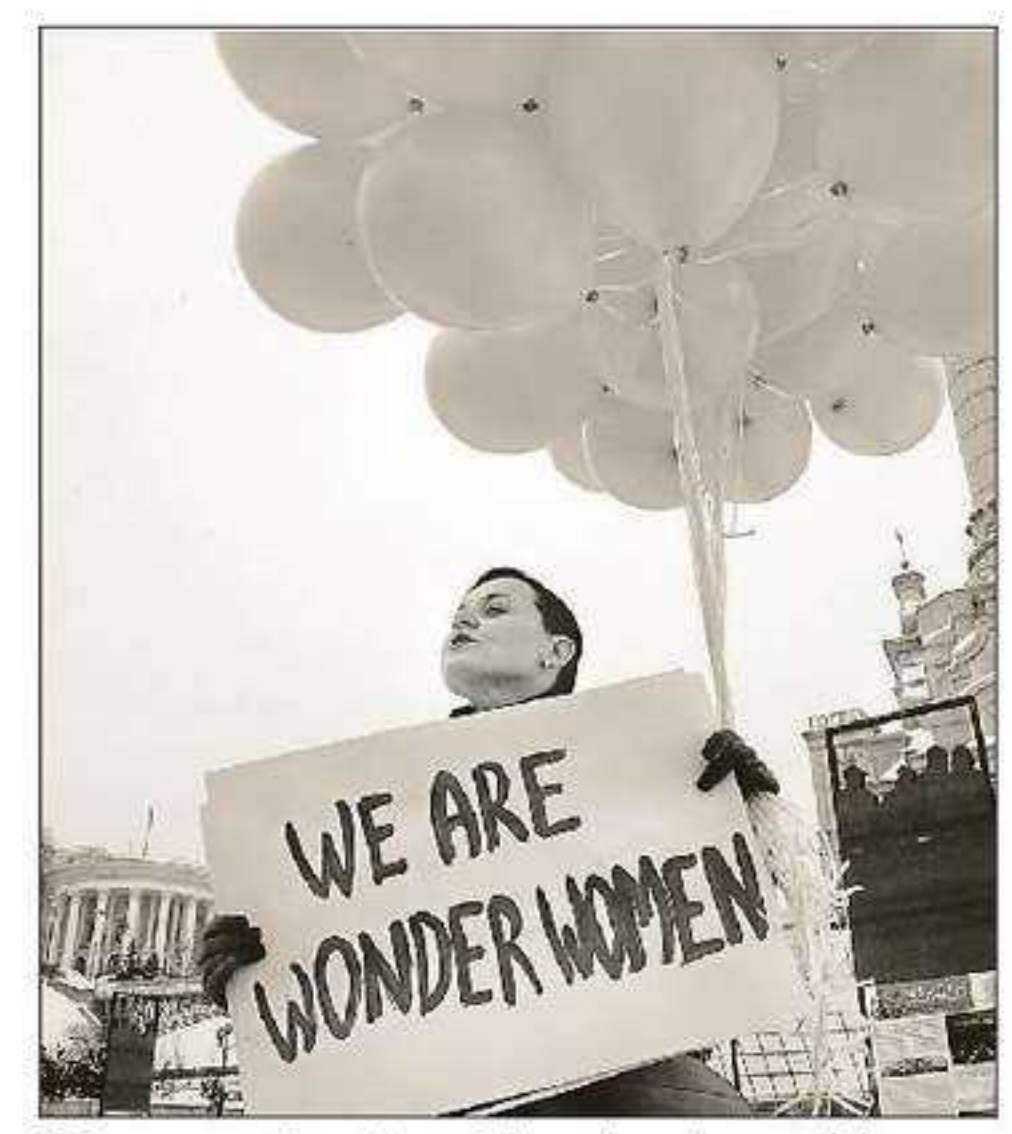
Investment may sound far removed from women's everyday lives. But it takes investment to give schoolgirls the same opportunities as schoolboys. It takes investment to provide digital education and develop skills. It takes investment to provide the childcare that enables caregivers, who are mainly mothers, to do paid work outside the home. And it takes investment to build inclusive communities with the full participation of women and girls of all backgrounds. Putting money behind equality is the right thing to do, but it also makes financial sense. Supporting women to enter formal labour markets grows economies, boosts tax revenues and expands opportunities for all.

Securing the investment we need in women and girls requires three things. First, increasing the availability of long-term finance for sustainable development, and tackling the debt crisis strangling many developing economies. Otherwise, countries simply won't have the funds to invest in women and girls. We need immediate action to provide breathing space for countries with unbearable debt repayments looming, and to encourage multilateral development banks to leverage far more private finance. Over the long term, we must reform the global financial architecture and make it more responsive to the needs of developing countries.

Second, countries must recognise that equality is not only a matter of rights but the bedrock of peaceful, prosperous societies. That means governments actively addressing discrimination, spending on programmes to support women and girls, and ensuring investments respond to their needs.

Third, we need to increase the number of women in leadership positions. Having women in positions of power can help to drive investment in policies and programmes that respond to the realities of women and girls. I am particularly proud that since early in my tenure — and for the first time in history — we have equal numbers of women and men in senior management across the entire United Nations system. Equality is overdue. Ending the patriarchy requires money on the table — it's time to cough up.

António Guterres is secretary-general, the United Nations. The views expressed are personal



We are not just breaking the glass ceiling. We are aiming to break generations of habits, and (bad) habits die hard

WORLD



The rubble of houses destroyed by Israeli bombardment in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip on Wednesday, amid the ongoing conflict between Israel and the Hamas movement.

Hopes dim for Gaza truce as war enters sixth month

The proposed deal would pause fighting for 'at least six weeks', see the 'release of sick, wounded, elderly and women hostages'

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

GAZA STRIP: Hopes dimmed on Thursday for a truce before Ramzan in the Israel-Hamas war that entered its sixth month with dozens more killed in Gaza, according to the health ministry in the Hamas-run territory.

The ministry said 83 more people had been killed over the previous day, adding to a toll it says has reached 30,800, mostly women and children, in a war that China called "a disgrace to civilisation".

Fighting began after an unprecedented October 7 attack by Hamas on southern Israel that resulted in about 1,160 deaths, most of them civilians, according to Israeli figures.

Israel has responded with a relentless bombardment, alongside a ground offensive, that Hamas authorities on Thursday said had continued with more than 30 airstrikes across the territory.

US President Joe Biden had urged Hamas to accept a ceasefire plan with Israel before the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramzan begins, as early as Sunday depend-

ing on the lunar calendar.

Gaps 'being narrowed', says US ambassador

But on Thursday, Hamas's delegation voiced dissatisfaction with Israeli responses so far and left Cairo for consultations with the movement's leadership in Qatar. Egypt's Al-Qahera News channel said the talks will now resume "next week".

US ambassador to Israel Jack Lew denied the talks had "broken down". "The differences are being narrowed. It's not yet an agreement. Everyone's looking towards Ramzan, which is coming close. I can't tell you that it will be successful, but it is not yet the case that it is broken down," Lew said.

Israeli war cabinet member Gadi Eisenkot said Hamas was under "very serious pressure" from mediators to make a "counter-offer". "Then it will be possible to advance it and take a position," he said.

Israel accuses South Africa of exploiting ICJ

Israel on Thursday accused South Africa of "cynical exploitation" of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) after Pretoria again requested emergency measures over the war in Gaza.

Citing "widespread starvation" in the Palestinian territory, South Africa on Wednesday petitioned the ICJ to order an "immediate halt" to five months of fighting between Israel and Hamas militants.

2 Philippine crew dead in Houthi missile attack

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

MANILA: Two Filipino crew members were among those killed in a missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels on a ship in the Gulf of Aden, the Philippine government said on Thursday. The Iran-backed Houthis have been targeting merchant vessels transiting the vital Red Sea trade route for months but Wednesday's deaths were the first reported fatalities resulting from such an attack.

"The Department of Foreign Affairs expresses its sincere condolences to the families of the two Filipino crew members of the civilian bulk carrier True Confidence, which was the subject of a missile attack from Houthi rebels in Yemen," the ministry said in a statement.

The Indian Navy rescued 21 of the ship's crew, including 13 Filipinos, and brought them to Djibouti, "where three of them are in the hospital due to serious injuries", the statement added. The missile struck the ship's fuel tanks, causing a fire and killing the two Filipinos and injuring two other compatriots among others, Department of Migrant Workers undersecretary Hans Caccad said.



Fire aboard the bulk carrier True Confidence after a missile attack by Yemen's Houthi rebels in the Gulf of Aden.

900 luxury watches go 'missing' in Japan in rental plan fraud

TOKYO: Around 900 luxury watches worth almost \$13 million are "missing" in Japan after a site renting them out folded and its owner fled to Dubai, local media reported.

The owners of the Rolex and other pricey timepieces earned monthly deposit fees by loaning them to Osaka-based Toke Match, which would then rent them to customers.

Neo Reverse, the company that operated Toke Match, announced on January 31 the termination of its service and promised it would return all watches. But the owners of around 900 watches worth 1.9 billion yen (\$12.6 million) have not been reunited with their property, the Asahi Shimbun daily and other media outlets reported, citing a group of about 190 owners.

Some of the watches have even been spotted on an online auction site, prompting owners to file dozens of complaints to police around Japan.

The auction site's operator Valence Japan said that at least 20 watches it handled had serial numbers matching those loaned to Toke Match.

"We immediately stopped circulation of these watches to prevent further damages from happening" through reselling, a spokeswoman said last week.

THE WATCHES ARE WORTH \$13MN. SOME OF THE WATCHES HAVE EVEN BEEN SPOTTED ON AN ONLINE AUCTION SITE.

The Sharing Economy Association, Japan said in a statement that it had received reports that some of the watches were circulated in second-hand stores too.

The size of Japan's "sharing economy" market is rapidly growing, reaching 2.6 trillion yen (\$17 billion) in the last fiscal year, the association says.

Neo Reverse was one of around 400 members of the organisation but was delisted on February 1 following complaints by the owners that their watches had not been returned.

Tokyo police have obtained an arrest warrant for Toke Match's owner Takazumi Kominato, 42, on suspicion of embezzlement of a Rolex watch, Jiji Press reported on Wednesday, citing investigative sources.

He is suspected of selling the Rolex he loaned from an owner to a second-hand dealer for 650,000 yen in January, the report said. However, Kominato flew out of Japan in late February for Dubai, and police plan to put him on the international wanted list, Jiji said.

Nigeria: Extremists abduct 200 people

ABUJA: At least 200 people, mostly women and children displaced by violence in northeastern Nigeria, were abducted by Islamic extremists while they were searching for firewood near the border with Chad, the United Nations office in Nigeria said late on Wednesday.

The victims had left several displacement camps to look for firewood in Borno state's Gamboru Ngala council area when they were ambushed and taken

hostage, the UN said, in the latest attack in the conflict-hit region.

