BENNETT, COLEMAN & CO. LTD. | Estd. MDCCCXXXVIII | VOL. 75 NO. 56 | NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024 PAGES 30 | CAPITAL | **INVITATION PRICE** ₹5.50; *₹9.50 WITH ET OR ₹10.00 (₹8.50 IN FARIDABAD EDITION) WITH NAVBHARAT TIMES

THE TIMES OF INDIA

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) | *APPLICABLE ONLY ON MONTHLY PURCHASE (IN DELHI NCR)

Trump can stay on Colorado primary ballot, says US SC

The Supreme Court on Monday unanimously restored Donald Trump to 2024 presidential primary ballots, rejecting state attempts to ban the Republican former president over the US Capitol riot. It reversed Colorado's exclusion of him from its ballot. P 19

France nod: Abortion is constitutional right

French parliament Monday voted to anchor the right to abortion in the constitution, making France the first country in the world to offer protection for terminating a pregnancy in its basic law. A congress of both Houses obtained 3/5ths supermajority needed for the change. P 19

Spaniard rape: ₹10L given to spouse

Jharkhand HC took suo motu cognisance and issued notices to authorities Monday regarding the alleged gang rape of a Spanish woman. District authorities provided a cheque of Rs 10 lakh to her husband. P 15

Rathee murder: Shooters held in Goa

In a breakthrough in INLD leader Nafe Singh Rathee's murder case, two shooters have been arrested from a Goa resort. Joint teams of Delhi & Haryana police tracked down the two henchmen of UK-based gangster Sangwan. P 2

Pak slogan in K'taka House: 3 arrested

Bengaluru police made three arrests Monday in connection with alleged shouting of pro-Pak slogans in Vidhana Soudha during victory celebrations of Congress candidate Syed Nazeer Hussain after the RS polls. P 11

RBI bars IIFL from giving gold loans

RBI on Monday ordered non-bank finance company IIFL Finance to stop sanctioning, disbursing and selling gold loans with immediate effect, citing "material supervisory concerns" in its gold loan portfolio. P 21

EU fines Apple nearly $2bn over music row

The EU levelled its first antitrust penalty against Apple on Monday, fining the US tech giant nearly $2 bn for unfairly favouring its own music streaming service by forbidding rivals like Spotify. P 19

Beijing inks pact for military aid to Male

China Monday signed a defence cooperation agreement with Maldives to provide free military aid to foster "stronger" bilateral ties, weeks after President Muizzu set a deadline for the withdrawal of Indian troops. P 19

Tata Motors to be split into 2 cos

Tata Motors is looking to split its passenger and commercial vehicles businesses into two listed companies, the company said in a filing Monday. The plan is subject to approvals that might take up to 15 months. P 21

3 Red Sea cables cut; Tata part of one line

Three Red Sea underwater cables providing internet and telecom around the world have been cut; Houthis have denied any role in it. Tata Communications, part of one line, said it has intitated immediate action. P 19

No immunity for MPs/MLAs in bribe-for-vote, says SC

Reverses 1998 Order, Applies To Queries Too

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New Delhi: Shattering a 26-year-old shield from prosecution available to MPs and MLAs who took bribes to vote or ask questions in Parliament and assemblies, Supreme Court on Monday ruled that bribe-taking elected representatives would face the rigour of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Constitutional immunity attached to their speech and vote in a House does not extend to protecting illegal acts, it said.

A seven-judge bench of Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud and Justices A S Bopanna, M M Sundresh, P S Narasimha, J B Pardiwala, Sanjay Kumar and Manoj Misra unanimously reversed the April 17, 1998 ruling of a 5-judge bench in the P V Narasimha Rao case. By a 3:2 majority, it granted immunity from prosecution to legislators who voted in Parliament or assemblies in consideration of bribes.

> It **doesn't matter whether vote is cast in the agreed direction or if vote is cast at all.** Offence of bribery is complete at the point in time when legislator accepts bribe
>
> There is no dispute with the proposition that **elections to Rajya Sabha are not part of law-making functions** and do not take place during a sitting of the House. However, the text of Article 194 (conferring freedom of speech and immunities to legislators) **consciously uses the term 'legislature' instead of 'House' to include parliamentary processes which do not necessarily take place on the floor of the House** or involve 'law-making'...
>
> Houses of Parliament or legislatures...are not islands...shielding those inside... Lawmakers are **subject to the same law the law-making body enacts** for the people it governs — SC bench

▶ EDIT: Quid Pro (Many) Quos

▶Offence of bribery, P 22

IN THE COURTS

- **Decide within 8 weeks plea for puja of Gyanvapi 'shivling',** HC tells lower court even as KVT trust seeks repair of mosque's cellar roof | P 14
- Cash-for-query case: Delhi HC **junks petition of TMC's Mahua Moitra** to restrain BJP MP Dubey and advocate Dehadrai | P 14
- Orissa HC annuls 2019 election of Cong MLA Mohd Moquim for **failing to declare 13 criminal cases against him**
- SC allows AAP **time till June 15 to vacate its Rouse Avenue office** given LS poll needs | P 2
- Delhi court acquits 3 men, says **woman to face perjury case for false claim of kidnap and rape** against them | P 8
- **Gross, not net salary, key while computing maintenance amount** to be paid by husband seeking divorce: K'taka HC | P 14
- Delhi HC flags **stray dog** menace, says they are **turning territorial & attacking all** | P 7
- Bombay HC: **Co-promoter also liable to pay refund** if possession of flat delayed | P 14

SC: Privileges tied to working of House

MPs and MLAs can only claim privileges and immunities "tethered to collective functioning of the House", SC ruled. A wider interpretation would create a class of citizens enjoying "unchecked exemption" from law, it said. P 11

Sita Soren in trouble for 2012 RS vote

Elections for president, vice-president & Rajya Sabha are part of functioning of Parliament or assemblies, SC ruled. JMM MLA Sita Soren, booked for accepting bribe in 2012 Rajya Sabha elections, can be prosecuted, it held. P 11

Delhi budget hands out ₹1,000 monthly aid to city women

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Setting the stage for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections and assembly polls next year, AAP govt on Monday announced in its 10th budget a monthly aid of Rs 1,000 to the capital's women for "empowering" them.

▶Himachal to give ₹1,500 per month to women, P 12

Finance minister Atishi said 'Mukyamantri Mahila Samman Yojna' will ensure women in Delhi will not have to seek money from their brothers or fathers for miscellaneous expenses. **The scheme will not apply to govt employees, taxpayers and beneficiaries of any govt pension plan.**

There are over 67L women voters in the city, and the scheme will benefit 45-50L.

EDU SHARE 22%

- **EDUCATION** At ₹16.4k cr, highest share (22%) of budget. Entrepreneurship devpt prog, better sports facilities, construction of new schools, classrooms proposed
- **HEALTH** Allocation decreased. Completion of 11 under-const hosps, free healthcare services through Delhi Arogya Kosh
- **EMPLOYMENT** Biz Blasters Senior scheme in univs, govt to invest ₹15cr in startups
- **POWER** Govt targets prodn of 4,500MW energy through rooftop solar plants by 2027
- **URBAN INFRA** ₹902cr for unauthorised colonies

▶10-yr achievements, P 6

CM skips 8th ED summons; 'ready for video-con'

Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal on Monday skipped the ED's eighth summons for questioning in the excise policy case, saying he is ready to appear for interrogation through video conferencing after March 12 and is open to public viewing of the proceedings.

Sources aware of the proceedings, however, said there is no such option (of virtual appearance) available to a suspect or an accused facing serious laundering charges unless there is ground of infirmity or disability. P 2

Cong manifesto may vow 'right to apprenticeship'

Accusing PM Modi of "lacking the intent to provide jobs to the youth", Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said if voted to office, **INDIA bloc will fill around 10 lakh vacancies that have piled up in central govt depts in last 10 years.**

Congress is likely to announce this promise in its 2024 manifesto. Seeking to amplify the jobs plank, Congress is likely to promise "right to apprenticeship" for the youth. It would make preparations for vocational education in the system, that would be followed by stints with private and govt companies. P 12

Extend electoral bonds info deadline from March 6 to June 30, SBI asks SC

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New Delhi: State Bank of India, sole issuing authority of electoral bonds till Supreme Court scrapped the scheme on Feb 15, has cited "practical difficulties" related to decoding of bonds while seeking extension of SC's March 6 deadline till June 30 for furnishing details to Election Commission for publication on its website.

A five-judge bench had unanimously struck down 2018's scheme for anonymous limitless donations to political parties as unconstitutional and put in place a mechanism to reveal in public domain complete details of donors, donation amounts and recipient parties to enable voters make an informed choice during elections.

'COMPLEX PROCESS'

- On Feb 15, SC annulled electoral bonds scheme for political funding, asked SBI to furnish details by March 6
- Due to strict steps taken to ensure donor's identity is kept anonymous, **'decoding' electoral bonds and matching donors to donations** is a complex exercise, SBI tells SC
- 2 different silos of info mean a total of **44,434 sets will have to be decoded, compiled, compared,** SBI says

If apex court accepts SBI's application seeking extension of time by 116 days, vital information about political funding will remain secret till Lok Sabha polls end.

▶22k poll bonds, P 22

HC seeks govt's stand on French journo's plea

Delhi high court on Monday issued notice to the Centre on a plea by French journalist Vanessa Dougnac who said she was being denied permission to carry out "journalistic activities" in India. A single-judge bench sought govt's response through Union ministries of home and external affairs within a week. The matter would be heard on March 12. P 14

SC: Stalin Jr's Sanatan remark abuse of fundamental rights

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday gave a mouthful to TN minister Udhayanidhi Stalin for seeking either quashing or clubbing at one place of six FIRs filed in five states for his alleged hate speech for eradication of 'Sanatan Dharma', **reports Dhananjay Mahapatra.**

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta tersely told Udhayanidhi: "You abuse your right under Art 19 (guaranteeing free speech) and Art 25 (freedom to practice and profess any religion) and then come to Supreme Court invoking Art 32 (right to approach SC directly for breach of fundamental right)." Justice Datta said, "You (Udhayanidhi) is not a layman. You are a minister. You know the consequences of your utterances."

▶SC bristles, P 22

BJP launches 'Modi ka parivar' campaign to counter Lalu's jibe

New Delhi: PM Modi's assertion at a public rally in Telangana on Monday that 140 crore Indians are his family set off a massive 'Modi Ka Parivar' campaign by top BJP leaders in what was seen as a strong counter to Lalu Prasad's "Modi has no family" remark during a rally in Patna.

▶ EDITORIAL: Beta, Beti Aur Woh

Home minister Amit Shah, defence minister Rajnath Singh, BJP president JP Nadda and other leaders suffixed their names on social media profiles with 'Modi Ka Parivar' and hit back at the opposition, a day after RJD chief Lalu Prasad took a jibe at him for having no family. At an INDIA bloc rally, Lalu had taken a dig at Modi over his campaign against nepotism. TNN

DANCE of DEMOCRACY

- **Guj Cong leader Arjun Modhwadia resigns as MLA & from primary membership,** expressing anguish over party's call to 'boycott' temple event. 2 others quit | P 12
- **A day after an obscene video** allegedly involving him surfaced, **BJP MP Upendra S Rawat says he 'won't contest** till proven innocent' | P 12
- **Five-time MLA Tapas Roy severs 23-yr-old ties with TMC,** quitting all posts | P 12

▶'Entire country', P 16

9.5°C: City logs lowest March temp in 5 years

In the wake of wet weather sweeping north India, Delhi's minimum temperature fell to 9.5 degrees C on Monday, making it the coldest day in March in five years. This was only the second time since 2019 that the mercury in March had fallen below 10 degrees.

The dip in temperature was attributed to clear skies and cold northerly winds following passage of the western disturbance that caused hail and snow in the region. While the minimum temperature was 4 degrees below normal, the maximum was 3 notches below at 24.9 degrees C. Similar conditions are expected on Tuesday and the first half of March may not see a sharp rise in heat. P 10

▶Rain and hail hit crops in north India, P 15

Kala Jathedi & Madam Minz: Prison no bar for this love story

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New Delhi: It was love at first sight for Anuradha and Sandeep. The two had met in the spring of 2020 when the pandemic had just struck. That wasn't their only worry though. Both were on the "most wanted" list of police forces of Delhi, Rajasthan and Haryana. For the cops, they were no less than Bonnie and Clyde. In police files, Anuradha was Madam Minz and Sandeep was gangster Kala Jathedi, with a reward of Rs 7 lakh on his head at the time.

The two were nabbed in 2021 and Jathedi has been behind bars since then. Anuradha, however, got bail and the two kept their romance alive via regular 'mulakats' through legal channels. On Monday, a Dwarka court allowed Jathedi a custody parole of six hours to get married to Anuradha on March 12, seemingly concluding five years of their own little chase.