"The exact number of people abducted remains unknown but is estimated at over 200 people," the UN humanitarian coordinator for Nigeria Mohamed Fall said in a statement about the attacks, which occurred several days ago but whose details are only emerging now because of limited access to information in the area.

{ U.S.-CHINA A.I. RACE } STOLE INFORMATION ABOUT HARDWARE INFRA AND SOFTWARE PLATFORM

Chinese engineer charged with theft of Google AI tech in US

Reuters
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SAN FRANCISCO/NEW YORK: A former Google software engineer has been indicted in California on charges of stealing trade secrets related to artificial intelligence (AI) from the Alphabet unit, to benefit two Chinese companies he was secretly working for.

Linwei Ding, also known as Leon Ding, was charged on Tuesday by a federal jury in San Francisco with four counts of theft of trade secrets.

The 38-year-old Chinese national was arrested on Wednesday morning at his home in Newark, California.

Technology Strike Force to help stop advanced technology being acquired by countries such as China and Russia, or potentially threaten national security.

"The justice department just will not tolerate the theft of our trade secrets and intelligence," US Attorney General Merrick Garland said at a conference in San Francisco.

According to the indictment, Ding stole detailed information about the hardware infrastructure and software platform that lets Google's supercomputing data centres train large AI models through machine learning.

The stolen information included details about chips and systems, and software that helps power a supercomputer "capable of executing at the cutting edge of machine learning and AI technology", the indictment said.

{ UKRAINE WAR } ODESSA ATTACK KILLS FIVE

Russian missile strike hits close to Zelensky, Greek PM

Agencies
letters@hindustantimes.com

KYIV: A deadly Russian missile strike hit Odesa close to the location that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis were visiting in the southern Ukrainian port city on Wednesday. "These people don't care, they have either gone insane or they don't control what their terrorist army is doing," Zelensky said about the Russian military during a joint press conference with Mitsotakis in Odesa.

The single-missile strike, which occurred in the morning, killed five people, Ukrainianska Pravda reported, citing military spokesman Dmytro Pletenchuk. The attack happened as the two leaders were touring the port of Odesa and surveying the damage to its infrastructure, Mitsotakis said, speaking alongside the Ukrainian president. "And shortly after, as we were getting into our cars, we heard a big explosion," Mitsotakis said.

The missile landed near Zelensky's motorcade, which was some 150 metres away from the Greek delegation, without harming officials, Greek website Protothema reported earlier on Wednesday, citing its correspondent, who was present at the site. The Russian strike drew condemnation from European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen.

Dmitry Medvedev, deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council, said Russia had not targeted the delegations and that it was obvious "to everyone" that there had been no planned strike on the motorcade.

The Russian defence ministry said a hangar was hit in Odesa port, where military naval drones were allegedly stationed for combat deployments. The port city on the Black Sea is regularly targeted by Russian missiles and drones. Ihor Zhovkva, a top Ukrainian diplomat, told CNN Live in an interview that Wednesday's missile had been launched from Crimea, the



Volodymyr Zelensky (left) and Greek PM Kyriakos Mitsotakis visit a makeshift memorial in Odesa, Ukraine, on Wednesday.

Ukrainian Black Sea peninsula annexed by Russia in 2014.

Zelensky and Mitsotakis visited the site of the last aerial attack against Odesa which happened on Saturday, when explosive-laden drones destroyed an apartment building in the city, killing 12 people including five children.

Mitsotakis and Zelensky discussed the operation of the grain export corridor, energy and reconstruction of the country, according to a statement from the Greek premier's office. Mitsotakis reiterated Greece's continued backing for Ukraine and firm support for the country's European and Euro-Atlantic prospects.

Zelensky seized on the attack on Odesa to reiterate his call to allies for more air defence and long-range weapons. Ukraine is increasing its own production of combat drones to offset the deficit of artillery shells, he said.

Greece has supported Ukraine since the beginning of Russia's invasion in 2022, providing military and humanitarian aid, as well as training for the country's pilots to operate F-16 fighter jets.

Sweden becomes 32nd Nato member

Agencies
letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: Sweden on Thursday became the 32nd member of Nato with the handing over of documents at a ceremony in Washington, a historic move that US secretary of state Antony Blinken said marked a "strategic debacle" by Russia.

"Good things come to those who wait," Blinken said as he accepted the accession documents from Sweden's Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson, following ratification by the 31 other alliance members.

"I think if you step back and think of where we were three years ago, none of this was fore-ordained," Blinken said of Sweden joining Nato.

There is "no clearer example than today of the strategic debacle that Putin's invasion of Ukraine has become for Russia," he said, referring to Rus-

sian President Vladimir Putin.

"This is a historic moment for Sweden. It's historic for alliance. It's history for the transatlantic relationship," Blinken said. "Our Nato alliance is now stronger, larger than it's ever been."

The White House said that having Sweden as a Nato ally "will make the United States and our allies even safer".

"Nato is the most powerful defensive alliance in the history of the world, and it is as critical today to ensuring the security of our citizens as it was 75 years ago when our alliance was founded out of the wreckage of World War II," it said in a statement.

Nato secretary-general Jens Stoltenberg described it as "a historic day". "Sweden will now take its rightful place at Nato's table, with an equal say in shaping Nato policies and decisions," he said in a statement.

TOP EU POLITICAL PARTY BACKS VON DER LEYEN'S BID FOR SECOND TERM

Agence France-Presse
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BUCHAREST: The conservative European People's Party (EPP) — the biggest force in the EU parliament — on Thursday endorsed European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen's bid for a second term.

Having navigated multiple crises ranging from Covid to the Ukraine war as the European Commission head since 2019, the former defence minister is seeking a new mandate that would run to 2029.

The backing of the EPP is key for the 65-year-old German, who needs to get the endorsement of the EU parliament to be re-named to the post.

A total of 400 EPP delegates voted in favour of von der Leyen, while 89 voted against it at the party congress in Bucharest. In her words after the vote, von der Leyen thanked the EPP representatives at the congress — including lawmakers, party leaders and 12 heads of state and government — for their "trust", "support" and "determination".



Thai customs seize red panda, snakes

Thai customs officials rescued a red panda, snakes, monkeys and chameleons from checked-in luggage at the country's main airport this week after arresting six Indian nationals for attempted smuggling. A total of 87 reptiles and mammals were found in the baggage, including chameleons, snakes, a large-beaked parrot, red-eyed squirrels, bats and monkeys.

IS militants planning attack on Moscow synagogue killed

MOSCOW: Russia's FSB security service said on Thursday it had killed Islamic State (IS) militants who were planning a "terrorist attack" on a Moscow synagogue, Russian state news agencies reported.

Pakistan gets first Sikh minister in Punjab province

LAHORE: Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, an influential minority leader, has been sworn in as a provincial minister, making him the first Sikh to occupy a ministerial position in post-partition Punjab in Pakistan.

CHINA'S FOREIGN MINISTER PRAISES SPECIAL TIES WITH RUSSIA, LASHES OUT AGAINST U.S.

BEIJING: China's foreign minister Wang Yi lashed out against the United States and praised his country's partnership with Russia on Thursday, in a wide-ranging press conference where he called the war in Gaza a "disgrace for civilisation".

Wang hit out at what he called efforts by Washington "to suppress China", telling reporters that "the desire to heap blame under any pretext has reached an unbelievable level".

Beijing's top diplomat met the press on Thursday on the sidelines of China's largest annual political gathering, which opened in the capital earlier this week.

China's expanding political reach has sparked friction on multiple fronts, with Wang's press conference coming after Southeast Asian and Australian leaders warned this week against Chinese actions that "endanger peace" in the South China Sea.

Beijing has increasingly flexed its muscles in the South China Sea, which it claims in almost its entirety despite an international arbitration ruling that declared its stance baseless.

Chinese coast guard boats were accused on Tuesday of badgering a flotilla of Philippine ships on a resupply mission, with Beijing in turn saying Manila was acting as Washington's pawn. "The methods used to suppress China are constantly being renewed, and the list of unilateral sanctions is constantly being extended," he said, referring to US actions.

Wang also defended Beijing's close relationship with Moscow, saying that "China and Russia have set a new paradigm for major power relations that is completely different from the old Cold War era".



Wang Yi



Items are displayed in the Google Store at the Google Visitor Experience in Mountain View, California.

Google designed some of the allegedly stolen chipblueprints to gain an edge over cloud computing rivals Amazon.com and Microsoft, which design their own, and reduce its reliance on chips from Nvidia.

Hired by Google in 2019, Ding allegedly began his thefts three

years later, while he was being courted to become chief technology officer for an early-stage Chinese tech company, and by May 2023 had uploaded more than 500 confidential files.

The indictment said Ding founded his own technology company that month, and circu-

lated a document to a chat group that said "We have experience with Google's ten-thousand-card computational power platform; we just need to replicate and upgrade it."

Google became suspicious of Ding in December 2023 and took away his laptop on January 4, 2024, the day before Ding planned to resign.

Jose Castaneda, a Google spokesperson, said, "We have strict safeguards to prevent the theft of our confidential commercial information and trade secrets."

"After an investigation, we found that this employee stole numerous documents, and we quickly referred the case to law enforcement."

Ding faces up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on each criminal count.

Sebi bars JM Financial from new debt securities

Serious lapses were found in a public issue which JM Financial had led

Priyanka Gawande

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MUMBAI: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Thursday barred JM Financial from acting as a lead manager for any new public issue of debt securities. The order came after the regulator found some serious lapses in a particular public issue in which JM Financial acted as a lead manager. "In respect of the existing mandates, JM can act as a lead manager for the public issue of debt securities for two months," said Sebi's whole-time member Ashwani Bhatia in the interim order. The merchant banker has been given the liberty to file its reply or to raise objections in the matter within 21 days.

According to the order, in 2023, the market regulator undertook a routine examination of public issues of non-convertible debentures (NCDs). During the inspection, Sebi found that a considerable por-



In an inspection, Sebi found that a lot of individual investors in an issue sold their securities on listing day.

MINT

tion of individual investors in a certain issue sold the securities assigned to them on the day of the listing. The securities' holding pattern revealed that, on the day of the listing, a sizeable portion of the securities issued changed hands, leading to a substantial decline in retail ownership. This in itself was "unusual", according to Sebi.

Sebi said the observations in the order were based on the material available on record and that the investigation of this matter will be completed in six months. In that particular issue, A.K. Capital Services Ltd, JM Financial Ltd, JMFL-MB (Noticee), Nuvama Wealth Manage-

ment Ltd, and Trust Investment Advisors Pvt. Ltd were the lead managers.

Upon closer inspection of the transactions on the day the said issue was listed, it was discovered that JM Financial Products Ltd (JMFLP-NBFC), a non-banking finance company and a subsidiary JM Financial Merchant Banker (JMFL-MB) had both supplied the funds used by these investors to subscribe to the issue and served as a counterparty to their trades. Afterwards, JMFLP-NBFC sold a sizeable amount of the securities it had bought from these individuals to corporate investors that same day, offloading them at a loss.

The regulator's investigation also revealed that these investors had submitted their applications in the public issue through the stock broker JM Financial Services Ltd (JMFLS-Broker), another subsidiary of the noticee—JMFL-MB. JM Financial Ltd, the lead manager; JM Financial Services Ltd, the stockbroker; and JM Financial Products Ltd, the NBFC, are part of the JM Financial Group.

The order stated that JM, in its reply to the regulator's observations, stated that such practices were part of the ordinary course of business.

"It was also stated that a similar approach has been adopted in many of the other issues where this was the lead manager. Such practices as explained earlier have detrimental effect on the orderly functioning of the market and harm the interest of the ordinary investors. They also distort the functioning of the price discovery mechanism in the securities market. Given the same, there is an urgent need for the regulator to step in and pass interim directions, pending investigation, to prevent any further erosion in market integrity by virtue of such practices," Bhatia said in a 22-page order.

SC rejects MakeMyTrip plea on keyword issue

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MMT was before the top court against the HC order.

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The Supreme Court told the online travel agency MakeMyTrip (MMT) on Thursday that the use of the keyword "MakeMyTrip" in Google Ads was "no deception at all," even if the search results show links and advertisements for rival travel company Booking.com.

The Court rejected MMT's argument that the keyword usage amounted to infringement or passing off under the Trade Marks Act, 1999. Booking.com made the highest bid and purchased the "MakeMyTrip" keyword on the Google Ads Program, which means that anyone searching for the term would see its site on top of their search results.

Refusing to entertain MMT's appeal against a December order of the Delhi high court, a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud observed that using the keyword cannot amount to infringement or passing off because MMT and Booking.com are two completely distinct online platforms.

"There's no deception at all. Somebody who wants to go to MMT will not be confused at all and land at Booking.com. This isn't a case where Booking.com

judge bench in April 2022.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, representing MMT, argued on Thursday that Booking.com is using the trademark name of MMT to carry out its business. He added that the use of its trademarks as keywords amounts to taking advantage of the distinctive character and reputation of MMT by Booking.com, adding it is a breach under the Trade Marks Act.

Disagreeing, the bench responded: "Where is the passing off? All that it means is that you have an order of advertisers on Google. You are also shown there. You are only shown below the Booking.com. Where's the infringement or passing off? Booking.com is not passing off as Make My Trip."

The court added that it is not a case where Booking.com is using the trademark of MMT even as senior counsel Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Google, contended that there was no infringement or passing off as long as MMT also comes up whenever the keywords are typed in.

"The keywords 'MakeMyTrip' is behind the screen after it is typed in. You get 20 results when you type these keywords. You may even be shown a boat or a plane. There is no confusion at all," Singhvi added.

UNION CABINET HIKES RAW JUTE MSP BY 5.6%

HT Correspondent

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The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday hiked the minimum support price of raw jute by ₹285 per quintal to ₹5,335 per quintal for the 2024-25 season, commerce and food minister Piyush Goyal said, briefing reporters.

The increase in MSP for the new season would give a return of 64.8% over the all-India weighted average cost of production. It is in line with the principle of fixing MSPs at a level of at least 1.5 times the average cost of production. The MSP for 2024-25 is 5.6% higher than that of the current season. The hike is based on recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). MSP is a floor price aimed at helping avoid distress sale by farmers.

In the last 10 years, the government has raised the MSP for raw jute from ₹2,400 per quintal in 2014-15 to ₹5,335 per quintal in 2024-25, which is a growth of 122%, a Cabinet statement said.

In the current 2023-24 season, the government has procured a record amount of over 6 lakh bales of jute at the cost of ₹524.32 crore, benefitting around 1,65,000 farmers, the release said. The council of ministers also cleared a proposal of the ministry of commerce and industry for speedy industrialization of northeastern states, known as UNNATI 2024. The scheme, Uttar Poorva Transformative Industrialization Scheme, will run for 10 years from the date of notification along with eight years for committed liabilities at a total cost of ₹1,03,7 crore, a statement said.

The scheme provides for capital investment incentive for new units, central capital interest subvention for both new and expanding units as well as provisions for net reimbursement of Good and Services Tax.

The scheme is proposed to be divided into two parts. Part A caters to the incentives to the eligible units with investment worth ₹9737 crore, while part B is for implementation and institutional arrangements of the scheme for which ₹300 crore will be set aside.

Moody's ups India's growth forecast to 8% from 6.6% for FY24

Press Trust of India

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NEW DELHI: Moody's Ratings on Thursday raised India's GDP growth forecast for FY24 to around 8% from 6.6% on the back of strong domestic consumption and capital expenditure.

The estimate comes a day after RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said the economic growth in the current financial year could be close to 8 per cent in view of the third quarter GDP data released by the government.

The latest estimate of Moody's is about 140 basis points higher than the earlier projection of 6.6% made in November 2023.

The National Statistical Office (NSO) has projected 8.4% growth in December quarter of the current financial year. It has also revised GDP estimates for the first and second quarters to 8.2% and 8.1% from 7.8% and 7.6%, respectively.

"We expect India to be the fastest-growing economy among major G20 countries, with its real GDP growth to accelerate to around 8 per cent in the fiscal year ending March 2024 (fiscal 2023-24) from 7% in fiscal 2022-23," Moody's said in a report.

Government capital expenditure and strong domestic consumption will underpin India's economic growth. Moreover, India is poised to benefit from increased global trade and investment opportunities arising from companies' strategies to diversify away from China, it said.

"We expect India's inflation rate will decline to 5.5% in 2023-24 from a peak of 6.7% in fiscal 2022-23, and further disinflation will support monetary easing going forward," it said.

With regard to the banking sector, the report said, non-performing assets (NPAs) will continue to fall as the operating

GOVT CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND STRONG DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION WILL UNDERPIN INDIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH, IT SAID

environment improves.

The system wide NPA ratio dropped to 3.2% as at September-end 2023 from a peak of 11.2 per cent at the end of March 2018 because of recoveries and write-offs of legacy problem loans.

Slippage ratios—or the ratios of newly accredited NPAs to total standard assets during a period—will stay low, helped by India's strong economic growth, it said. "We expect banks' Common Equity Tier 1 ratios to decline 50-80 basis points because of increase in risk weights for exposures to NBFCs and unsecured retail loans," Moody's said.

Still, banks' capitalization will remain strong as their internal capital generation keeps pace with capital consumption, it said, adding, they will also be able to raise capital easily if needed, given India's buoyant equity market. On the profitability, the report said, it will remain at healthy levels but Net Interest Margin will witness marginal decline as banks reprice maturing deposits at higher rates to fully reflect previous hikes in prevailing interest rates.

The banking sector's profitability has improved substantially in the past five years mainly because of decrease in loan-loss provisions amid improvements in asset quality, it said.

Banks' funding has tightened in the past two years as credit growth has outpaced deposit expansion, with the system wide loan-to-deposit ratio (LDR) rising to 75.1% as of March 31, 2023 from 64.9% two years earlier.

Mobile exports to grow to \$50-60 bn, says Vaishnav

Press Trust of India

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NEW DELHI: Mobile phone exports from India will grow more than five-fold to \$50-60 billion in the coming time from about \$11 billion last year, Union IT and Communications Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said.

Speaking at a fintech event on Wednesday, the minister said employment in the electronics manufacturing sector will increase from about 10 lakh at present to 25 lakh in the coming days. He said that 10 years ago India imported 98% of mobile

THE MINISTER SAID THAT INDIA WILL BECOME THE THIRD LARGEST ECONOMY BY 2027

phones and at present 99% of the devices are made in India.

"(Mobile phones worth) \$11 billion were exported last year. In the coming days, you will see exports to the tune of \$50-60 billion. 10 lakh people work in electronics manufacturing. In the coming days, 25 lakh people will work in electronics manufacturing," Vaishnav said while shar-

ing a presentation on India's growth story.

He said India will become the third largest economy by 2027 while it was ranked 11th in 2014.

A report published by Jefferies Equity Research last month said that India would become the third-largest economy by 2027 and expected to achieve a market capitalization of \$10 trillion by 2030.

He said that when the country is in 5th spot in terms of economy it has created huge infrastructure in terms of railways, highways, airports etc.

The minister said that the government added 5,200 kilomet-

res of railway line last year, which is equivalent to the size of the entire Switzerland railway network.

"Already 4,972 kilometres have been completed. The entire month of March is left. We will add 5500 kilometres (railway lines) this year," Vaishnav said.

He said airports in the country have doubled in the last 10 years. "In 2013, every global discourse was negative about India. Everyone used to say it is a fragile economy. There was uncertainty around it. Today, when you see India anywhere, everyone says it is among the top 5, a bright spot growing at a steady pace. India

has become the growth engine of the entire world," the minister said. Vaishnav also displayed a video of Congress leader P Chidambaram in which he had questioned the government's digital payments plan.

The minister said earlier regimes were riddled with scams but after 2014 things changed across all parameters — GDP growth, forex reserve, foreign investment etc.

He said the regime under Prime Minister Narendra Modi focussed on women-led growth and people on the last rung of the society that has brought 25 crore people out of poverty.

Fuel demand increases 5.7% in Feb on strong factory output

Reuters

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India's fuel consumption rose 5.7% year-on-year in February, government data showed on Thursday, helped by strong factory activity in the world's third-biggest oil importer and consumer.

Total consumption, a proxy for oil demand, totalled 19.72 million tonnes (4.98 million barrels per day) in February, up from 18.66 million tonnes last year, data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) of the oil ministry showed.

Demand was up about 5.1% on a daily basis from the 4.74 mbpd (20.04 million tonnes) consumed in January.

"The increase month-on-month in fuel consumption is yet another tour de force of the Indian economy, a sign of how strong demand growth has been in recent months," said Viktor Katona, lead crude analyst at Kpler.

"Diesel demand is almost guaranteed to hit a new record this year (in June), surpassing the 2 mbpd mark for the first time in history."



Demand was up about 5.1% on a daily basis from the 4.74 mbpd (20.04 million tonnes) consumed in January.

HT

Sales of diesel, mainly used by trucks and commercially run passenger vehicles, rose by 6.2% year-on-year to 7.44 million tonnes in February. They were up about 6.8% month-on-month to 1.88 mbpd on a per-day basis.

India's manufacturing industry enjoyed robust growth in February with activity expanding at its fastest pace in five months, led by accelerated global demand and lower inflationary pressures, a private survey last week showed.

Sales of gasoline in February rose 8.9% from the previous year to 3.02 million tonnes.

Meanwhile, Indian automakers continued to report a steady rise in sales in February, helped

by demand for two-wheelers and utility vehicles, monthly sales data from companies showed last week.