'BONNIE & CLYDE' TO MARRY NEXT WEEK

- The 2 met at Garhwal's **Valley of Flowers** in spring of 2020, where their love blossomed
- Sandeep, alias **Kala Jathedi,** was a dreaded gangster aligned with Lawrence Bishnoi and allegedly involved in over 40 cases of murder, extortion, kidnapping
- Anuradha, alias **Madam Minz,** a graduate in comp applications, was part of Anandpal gang and known for her prowess with a **Kalashnikov**
- They were nabbed from Saharanpur in July 2021 but **kept meeting** while lodged in **separate jails**

▶ Bomb hoax at airport to protect cover, P 7

▶How sparks flew, P 9

Delhi budget: Education retains numero uno rank | 4

TIMES CITY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

24.9° MAXIMUM | 9.5° MINIMUM

FORECAST Partly cloudy sky. Maximum and minimum temperatures will be around 25°C and 9°C

SUNRISE 6.41AM (WED) SUNSET 6.24PM (TUE)

MOONRISE 3.37AM (WED) MOONSET 12.43PM (TUE)

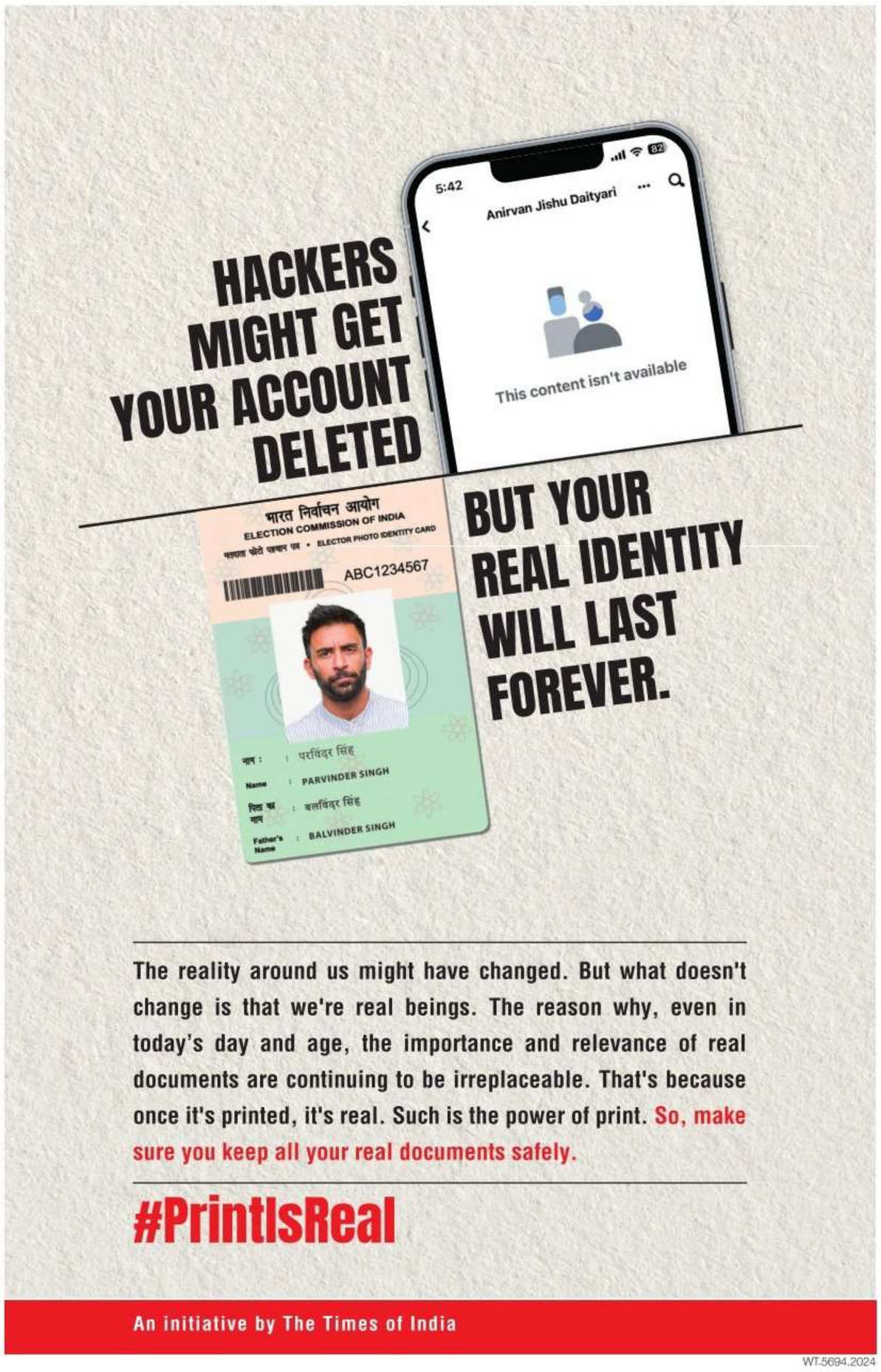
Bomb hoax at airport ruse to protect cover | 7

140 DELHI AQI ON MONDAY (MODERATE CATEGORY)

Choking in dirty froth, a dying Yamuna stays invisible in budget | 6

Delhi govt forms monitoring committee for children's safety on school premises

New Delhi: Delhi govt on Monday constituted a child safety monitoring committee to check 'minimum standards of school safety', a comprehensive school-safety checklist, a circular from Directorate of Education said. On Nov 10 last year, Delhi High Court ordered AAP govt to inspect schools in the capital, including classrooms and toilets, to ensure minimum standards of safety for students. "In pursuance of a high court order, a committee has been constituted. In view of this, the heads of all schools in Delhi are directed to fill the checklist and keep it ready to facilitate visiting inspection teams," the circular said. PTI



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Ready To Appear Virtually After March 12, Says CM

Kejriwal Skips ED's Eighth Summons In Excise Policy Case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday skipped the Enforcement Directorate's eighth summons for questioning in the excise policy case, saying he is ready to appear for interrogation through video conferencing after March 12 and is open to public viewing of the proceedings. Sources aware of the proceedings, however, said there is no such option (of virtual appearance) available to a suspect or an accused facing serious money laundering charges unless there is ground of infirmity or disability.

While asserting that it is his right to appear through video-conferencing, Kejriwal said all ED proceedings are judicial proceedings where an accused is allowed virtual appearance. His party has expressed suspicion that the agency wants to arrest him before the Lok Sabha polls to keep him out of campaigning.

Since Oct last year, Kejriwal has refused to appear on several ED summonses for recording his statements related to bribery allegations against his Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and its leaders in the alleged excise policy scam of 2021-22. "My stand has always been that ED summonses are illegal. I have told them that even though I consider your summons illegal, I am ready to answer all your questions as we have not done anything wrong and aren't hiding anything," he said.

KEJRIWAL SAYS

My stand has always been that ED summonses are illegal. I have told them that even though I consider your summons illegal, I am ready to answer all your questions as we have not done anything wrong and aren't hiding anything

In the middle of the Covid pandemic, the ED had not allowed the plea of senior Congress leader late Ahmed Patel to defer his questioning in a money-laundering case. The only concession granted to him was an ED team visited his residence and recorded his statements due to his health conditions.

"Even senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, despite facing health issues, had to appear at ED headquarters in July 2022 for questioning when she was summoned by the agency in the National Herald money laundering case," a senior officer pointed out.

Soon after the agency told the Supreme Court last Oct that it is ready to implicate AAP and its leadership in the liquor scam investigation, it had issued summons to the Delhi CM asking him to join the probe.

The agency has already arrested half-a-dozen other accused in the case, including Delhi's former deputy CM Manish Sisodia and AAP's Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh, both in judicial custody at present. Repeated bail applications of both the senior colleagues of Kejriwal have been denied by multiple courts prima facie finding their alleged role in the liquor scam.

The ED had earlier claimed that the liquor cartel in the national capital controlled by the 'South Group' had paid Rs 100 crore in bribes to AAP functionaries and that the party had used the 'proceeds of crime' for campaigning during the assembly elections in Goa.

LG's power to pick lawyers: SC seeks Centre's response

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday sought responses from Centre and lieutenant governor on a plea by Delhi govt challenging Centre's decision to vest in the LG the power to appoint govt lawyers.

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta issued notice to Union of India and LG and sought their responses.

In its plea before the top court, Delhi govt has challenged a 2017 office memorandum issued by Union home ministry and an order passed by LG's office on Feb 16. "Elected govt of NCT of Delhi ought to be able to decide on the engagement of counsel, and the right to choose a counsel of a choice is one of the most zealously guarded rights. Govt cannot be shut out from choosing its advocates before the constitutional courts," the plea said.

The petition stated that the impugned memorandum and other orders passed by LG severely obstruct and hinder govt's ability to represent interests of the electorate of Delhi. PTI

SC allows time till June 15 for AAP to vacate office

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday told AAP that it had no lawful right to continue at the Rouse Avenue office bungalow as the land has already been allocated to the HC for expansion of the district court complex but allowed the Delhi's governing party to vacate by June 15 considering its need ahead of impending general elections.

For AAP, senior advocate A M Singhvi made a spirited attempt to allow AAP get a suitable proximate bungalow, as a national party, to carry out its legitimate political activities. He told a bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud, and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra that while five other national parties have been allotted offices in New Delhi area, a place is being offered to AAP in Badarpur, clearly a discriminatory and vindictive decision.

Piyal Bhattacharjee

The bench asked AAP to file an application before the Land and Development Office for allotment of land for its office purposes

The bench refused to vary its earlier order directing AAP to immediately vacate the bungalow and a mandate to Delhi govt and the registrar general of Delhi HC to hold a meeting for removal of encroachment by AAP on the land allotted for expansion of Rouse Avenue district court complex.

It asked AAP to file an application before the Land and Development Office (L&DO) for allotment of land for its office purposes and asked the L&DO, under the central government, to process the application within four weeks.

DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA

TRAFFIC ADVISORY

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6 PM TO 12 PM

05 MARCH 2024 TO 13 MARCH, 15 MARCH 2024 AND 17 MARCH 2024

HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER

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— THOSE HAVING PARKING LABEL MAY FOLLOW BLUE ARROWS.

— FREE PARK & ROUTE (MATA SUNDRI RD., SHANTI VAN & UNDER VELODROME FLYOVER)

P — PICK UP POINT SHUTTLE SERVICE

D — DROP OFF POINT SHUTTLE SERVICE

T — TAXI (DROP OFF / PICK UP LANE)

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RIDE METRO FOR HASSLE FREE JOURNEY

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ARUN JAITLEY STADIUM, FIROZESHAH KOTLA GROUND, NEW DELHI

DIVERSION / RESTRICTION (AS AND WHEN REQUIRED)

There will diversion of traffic for half and hour after conclusion of the match. No heavy vehicles and buses shall be allowed on Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, Delhi Gate to J.L.N. Marg, from Darya Ganj to Bahadurshah Zafar Marg and from Guru Nanak Chowk to Asaf Ali Road, People are requested to avoid following roads from 6 PM to 12 PM on the match day respectively when the spectators would be coming to the stadium and congestion in expected.

Raj Ghat to JLN Marg.

J.L.N. Marg from R/A Kamla Market to Raj Ghat.

Asaf Ali Road from Turkman Gate to Delhi Gate.

Bahadurshah Zafar Marg from Ram Charan Agarwal Chowk to Delhi Gate.

ENTRY TO THE STADIUM

(I) Gate No. 1,3 & 6 are located on the southern side of the Stadium & entry to these enclosures are from Bahadurshah Zafar Marg.

(II) Gate No. 8,10,10,11,12,13,14 &15 are located on the Eastern side of the Stadium on the road and entry is from J.L.N. Marg next to Ambedkar Stadium Bus Terminal.

(II) Gate No. 16,17 & 18 are located on the Western side of the Stadium & entry is from Bahadurshah Zafar Marg Near Petrol Pump.

PARKING

Labeled Vehicles

Limited parking is available for labeled vehicles in the proximity of the Stadium. Display of car parking label on windscreen is mandatory. Vehicle number must be written on the parking label. Those who do not display parking label with vehicle number will not be allowed in the proximity of the stadium.

Car parking label holders are advised to take Ring Road, J.L.N. Marg, Asaf Ali Road or Bahadurshah Zafar Marg. 'U' turn at Delhi Gate is allowed. Entry to parking lots P1 P3 & P4 shall be from Bahadurshah Zafar Marg only from near the Petrol pump.

General Vehicles

No vehicle shall be allowed to be parked on Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, Jawaharlal Nehru Marg & Ring Road from Rajghat to I.P. Flyover (both the carriageways) on the match day. Vehicles parked on these roads shall be towed away and prosecuted as per law.

BUS All buses will start their service 2 hours before the match and will continue till one hour after the start of match. The bus service from the stadium to their respected destinations will start as soon as the game ends and will continue for one hour after the match ends.

TAXI Spectators using app based taxi and other taxis should use the service lane on Ring Road between I.P. flyover & Rajghat crossing for drop & pickup.

SECURITY INSTRUCTIONS: Spectators visiting the stadium are requested not to bring the following prohibited items:

Laptop | Camera | Helmet | Bagpack | Eatables | Water Bottles | Power Bank | Lighter & Match Box | Knives & Arms

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Rathee murder case: Cops nab 2 shooters from resort in Goa

Abhay@timesgroup.com

IN NET: Saurabh (top) & Ashish

New Delhi: In a breakthrough in Haryana Indian National Lok Dal chief Nafe Singh Rathee's murder case, a joint team of Delhi and Haryana Police has apprehended two shooters from a resort in Goa. They are henchmen of UK-based gangster Kapil Sangwan and his brother, Jyoti Baba. The two prime suspects, Nakul and Atul, are still absconding.

The arrested accused were identified as Saurabh and Ashish. Sangwan allegedly gave them a task to eliminate the politician. Rathee, who was MLA of Bahadurgarh from 1996 to 2005, was in the front seat of his car when the assailants fired from another car at Barahi Gate Road on Feb 25. He was declared dead on arrival at a nearby hospital. He took bullets in the neck, waist and thigh, doctors at the hospital said.

Sources said that the accused were following the INLD leader three days before shooting him dead. "It seems that someone was giving information about the movements of Rathee to the shooters," they added.

"We suspect that one of the arrested shooters came into contact with Nakul and Atul in jail, and a plan was then hatched," sources further said.

After the murder, they disposed of the weapons and car in Rohtak and fled to Goa. "The joint team tracked down the accused through technical surveillance and arrested him in Goa. The Delhi Police's team was led by ACP Sanjay Dutt," sources said.

TOI had recently reported that a day after gangster Baba was questioned by police in the jail, his brother Sangwan claimed the responsibility for the killing. In a social media post, Sangwan claimed that the politician was a close accomplice of jailed gangster Manjeet Mahal, a rival of Sangwan. "He backed Mahal in the murder of my brother-in-law and my friends," he claimed in the post.

Sources said that several police teams on Feb 26 had questioned Baba in connection with the killing. "He was grilled for several hours, along with another gangster Sandeep alias Kala Jathedi, inside Tihar Jail," sources said.

Baba was arrested from Gujarat in 2020 by a Delhi Police team. At the age of 19, he had committed another murder in Bahadurgarh. He was later arrested, put on trial and sentenced to life. After his conviction, his younger brother, Sangwan, took over the gang.

Property tax can be paid on any day till March 31

New Delhi: With less than a month left for this financial year to end, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has intensified its efforts to cross the last year's property tax collection figure of Rs 2,417 crore. Property tax offices will remain open on all Saturdays and Sundays, except gazetted holidays, till March 31.

So far, MCD has collected Rs 1,811 crore as property tax from nearly 11.5 lakh taxpayers. Last year,13.2 lakh taxpayers had paid property tax.

"We are making concerted efforts to facilitate property taxpayers in filing their taxes, geotagging their properties, and registering properties to generate UPIC through meetings & camps. We request them to come forward and avail 2% rebate on online payment (up to Rs 10,000)," said an MCD official.

"We have also uploaded videos on MCD's YouTube channel to help the taxpayers." TNN

Traffic diversions put in place for women's IPL

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Traffic restrictions will be in place on Bahadurshah Zafar Marg and JLN Marg from March 5 to 17 for Tata Women's Premier League at Arun Jaitley Stadium.

Congestion is expected near ITO, Rajghat, Delhi Gate, Turkman Gate and Kamla Market due to the matches. Restrictions on parking will also be in effect near BSZ Marg, JLN Marg and Rajghat.

Entry through stadium gate numbers 1-7 will be allowed from BSZ Marg and through gates 8-15 from JLN Marg next to Ambedkar Stadium bus terminal. Spectators can enter through gates 16-18 near the petrol pump on BSZ Marg.

"Due to limited space, only vehicles with valid labels can be parked in the vicinity of the stadium," police said. Other vehicles will have to be parked at Mata Sundari Marg and Shanti Van parking and on Veldrome Road.