Sales of bitumen, used for making roads, rose by 3.7% annually, while demand jumped 14.4% on a monthly basis.

"Bitumen was the quickest growing product category... a testament to the Modi government's investment spree in the months leading up to the election," Katona said.

Cooking gas, or liquefied petroleum gas sales rose by 8.5% to 2.59 million tonnes, while naphtha sales jumped by 11.7% to about 1.19 million tonnes, compared with last February, the data showed.

International patent filings fall, India bucks trend

AFP

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GENEVA: International patent filings declined last year for the first time in 14 years due to higher interest rates and economic uncertainty, the UN said Thursday, with India among the few countries bucking the trend.

A total of 272,600 international patents were filed in 2023, marking a 1.8% decline from a year earlier, the United Nations' World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) said in its annual overview.

"We believe that this reflects the currently adverse environment for innovation and entrepreneurial activity," WIPO's chief economist Carsten Fink told reporters in Geneva. Economic uncertainties and



India posted the biggest growth, with its international patent filings surging 44.6% to 3,791.

especially higher interest rates last year were seen as key reasons for the decline.

However, Fink stressed, the decline should be seen as "a cyclical phenomenon." "We think that IP filings will pick up again once the external environment improves." WIPO Director-General

Daren Tang agreed, noting that likely declining inflation rates could provide more business confidence and innovation investments, "setting the stage for a recovery in international IP filings later this year."

"Despite these shorter-term dips, longer-term trends show IP use rising steadily in an

increasingly global, digitalised economy and spreading across the globe as economies around the world develop," he said in a statement.

WIPO's complex system of registering international patents involves multiple categories, including global trademarks and design filing systems.

In the main category, the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), China continued to top the rankings, with 69,610 filings, slipping 0.6% from 2022.

That marked the first year-on-year decrease from China since 2002, WIPO said. The United States meanwhile remained in second place in 2023, with 55,678 filings, marking a far steeper decline of 5.3% from a year earlier.

China and the United States were followed by Japan, South

Korea and Germany, with South Korea the only country in the top five whose patent applications inched up last year, rising 1.2% at 22,288 filings.

India posted the biggest growth, with its international patent filings surging 44.6% to 3,791.

WIPO said that followed a 25.9% hike a year earlier. And the upward trend is likely to continue.

Fink said that in a country of nearly 1.5 billion people, "there is of course still tremendous growth opportunity" in India.

Among the few other countries that showed growth was Turkey, enjoying an 8.5% increase, the Netherlands was up 5.8% and France was up two percent. WIPO's report showed Asia represented 55.7% of all filings last year, up from just over 40% a decade earlier.

{ THE CROSSWORDS }

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS

- Frustrated; that's what a mule is (7)
- Those reformed show spirit (5)
- Send out results (4)
- Put out of one's mind? (8)
- It's present in a constantly recurring form (10)
- After hash it's time for soup (6)
- Eccentric space-traveller (6)
- One without real authority led the way at sea (10)
- His paper is turned to stone (8)
- Lightning? Run! (4)
- Light beam that's very strong (5)
- May take a joke in dignity (7)

DOWN

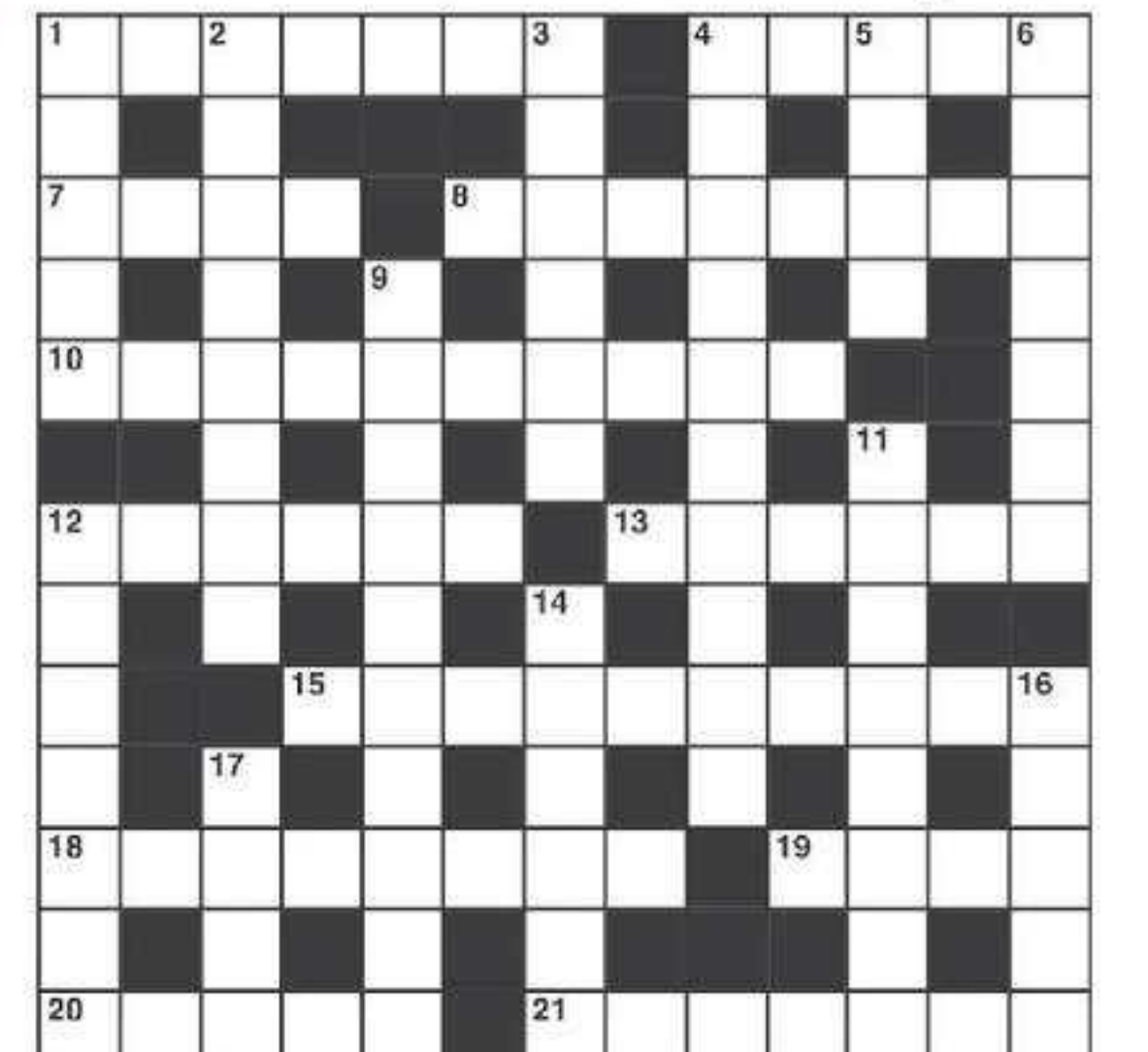
- Inexpensive variety of peach (5)
- Cast out bread that's hard (8)
- Scarcity of thread perhaps (6)
- Finished full of wrath and in jeopardy (10)
- American name for a coil of yarn (4)
- A cider's mixed in a cocktail (7)
- Brilliant winner of the angling contest? (10)
- Liberal one urges reform (8)
- Reading could give us unending pleasure (7)
- Enough to prevent parting without meeting (6)
- Sailor's musical box? (5)
- A composition of spilled soup (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS (16801)

CRYPTIC
GENTLEWOMAN
OMORPHIC
FABERGE COAT
FRETWORK
OGRENOBODIES
NENTRAPREVEALS
SEARHEARTOUR
EGGRELLELA
ATOLL TERMINI
DWOONVVN
ENTRANCEFEE

QUICK
TOURDEFORCE
HVUXLFLOR
ACERBIC DUNCE
RRYEGTTS
DOTE PETULANT
PBDACCA
RAGGEDGRATIS
EALDOL
SPURIOUSGURU
SGTLFLRR
ERUPT CALIBRE
DILLERIAAD
UNDERTAKING

PUZZLE 16802 © Gemini Crosswords 2018 All rights reserved



QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Something done for effect (7)
- Blank book for photographs (5)
- Prolonged labour (4)
- Demagogue (8)
- Very dark (5-5)
- Undertake (6)
- A long way (3,3)
- Causing great tension (4-6)
- Inventive (8)
- Completely destroyed (4)
- Used up (5)
- Directly stated (7)

DOWN

- To rise (3,2)
- Playful (8)
- Overwhelm (6)
- Dictatorial (10)
- Object of ridicule (4)
- Quicksilver (7)
- Hitchhike (5,1,4)
- Bring into operation (8)
- Sordid goings-on (6)
- Conjecture (5)
- To instance (4)

{ SUDOKU } DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★



Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9x9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

{ WEATHER }

TEMPERATURE • HIGH • LOW

FRIDAY Mainly clear sky

SATURDAY Partly cloudy sky

SUNDAY Partly cloudy sky

26°C | 09°C

26°C | 10°C

25°C | 10°C

ALMANAC

Today is 8th March 2024

• B Shubun, 1445

• B Phalguna, Krishna

• Paksha, 13

• Samant, 2080

• Sunset: Friday at 06:25 p.m.

• Sunrise: Saturday at 06:37 a.m.

• Moonset: Friday at 04:10 p.m.

• Moonrise: Saturday at 05:59 a.m.

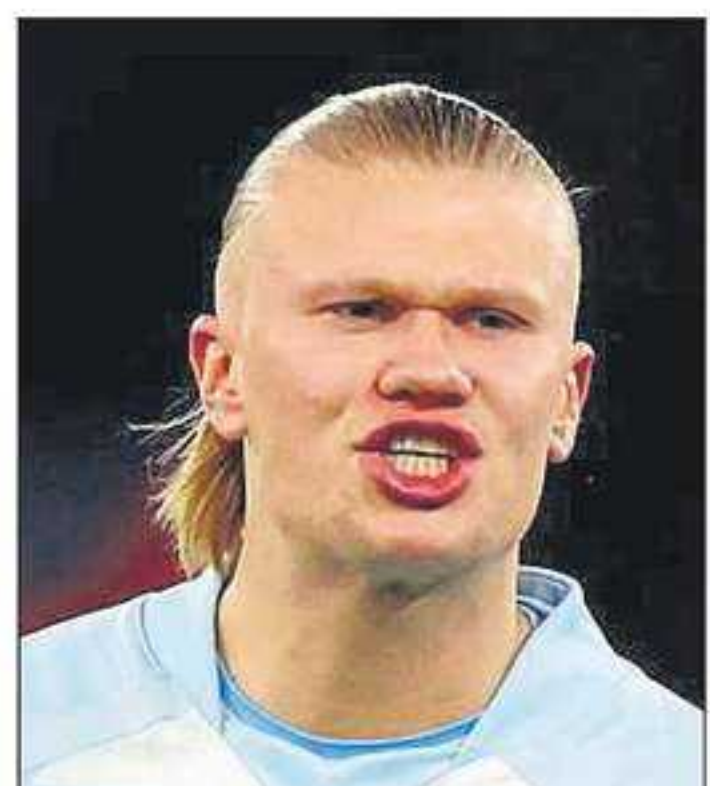
TEMPERATURE IN FOUR METROS

Delhi 26°C | 09°C

Mumbai 34°C | 21°C

Kolkata 30°C | 20°C

Chennai 33°C | 23°C



Erling Haaland. REUTERS

MADRID SNEAK INTO QUARTERS; CITY CRUISE PAST FC COPENHAGEN

Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

MADRID: Real Madrid scraped through to the Champions League quarter-finals with a 1-1 second-leg draw against RB Leipzig, progressing 2-1 on aggregate. In the other game, Manchester City cruised into a seventh consecutive Champions League quarter-final with a 3-1 win over FC Copenhagen to progress 6-2 on aggregate.

The record 14-time champions Madrid were far below their best but did just enough over the two legs to edge out their Bundesliga opponents. Despite Leipzig shading the game, Vinicius Jr opened the scoring in the 65th minute after being set up well by Jude Bellingham. Willi Orban quickly levelled for the visitors but they could not find a second goal to force extra-time at Santiago Bernabeu.

In Manchester, Pep Guardiola's boys were guided by goals from Manuel Akanji and Julian Alvarez that killed the tie inside 10 minutes before Erling Haaland drilled in his 29th goal of the season.

Mohamed Elyoungi briefly reduced the Danish champions deficit to 2-1 on the night, but Copenhagen were outclassed over two legs as the European champions remain on course for another treble. Guardiola showed he had one eye on Sunday's top-of-the-table clash at Liverpool as he made seven changes from the side that beat Manchester United at the weekend. Kevin De Bruyne, Phil Foden and Bernardo Silva were among those rested.

MI sail to 42-run win against UP Warriorz

Sandip Sikdar
sandip.sikdar@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Mumbai Indians were in trouble right from the start. Chamari Athapaththu (2/27) applied the brakes by removing openers Yastika Bhatia (9) and Hayley Matthews (4) early after Harmanpreet Kaur opted to bat after winning the toss on Thursday.

But the MI middle-order, led by Nat Sciver-Brunnt (45), dug deep and a brilliant bowling performance later in the game saw them beat UP Warriorz by 42 runs to make it four wins from six matches. As a result, the defending champions went level on points (8) with table toppers Delhi Capitals but DC have a game in hand. This was also the fifth match on the trot where the team batting first won.

MI were in more than a spot of bother at 17/2 but Sciver-Brunnt played a solid hand with skipper Harmanpreet (33) to stitch a 59-run partnership for the third wicket that steadied the ship. Spinners Sophie Ecclestone (4-0-30-0) and Deepti Sharma (1/31) didn't take many wickets but they kept MI's run rate in check. After Sciver-Brunnt and Kaur departed, Amanjot Kaur (7) to go out cheaply but the sixth-wicket pair of Amelia Kerr (39) and Sajejan Sajana (22 not out) struck some heavy blows in the death overs that guided Mumbai Indians to a challenging 160/6.

In response, the Warriorz didn't get off to a good start, losing three wickets for 15 runs by the start of the fifth over with skipper Alyssa Healy (3), Kiran Navgire (7) and Athapaththu (3) being dismissed cheaply. It took Australian Grace Harris (15), one of the best all-rounders in the world, 15 balls to get off the mark even if she did with a maximum.

The Warriorz batters were struggling to get the ball off the square and it wasn't until the ninth over that one of their batters reached double figures.

The chief reason for Warriorz's slow run-rate was South African fast bowler Shabnim Ismail, who on Tuesday had become the first woman to breach the 130kmph barrier when she delivered a 132.1kmph bullet against Delhi Capitals at the Ferozeshah Kotla.

Ismail, who retired from international cricket last year, was lethal with the ball, delivering match-winning figures of 4-0-6-1.

The required run-rate kept rising as none of the Warriorz batters were able to convert their starts into a big score. Shweta Sehrawat (17), Poonam Khemnar (7) and Sophie Ecclestone (0) were back in the dugout quickly as Sciver-Brunnt delivered with the ball too, picking up 2/4.

Deepti Sharma remained unbeaten on 53 but she didn't get much support from the other end as the Warriorz finished on 118/9 after 20 overs. Off-spinner Hayley Matthews (1/22), Saika Ishaque (3/27) and Pooja Vastrakar (1/8) were all among wickets as Warriorz succumbed to their fourth loss in six matches.

Brief scores: MI 160/6 (Nat Sciver-Brunnt 45, Harmanpreet Kaur 33, Amelia Kerr 39; Chamari Athapaththu 2/27), UPW 118/9 (Deepti Sharma 53; Ishaque Saika 3/27, Nat-Sciver Brunnt 2/14). **MI won by 42 runs.**

STANDINGS

Team	M	W	L	Pts	NRR
DC	5	4	1	8	1.301
MI	6	4	2	8	0.375
RCB	6	3	3	6	0.038
UPW	6	2	4	4	-0.435
GG	5	1	4	2	-1.278



Mumbai Indians' batter Nat Sciver-Brunnt on way to her 31-ball 45 during the WPL match against UP Warriorz on Thursday.

Wrestling trials to be held by ad hoc panel

Shruti Kakkar
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) undertook to withdraw its notice conducting selection trials for the Asian Wrestling Championships and Asian Olympics Qualifiers on March 10 and 11, after Delhi high court's nudge that there cannot be two parallel trials.

The court after taking note of WFI's undertaking directed that the trials will be held on March 10-11 in accordance with WFI's ad hoc committee's Feb 9 circular and all eligible candidates shall be allowed to participate.

"Let the trial by the ad hoc committee go on. Why parallel trials? At least the country will speak in a single voice. Instead of the country making a spectacle of itself, why don't you (WFI) bend for now? Keep your hands off and don't be a spoilt sport. We'll find a comprehensive solution..." a bench of justice Sachin Datta told advocate Dayanan Krishnan who appeared for WFI.

The court was dealing with a plea filed by four wrestlers including Bajrang Punia challenging WFI's Feb 26 notice, claiming that federation had deliberately issued the notice despite being barred by the union sports ministry from conducting events and having

Let the trial by the ad hoc committee go on. Why parallel trials? At least the country will speak in a single voice.

SACHIN DATTA, Delhi HC justice on wrestlers' plea

knowledge of WFI ad hoc committee's Feb 9 press release.

The plea also filed by Vinesh Phogat, Sakshi Malik and her husband Satyawart Kadian stated that ministry's Jan 7 notice was still in operation. To be sure, the ministry in the said notice while restraining WFI from conducting competitions had categorically stated that any championships organised by the suspended body would be treated as unsanctioned.

"It is submitted that unless Respondent No. 2 (WFI) is specifically restrained from conducting such events or issuing any such circulars it will continue to mislead, manipulate, influence, threaten and create undue and unnecessary adversities for the wrestlers. Two parallel national

championships shall result in utmost confusion and disparity among contesting athletes leading to multiple qualification entrants for the international governing bodies," the plea read.

On Thursday, senior advocate Dayanan Krishnan, had initially submitted that the United World Wrestling (UWW) would neither recognise a team not sent by the elected WFI, nor consider the participation of the wrestlers. He had also assured that the entire trials would be video-graphed and there would be a live telecast. Krishnan had further said that the plea wherein the wrestlers had also sought to declare WFI's Dec 21 elections as illegal was not maintainable since they had not made the successful candidates as parties.

The wrestlers appearing through advocate Rahul Mehra submitted that the trials conducted by suspended WFI would be in teeth of the National Sports Code, 2011.

While the union sports ministry appearing through standing counsel Anil Soni suggested that WFI as well as the WFI ad hoc committee should put forth dual suggestions regarding the trials. "Our prime concern is that those medalists should go under the national flag. Our third-party interference is limited," he said.

BAI announces rewards for Asian Games, Asian Team c'ship success

HT Correspondent
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Badminton Association of India (BAI) on Thursday announced a cash incentive of over ₹1.12 crore to the players and support staff for their success in major international tournaments including the Asian Games, Badminton Asia Team Championship (BATC) and World Junior Championships. The women's team that won

the BATC crown last month will get ₹35 lakh while 2022 Asian Games gold medalists Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty have been rewarded with ₹12 lakh.

HS Prannoy, who claimed a bronze in Hangzhou, will receive ₹5 lakh while the men's team that bagged the Asian Games silver for the first time will collectively get a sum of ₹40 lakh. The BAI has also rewarded

2023 BWF World Junior Championships bronze medalist Ayush Shetty (₹1 lakh), Badminton Asia Junior U-15 boys singles champion Borna Akash Chngmai (₹2 lakh), U-17 girls singles silver medalist Tanvi Sharma (₹1 lakh) and U-15 boys singles bronze medalist Jagsher Singh Khangurra (₹50,000).

The support staff accompanying the women's team at BATC and Asian Games men's team will also earn ₹8 lakh each.

Government of Odisha, e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) B-1896

Bid Identification No. C.C.E.DM.(R&B) 35/2023-24 Email Id: sedklpw@gmail.com
Letter No. 636 / Dt. 4.3.24 //

The Chief Construction Engineer, Dhenkanal (R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites Percentage Rate bids in double cover system to be received in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Building works as detailed below:

- Name of the work: Building works
- No. of works: 04 (Four) Nos
- Estimated Cost: Rs. 1.36 crore to Rs. 5.92 crore (as given in column No. 03 of table)
- Cost of tender paper: Rs. 10,000.00
- Class of contractor: 'B' & 'A' Class (as given in column No. 07 of table)
- Period of Completion of work: 05(Five) to 11 (Eleven) Calendar months (as given in column No. 08 of table)
- Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website: From Dt. 12.03.2024 to 5.00PM of Dt. 26.03.2024
- Date of opening of bid: Dt. 27.03.2024 at 11.30 A.M.