A special 'park and ride' facility has been arranged by traffic police, which will begin two hours before the match and will run for an hour after it starts. It will resume after the match for an hour.

App-based cabs and taxis will have to use the service lane on Ring Road between IP flyover and Rajghat.

HC denies bail in trafficking case: Delhi High Court has denied bail to a man in a case of trafficking seven Uzbek girls to India and forcing them into prostitution, saying prosecution witnesses are yet to be examined and they are prone to influence and pressure. PTI

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF DELHI

PUBLIC NOTICE / NOTICE OF ATTACHMENT

CAUTION AGAINST DEALINGS WITH MEP INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPERS LIMITED (MEPIDL) AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

This serves as a Notice of Caution to the public in general regarding any transactions involving movable or immovable assets of MEP Infrastructure Developers Limited (MEPIDL) and its wholly owned subsidiaries.

The Office of the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Toll Tax, MCD hereby notifies that several immovable/movable properties/shares and stocks belonging to or owned by MEP Infrastructure Developers Limited (MEPIDL) have been attached by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. This measure is part of the efforts to recover outstanding dues of Rs. 3927 Crores as on 10.04.2021 from MEPIDL, as indicated above.

Therefore it is notified to the public at large to refrain from engaging in any form of dealings with the property of MEPIDL and its subsidiaries. The MCD has attached moveable and immovable assets of MEPDIL and the same are in the process of disposal through the competent revenue authorities

DATED: 02/03/2024

Additional Deputy Commissioner,
Toll Tax Department
Municipal Corporation of Delhi

R.O. No. 93/DPI/MCD/2023-24

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ALLOCATION VIA DRAW OF LOT 8TH MARCH 2024

CONSTRUCTION LINKED PAYMENT PLAN

Floor	Area (Approximate)	Total Basic Cost(TBC)	Registration Fees	10% Booking Amount (within 7 days)	40% of TBC within 45 days	10% of TBC within 5 months from booking	10% of TBC within 9 months from booking	10% of TBC within 12 months from booking	10% of TBC within 15 months from booking	10% on offer of Possession
Ground Floor	50 SQ. FT. (4.7 Sq. Mtr.)* Only 277 Units Available	Rs. 52,22,450	₹31,000	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 20,88,980	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245
First Floor		Rs. 44,76,350		Rs. 4,47,635	Rs. 17,90,540	Rs. 4,47,635	Rs. 4,47,635	Rs. 4,47,635	Rs. 4,47,635	Rs. 4,47,635
Second Floor		Rs. 37,30,300		Rs. 3,73,030	Rs. 14,92,120	Rs. 3,73,030	Rs. 3,73,030	Rs. 3,73,030	Rs. 3,73,030	Rs. 3,73,030
Third Floor Food Court		Rs. 52,22,450		Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 20,88,980	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245	Rs. 5,22,245
Ground Floor	150 SQ. FT. (13.9 Sq. Mtr.)* Only 233 Units Available	Rs. 1,34,29,050	₹31,000	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 53,71,620	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905
First Floor		Rs. 1,11,90,900		Rs. 11,19,090	Rs. 44,76,360	Rs. 11,19,090	Rs. 11,19,090	Rs. 11,19,090	Rs. 11,19,090	Rs. 11,19,090
Second Floor		Rs. 89,52,750		Rs. 8,95,275	Rs. 35,81,100	Rs. 8,95,275	Rs. 8,95,275	Rs. 8,95,275	Rs. 8,95,275	Rs. 8,95,275
Third Floor Food Court		Rs. 1,34,29,050		Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 53,71,620	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905	Rs. 13,42,905

*Undivided space of super area

DOWN PAYMENT PLAN

Floor	Area (Approximate)	Total Basic Cost(TBC)	Registration Fees	10% Booking Amount (within 7 days)	80% of TBC within 45 days	10% On Offer of Possession
Ground Floor	50 SQ. FT. (4.7 Sq. Mtr.)* Only 277 Units Available	Rs. 47,33,750	₹31,000	Rs. 4,73,375	Rs. 37,87,000	Rs. 4,73,375
First Floor		Rs. 40,57,500		Rs. 4,05,750	Rs. 32,46,000	Rs. 4,05,750
Second Floor		Rs. 33,81,250		Rs. 3,38,125	Rs. 27,05,000	Rs. 3,38,125
Third Floor Food Court		Rs. 47,33,750		Rs. 4,73,375	Rs. 37,87,000	Rs. 4,73,375
Ground Floor	150 SQ. FT. (13.9 Sq. Mtr.)* Only 233 Units Available	Rs. 1,21,72,500	₹31,000	Rs. 12,17,250	Rs. 97,38,000	Rs. 12,17,250
First Floor		Rs. 1,01,43,750		Rs. 10,14,375	Rs. 81,15,000	Rs. 10,14,375
Second Floor		Rs. 81,15,000		Rs. 8,11,500	Rs. 64,92,000	Rs. 8,11,500
Third Floor Food Court		Rs. 1,21,72,500		Rs. 12,17,250	Rs. 97,38,000	Rs. 12,17,250

*GST & other charges as applicable

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KAROL BAGH
UNDER 10-15 MINS

HANUMAN MANDIR (JHANDEWALAN)
UNDER 10-15 MINS

MOTI NAGAR CROSSING
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DELHI Speaks

> Increase in no. of e-buses is a good sign. Funds have also been allocated for pink tickets, but bus management is a challenge. Efforts, such as better connectivity like metro, and giving information on bus routes and other details in advance, should be made to make buses user-friendly
>
> —ANIL CHIKARA | Transport expert

> Scheme of 20,000 litres of free water per month is being continued, but bills are generated after three months. If average consumption in three months goes over 20,000 litres, then a bill is generated. Problem of excessive bills has also affected many families
>
> —ANURADHA GULATI | Homemaker, Jangpura Extension

> Disappointed with allocation to health sector. Govt should allocate appropriate funds for health and expand its facilities by operationalising the ones that are non-functional. It has slashed funds to this crucial sector by over ₹1,000cr
>
> —MAHIPAL S SACHDEV | Chairman and medical director, Centre For Sight group

> Delhi, being one of the most polluted cities in the world, should have got more funds to address environmental issues, including air pollution, waste management and cleaning of the Yamuna. It shows that environmental issues and their health impacts are not taken seriously
>
> —PRITI BANTHIA MAHESH | Environment expert

> No scheme or benefit for us. There was an announcement for introducing an amnesty scheme for GST taxpayers, but that has not been implemented. In the last budget, redevelopment of five markets was proposed, but not a single market has seen any change
>
> —SANJIV MEHRA | Khan Market Traders' Association

> Budget fails miserably with respect to enhancing equity, quality and access to education. Only a handful of schools called 'Schools of Specialised Excellence' are to be extended special facilities. Allocation of funds for construction of new schools and classrooms is only at ₹150cr
>
> —MAYA JOHN | Assistant prof, DU

Education Retains Numero Uno Rank

Allocation Dips From Last Year; Biz Blasters Extended To Govt Colleges, Push For Classroom Infra

Shreya.Ghosh@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Finance minister Atishi announced that a Business Blasters Senior programme for budding entrepreneurs in govt colleges would be launched and allocated Rs 15 crore as seed money for the scheme. Till now, the entrepreneurship program was being run in govt schools as a component of the Entrepreneurship Mindset Curriculum, its aim being to train students to become employment providers, not job seekers.

"We cannot ignore the fact that our country is going through a job crisis. A 2020 economic report by McKinsey reveals that by 2030, entire India will have a demand for nine crore non-agricultural jobs. However, how will these jobs materialise when the country's youth are queuing up for job entrance tests? Only entrepreneurship can reduce the country's unemployment rate," argued Atishi in her first ever budget address in Delhi Assembly.

The minister said that if even 5% of the 40,000+ business ideas generated in the city schools proved to be successful, Delhi and the country would witness the rise of 2,000 big companies after 10 years. This would help bring down unemployment and eradicate poverty in the country, said Atishi, describing such a situation as the "ideal Ram Rajya".

A mere Rs 150 crore was proposed for the construction of new schools and classrooms. Maintenance of existing classrooms was prioritised, with Rs 45 crore allocated for this. The education sector overall is set to receive the largest allocation of Rs 16,396 crore in Delhi's budget for 2024-25, even if this is a slight decline from the previous fiscal's outlay for education of Rs 16,575 crore.

ATISHI SAYS

Before the Kejriwal govt came to the helm, the condition of Delhi govt schools was not good. People were forced to go to private schools to study

"Before the Kejriwal govt came to the helm, the condition of Delhi govt schools was not good. People were forced to go to private schools to study," Atishi, who also holds the education portfolio, claimed. She said former deputy CM Manish Sisodia played a significant role in improving the education scenario in Delhi.

In 2014-15 the budget was 6,554 crore. "Upon coming to power in 2015, we doubled the allocation for education from Rs 6,554 in the 2014-15 budget and consistently demarcated almost a quarter of the budget to education for the past decade," the minister said.

Painting a picture of how the govt schools had gone from being in a dilapidated state to offering "world-class" education in 10 years, Atishi claimed, "In the last three years, more than four lakh children gave up private schools and taken admission in Delhi govt schools. In 2023-24, 2,121 children studying in government schools cleared JEE and NEET."

She also highlighted the fact that the Kejriwal govt was augmenting teachers' training by sending them to institutions like Cambridge University and IIMs for training. So far, the employment of 47,914 teachers was regularised while 7,000 vacancies are in the process of being filled.

Innovative projects launched included the Armed Forces Preparatory School, Delhi Sports School and Delhi Model Virtual School. Atishi said that 38 Schools of Specialized Excellence were launched in 2021-22, attracting 1.4 lakh applications for 6,000 seats.

Atishi claimed that the education revolution in the last nine years wasn't limited to schools. It had reached higher education and technical education in the city with govt undertaking several infrastructural developments. Three new universities — Delhi Skills and Entrepreneurship University, Delhi Teachers University and Delhi Sports University — have been launched.

"The seats in state-run universities have increased by 20,000 with a total of 93,000 students currently enrolled in these institutes. In the field of technical education, the number of seats increased from 12,204 in 2014-15 to 62,000 in 2023-24," the minister said.

EDUCATION

ALLOCATION (₹cr): 2023-24 — 16,575; 2024-25 — 16,396

- ₹100 crore allocated to State Council of Educational Research and Training **for teachers' training**
- **Construction of new schools and classrooms** to be continued with an allocation of ₹150 crore
- ₹45 crore towards **maintenance of existing classrooms**
- **Schools of Specialised Excellence** get infusion of ₹42 crore
- **₹15 crore** for Business Blasters Senior programme
- Delhi Model Virtual School gets **₹12-cr boost**
- **₹118 crore** impetus for sports education
- Higher education and technical education prioritised with **allocation of ₹1,212 crore**

HEALTH

ALLOCATION (₹cr): 2023-24 — 9,742; 2024-25 — 8,685

- ₹6,215 crore allocated for maintaining **facilities at hospitals**
- ₹400 crore earmarked for **construction of new hospitals** and expansion of existing ones
- ₹194 crore towards **purchase of new ambulances** for centralised accident and trauma services
- Supply of **essential medicines** gets ₹658-crore boost
- ₹212 crore to provide medical treatment through **mohalla clinics**
- **Delhi Arogya Kosh** gets ₹80 crore

WATER AND SEWAGE

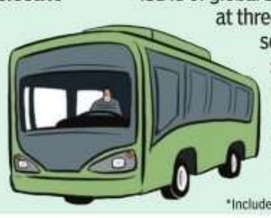
ALLOCATION (₹cr): 2023-24 — 6,342; 2024-25 — 7,195

- 99.6% of unauthorised colonies have **water pipelines**
- Water availability in Delhi has **increased to 1,009 MGD**
- **Approx 62.5% of homes** in Delhi, which is around 17 lakh families, receive water for free
- 1,031 unauthorised colonies **connected with the sewer network**

TRANSPORT

ALLOCATION (₹cr): 2023-24 — 9,337*; 2024-25 — 7,470*

- An agreement for engagement of **1,900 new e-buses** signed
- **₹510 crore for electric buses** during 2024-25
- **Mohalla bus service** announced last year mentioned again, but hasn't been started yet
- **Schemes included in last year's budget,** including ISBTs of global standards at three places, scooter-sharing scheme and modernised bus queue shelters, yet to take off



*Includes allocation for road infra

ROADS

ALLOCATION (₹cr): 2023-24 — 3,126; 2024-25 — 1,768

- **Seven flyover/elevated** corridor projects underway
- **No new flyover** announced this time
- **10-year maintenance plan** for 1,400km has no mention
- **Congestion has reduced** in the city since 2014

SOCIAL WELFARE

ALLOCATION (₹cr): 2023-24 — 4,744; 2024-25 — 6,216

- **₹2,000 crore towards Mukhyamantri Mahila Samman Yojana** for the welfare and empowerment of women
- **₹2,714 crore for pensions** of senior citizens, women and specially abled people
- **Four new schemes announced last time** for construction workers — mobile health checkup, creche facilities at construction sites, one-time nutritious meal for children and on-site skill training — found no mention this time

Health lacks new project injection, share down 11%

Anuja.Jaiswal@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The allocation of budget for Delhi's health sector, stated to be a key focus area of the state govt, has been reduced by 10.8% — from Rs 9,742 crore in FY 2023-24 to Rs 8,685 crore in FY 2024-25.

Since Kejriwal govt came to power, health allocation saw an upward swing — from Rs 4,787 crore in 2015-16 to Rs 5,259 crore in 2016-17, Rs 5,736 crore in 2017-18, Rs 6,729 crore in 2018-19, Rs 7,485 crore in 2019-20 and Rs 7,704 crore in 2020-21.

However, the allocation saw a steady decline in the following years, data reveals. In 2021-22, it stood at Rs 9,934 crore, which was reduced to Rs 9,769 crore in FY 2022-23.

In this year's budget, while no new major projects were announced, govt allocated Rs 194 crore for the purchase of new ambulances for centralised accident and trauma services in Delhi. At present, the city has 380 CATS ambulances. For construction of new hospitals and expansion of existing facilities, Rs 400 crore has been proposed.

An allocation of Rs 6,215 crore has been proposed for the maintenance of hospital facilities and ensuring they remain "world-class" in the ensuing fiscal year.

"We are allocating Rs 719 crore for LNJP Hospital, Rs 497 crore for Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Rs 490 crore for GB Pant Hospital, Rs 352 crore for Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Rs 350 crore for Maulana Azad Medical College and Rs 291 crore for Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital," stated finance minister Atishi while presenting the budget in Delhi Assembly on Monday.

She said the city's healthcare system in the past nine years under the Kejriwal dispensation has moved from a state of "*majboori*" to "*mazbooti*" (helplessness to strength) and "*nirasha*" to "*vishwas*" (despair to faith).

"Until 2014, the condition of Delhi govt hospitals was very bad. They were so dirty that those who went to these hospitals would come out with four more diseases," she said.

Pointing out the "poor infrastructure" of hospitals before Kejriwal govt, the minister pointed to dirty and broken floors, foul-smelling toilets, soiled sheets, long queues at OPD counters with no one to answer and no pharmacist at medicine counters. The govt healthcare system itself was sick, she said. If a person had some money, they would think of taking their family member to a private hospital to save their life, she added.

Till 2014, Atishi said, people had to wait for months to get diagnostic tests done in Delhi govt hospitals. "But today, Kejriwal govt has changed this cumbersome system. Now, not only are tests conducted in hospitals, but they are also free. Today, if govt hospitals are busy, govt arranges the facility of tests with private hospitals and centres," she said.

In this year's budget, govt allocated ₹194cr for the purchase of new ambulances for centralised accident and trauma services in Delhi. At present, the city has 380 CATS ambulances. For construction of new hospitals and expansion of existing facilities, ₹400cr has been proposed

While presenting the budget, Atishi stressed on "the second principle of Ram Rajya" — curing every sick person. She then quoted a couplet from Goswami Tulsidas' Ramcharitmanas and explained its meaning, saying it speaks for the good health of all.

In the recent past, AAP govt and LG VK Saxena have been at odds over the prevailing condition of hospitals under Delhi govt. The LG had recently recommended a CBI probe over the alleged procurement and supply of "sub-standard" drugs to govt hospitals.

TOTAL BUDGET OUTLAY (₹ CR)

2022-23	2022-23 (Revised estimates)	2023-24	2023-24 (Revised estimates)	2024-25
75,800	72,500	78,800	74,900	**76,000**

WHERE THE RUPEE COMES FROM...

- Tax Revenue: 77.3% (₹58,750 cr)
- Non-Tax Revenue: 1.3% (₹1,000cr)
- Capital Receipts: 0.5% (₹379cr)
- Small Savings Loan: 13.2% (₹10,000cr)
- CSS: 4.2% (₹3,224cr)
- Central Assistance: 1.5% (₹1,168cr)
- Opening Balance: 2% (₹1,479cr)

TOTAL BUDGET ₹76,000 crore

...AND WHERE IT GOES

- Education: 22% (₹16,396cr)
- Health: 11% (₹8,685cr)
- Transport: 10% (₹7,470cr)
- Water/sanitation: 9% (₹7,195cr)
- Housing: 13% (₹9,800cr)
- Energy: 4% (₹3,353cr)
- Agriculture: 2% (₹1,331cr)
- Social Security: 9% (₹6,694cr)
- Interest: 4% (₹2,666cr)
- Public debt: 6% (₹4,914cr)
- Others: 10% (₹7,496cr)

COMPONENTS OF TAX REVENUE (₹58,750 CRORE)

- GST and VAT: 69% — ₹41,000cr
- Taxes on motor vehicles: 6% — ₹3,600cr
- Stamps and registration fee: 13% — ₹7,750cr
- State excise: 11% — ₹6,400cr

IMPORTANT ALLOCATIONS

- THEME | Ram Rajya
- ₹2,000 crore for 'Mukyamantri Mahila Samman Yojana'. It will give ₹1,000 per month towards welfare and empowerment of women above 18 years of age
- ₹900 crore to lay 1,000km of roads in more than 360 villages, which is expected to give a boost to the village economy
- ₹510 crore to procure e-buses
- Eight flyover projects likely to be completed in 2024-25; ₹1,768 crore proposed for road and flyovers
- ₹902 crore for upliftment of unauthorised colonies in next fiscal
- To launch Business Blasters Senior scheme in all universities under which govt will invest ₹15 crore in startups during 2024-25
- ₹664 crore for all nutrition-related schemes
- ₹100 crore for teachers' training and ₹150 crore for construction of new schools and classrooms

Solar plants on rooftops top plan, power gets ₹3,353cr

Times News Network

New Delhi: Equating supplying 24x7 free electricity to over 40% of domestic consumers in the city with "Ram Rajya", finance minister Atishi allocated Rs 3,353 crore for power department in the 2024-25 budget on Monday.

Atishi said people had lit lamps and celebrated Diwali when Lord Ram returned to Ayodhya after defeating Ravana. "It is said Ram Rajya is where every house is illuminated. Now people in Delhi don't have to wait for Diwali to illuminate their homes because electricity is available 24x7," she said.

Delhi govt also aims to install solar plants on all its buildings to generate 4,500MW — 25% of Delhi's total power supply — from solar energy by 2027, the minister announced.

Last month, govt finalised Delhi Solar Policy 2024, under which people installing solar panels on their rooftops would get more generation-based incentives, a capital subsidy and facility to sell their excess electricity in real time to other consumers in the city. However, lieutenant governor VK Saxena has raised queries on certain provisions.

Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "I request LG to not stop this scheme. It is for the people of Delhi, the citizens of India. Let's not do politics in these things, it's not right. When I announced that scheme, I was overwhelmed with calls, people were appreciating it."

He added, "People using up to 200 units of electricity are getting zero bills, and this scheme, once implemented, would help more people in getting free electricity and zero bills."

Atishi said Kejriwal govt had focused on green and renewable energy, keeping environment in mind. "Around 30% of Delhi's power supply comes from green and renewable energy. Currently, 255MW is produced from rooftop solar power plants," she said.

Solar rooftop plants are installed on 1,280 govt buildings, she told the House, adding, "I am delighted to share that by 2024-25, every building under Delhi govt will have solar plants on its roof."

Electric buses to fuel public transport growth, but several schemes relegated to back burner

Abhinav.Rajput@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Delhi govt has allocated Rs 510 crore for electric buses in its budget for 2024-25, finance minister Atishi said while presenting her first budget on Monday.

"Delhi has a fleet of 7,582 buses currently, which is being used by more than 41 lakh passengers on a daily basis. To expand this fleet further, a concession agreement for the engagement of 1,900 new e-buses has been signed," Atishi said.

The minister also proposed Rs 340 crore to continue the scheme of free bus travel for women in DTC and cluster buses through "pink tickets".

On the mohalla bus service, wherein nine-metre electric buses were to be deployed to boost last-mile connectivity, Atishi said, "Kejriwal govt will procure 2,080 nine-meter e-buses, which will be used as mohalla buses. By 2025, Delhi will have more than 10,000 buses, out of which 80% will be electric."

Announced in last year's budget, Delhi govt's flagship mohalla bus service is yet to be rolled out. Last month, transport minister Kailash Gahlot had said in the assembly that govt had placed orders for the buses, but their delivery was taking time. "The transport department is holding regular meetings with manufacturers to expedite the delivery. I hope that by March beginning, the buses will be delivered," he had said.

10k BUSES ON CITY ROADS BY 2025, OUT OF WHICH 80% WILL BE ELECTRIC

Some schemes proposed last time did not find any mention in this year's budget. These included the e-scooter sharing service in Dwarka; three international-standard inter-state bus terminals (ISBTs) in Dwarka, Anand Vihar and Sarai Kale Khan; and the plan to build 1,400 new and modern bus queue shelters (BQS) with digital screens with modern passenger information system (PIS). All three projects are yet to take off.

According to a senior official of the transport department, they had planned to deploy e-scooters in 90 places in Dwarka, but govt had to float tender again as the previous one was unsuccessful. The ISBT project, he added, would hit the ground soon and a plan has been formed in this regard.

Delhi govt has, however, has got a measure of success with the induction of 1,650 electric buses, which is the highest in the country.

Road infrastructure budget cut by ₹1,358cr, no new flyovers or underpasses announced

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New Delhi: Even as many of the projects announced in last year's budget have been delayed, the allocation to the Public Works Department for road infrastructure has been reduced by around Rs 1,358 crore this year. In the budget speech on Monday, finance minister Atishi announced no new flyover or underpass project, with the only target mentioned being the completion of the eight elevated corridors already under construction.

The budget allocation for road infrastructure has come down from Rs 3,126 crore for 2023-24 to Rs 1,768 crore for 2024-25. Atishi, who is also minister for PWD, said, "The quality of road infrastructure is a crucial determinant of the pace of the economy of any country. The more govt invests in roads, the more it enables time and cost savings for the common people."

While there was the big announcement about a 10-year road maintenance plan in the 2023-24 budget, there are no funds for it this year, with the proposal having failed to take off because of several problems in the original plan. PWD officials said the project was being reworked and will be implemented soon.

Atishi said that seven road infrastructure projects would be completed this year, including the unending Barapullah Phase 3 elevated corridor, work on which began in 2015 but is yet to finish. "I am happy to share that by the end of 2024-25, six new flyovers will be dedicated to the people of Delhi," she said.

MINISTER SAYS

The quality of road infrastructure is a crucial determinant of the pace of the economy of any country

In the Punjabi Bagh and Raja Garden areas, PWD is working on an elevated corridor and also developing a transport corridor. But the work has not been completed and because of this, there is heavy traffic congestion for motorists travelling through the localities. This work was supposed to have been finished by Feb this year.

In Nand Nagri, PWD has started construction work on a 1.5km-long flyover comprising six lanes at an estimated cost of Rs 241 crore. This is intended to make the entire stretch there signal-free for drivers.

Last year, the budget had mentioned three double-decker flyovers being constructed by Delhi govt in collaboration with Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. However, the allocation for only two of those were mentioned in the budget on Monday even though all three are being erected.

Big Leap Towards Women Empowerment, Says CM

Took Yrs To Prepare Scheme, Will Fight All Obstacles: Kejriwal

Atul.Mathur@timesgroup.com

Anindya Chattopadhyay

Congratulating finance minister Atishi for an 'all-inclusive' budget, the chief minister said he would give her 15 out of 10

New Delhi: Calling it the world's biggest women's empowerment programme, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday said AAP govt had been working on the Mukhyamantri Mahila Samman Yojana to provide financial aid to women for several years now.

Under the scheme, women aged above 18 years will be provided a monthly assistance of Rs 1,000 each, provided they fulfil some eligibility criteria. Govt has set aside Rs 2,000 crore for the scheme for 2024-25.

Accepting that a lot of money will be spent on the scheme, Kejriwal said Delhi had a "very honest" govt, which saved every penny.

"After saving the money, we are passing it on to the public," he said in the post-budget press conference. "Women feel empowered when they have money in their hands. Those who do not earn are often found in a disadvantaged position in society," Kejriwal said. "So, we have put money in the hands of women.... At home, they have to stretch their hand before their husband, son or relatives for small needs. Now this will not happen."

ARVIND KEJRIWAL SAYS

Women feel empowered when they have money in their hands. Those who do not earn are often found in a disadvantaged position in society. So, we have put money in the hands of women

The chief minister said that the move will help in bringing a "huge boom" to Delhi's economy. "This is the bottom-up theory... If more money comes in to the hands of a poor person, the more the economy will progress," Kejriwal said.

He said women will be asked to provide a self-declaration, saying that they fulfil all govt criteria. Some applications will be scrutinised randomly. "The application process will start after the elections," Kejriwal added.

The chief minister said that of the over 67 lakh women voters in Delhi, nearly 50 lakh may benefit.

Asked what he would do if efforts are made to "stall" the scheme, Kejriwal said: "We have fought against all odds to get our work done. If there is any obstacle... we will fight against it."

The AAP supremo said his party could run Delhi govt successfully only because of such a huge majority it got in 2015 and 2020. He added that his govt would have been toppled by now had he won 40-odd seats in the 70-member House.

"I appeal to the people of Delhi that if they extend their support to all seven candidates of the INDIA alliance, I will get strength. By combining Delhi and Punjab and the Rajya Sabha MPs, we will have 25 to 30 parliamentarians with us. Then no one will have the courage to stop work in Delhi," Kejriwal said.

Congratulating finance minister Atishi for an "all-inclusive" budget, Kejriwal said he would give her 15 out of 10.

"Today's budget was inspired by the concept of Ram Rajya. We believe in Ram Rajya and we have been talking about this vision for years," he said.

MCD gets ₹182cr more for 'stronger local body'

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New Delhi: Delhi govt increased its allocation for Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) by Rs 182 crore for the 2024-25 budget. This was the second allocation increase for the local body in as many years.

In 2023-24, govt allotted MCD Rs 8,241 crore. This year's was Rs 8,423 crore, an increase of 2.2%.

"No state can make progress unless its local body is strong," finance minister Atishi said, while announcing the allocation. She added that of the total outlay, "Rs 3,153 crore will be for education, healthcare and sanitation. Rs 2,955 crore will be given in the form of basic tax assignment (BTA) and Rs 2,315 crore will be given as stamp and registration charges and one-time parking fee".

In comparison, in 2023-24, Rs 2,659 crore was allocated for implementation of schemes, programmes and projects, Rs 2,492 crore for BTA and Rs 2,240 crore for stamp and registration charges and one-time parking charges.

The trend of increasing budget allocation for MCD started after AAP won the local body election in 2022. In 2022-23, the amount allocated was ₹6,154 crore

However, in 2023-24, Delhi govt allocated Rs 850 crore as a loan for flattening landfills, which was never sanctioned, officials said. This year, no separate fund was sanctioned for this purpose. The overall allocation for sanitation was increased.

The trend of raising budget allocation for MCD happened after AAP won the local body election in 2022. In 2022-23, the amount allocated was Rs 6,154 crore, in 2021-22 it was Rs 6,172 crore and in 2020-21 it was Rs 6,828 crore.

The opposition on Monday said that the proposed allocation was too little to help MCD overcome the financial crisis it was in.

MCD leader of opposition and BJP councillor Raja Iqbal Singh said that pension was delayed by two months.

"There are salary arrears of Rs 2,000 crore. If MCD has to pay pending pension and salaries on time, then it will need a special package of at least Rs 2,000 crore. We had high expectations from Delhi govt but the allocation was a big disappointment. Not just that, after expressing their wish to flatten landfills, followed by repeated visits by ministers and CM, govt announced Rs 850 crore for bioremediation, and the budget is still in the files," Singh said.

BJP calls budget gimmick, says govt playing to gallery before LS election

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: AAP is calling its budget a "Ram Rajya budget" for electoral gains because it has nothing new for the people, BJP claimed on Monday.

Calling the Delhi budget a bundle of papers with "false announcements", leader of the Opposition in Delhi Assembly Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said, "Those who have been opposing the Ram temple are now remembering Lord Shri Ram. In the budget speech, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal was compared to Lord Shri Ram while he was unable to answer the many allegations of corruption."

Bidhuri said that BJP would demand an apology from Atishi on this.

"Last year, govt claimed that maximum emphasis would be given on transport, but several plans related did not take off. People want to know to what extent the promises made in the budget last year were implemented," he added.