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal: www.tendersodisha.gov.in. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Engineer,
Dhenkanal (R & B) Circle, Dhenkanal
OIPR - 34132/11/0044/2324

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER ELECTRICAL CIRCLE (R&B), NIRMAL SOUDHA BHUBANESWAR B-1897

E-mail: sec.iber2019@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. S.E.C. (R&B) 36/2023-24
No. 855 / Date: 02.03.2024

The Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, Bhubaneswar on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bids in double cover system for E.I. work as detailed in the table given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Approximate Estimated cost put to	Cost of Bid Document	Bid Security	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion
1	Widening and Strengthening to Salpur-Ohatia Road from 0000Km to 27240Km such as shifting of 11 KV L.T. line, D/S from Barnaha to Bashiwar, Pani Gate at under Electrical Section, Raisinguda Salpur, Cutack.	Rs. 1,25,18,114.00 (Excluding GST)	Rs. 10,000.00 (Online)	Rs. 1,25,18,100 (Online)	HT	3 (three) Calendar Months

Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal / online: - From dt. 11.03.2024 at 05.00 P.M. to dt. 26.03.2024 up to 05.00 P.M.
Date of Opening: - dt. 27.03.2024 at 11.30 A.M.
Name and address of officer inviting Bid: - Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R&B) Odisha, BBSR. Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>

Superintending Engineer, Electrical Circle (R & B), Odisha, BBSR
OIPR - 34006/11/0051/2324

Office of the Superintending Engineer
5th E/M Circle P.W.D. Haldwani (Nainital)
Website: <http://pwd.uk.gov.in> Te./Fax: 05946-220782
E-mail: seemhd.pwduk@gov.in

Tender Notice No. 491/18C-B-05/23-24 Date: 06.03.2024

National Competitive Bidding (e-tender)

The Superintending Engineer, 5th E/M Circle, PWD, Haldwani on behalf of "Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand" invites online tender for the following work in two bid system. The Bid Documents will be available online at website <https://uktenders.gov.in> from 26-03-2024 after 05:00 P.M.

S. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Tender	Time of Completion	Tender Cost	Category of Registration
1	Facade Illumination Work of Thandi Sadak Nainital.	15,50,000.00	120 Days	05 Months	Cost of Tender Rs. 5000.00 and 18% GST Extra	"A" Class Electrical Contractor Registered in Center Govt. / State Govt. or their Undertakings

Superintending Engineer
5th E/M Circle P.W.D. Haldwani (Nainital)

WATCO
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WATCO
Ground Floor, Unnati Bhawan, H.B. Colony, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar-751007, Odisha, India
Telefax: +91-674-2391444 / E-mail: ceowatcodisha@gmail.com / md@watcodisha.in

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)
Bid Identification No. WATCO (W) - 47/2023-24 Dtd.01.03.2024
WATCO No. 1516 Date: 01.03.2024

- Name of the work: Infrastructure Development and construction of ESR for Water Supply System
- No. of works: 08(Eight) Nos
- Estimated cost: Rs.234.60 Lakh to Rs. 947.47Lakh
- Cost of Tender Paper: Rs 11800.00 (18% GST Included)
- Class of Contractor: "A", "B" and "Special"
- Period of Completion of work: 06(Six) months to 12(Twelve) months
- Date & time of availability of bid document: From Dt. 07.03.2024 to 5.00 PM of 21.03.2024 in the website
- Date & time of opening of technical bids: -12.30 PM of 22.03.2024
- Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid: CEO, WATCO, Telefax: -0674-2391444
- E-Mail: ceowatcodisha@gmail.com / md@watcodisha.in
- The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only.
- Further details can be seen from the web site www.tendersodisha.gov.in

(CEO)
WATCO
OIPR - 13194/11/0090/2324

महाराष्ट्र शासन
सार्वजनिक बांधकाम (आदिवासी) विभाग नाशिक
WEBSITE: <https://mahatenders.gov.in>
ई-निविदा क्र. ६१ सन २०२३-२०२४

ई निविदा क्रमांक	कामाचे नाव	कामाची अंदाजित किंमत
१	शासकीय आदिवासी आश्रमशाळा खेड ता. इगतपुरी जि. नाशिक येथे पेव्हर ब्लॉक बसविणे व पाण्याची टाकी बसविणे	₹५४२८५९/-
२	शासकीय आदिवासी आश्रमशाळा निगाडोळ ता. दिंडोरी जि. नाशिक येथे संरक्षक भिंतीची दुरुस्ती करणे	₹२५४४०९/-
३	शासकीय आदिवासी आश्रमशाळा देवसाने ता. दिंडोरी जि. नाशिक येथे संरक्षक भिंतीची दुरुस्ती करणे	₹०८९३९५०/-
४	शासकीय आदिवासी आश्रमशाळा निफाड ता. निफाड जि. नाशिक येथे संरक्षक भिंतीची दुरुस्ती करणे	₹३२९६०८५/-

डाऊनलोड करण्याचा कालावधी दिनांक ०८/०३/२०२४ वेळ १०.०० पासून ते दिनांक १५/०३/२०२४ वेळ १७.५५ पर्यंत निविदा पूर्ण बैठक - (शुक्रवाळीस) Online किंवा Offline आयोजित करण्यात येईल. ई निविदा उघडण्याचा कालावधी दिनांक १८/०३/२०२४ वेळ ११.०० (शुक्रवाळीस) सर्व पात्र/ईच्छुक निविदाकारांनी निविदापत्रक डाऊनलोड करण्यासाठी व निविदा प्रक्रियेत भाग घेण्यासाठी ई निविदा प्रणालीचा <https://mahatenders.gov.in> या पॉर्टलवर enrolled करणे आवश्यक आहे.

जा.क्र. लेखा/निविदा/१५१९/सन-२०२४
कार्यकारी अभियंता, सा.बां. (आदिवासी) विभाग नाशिक जि. नाशिक यांचे कार्यालय दिनांक - ५/३/२०२४
R0C-2023-24/No.5/C9429

स्वा/-
(एस. एस. सांगळे)
कार्यकारी अभियंता
सा.बां. (आदिवासी) विभाग नाशिक

बिहार सरकार
नगर विकास एवं आवास विभाग

Re-Tender Request for Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Agency for Customization, Development, Implementation and Maintenance of Integrated E-Governance solution using Platform for Delivery of Online Governance (UPOYG) across all Urban Local Bodies of Bihar under National Urban Digital Mission (NUMD).

NOTICE INVITING TENDER Request for Proposal

- Urban Development & Housing Department, Government of Bihar invites Re-Tenders for Appointment of Consultancy Agency for Selection of Agency for Customization, Development, Implementation and Maintenance of Integrated E-Governance solution using Platform for Delivery of Online Governance (UPOYG) across all Urban Local Bodies of Bihar under National Urban Digital Mission (NUMD).
- Interested Consultancy Firms may download the complete Request for Proposal (RFP) Document, from website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> or <https://state.bihar.gov.in/urban>.

SN	PARTICULARS	DETAILS
1	Website for submission of proposal	www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in/
2	Mode of Submission	Online submission through eproc2 portal (www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and at the same time submission of Hard copies at UD & HO office
3	Last date and time for Submission of Technical & Financial proposal on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in	01-04-2024 up to 07:00 PM
4	Last date and time for Submission of Hard Copies (along with Technical Bid with payment proof and original copy of affidavit/Black listing form) for RFP document, EMD and affidavits will submit in hard copy (Only Technical proposal to be submitted Non financial Proposal)	03-04-2024 up to 03:00 PM Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar, 1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan, New Secretariat, Patna - 800015
5	Date and time of opening of Technical Bids	03-04-2024 at 03:30 PM
6	Date and time of opening of Financial Proposal	Will be intimated later to successful bidders
7	Method of Selection	Quality cum Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method with a weight age Technical 70% and Financial 30%

- Agencies/ Firms may download the complete Request for Proposal (RFP) Document, from website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> or <https://state.bihar.gov.in/urban>.
- For participating in e-RFP process, the applicant shall have to get them registered to get user ID Password and digital Signature. This will enable them to access the website-www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and participate in e-tender. Those who are not registered in e-tendering systems, they may contact "e-procurement HELPDESH, Mjunction Services Limited, RJC Complex, 2nd Floor, Canara Bank Campus, Khajpura, Ashiana Road, P.S.-Shastri Nagar, Patna - 800014." (Toll Free Number: 18005726571, Email: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in) for registration.

For further details please visit: www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar

Additional Secretary
PR. No. 019267 (URBAN) 2023-24 Urban Development and Housing Department
नगरो से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड
कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियन्ता, पुराना डीजल पावर हाउस, शीशमल निकट सेंट्रल स्कूल के सामने नैनीताल रोड काठगोदाम, हल्द्वानी (नैनीताल), पिन नं. 263139

पत्रांक: 729/वि.वि.म.(ह.) दिनांक: 07.03.2024

क्र. सं.	ई निविदा संख्या	कार्य का विवरण	निविदा प्रमाण मूल की एस्टीमेटेड राशि (₹) (रुपय)	एस्टीमेटेड राशि (₹) (रुपय)	ई निविदा क्रय करने में अंतिम तिथि पर समय	ई निविदा प्रमाण की तिथि एवं समय
1.	ई-निविदा 103/2023-24	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड समनगर के अन्तर्गत 250, 400 व 500 केवोल्ट के परिदरको पर एसीसी स्थापित करने का कार्य मय विद्येन्दीकृत सामग्री सहित निविदा विधिदि के अनुसार।	11800.00	3,52,000.00	22/03/2024 (17:00 बजे तक)	23/03/2024 (12:00 बजे तक)
2.	ई-निविदा 104/2023-24	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड समनगर के अन्तर्गत उपस्थान कोटाबाग व कास्तादीही सहित निकलने वाले 11 केवी पोल्सों पर सोपित 63 व 100 केवीए परिवर्तकों पर MCCB स्थापित करने का कार्य मय विद्येन्दीकृत सामग्री सहित निविदा विधिदि के अनुसार।	11800.00	3,78,000.00	22/03/2024 (17:00 बजे तक)	23/03/2024 (12:00 बजे तक)
3.	ई-निविदा 105/2023-24	विद्युत वितरण खण्ड समनगर के अन्तर्गत 33/11 केवी उपस्थान कोटाबाग व कास्तादीही सहित निकलने वाले 11 केवी पोल्सों पर सोपित 63 व 100 केवीए परिवर्तकों पर MCCB स्थापित करने का कार्य मय विद्येन्दीकृत सामग्री सहित निविदा विधिदि के अनुसार।	11800.00	2,48,000.00	22/03/2024 (17:00 बजे तक)	23/03/2024 (12:00 बजे तक)

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Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No. SB/23-24 of CEBM, SBB, Laxmiposi

- Name of Work: A. Improvement to Left Main canal, Distributaries and minors of Balaha Irrigation Canal System (Reseccioning and C.C lining). B. Reseccioning and C.C lining including renovation of Old structures of Right main canal under Balaha Irrigation Canal System.
- Estimated Cost: A. Rs. 808.32 lakhs B. Rs. 777.23 lakhs
- Bid Security/ E.M.D.: A. Rs 8,08,400/- B. Rs 7,77,300/-
- Period of Completion: For S.I. No. A&B - 18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months
- Class of Contractor: For S.I. No. A & B - "A" Class and "Special" Class
- Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal: 11.03.2024 at 10:00 AM
- Last date/time for receipt of bid in the portal: 30.03.2024 up to 5:00 PM
- Date of opening of bid: 02.04.2024 at 11:00 A.M.
- Name & Address of the O.I.T: Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, O/O the CE&M, Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal <https://tendersodisha.gov.in>

Chief Engineer & Basin Manager
Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin,
Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj
OIPR - 32429/11/0024/2324



R Ashwin pushes Kuldeep Yadav to lead the team out after India dismissed England for 218 on Day 1 of the fifth Test in Dharamsala on Thursday. PTI

Kuldeep spins web around England, India take control

This isn't the first sublime spell that the wrist spinner has delivered over the past few weeks, but it was his first fifer of the ongoing series

Vivek Krishnan

vivek.krishnan@hindustantimes.com

DHARAMSALA: Was it the googly to Ollie Pope that left him hopelessly stranded a few metres down the pitch? Was it the confluence of flight and drift that invited a drive from Zak Crawley only to turn back sharply and hit leg stump? Or was it the classic two-card trick that bamboozled Ben Stokes?