Delhi BJP spokesperson said that Kejriwal's labelling of his govt's 2024-25 budget as Ram Rajya budget was another example of his 'cheap publicity stunts'

Bidhuri further asked govt why the old age pension had been stopped. "Not a single new old age pension has been sanctioned since 2017," he said.

Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said, "This is the last budget of Kejriwal govt before polls and he has tried to play to the gallery by calling it a Ram Rajya budget. It has nothing new for the people and is silent on development projects."

Sachdeva said, "While govt keeps pumping funds into Delhi Jal Board, several unauthorised colonies are still dependent on water tankers for drinking water and septic tanks for toilet waste disposal."

The BJP leader further said that Kejriwal govt spoke of investing Rs 200 crore for development of five markets, but nothing had been done till date. "Govt has failed the traders even on market upkeep," he alleged.

Govt had earlier announced that it would revamp Gandhi Nagar, Kamla Nagar, Khari Baoli, Lajpat Nagar, Sarojini Nagar and Kirti Nagar markets.

Sachdeva said that in the last year's budget, govt claimed to introduce mohalla buses, but not a single mohalla bus had hit the road even a year later.

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said that Kejriwal's labelling of his govt's 2024-25 budget as Ram Rajya budget was another example of his "cheap publicity stunts".

"They have panicked due to the support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi, especially after the construction of Ram Temple in the country. Hence, they have resorted to using words like Ram Rajya budget to attract attention," he claimed.

Atishi: Will make GST infra faceless and state of the art

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New Delhi: The capital's trade and taxes office will soon have faceless tax administration services.

Finance minister Atishi said state govt was working to make the IT infrastructure of Goods and Service Tax (GST) "state of the art" with data analytics and automation software, in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad.

"This will help in tracking, monitoring and simplifying the refund process through artificial intelligence and data-analytics. This will reduce processing time and errors in files," Atishi said in her budget speech. "This will help in detecting defaulters and tax evasion and taking action against them. The entire process will not only promote transparency in the system but will also eliminate corruption in tax administration," Atishi added.

GST and VAT contribute nearly 70% of Delhi's total tax revenue to the state coffers. Delhi govt has projected a total tax collection in the 2024-25 financial year at Rs 58,750 crore, of which Rs 41,000 crore will come from GST and value added tax.

ATISHI SAYS

By conducting 167 special audits this year, a total tax deficiency of ₹5,321 crore has been detected

There are a total of nearly 7.8 lakh GST taxpayers in the city, of which 4.8 lakh fall under the jurisdiction of Delhi govt and the remaining 3 lakh come under central govt.

Atishi said govt had simplified regulations for businesses in the past few years to help traders and industrialists and they can seamlessly conduct all their work from the comfort of their offices through faceless services.

"We have strengthened the audit process in Delhi. Based on ground intelligence, business intelligence and fraud analysis (BIFA) and GST portal intelligence, Delhi govt is conducting special auditing so that tax evasion can be stopped," she said.

"By conducting 167 special audits this year, a total tax deficiency of Rs 5,321 crore has been detected. On the basis of this ground intelligence, govt has also taken strict action against fake traders. According to intelligence reports, by doing field verification, we have suspended a total of 2,911 fake firms and detected tax evasion of Rs 1,316 crore," she said.

The minister added govt was also trying to increase excise revenue effectively by putting a stop to illegal liquor trade and ensuring the supply of quality liquor through measures like faceless enforcement and strengthening the excise intelligence bureau.

Earnings via tax revenue up, says Atishi

New Delhi: Reading out the details of Delhi's financial health, finance minister Atishi said govt's earnings through tax revenue saw an increase in the financial year 2023-24.

Atishi said GST and VAT collection until Jan 2024 grew by 14% compared to the corresponding period in 2022-23, reaching Rs 31,445 crore. Govt had projected earnings of Rs 37,200 crore for 2023-24.

The minister added that vehicle tax collection until Jan 2024 stood at Rs 2,688 crore, an increase of 11.9%, as compared to the previous fiscal for the same period. The total projection for the entire 2023-24 fiscal under this head is Rs 3,000 crore. The collection of stamp and registration fees (including land revenue) stood at Rs 5,797 crore, an increase of 16.8% over the same period in 2022-23. TNN

Judicial infra gets separate head, ₹1,108cr allocation

New Delhi: Delhi govt has made a separate head for judicial infrastructure under the law and justice department in this year's budget.

Finance minister Atishi on Monday announced an allocation of Rs 3,098 crore in the budget estimate 2024-25 for various works by the department, including proper judicial infrastructure.

"Kejriwal govt is committed to provide excellent judicial infrastructure in Delhi. In this direction, we have approved the construction of four new court complexes, whose total cost is Rs 1,108 crore," said Atishi.

She further informed that govt has also worked on appointments of judges on a large scale. A new scheme for hybrid hearings in district courts is also proposed and a share of Rs 100 crore has been earmarked for this scheme in Delhi budget.

Last year, the finance minister had approved the designs for buildings in Karkardooma, Shastri Park, Rohini and Rouse Avenue. The minister also visited a few court premises after getting complaints from lawyers and residents about poor quality of construction and maintenance of the buildings.

The Supreme Court had recently criticised Delhi govt for its indifferent attitude towards providing funds for infrastructure for the district judiciary. TNN

Focus On 10-Year Achievements In 102-Min Speech

Atishi Says Kejriwal Govt Fulfilled All Promises, Delhi Budget Growing Despite Not 'A Penny As Share In Central Taxes'

▶ Continued from P1

Though the riders will bring down the number of those eligible, chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said at a press conference later that it was likely to benefit 45-50 lakh women. An amount of Rs 2,000 crore has been set aside for this plan.

Presenting her maiden budget, Atishi also announced implementation of a 'Business Blasters' scheme for university and ITI (Industrial Training Institute) students, on the lines of those in schools, adding that all existing subsidy schemes being run by Delhi govt will continue.

"We all are inspired by the life of Lord Ram, and hence we pledged to realise the dream of Ram Rajya in Delhi," the minister said as she presented a Rs 76,000-crore budget for financial year 2024-25. There were 50 references to Ram and 23 to Ram Rajya in her speech.

"To realise this dream of Ram Rajya, we have been working day and night for the past nine years in order to bring improvement in the life of every person in Delhi," she added. She made several references to the life of Ram and read out verses from Ramcharitmanas.

It is probably the first time that the size of Delhi's annual budget has got reduced by nearly 4%. AAP govt had presented a Rs 78,800-crore budget last year. Atishi, however, compared it with the revised budget estimate of Rs 74,900 crore for the ongoing fiscal and emphasised that that outlay had increased by nearly 1.5%.

Targeting over 30% of Delhi's population that lives in 1,800-odd unauthorised colonies spread across the city, Atishi said her govt had made a provision of over Rs 900 crore for improving conditions in such areas. "The life of Lord Shri Ram has taught us that we must think first about those who are the most neglected in society," Atishi said as she touched upon various works AAP govt had carried out in unauthorised colonies in the past few years.

With a large population residing in the city's 360-odd rural and urban villages, Atishi proposed to spend Rs 900 crore for laying down 1,000km of roads. This, she said, will give a "great boost" to the village economy. People living in rural and urban villages directly impact poll results in at least three parliamentary constituencies — South Delhi, West Delhi and North West Delhi.

MORE POWER TO WOMEN

Mukhyamantri Mahila Samman Yojana for welfare and empowerment of women

Aid | ₹ 1,000 a month
For women above 18 years of age

Not eligible
- If part of any govt pension scheme
- Govt employees
- Income taxpayers

How to apply
- Fill a form
- Give a self-declaration
- Provide Aadhaar number and bank account information

Women above 18 years of age in Delhi | **67.3 lakh** (as per voter list)

Budget outlay | **₹ 2,000 crore**

In her 102-minute speech, Atishi spent a considerable time giving details of AAP govt's works and achievements in its two terms. Instead of comparing the size of the budget, allocations made to various sectors and earnings through tax revenue with those of the previous financial year, Atishi took 2014-15 as the reference year. AAP had formed its first full govt in 2015.

Atishi said the capital expenditure in 2014-15 was Rs 7,430 crore and had gone up to Rs 15,089 crore, doubling in a decade. "This growing budget is a true indicator of Delhi's prosperity because in this budget of Rs 76,000 crore, there is not a single penny coming from central govt as a share in central taxes," she said.

As in previous years, the lion's share of allocations went to education with govt setting aside Rs 16,396 crore — 22% of the total budget outlay — for the sector. In terms of actual allocation, the amount allocated to education witnessed a minor slump of Rs 179 crore.

Of this, Rs 5,476 crore will be spent on new schemes, programmes and projects, the minister said.

An allocation of Rs 100 crore to State Council of Educational Research and Training for training teachers, Rs 150 crore for construction of new schools and classrooms, Rs 45 crore for maintenance of existing classrooms and Rs 42 crore for Schools of Specialised Excellence are some of the major announcements.

The allocation for health is Rs 8,685 crore with Rs 6,215 crore being proposed for hospitals to maintain good facilities. The budgetary allocation reduced considerably from Rs 9,742 crore made for 2023-24.

Atishi also announced a budget outlay of Rs 6,216 crore for various schemes under social welfare, women & child development and SC/ST/OBC welfare departments. She announced an allocation of Rs 664 crore for all nutrition-related schemes and said this was one programme which was not spoken about much in the past.

The finance minister drew a parallel between Lord Ram and Arvind Kejriwal saying the former had to struggle for 14 years but never backed away from fulfilling his promises. Similarly, the CM, too, had to face many difficulties. "Taking a cue from Lord Shri Ram's life, CM Arvind Kejriwal has also fulfilled all his promises made to the people of Delhi in the past nine years, no matter how many difficulties he had to face," Atishi said.

She remembered former ministers Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain for their "roles in shaping the education and health models" in the capital.

Choking in dirty froth, a dying Yamuna stays invisible in budget

Kushagra Dixit & Priyangi Agarwal | TNN

File Photo

WADING THROUGH: The river continues to be polluted with high fecal coliform levels and no dissolved oxygen, which shows it is virtually dead

New Delhi: CM Arvind Kejriwal had announced in Nov 2021 that he would rejuvenate the Yamuna and take a dip in the river in Feb 2025. However, the budget for 2024-25 makes no mention of the Yamuna, which continues to remain excessively contaminated. In fact, the issue related to the environment — air and water pollution and forests — found no reference in finance minister Atishi's budget on Monday.

Though there was no mention of environmental issues, the budget speech underlined the state govt's commitment to clean energy.

The budget allocated for forests and environment for 2024-25 is Rs 295 crore, while the amount in the last financial year was Rs 263 crore. The allocation might have been less last yar, but the Yamuna had got a special mention when then finance minister Kailash Gehlot committed to clean the river through a six-point action plan though he placed no deadlines for this. The plan included trapping major drains, stopping discharge of sewage into the river and 100% sewage treatment, among others. Even earlier, in the 2022-23 budget speech, then finance minister Manish Sisodia had assured that the Yamuna "will be completely clean in two years".

These claims have remained far from reality and around 29% of the total sewage remains untreated. Even the portion being treated by the sewage treatment plants does not meet the expected standards. The river continues to be polluted and its water has tested terribly high for faecal coliform and has no dissolved oxygen, indicating that the river is virtually dead.

In the budget speech of 2023-24, Gahlot had announced that Delhi govt would deploy 11 mobile vans for monitoring real-time sources of air pollution in each district. Though the project for real-time source apportionment was started and a laboratory was set up on Rouse Avenue in Jan 2022, the mobile vans are yet to run in any of the districts.

When the budget for 2022-23 was presented by Sisodia, Delhi govt had proposed to establish the city's first govt veterinary college for treatment of all types of animals. This commitment remains to be fulfilled. It had also been announced that over the next five years, govt was going to launch several initiatives to create more than one lakh green jobs, an intent that has not fructified.

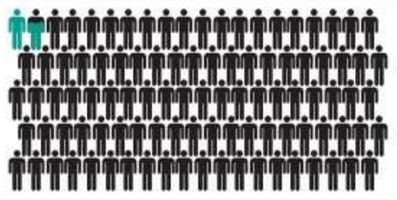
Sunil Dahiya, South Asia analyst, Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air, commented, "Govt's budget speech missing out on prioritising the environment and air pollution at a time when the city grabs attention as one of the most polluted cities in India is a missed opportunity. It could also have had huge potential to set national discourse, especially when the national elections are just around the corner. Specific allocations to strengthen Delhi Pollution Control Committee and the environment department while granting funds to set up a time-bound sectoral emission load reduction-based system for air quality improvement could have been crucial steps for Delhi."

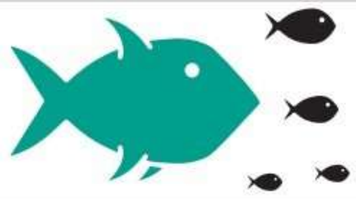
TINY STATE, BIG ECONOMY, RICH PEOPLE, SURPLUS FINANCES

Economically, Delhi punches well above its weight

0.05% of India's area — Delhi is India's smallest state. Second smallest state, Goa, is 2.5 times bigger than Delhi

1.55% of country's population — At 2.2 crore, Delhi is bigger than J&K and Uttarakhand





11th largest state economy — At 10.4 lakh crore, Delhi's GDP in 2022-23 was bigger than GDP of Punjab, Haryana, Kerala, Bihar

3rd richest state in India — With ₹4.4 lakh annual per capita income in 2022-23, Delhi was only behind Goa and Sikkim

₹4,966 cr Revenue surplus in 2023-24 — Delhi is one of the few states to have surplus on revenue account

Data source: RBI | Delhi and Puducherry are special category states

'Budget size reduced as GST compensation discontinued'

Atul.Mathur @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Finance minister Atishi attributed the reduction in the size of the budget for the financial year 2024-25 to the discontinuation of GST compensation.

While Delhi presented a budget of Rs 78,800 crore last year, it has come down by Rs 2,800 crore to Rs 76,000 crore this time. The budgetary allocation for 2022-23 was Rs 75,800 crore.

The minister said the GST compensation, which used to be given to the states by central govt, had stopped for the last two years. While Delhi used to get Rs 10,000 crore as GST compensation earlier and got a small component of Rs 2,000-3,000 crore last year, too, Atishi said, it was not expected now.

She said it was because of Delhi's remarkable growth despite discontinuation of the GST compensation that it could increase the revenue in comparison to the previous year. "Though budget estimate was slightly higher last year, the final estimate (for 2023-24) was Rs 74,900 crore. This year, we have increased it by Rs 1,100 crore to Rs 76,000 crore," Atishi said.

She added that other states had plugged their budget deficit after discontinuation of the GST component by taking loans. "Delhi is the only state that raises its own resources honestly and spends money on all schemes, and despite giving all subsidies, it is in fiscal surplus."

Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal said Delhiites were probably the second highest income-tax payers after Mumbai, but the city got nothing in lieu of it from Centre. "The income tax of Rs 2 lakh crore collected from Delhi people is distributed in the entire country (by Centre) and we get not even a penny out of it. This is injustice and like strangling the hen laying a golden egg," he said.

Atishi said the revised budget estimate for 2023-24 was proposed to be Rs 74,900 crore, 16.8% higher than the expenditure of Rs 64,110 crore incurred in 2022-23. Of the proposed revised budget estimate, Rs 56,440 crore were earmarked for revenue expenditure and Rs 18,460 crore for capital expenditure, the finance minister added.

Allocation flow boost for water and sewage, DJB gets ₹7,195 crore

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FINANCE MINISTER ATISHI SAYS

CM Arvind Kejriwal started providing 20,000 litres of water free to households every month. Approximately 62.5% of all households in Delhi, which is around 17 lakh in total, received water completely free of cost

New Delhi: Allocation in the Delhi budget for water and sewerage has gone up from last year. "In the Hindu religion, it is believed that there is no greater virtuous deed than offering water to a thirsty person," said minister Atishi when announcing the increase in allocation.

Top priorities for the AAP govt, water and sewerage got Rs 7,195 crore under the 2024-25 budget, up from Rs 6,342 crore in the last fiscal. Atishi claimed that after 2014, when AAP formed its first full-term govt, Delhi govt has laid down 2,422km of new water pipelines and 3,100km of new sewer lines, enabling every Delhi resident to get the basic water and sewage facilities. Delhi now has a total of 4,243km of sewer lines, she said, and 1,031 unauthorised colonies are connected to the sewer network.

Delhi Jal Board — over which there has been a lot of friction between bureaucrats and the elected govt — was able to increase its drinking water production to 1,009 million gallons per day (MGD), meeting the target set in the 2023-24 budget, Atishi announced. Another achievement listed by the minister was DJB increasing its coverage of sewer networks in unauthorised colonies from 93% since the last budget to 99.6% at the time of Budget 2024-25.

The finance minister claimed that when AAP assumed the helm in Delhi in 2014, lakhs of people were struggling for daily water needs. "CM Arvind Kejriwal started providing 20,000 litres of water free to households every month. Approximately 62.5% of all households in Delhi, which is around 17 lakh in total, received water completely free of cost," Atishi asserted.

She said that women no longer needed to stand in long queues for water tankers. "People living in unauthorised colonies can now have proper access to civic amenities like roads, water and sewerage," said Atishi.

The minister pointed out that one of the reasons why the Yamuna remained polluted was the untreated sewage flowing into the river. However, she did not make any mention about any new projects to clean the river or strengthen the sewer network.

Since last year, DJB has been facing a major financial crunch because, according to the minister, bureaucrats of the finance department allegedly stopped the flow of funds to execute projects. The work has impacted the contractors, who are now fighting a legal case in the high court to get their pending dues cleared. Many have stopped taking new projects due to the uncertainty over payments after the execution of works.

Infra in villages and illegal colonies centre of attention

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New Delhi: Improvement of road infrastructure in villages was among the focus areas of Delhi govt's 2024-25 budget that came out with a scheme for development of roads and allocated Rs 900 crore for it.

"For better road infrastructure in villages, this year the AAP govt will lay about 1,000 km of roads in more than 360 villages of Delhi. This will help in giving a boost to the economy in these villages. For the development of villages of Delhi, I propose a budget of Rs 900 crore," finance minister Atishi said.

In Dec 2023, lieutenant governor had announced intensive development of villages under Delhi Development Authority's (DDA) Dilli Gramoday Abhiyan. A budget of Rs 800 crore was announced for the development of urbanised villages.

Another focus area was on continuing the work on expansion of roads and drains in unauthorised colonies. "Our govt is committed to provide basic facilities to improve the lives of 40 lakh people living in unauthorised colonies. To continue the work on expansion of roads and drains in unauthorised colonies on a war footing, I propose Rs 902 crore in budget estimates 2024-25," Atishi said.

The total allocation under various schemes in the housing and urban development sector for 2024-25 stood at Rs 9,800 crore after the budget was read out.

There are 1,800 unauthorised colonies with 30% of Delhi's population and AAP govt claimed to have built 5,175 km of roads in 1,355 colonies, in addition to providing 99.6% of the colonies with water pipelines.

Continuing the scheme of "strengthening and augmentation of infrastructure", known as the MLALAD scheme, in other parts of city, Atishi said: "I propose Rs 400 crore."

Under the MLALAD scheme, in 2023-24, 717 projects were completed.

Atishi added that under the Mukhyamantri Sadak Punarnirman Yojana and Mukhyamantri Street Light Yojana, the condition of roads and streets were being improved. "The efforts include making roads safe by reducing dark spots.... I proposed Rs 275 crore for these schemes in 2024-25," she said. These schemes were not there in the last budget. The Mukhyamantri Street Light Yojana was launched in 2019. In Nov 2023, Delhi govt decided to install 70,000 streetlights. The funds seem to have been allocated in this budget.

More money for welfare dept, scheme for women takes chunk

Ridhima.Gupta @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: This year, the social welfare department has been given a hiked budgetary allocation of Rs 6,694 crore, an increase of Rs 1,472 crore, or 31%, over the 2023-24 amount. However, despite the increase, not much has been demarcated for the existing schemes. Almost a third of the total allocation will go into a new scheme to financially empower women. The support for senior citizens, meanwhile, was reduced.

Among the social initiatives in the 2024-25 budget, Delhi govt, aiming to empower women, announced the Mukhyamantri Mahila Samman Yojana. "This will be the world's biggest scheme for empowering women. Under this revolutionary scheme, every woman above 18 years of age will get an amount of Rs 1,000 per month," declared finance minister Atishi on Monday. She allocated Rs 2,000 crore of the Rs 6,694 crore for the social welfare department for this new scheme.

Interestingly, in the 2022-23 budget, AAP govt had announced a pension of Rs 2,000-2,500 for senior citizens, women, disabled and disadvantaged people. As per govt, the pension was given to 8.5 lakh beneficiaries in the year and the number of beneficiaries increased to 8.8 lakh in 2023-24. During her budget speech on Monday, Atishi said that the pension beneficiaries would likely number 9.3 lakh in the new financial year.

In contrast, the allocation for pension has consecutively gone down in the last three years. In its 2022-2023 budget, Delhi govt allocated Rs 3,063 crore for pensions. In the budget for 2023-2024, govt proposed a sum of Rs 2,962 crore for pension beneficiaries, which was Rs 101 crores less than in the 2022-23 budget. This year, the allocation under the pension head has been reduced to Rs 2,714 crore, a further decrease of Rs 248 crore.

In the last budget, govt had also announced four new social schemes: on-site skill training, Doctor on Wheels, crèches at construction sites and tool kit distribution for construction workers. "From laying each brick of the new Sansad Bhawan to building bridges, roads, drains, parks for us, to working in various institutions, labourers in Delhi are an important and irreplaceable part of Delhi's life," minister Kailash Gahlot had said when announcing the schemes in his budget speech last year.

Under the skill development scheme, for instance, the labour department had set a target of training two lakh construction workers on the job. However, there was no mention of any of the four schemes during Atishi's speech in this year's budget presentation.

FROM HUMBLE BACKGROUNDS TO MAKING WAVES

Text: Shreya Ghosh

TOI CATCHES UP WITH TWO BRIGHT SPARKS WHO FOUND MENTION IN ATISHI'S BUDGET SCHEME

SHIMPI | 18

Shimpi, who studied at a Delhi govt school in Rohini, Sector 23, is now studying chemical engineering at IIT-Guwahati

"When I was in sixth or seventh grade, I used to think that private schools were better. However, over time, I saw how govt schools were developing. I changed schools three times. In my community, many girls are not allowed to go far from their area. However, my parents always motivated me; they had faith in me. My parents are originally from Bihar. My mother is a homemaker, and my father is a factory worker. I aspire to be a software engineer, but I believe AI will change things. So, I'm exploring other avenues too. What we achieve in life is not solely determined by the school or institution we attend, but rather by our efforts. I attended govt school, Narela, and School of Specialised Excellence in Class XI. I found them to be really great. I didn't feel that my education was any less than that of private school students; in fact, I, personally, felt better. Those private school students from 2022 seemed overburdened. During my plus-two, I received a lot of help, including JEE classes in school. This allowed me to concentrate better. The teachers were very supportive; they even provided offline coaching for competitive exams, in addition to assistance with workbook questions related to JEE preparation.

ANANT SHARMA CEO AT TWEEK LABS

In 2019, during his graduation days, Anant Sharma launched a startup called Tweek Labs, which harnessed a new discovery in field of sports technology. Starting small at Innovation and Incubation Centre at IIIT-D, Anant went on to secure a spot on business reality show—*Shark Tank*. He presented his business pitch in front of the country's most renowned entrepreneurs and secured funding of ₹60 lakh.

"Teaming up with my co-founder at IIIT-Delhi, we realised technology's true success lies in its real-world application. Through entrepreneurship, guided by our advisor, we learned to blend tech prowess with business acumen. Incubated at IIIT-Delhi, we received crucial early-stage support, vital for competing globally. *Shark Tank* taught us the importance of pitching beyond just business, emphasising on integrity and passion. Programmes like Business Blasters equip aspiring entrepreneurs with essential skills beyond traditional education, fostering successful ventures.

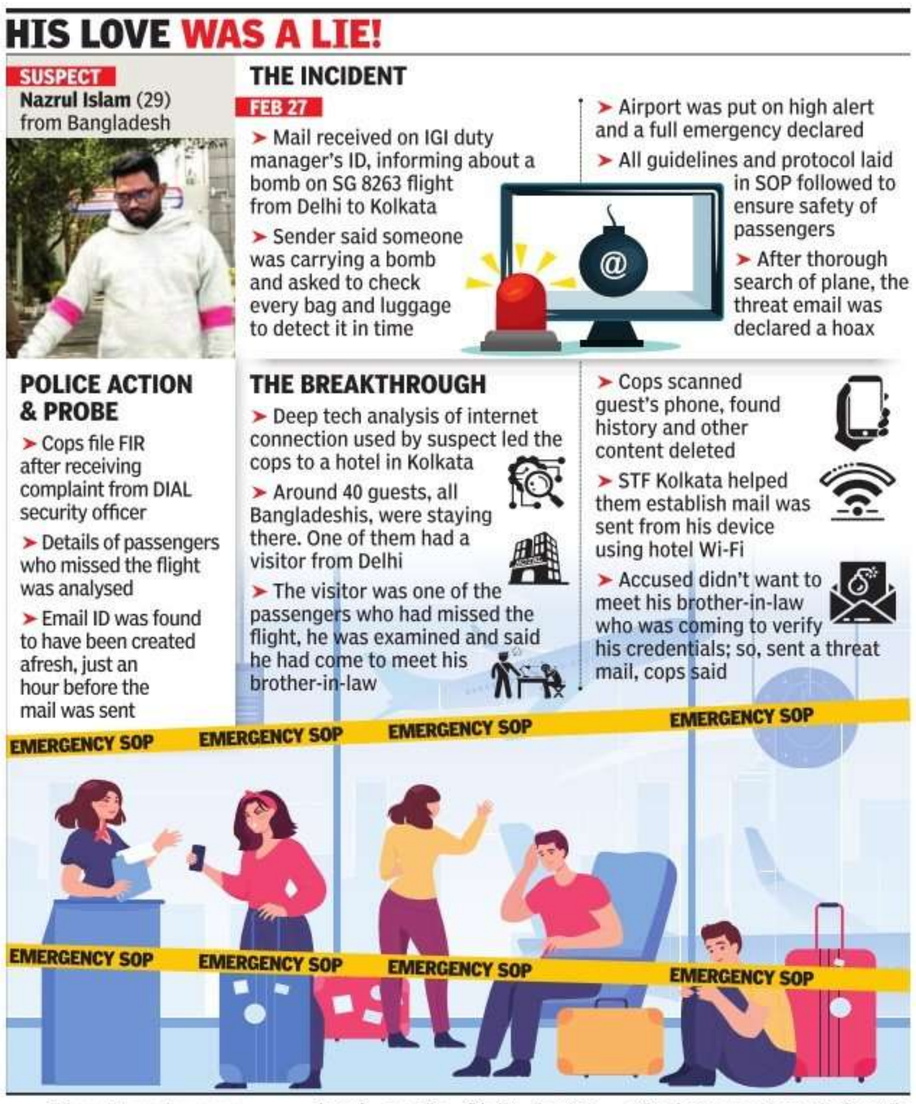
WHAT ATISHI SAID

"Today, a child from a poor or an ordinary family can achieve anything by studying in Delhi govt schools... just like our schoolchildren... Shimpi who studied at a Delhi govt school in Rohini, Sector 23... Her father works in a small factory. To contribute to household expenses, Shimpi used to give tuition to children in her neighbourhood. With the help of her schoolteachers, she prepared for IIT-JEE. Today, she is studying chemical engineering at IIT-Guwahati. This means that the daughter of a factory worker now has the potential to become managing director of a factory in the future.

"Anant's story proves that if a talent gets support from govt, the youth studying in Delhi or any other college across the country can change the world with their fantastic business ideas... 122 students are receiving mentorship from incubation centres by industry leaders to fund their startups.

Bomb Hoax At Airport Ruse To Protect Cover

B'deshi Man Wanted To Evade Bro-In-Law



TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: From pursuing a course in airline management to threatening to blow up an aircraft — 29-year-old Nazrul Islam's journey has been full of twists and turns. In 2017, Islam, who belongs to Bangladesh, was pursuing a one-year-course at a university in Punjab when he met a girl named Sonia and fell in love with her.

However, before he could express his feelings, Islam had to return to Dhaka as his course ended. During the pandemic in 2020, he crossed paths with Sonia again when he found her on Instagram. They started chatting and became close friends. Eventually, Islam proposed marriage.

Sonia was initially hesitant as she was a Christian and Islam a Muslim. To convince her, he spun a web of deceit, claiming he had received a visa for the US to pursue his PhD. Sonia eventually said yes and they got married in April last year. But the shift to the US never happened. Sonia got suspicious when he started making excuses, saying he was stuck in Kolkata because of farmers' agitation.

Sonia then asked her brother to go to Kolkata and check his credentials. Scared he would be exposed, Islam allegedly made a temporary email ID and sent a mail to Delhi airport claiming there was a bomb on the flight Sonia's brother was on to prevent him from coming to Kolkata.

On Feb 27, IGI airport went into a tizzy as the mail said there was a safety issue in flight SG 8263 from Delhi to Kolkata and that somebody was carrying explosives. The sender asked that every bag and passenger should be checked to avert an explosion.

"Considering the gravity and sensitivity of the call, Delhi airport was put on high alert and a full emergency was declared. The guidelines in the SOP were properly followed to ensure the safety of passengers. After a thorough search of the flight, the threat email was found to be a hoax," said DCP Usha Rangnani.