Take your pick because Kuldeep Yadav produced an exhibition of left-arm wrist spin on Thursday. It was a display that simply took your breath away and left England searching for answers — they were shot out for 218 in 57.4 overs — after winning the toss and batting on a pitch that Stokes had described as a "belter" on the eve of the fifth Test.

The description of the surface wasn't inaccurate, India sauntering to 135/1 at a run rate of 4.5. Yashasvi Jaiswal was the lone Indian wicket to fall but not before he became only the second Indian after Sunil Gavaskar to surpass the 700-run tally in a series.

This isn't the first sublime spell that Kuldeep has delivered over the past few weeks, but it was his first five-wicket haul of the series — his spell of 15-1-72-5 was only interrupted by the lunch interval. The reward was richly deserved for a bowler who has had to bide his time in R Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja's shadow. To think that Kuldeep — he took a four-wicket haul on debut against Australia at this venue in 2017 — may not have played here if India had opted for three seamers seems astounding now. But it was perhaps contemplated going by Rohit Sharma's pre-match media interaction.

The first hour of play on Thursday morning did suggest that India may be a seamer short; there's always lateral movement in this part of the world at this time of the year. The cold conditions even as the stadium basked in mild sunshine — a relief after the rain forecast earlier in the

week — were ripe for Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj to exploit. They did too, repeatedly beating the outside edges of Crawley and Ben Duckett.

That England did not lose a wicket till 10.58AM was largely down to good fortune, a prerequisite perhaps for batters in such conditions against high-quality swing bowling. Among the many plays and misses was a peach by Bumrah in the seventh over that was perhaps too good to nick. The ball started on leg stump and swung away a touch, completely squaring up Crawley who was shaping to play on the leg side.

With India only playing two seamers though, they had to turn to spin soon. Ashwin, who was felicitated before play on the occasion of his 100th Test, was given first crack, but it was Kuldeep who weaved magic with his wide repertoire. Off the last ball of his opening over, he had the left-handed Duckett falling prey to a tossed-up delivery. Where Duckett erred is in looking to play a big shot on the leg side, getting a leading edge that Shubman Gill turned and ran back around 20 yards from short cover to hold onto.

Pope was Kuldeep's next victim off what turned out to be the

last ball before lunch. Never mind the match-turning 196 in the first Test in Hyderabad, Pope is a fidgety starter who looks all at sea against spin early on. Dhruv Jurel, just into his third Test, seemed to gauge Pope's nervy footwork. "Badega aage (he will step down)," Jurel was heard telling the spinner on the stump mic. And next ball, Kuldeep produced a wrong 'un that promptly caught Pope in no man's land for Jurel to complete an easy stumping.

For a brief period, Crawley, aided by his long reach and fairly decisive footwork, was proving to be the thorn in India's flesh. Even when Bumrah and Siraj kept beating his bat with the new ball, the opener had seldom missed an opportunity to plonk his front foot forward and play flowing drives for boundaries. That Rohit Sharma didn't challenge the umpire's decision when a thin inside edge by Crawley (on 61) off Kuldeep was caught by Sarfaraz Khan at short leg immediately after lunch could have proved costly on another day.

Not with Kuldeep in this rhythm though. In the 38th over, a ripper that entailed generous loop, deadly drift and prodigious spin ensured Crawley wouldn't

convert his fourth half-century of the series into a three-figure score.

Soon enough, a familiar pattern of England's batters falling in a heap against spin played out as Jonny Bairstow, Joe Root and Stokes fell in three successive overs. Both Bairstow and Stokes were done in by Kuldeep's googlies, the former nicking behind and the England captain getting caught plumb in front. That Kuldeep had produced a sharp-turning leg break off the previous ball seemed to entrap Stokes, just as Root succumbed to a straighter delivery by Jadeja after playing and missing a ball that spun. Kuldeep's wickets were a clear indication that England's batters simply aren't picking him off the hand.

Ashwin couldn't be kept away from the action either. While his first spell of six overs didn't yield a breakthrough, he ran through the lower order to end with four wickets.

That Ashwin, on his special day, allowed Kuldeep to grab the ball as a souvenir aptly underlined the latter's contribution. It was perhaps also symbolic of the senior spinner having to soon pass on the baton, a responsibility that Kuldeep seems ready for.

Test cricket is what life is, Ashwin tells India's future

Vivek Krishnan

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DHARAMSALA: On winter mornings at Dharamsala's HPCA Stadium, it can be hard to take your eyes off the snow-capped terrain and pay attention to proceedings on the field.

On Thursday, however, the poignancy of R Ashwin being felicitated for his 100th Test on the outfield before the start of play, and the rousing speeches by the off-spinner and coach Rahul Dravid, meant that marvelling at the beautiful backdrop had to wait.

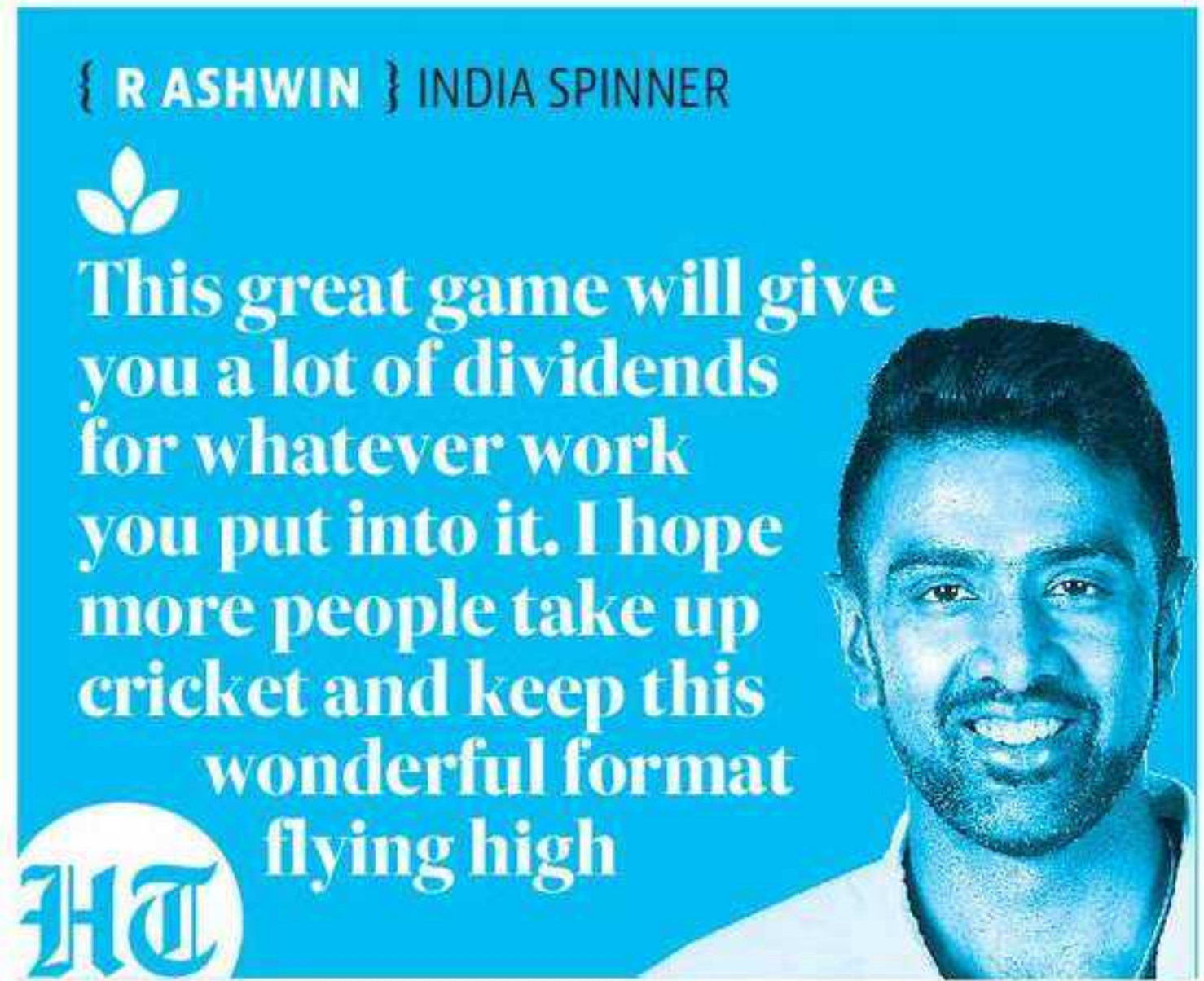
This was essential viewing for fans as well as young and aspiring cricketers, for two men who epitomise the values of Test cricket were taking centre stage to talk about the format's primacy.

Once Dravid presented a special cap to Ashwin to mark the occasion, the 37-year-old, flanked by his wife, two daughters and teammates, went on to thank his family members for their sacrifices before passing on a very important message at a time when there's increasing worry about T20s overshadowing Test cricket.

"I would like to tell something to the entire cricketing fraternity in our country," said Ashwin, his voice choked with emotion. "The IPL has been a hugely popular tournament. A lot of kids want to play T20 cricket, want to get into the IPL. I do really wish them well and hope they get there."

"But remember one thing, this format that we are proudly playing teaches you a lot of things that life wouldn't teach you. Test cricket is what life is. It is the closest synergy that you can find to life. It teaches you adaptability, dealing with pressure, so on and so forth. I can go on for weeks. All those things will keep you in great stead if you decide to go all the way in this game."

"This great game will give you a lot of dividends for whatever work you put into it. I really hope a lot more people take up this sport and keep this wonderful format flying high."