The DCP formed a team comprising inspector Vijender Rana, SI Ashok and others to crack the case. The details of the passengers who missed the flight were obtained from the airlines and each passenger was verified. However, nothing suspicious emerged.

Technical analysis revealed the email ID was created afresh, just an hour before the email was sent. Investigation led the team to Kolkata, where the source of the email was traced to a Wi-Fi connection installed at Classic Hotel in Park Street. At the time, 40 guests were staying in the hotel and all of them were using the Wi-Fi and almost all of them were Bangladeshi nationals. The concerned Internet Service Provider also could not help.

Cops then verified each guest and found that one had a visitor from Delhi who had missed the flight. On being quizzed, he revealed he had come to meet his brother-in-law, Mazrul Islam, who had been staying there for a month. Cops checked Islam's phone and found history and other data deleted.

Police then took technical help from STF Kolkata and established that the mail was sent from Islam's device. During interrogation, Islam told cops he had a debt of about Rs 50 lakh and, therefore, was not returning to his hometown. He had allegedly planned to siphon money from his wife.

DCP SAYS

Considering the gravity and sensitivity of the call, Delhi airport was put on high alert and a full emergency was declared. The guidelines in the SOP were properly followed. After a thorough search of the flight, the threat email was found to be a hoax

Dogs becoming territorial, they attack anybody: HC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

File Photo

HC issues notice to govt, NDMC

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday said that stray dogs are becoming a menace and sought the authorities' stand in the capital, on a petition for a Rs 50 lakh compensation filed by the father of a toddler who was allegedly mauled to death by a pack of canines last month.

Justice Subramonium Prasad issued notice to New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), city govt and the police and sought a status report from them about steps being taken to ensure that such incidents do not take place again.

The one-and-a-half-year-old girl was playing outside her home in the Dhobi Ghat area of Tughlak Lane, when four-five dogs attacked her, dragged her for several metres and mauled her. "The problem is people are coming in the vans and feeding the dogs. Because of that, dogs have become too territorial, and they attack anybody. They are becoming a menace for the pedestrians," Justice Prasad remarked in initial oral observations, while hearing the case for compensation.

"Feeding strays may be good but you are taking away their capacity to go and find their own food. They have nothing else to do," the court added, when the counsel for the petitioner father said in the instant case, dogs were being fed in a children's park, putting them at risk.

The court further directed that CCTV footage of the relevant time be preserved. The petitioner's counsel also prayed for directions to the authorities to take immediate steps to remove the dogs elsewhere.

Petitioner Rahul Kanaujiya said in his plea that due to the negligence and administrative lapse on part of NDMC, his daughter was brutally attacked, dragged to a secluded place, and mauled by a pack of violent dogs on Feb 24. "It is the duty of the state to save and protect the lives of the people as per Article 21 of the Constitution. Such negligent and administrative lapse on the part of the NDMC has violated the fundamental rights of the deceased child and the petitioner, enshrined under Article 21 (right to life and personal liberty) of the Constitution," the plea contended.

The matter will be heard next on March 13.

'Strong winds to blame for collapse of railing at mall'

Noida: The agency responsible for maintenance at the Noida Extension mall, where a falling piece of railing killed a shop owner and his apprentice on Sunday, wrote to police, saying the collapse occurred because of "strong winds".

Ajay Bisht, manager of Kanav Consultancy and Liasioning Pvt Ltd, wrote on Monday that a team was inspecting the premises after complaints from workers that several fittings had become weak because of strong winds. TNN

Woman to face perjury case for false claim of kidnap, rape; court frees three

Vineet .Upadhyay
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Acquitting three men in a gang rape and kidnapping case, a court observed that any woman who misused law to falsely accuse an individual of rape should be dealt with strictly as the evil of perjury had assumed alarming propositions.

Opining that the prosecutrix's conduct was highly unnatural and belied her story, additional sessions judge at Special Fast Track Court Jagmohan Singh ordered proceedings under CrPC 344 (trial for giving false evidence) against her. "The evil of perjury has assumed alarming propositions in cases depending on oral evidence, and in order to deal with the menace effectively, it is desirable for the courts to use the provision more effectively and frequently than it is presently done."

The woman claimed one Satish and three others, Yogesh Gupta, Kuldeep and Satbir, had abducted and raped her. She also alleged they had threatened to send her nude photos and videos to her in-laws. She accused Satish of having claimed to file a bigamy case against her using a fake marriage certificate. Satbir died during the trial.

In Feb 2016, charges were framed against the four under IPC sections 376(2)(n) (repeated rape), 366 (kidnapping and inducing marriage), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 344 (wrongful confinement for 10 or more days), 34 (common intention), 376D (gang rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation).

Noting that the case was filed as the woman had married Satish at an Arya Samaj temple while concealing her previous marriage, the court stated Satish had wanted to take legal action against her.

The woman claimed she was abducted on Nov 29, 2012, held hostage in Karnal until Dec 10 and gang-raped. However, the judge referred to a priest's testimony that she was in Delhi where her marriage with Satish was solemnised and called her testimony unworthy of merit.

Court reserves order in MLA's case

Delhi High Court on Monday reserved its order on a plea by AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan seeking anticipatory bail in a money laundering case related to alleged irregularities in staff recruitment and leasing of assets by the Delhi Waqf Board. He approached the court after his application for pre-arrest bail was rejected by a trial court last week. PTI

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Nadia
Tender Notice
E-Tender for Cleaning & Housekeeping Services for Hospitals of Government Health Facilities under CMOH Office, Nadia for District Hospital, Nadia vide Memo no. **CMOH-Nad/1080, dated 28/02/2024**. For Tender process, please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbhealth.gov.in from 05/03/2024
ICA- T5914(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, South 24-Pgs. W/S Division-I, PHE Dte. vide Ref. No. 64/2023-2024/EE/SWD-I/WBPHED and ID: 2024_PHED_676029_1 to 15 for works Construction of Platform for providing FHTC for Ground Water Based for different PWSS in Baruipur blocks under SWD-I, PHE Dte. Details will be available in the website: http://wbtenders.gov.in The last date for submission of tender is 20/03/2024 upto 3.00 PM. Sd/- for Executive Engineer, South 24-Pgs. W/S Division-I, P.H.E Dte. ICA-T5908(3)/2024

NADIA ZILLA PARISHAD
Krishnagar, Nadia
E-Tenders are invited by the under signed from the bonafied Contractors for different developmental works at different pin pointed sites within different blocks in Nadia district. The details of the NIeT's are as follows:

NIeT No	Serial No	Last date of application	Total estimated cost. (Approx)
66/NZP of 2023-24	SI-01 to 02	09.03.2024	99.03 lakh
	SI-03 to 05	16.03.2024	
67/NZP of 2023-24	SI-01 to 06	12.03.2024	101.74 lakh
	SI-07 to 08	19.03.2024	

Please see website: **www.wbprd.gov.in** or contact to this office.
Sd/-
District Engineer
Nadia Zilla Parishad
Memo No.: 48(3)/DICO/N/Advt.24
Date : 04.03.2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DISTRICT HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE SAMITI, HOWRAH
e-Tender Notice
No-16/23-24
Memo No-CMOH/DHFWS/HOW/406/29 (Starting date of application 27.02.2024) Last date of application 04.03.2024)
E-Tenderis hereby Infrastructure Strengthening of O.D.F and Ayush at Howrah at Howrah District. Visit at www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbhealth.gov.in & www.healthyhowrah.org Sd/- CMOH & Secretary, DH&FWS, Howrah.
ICA- T5842(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-Tender Notice
e-NIT is invited by the Executive Engineer, Jhargram Zilla Parishad, Ref: -JGM/ZP/N-63/2023-24 (Sl.No-1 to 23). Tender ID- 2024_ZPHD_679219_ 1 to 23, and For different PS area under Jhargram Zilla Parishad. Technical and Financial bid submission closing date & time 20.03.2024 upto 14:00 Hours.
All details can be obtained from the website **www.wbtenders.gov.in** & **www.jhargram.gov.in**.
Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Jhargram Zilla Parishad
Memo No.: 57(2)/Adv/JICA
Date: 04.03.2024

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & PROJECT DIRECTOR
STATE PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT
WEST BENGAL MAJOR IRRIGATION AND FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT
JALASAMPAD BHAWAN, 9TH FLOOR, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700 091
E-Mail : ce.pd.wbmifmp@gmail.com, Tel : 033-23581315

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Procurement Notice for India - P162679
West Bengal Major Irrigation & Flood Management Project - IN-IWD-407630-CW-RFB
(Funded by World Bank, AIIB & Government of West Bengal)

Contract No. (1)	Contract Title (2)	Bid Security *(Rs.) (3)	Cost of Document (Rs.) (4)	Period of Completion (5)
*Design, Build, Supply, Installation & Commissioning at site SCADA - PLC based system for automation operation of gates of LBMC & RBMC including setting up of an Integrated Command Control Centre at Kanai Natsal, Purba Bardhaman. (comprising three Lots)".				
RFB NO. : WBMIFMP/PD/NCB/ 23-24/SCGA/L-1	Design Build, Supply, Installation and Commissioning at site of PLC based RTU local automation of Electromechanical gates at 44 Locations of Head and Cross regulators of LBMC & RBMC and 14 locations of adjacent Navigation loop Canals of LBMC.	INR 0.15 Crore. [Indian Rupees Fifteen Lakhs only]	NIL	12 Months including rainy and all other seasons
RFB NO. : WBMIFMP/PD/NCB/ 23-24/SCGA/L-2	Design, Build, Supply, Development & Commissioning of all Hardware and Software to setup Integrated Command Control Centre at Kanai Natsal, Purba Bardhaman.	INR 0.15 Crore. [Indian Rupees Fifteen Lakhs only]	NIL	10 Months including rainy and all other seasons
RFB NO. : WBMIFMP/PD/NCB/ 23-24/SCGA/L-3	Design, Build, supply, installation and commissioning at site Canal Water Level measurement systems at 44 locations and Discharge measurement at 8 locations of LBMC and RBMC.	INR 0.15 Crore. [Indian Rupees Fifteen Lakhs only]	NIL	11 Months including rainy and all other seasons

Procurement Officer	Availability of Bidding Document		
Chief Engineer & Project Director, WBMIFMP, I&WD, Govt. of WB	The bidding document is available online on **https://wbtenders.gov.in**	From **05.03. 2024 at 10:00 hours (IST)**	To **08.04.2024 upto 15:00 hours (IST)**

Note :
(I) The bidders are required to submit (a) original bid security in approved form; and (b) original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document with **Chief Engineer and Project Director, SPMU, WBMIFMP, 9th Floor, Jalasampad Bhavan, Western Block, Bidhannagar, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700091, West Bengal** before the bid submission deadline, either by registered post/speed post/courier or by hand, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive and will not be opened.
(ii) The eligibility criteria for selection of Agency/Firms are provided below:
(a) The bidder should have a minimum construction Cash flow requirement as follows: - **i) Lot -1: INR 1.52 Cr.: ii) Lot - 2: INR 1.93 Cr.: iii) Lot - 3: INR 1.68Cr.**
(b) The bidder should have a minimum average annual construction turnover during the best five financial years within the last Seven financial years i.e. from FY 2016-17 to FY 2022-23 as follows :- **i) Lot -1: INR 9.12 Cr. ii) Lot -2: INR 9.65 Cr. iii) Lot -3: INR 9.24 Cr.**
(c) The bidder should have satisfactorily, as a prime contractor, joint venture member , management contractor or sub - contractor completed at least one similar nature of work of one contract having minimum value between 1st April 2016 and bid submission deadline as Follows:- **(i) Lot – 1: INR 4.87 Cr; (ii) Lot - 2: INR 5.15 Cr; (iii) Lot - 3: INR 4.93 Cr;**
(d) The bidder should have minimum experience required in the following key activities successfully completed for: -
Lot - 1: 36 sets PLC based RTU with GSM /GPRS communication module or of similar design/installation and commissioning experience in canal automation or hydraulic industry or in similar field in wide area distributed manner, in the contract cited at 4.2 (a) above and also other similar contract(s) executed during the same period.
Lot - 2: One setup of Designed, built, supplied, installed, and commissioned of Redundant SCADA-Master PLC-based system for distributed RTU-based field automation using Hardware Software solution and commissioning experience in canal automation or hydraulic industry or in similar field in wide area distributed manner, in the contract cited at 4.2 (a) above and also other similar contract(s) executed during the same period.
Lot - 3: Build, supply, installation and commissioning of 36 nos. Radar water level Transmitter / Surface velocity Transmitter or of similar design / installation and commissioning experience in canal automation or hydraulic industry or in similar field in wide area distributed manner, in the contract cited at 4.2 (a) above and also other similar contract(s) executed during the same period
Further details & Corrigendum if any can be seen from the website : **https://wbtenders.gov.in**
Sd/-
Chief Engineer and Project Director,
SPMU, WBMIFMP, Government of West Bengal