SCORECARD

England 1st innings	
Z Crawley b Yadav	79
B Duckett c Gill b Yadav	27
O Pope st Jurel b Yadav	11
J Root lbw b Jadeja	26
J Bairstow c Jurel b Yadav	29
B Stokes lbw b Yadav	0
B Foakes b Ashwin	24
T Hartley c Padikkal b Ashwin	6
M Wood c Rohit b Ashwin	0
S Bashir not out	11
J Anderson c Padikkal b Ashwin	0
Extras (b2, lb1, nb2)	5
Total (all out, 57.4 overs)	218
FOW: 1-64, 2-100, 3-137, 4-175, 5-175, 6-175, 7-183, 8-183, 9-218	
Bowling: Bumrah 13-2-51-0 (nb2), Siraj 8-1-24-0, Ashwin 11.4-1-51-4, Yadav 15-1-72-5, Jadeja 10-2-17-1	
India 1st innings	
Y Jaiswal st Foakes b Bashir	57
R Sharma batting	52
S Gill batting	26
Extras	0
Total (1 wkt, 30 ovs)	135
FOW: 1-104	
Bowling: Anderson 4-1-4-0, Wood 3-0-21-0, Hartley 12-0-46-0, Bashir 11-2-64-1	

carry extra weight given that he didn't allow the T20 arc light to sidetrack him from his ultimate goal of excelling in Tests.

Dravid, who was playing his 157th Test when Ashwin featured in his first against West Indies in Delhi in 2011, has observed the off-spinner's journey as a senior teammate and now as a coach. By heaping lavish praise on Ashwin, Dravid was also underlining the qualities that go into the making of a great Test cricketer.

"People use the word 'great' too easily. Greatness is consistency over time. It comes from practice, it comes from constantly making changes, it comes from sacrifice, it comes from stubbornness, it comes from constantly evolving, growing, learning. It comes from giving everything that you have to a team and giving everything you have to a craft."

"And Ash, because you have faithfully done all of these things, you have arrived at a truly great place — your 100th Test. I know I speak on behalf of this whole team when I say this is a very popular and well-deserved achievement. It's been a privilege to have played cricket with you, it's been a privilege to have worked with you as a coach and it's a privilege to hand over this cap to you. Very well done," said Dravid.

While Ashwin had gone through the grind of first-class cricket in his formative years with Tamil Nadu, it was his stint with Chennai Super Kings (CSK) in IPL that had propelled him to prominence. His words should

Sindhu in quarters, Srikanth bows out

PARIS: PV Sindhu rallied to a three-game win over USA's Beiwen Zhang to advance to the quarter-finals but it was curtains for Kidambi Srikanth at the French Open. Sindhu beat world No. 10 Zhang 13-21, 21-10, 21-14. Srikanth once again hit a roadblock, this time against Guang Zu to lose 21-19, 12-21, 20-22.

Gukesh wins, Praggnanandhao draws with Bartel

PRAGUE: D Gukesh beat Vincent Keymer in the eighth round of Prague Masters Chess. R Praggnanandhao was held to a draw by Mateusz Bartel of Poland. Nodirbek Abdusattorov's winning run continued as he crashed through the defences of Parham Maghsoodloo of Iran to win the title.

SA's Erasmus to end umpiring career

DUBAI: South Africa's Marais Erasmus will retire from international umpiring after officiating in the second and final Test between New Zealand and Australia in Christchurch starting on Friday. The 60-year-old, whose career as an umpire began in 2006, on Thursday announced his decision.

Sunny finally has some company

Vivek Krishnan

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DHARAMSALA: A wristy flick against Shoaib Bashir's flighted off-break raced to the midwicket boundary and took Yashasvi Jaiswal to 46 runs. The moment passed by quietly but a significant milestone was achieved nonetheless with that lovely shot against the turn — Jaiswal's run tally for this series reached 701.

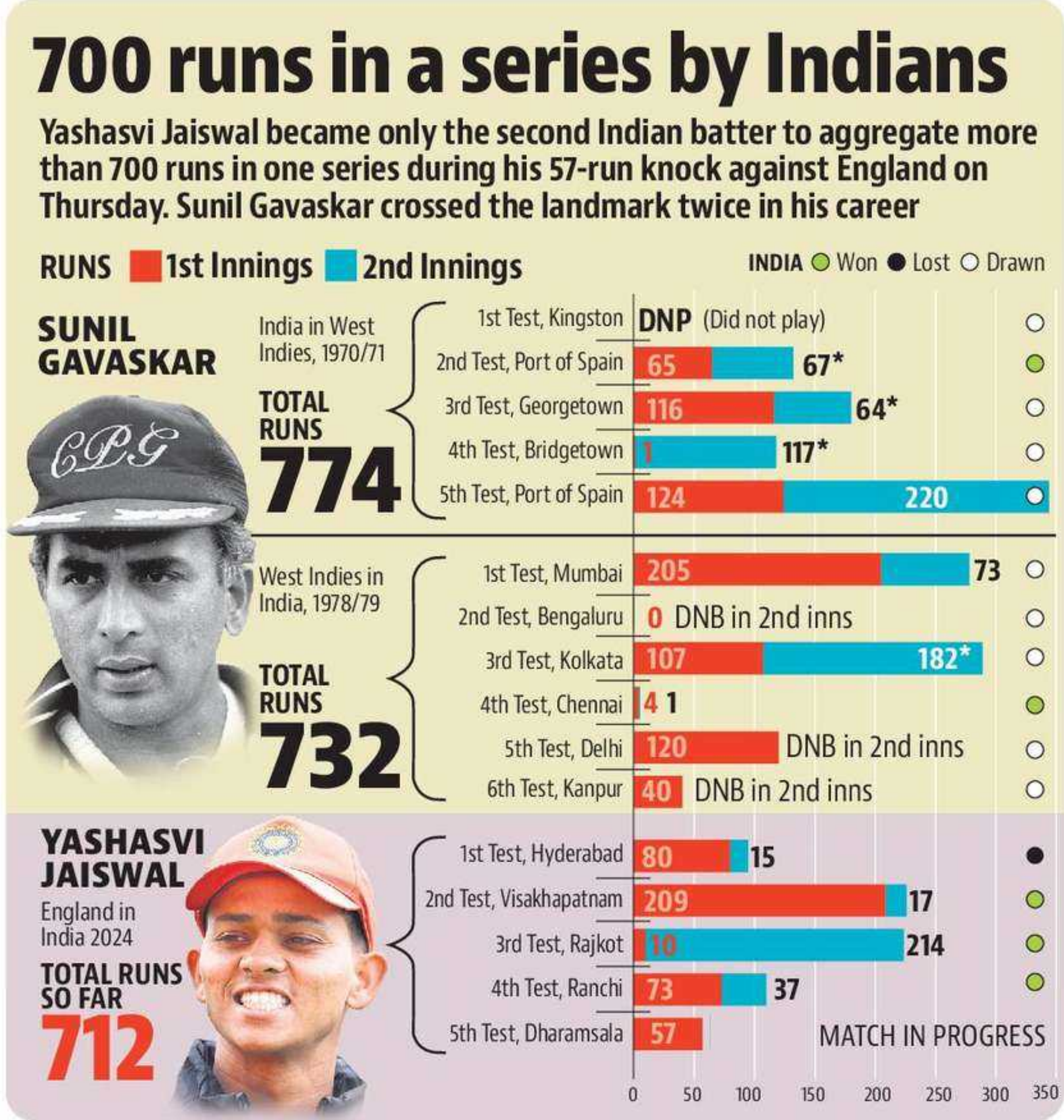
Before Thursday, Sunil Gavaskar, incidentally in the commentary box at HPCA Stadium, was the only Indian to have amassed 700-plus runs in a Test series — he did it twice against West Indies (1971 and 1978-79). On day one of this fifth and final Test, Jaiswal also became the fastest Indian to 1000 Test runs (in terms of matches, having played 9 Tests), eclipsing a record belonging to Gavaskar and Cheteshwar Pujara (11 Tests each). In terms of innings, only Vinod Kambli (14 innings) has got to 1000 faster than Jaiswal's 16.

A look at the list of 25 batters who have reached the 700-run mark in a series shows that luck doesn't play a role here. From Don Bradman's table-topping 974 runs to Viv Richards's 829 — the names speak of quality, class and the rare ability to make a series their own.

Each member of this elite group has had a great impact on the sport as a whole and India will hope Jaiswal manages to keep the tradition going.

The ease with which Jaiswal, 22, peppered the boundary on Thursday was in sync with the oomph he has exhibited all through the home series. Yes, a rush of young blood eventually resulted in Jaiswal's stumping off Bashir after making a breezy 58-ball 57, but these are minor concerns about a left-handed batter who there's a lot to like about.

Again in his innings on Thursday, what came through was the



clarity about his template. Not until the eighth over did Jaiswal hit a boundary, moving along steadily to six runs off 25 balls even as Rohit Sharma got the scoreboard moving with a few sumptuous strokes.

But once Bashir was brought on, Jaiswal was able to flick the switch ever so quickly and hit the rookie off-spinner for three sixes in an over.

Jaiswal's six-hitting prowess is worth harping on. In nine Tests, he has already smashed 29 sixes, showing a fearless propensity to

take the aerial route. It's a skill he has honed by playing in the IPL, where he has ownership of the record for the fastest fifty (13 balls) in addition to a turbo-charged 124 off 62 balls. As Rajasthan Royals' high-performance director Zubin Bharucha said recently, Jaiswal has spent many hours working on his power-hitting game.

Instead of limiting these shots to the shortest version, Jaiswal is using them to equally devastating effect in white flannels too. Recall his merciless assault

against James Anderson in Rajkot, when he showed scant regard for a bowler almost twice his age by dispatching a weary red ball over backward square leg, deep cover and down the ground for three straight sixes.

That Jaiswal — a Gen-Z graduate of the famed Mumbai school of batting — should have such a productive series in the infancy of his Test career also speaks volumes about his appetite. His booming drives and big shots are eye-catching, but don't underestimate his ability to concentrate

for long hours. If he didn't have that, he wouldn't have been able to register three scores of 150-plus in nine Tests including two double centuries in this series. In his maiden Test innings against West Indies in the Caribbean, he consumed 387 balls to make 171 while spending a little more than eight hours at the crease.

In this series too, examples are available of the various gears that Jaiswal can operate at. The first innings of the Ranchi Test is a case in point. On a day two surface where the ball was keeping low now and then, he was able to temper his flair for a 117-ball 73 and play a big part in whittling down the deficit.

While Ben Duckett made the pompous claim that Jaiswal may have been inspired by England's batters on his way to a double century in Rajkot, it is the young Indian opener that the visitors can glean lessons from. It could be that Duckett was being tongue-in-cheek, but Nasser Hussain, a former England captain, provided the appropriate riposte.

"He (Jaiswal) has not learnt from you. He's learnt from his upbringing, all the hard yards he had to put in growing up. If anything, lads, look at him and learn from him. I hope there's a little bit of self-inspection going on. Otherwise it becomes a cult, and at times Bazball and this regime has been described as such, where you cannot criticise within or externally," Hussain had said on Sky Sports after the Rajkot Test.

Jaiswal, of course, will face tougher challenges away from home, starting later this year when India tour Australia for a five-match series. The series against South Africa two months ago was already an early reality check as Jaiswal managed only 50 runs across four innings on green pitches. That shouldn't dim the excitement though about a precocious talent already setting high benchmarks.

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