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Bakreswar Thermal Power Project
P.O. BkTPP, Dist. - Birbhum, Pin - 731104
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/23-24/BkTPP/CC-1605 Date: 01.03.2024
NIT No.: WBPDCL/BKTPP/NIT/E2948/23-24
E- Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager - BkTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 Part bid system for **"Procurement of 04 sets of Hi-Chrome Grinding Elements with buy back for 10E10 Coal Mill of Stage -I Boiler under BMD at BkTPS". Tender Document Download Start Date:** 04.03.2024 at 12.00 hrs. **Bid Submission End Date:** 27.03.2024 at 15:00 hrs. **Contact Person:** Mr. Sumit Dasgupta, Sr. Manager, HOD (Purchase Deptt.), BkTPS, WBPDCL. **Mobile:** 8336903911. **E-mail:** s.dasgupta@wbpdcl.co.in/ purchase_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in**
ICA-T5918(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE, PHE DTE. NIJALAY, PLOT NO. CN-8, SEC-V, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700091
QUOTATION NOTICE
Tender Ref. No : WBPHED/SE/EC/NIEQ-94/2023-24, Tender ID:2024_PHED_675039_1,2024_PHED_675039_2, 2024_PHED_675039_3 & 2024_PHED_675039_4.
e-Tenders in WBF 2912 are invited for the work:- "Construction of DIFFERENT capacity Arsenic-cum-Iron Removal plant at Badkulla-II (SM/00246)/Bagula Zone-II (SM/00228)/Water Supply Scheme under Ranaghat Sub-Division & existing headwork site at Andharkota/ proposed headwork site at Andharkota to accommodate FHTC under Tehatta Sub-Divn under Nadia Division PHED." (Sl NO 1 TO 4) & Corrigendum uploaded Bid Submission Closing Date (Online) : 26.03.2024 at 2.00 pm. Further details are available in the website:- http://wbtenders.gov.in/nicgep/app Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, PHE Dte.
ICA-T5911(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE, PHE DTE. NIJALAY, PLOT NO. CN-8, SEC-V, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700091
TENDER NOTICE
Ref. No: WBPHED/SE/EC/NIeT-93/2023-24 Tender ID : 2024_PHED_674968_1 & 2024_PHED_674968_2
E-Tenders in WBF 2911 are invited for the work: - "Additional work of providing FHTC and additional work of Laying Distribution System in connection with Augmentation of **Paschim Bhatjangla Zone-I** PWSS within Krishnagar-I Block under RWS Nadia Sub-Division & Laying of Distribution System including specials, valves & pipe carrying structure all complete, Proposed augmentation of Rising Main system and Providing FHTC including supplying, laying, fitting, fixing of 15mm NB PVC (schedule 80)/20mm OD HDPE (PE100, PN16) pipe with all necessary specials, saddle piece etc. all complete for Augmentation of Ground Based Water Supply Scheme at **Bareya Zone-II** to accommodate FHTC under Tehatta Sub-Divn under Nadia Division, PHE Dte. (Sl No 1 to 2) & Corrigendum Uploaded." Bid Submission Closing Date (Online) : 26.03.2024 at 02.00 pm. Further details are available in the website:- http://wbtenders.gov.in/nicgep/app Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, PHE Dte.
ICA-T5910(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
Tender ID: 2024_PHED_676500_(1-2) WBPHE/EE/JMD/NIeT 70 OF 2023-2024
Ref: Memo No. 2671/JMD dated 28.02.2024
The Executive Engineer, Jhargram Mechanical Division, PHE Dte. has invited open e-Tender for the work (Sl. no. 1 to 2) as mentioned in the respective NIeT. Last date of submission 11.03.2024. For details please visit www.wbtenders.gov.in & the departmental website i.e. www.wbphed.gov.in and Office Notice Board. Sd/- EE/JMD, PHE Dte.
ICA- T5898(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE, PHE DTE. NIJALAY, PLOT NO. CN-8, SEC-V, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700091
TENDER NOTICE
Ref. No: WBPHED/SE/EC/NIeT-97/2023-24 Tender ID: 2024_PHED_675452_1
E-Tenders in WBF 2911 are invited for the work:- "Repairing of Solar Powered Standalone Community Water Purification Plant at Different Location within Nadia District under Ranaghat Sub-Division of Nadia Division, PHE Dte. & Corrigendum Uploaded." Bid Submission Closing Date (Online) : 26.03.2024 at 02.00 pm. Further details are available in the website:- http://wbtenders.gov.in/nicgep/app Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, PHE Dte.
ICA-T5906(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE, PHE DTE. NIJALAY, PLOT NO. CN-8, SEC-V, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA - 700091
TENDER NOTICE
Ref. No : WBPHED/SE/EC/NIeT-95/2023-24
Tender ID: 2024_PHED_675096_1, 2024_PHED_675096_2, 2024_PHED_675096_3 & 2024_PHED_675096_4
E-Tenders in WBF 2911 are invited for the work: - "Additional pipeline and other allied works as per revised LDS in connection with Augmentation of **Bodai-I / Bodai-II / Chandrapur / Water Supply Scheme** under **JJM** programme in Amdanga block & Construction of 200 cum capacity CWR with pipe connection, Construction of Boundary wall, Approach Road, Earth Filling, Construction of 5.40 mtr. X 3.60 mtr. size Switch Room with sanitary and water supply arrangement and Laying of DI/UPVC distribution pipe line, Providing Functional Household Tap Connection, Protection works for different dia. UPVC/DI distribution pipeline by UC bullah pile at different places **at Diara (Zone-II) Water Supply Scheme** under Bagdah Block within Barasat/ Bongaon Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte. under Barasat Division, P.H.E. Dte. (Sl No 1 to 4). & Corrigendum uploaded." Bid Submission Closing Date (Online) : 26.03.2024 at 02.00 pm. Further details are available in the website:- http://wbtenders.gov.in/ nicgep/app Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, PHE Dte.
ICA- T5912(3)/2024

NADIA ZILLA PARISHAD
Krishnagar, Nadia
Item tare E-Tender has been invited by the undersigned from eligible Manufacturer, Manufacturer's authorized dealer/ Govt. undertaking Organizations having experience in similar of work for the following works. **NIT- 22/Elect/NZP of 2023-24.Sl-1 to 7.** Name of work : Supply, Installation and commissioning of 2 nos Solar Based Mini (9m) High Mast Tower Light System at i) Gopalpur Kath Mil under Karimpur-II Block and ii) Nandanpur Primary Health Center under Karimpur-II Block. Estimated amount put to tender is Rs. 5.90 lakh.
Last date of submission of e-tenders is 12.03.2024. Please see website **www.wbprd.gov.in** or contact to this office.
Sd/-
District Engineer
Nadia Zilla Parishad
Memo No. 49(2)/DICO/N/Advt.24
Date : 04.03.2024

A-1655
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE-II, CHANDIKHOLE
Email ID :-seec2chandikhole@gmail.com
"e" Procurement Notice No. ACE, EC-II 16 of 2023-24 (On-line)

1	Name of works	1	Improvement to service road on Chitrotpala right Embankment from RD 45.900Km. to 52.300Km. In the district of Kendarpara.
		2	Improvement to road on Gobindpur-Hadua-Madhuban TRE from RD 810 mtr. to 4500 mtr. under Aul block of Kendrapara District
		3	Protection to scoured Bank on Brahmani Right embankment at Village Kustira and Baunsaanta.
		4	Costruction of flood protection embankment at Routrapur (Kundapatana) on Brahmani right
		5	Improvement to Serapur OAE (From RD 0.00 KM to RD 3.20 KM) on Brahmani Right in Dharmashala Block of Jajpur District
		6	Protection to Scoured Bank on Baltarani Left near Village Anandpur, Utteipur & Kantapari.
		7	Scoured Bank protection at Samantarapur Gherry on Brahmani Left near Khageswar Temple.
		8	Protection to Scoured Bank on Baitarani Left embankment from Mahespur to Dadeswar.
2	Total No. of Packages	:	08 (Eight) No. Individual Packages
3	Tender cost	1	Rs. 330.09 Lakh (Approximately)
		2	Rs. 432.78 Lakh (Approximately)
		3	555.86 Lakh (Approximately)
		4	266.29 Lakh (Approximately)
		5	252.35 Lakh (Approximately)
		6	308.66 Lakh (Approximately)
		7	250.95 Lakh (Approximately)
		8	796.25 Lakh (Approximately)
4	Cost of Bid Document (Non Refundable)	:	Rs. 10,000.00 (On-line payment) for each Package
5	Bid security	1	Rs. 3,30,100/-
		2	Rs. 4,32,800/-
		3	Rs.5,55,900/-
		4	Rs.2,66,300/-
		5	Rs.2,52,400/-
		6	Rs.3,08,700/-
		7	Rs.2,51,000/-
		8	Rs.7,96,300/-:
6	Class of Contractor	1	"A" Class for Package No.- 1,2, 3 & 6.
			"B & A" Class for Package No.- 4,5 & 7
			"A" & Special Class for Package No.-8
7	Period of Completion		12 (Twelve) calendar months for package sl. No.- 1,2,3,6 & 8.
			06 (Six) calendar months for package sl. No.-4,5 & 7

8. Other details are as follows.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Additional Chief Engineer, Eastern Circle-II, Chandikhole	1 ACE, EC-II KID 34 OF 2023-24 2 ACE, EC-II AUL 14 OF 2023-24 3 ACE, EC-II JKJD 22 OF 2023-24 4 ACE, EC-II JKJD 23 OF 2023-24 5 ACE, EC-II JKJD 24 OF 2023-24 6 ACE, EC-II JPD 26 OF 2023-24 7 ACE, EC-II JKJD 25 OF 2023-24 8 ACE, EC-II JPD 27 OF 2023-24	11/03/2024 at 10 AM	27/03/2024 up to 5.00 PM	28/03/2024 at 11.30 AM

9. e-mail id : **seec2chandikhole@gmail.com**
Further detailed conditions can be seen from the Govt. website **www.tenderorissa.gov.in**
Sd/-
Additional Chief Engineer
Eastern Circle-II, Chandikhole
OIPR-32322/11/0021/23-24

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

FOOD & SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT
DIRECTORATE OF DDP&S
Indicative advertisement for FPS(Ration) Dealership

Applications are invited from eligible applicants for filling up the following vacancies of **Fair Price Shop Dealers under North 24 Parganas district** on the terms and conditions mentioned in the respective notifications duly published in the *Official Website* **(https://food.wb.gov.in)** *of the Food & Supplies Department, West Bengal :*

Sl. No.	Notification No. and Date	Sub - Division	Block/ Municipality/ Municipal Corporation	GP/ Ward No.	Location of vacancy
1	513/SCFS/BGN/2023 dt. 14/03/2023	Bongaon	Bagdah (B)	Bagdah	Mouza-Dihihaldah, (Nearby Jagarani Sangah and Kultala Bus Stop)
2	276/ SCFS/BGN/2024 dt. 21.02.2024	Bongaon	Gaighata (B)	Dharampur - II	Mouza-Amankandi, (Amankandia, Tarangahati FP School)
3	Memo No. 405/SCFS/BKP/MR/2023 Dated : 23.08.2023	Barrackpore	Barrackpore-I	Jetia	Mouza : Bijna (Near Bijna Dighir Par,Yubak Sangha Club)
4	Memo No. 406/SCFS/BKP/MR/2023 Dated : 23.08.2023	Barrackpore	Barrackpore-I	Kowgachi-I	Mouza : Noapara (Near Bibeknagar 12ft Road, ICDS Center)
5	Memo No. 407/SCFS/BKP/MR/2023 Dated : 23.08.2023	Barrackpore	Barrackpore-II	Patulia	Mouza : Ruiya (Near Azamtala Chandi Mandir)
6	Memo No. 408/SCFS/BKP/MR/2023 Dated : 23.08.2023	Barrackpore	Barrackpore-II	Bilkanda-II	Mouza : Muragacha (Near Leningarh Chandpur, Muragacha Charaktala)
7	Memo No. 409/SCFS/BKP/MR/2023 Dated : 23.08.2023	Barrackpore	Barrackpore-II	Patulia	Mouza : Dangadighila (Near Patulia Adibasi Yubak Sangha)
8	Memo No. 808/SCF&S/BHT/2023 Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Basirhat - II	Dhanyakuria	Mouza-Dhanyakuria (Near Radhakanta Mandir)
9	Memo No. 809/SCF&S/BHT/2023 Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Basirhat - II	Rajendrapur	Mouza-Chandigari (Near Chandigori F.P School)
10	Memo No. 810/SCF&S/BHT/2023 Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Haroa	Bakjuri	Mouza-Ramnathpur Central (Nerar Metoati FP School)
11	Memo No. 811/SCF&S/BHT/2023Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Haroa	Salipur	Mouza - Salipur (Near Salipur JR. High School)
12	Memo No. 812/SCF&S/BHT/2023 Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Minakhan	Dhuturdaha	Mouza-Debitala (Near Debitala Primary School)
13	Memo No. 813/SCF&S/BHT/2023 Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Minakhan	Dhuturdaha	Mouza- Kharibiaria (Near Khariberia FP School)
14	Memo No. 814/SCF&S/BHT/2023 Date: 16.08.2023	Basirhat	Hingalganj	Dulduli	Mouza-ChhotaSahebkhali (Near Chotta Sahebkhali ICDS Center)

Applications in prescribed proforma (Form C) along with other requisite documents and receipt of deposition of application fee of Rs. 1,000/- should be submitted to the office of the concerned Sub-Divisional Controller(F&S) or by online through the official website **(https://food.wb.gov.in) within 45 days from today.**
For details please visit official website of the Department **(https://food.wb.gov.in)** or contact the office of the concerned Sub-Divisional Controller (F&S).
Sd/-
Director of DDP&S,
Food & Supplies,
Government of West Bengal
ICA- N 154(3)/202

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.–33004 / 99 **Regd. No. D.L.-33004/99**

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.–डी.एल.–अ.–01032024–252502
CG-DL-E-01032024-252502
असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप—खण्ड (ii)
PART II - Section 3 - Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 900] नई दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवार, फरवरी 29, 2024 / फाल्गुन 10, 1945
No. 900] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024/PHALGUNA 10, 1945

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION
New Delhi, the 29th February 2024

S.O. 945 (E). –Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highway, S.O. **4482 (E) dated 12.10.2023** published in Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening /four-laning, etc.), maintenance, management and operation of NH-119 on the stretch of land from Km. 0.500 to Km. 6.500 (CALA/ADM, Pauri Garhwal) in the village(s) namely-Kotdwar Goan - Saneh, Grastinganj - Saneh, Ratanpur - Saneh, Jeetpur - Saneh, Vishanpur - Saneh, Kashirampur -Sukhro, Taluk- Kotdwar in the District of PAURI GARHWAL in the State of UTTARAKHAND

And whereas the substance of the said notification S.O 4482 dated 12.10.2023 has been published in "Times of India" and "Amar Ujala" both dated 11.11.2023; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same appropriately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling NH-119 in the stretch of land from Km. 0.500 to Km. 6.500 (CALA/ADM, Pauri Garhwal) in the village(s) namely- Kotdwar Goan - Saneh, Grastinganj - Saneh, Ratanpur - Saneh, Jeetpur - Saneh, Vishanpur - Saneh, Kashirampur -Sukhro , Taluk-Kotdwar in the District of PAURI GARHWAL in the State of UTTARAKHAND

[File Number: PIU/Meerut/Kotdwar bypass/3a Notification/3D]

District: PAURI GARHWAL
https://egazette.gov.in
Publication Date:29/02/2024
https://egazette.gov.in/WriteReadData/2024/252502.pdf
https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/auth/revamp/showFileDf.cshtml?notification_id=53875&file_id=26331

Note: The physical copy of this notification is also available at the office of CALA/PIU/RO/ and Landowners may also see the notification there.

How sparks flew amid gunshots, and fluent English

▶ Continued from P1

It was apparently during a visit to the Valley of Flowers while on the run that their love blossomed. For the next nine months, the duo played cat-and-mouse with the police while hopping from Mussoorie to Dehradun to Ranikhet and other places. They were finally nabbed near Saharanpur in July 2021 and sent to judicial custody.

However, their incarceration in separate jails didn't let their love die, it seems. Grapevine was Lawrence Bishnoi played the role of 'best man' for Jathedi in prison. Several months later, Anuradha got bail and their meetings became frequent.

Those familiar with their love story say that Jathedi was smitten with the ease with which Anuradha spoke fluent English and fired bursts of Kalashnikov. "For Anuradha, life had seemingly ended with the death of her former friend — the dreaded gangster Anandpal, who was killed in a police encounter in the summer of 2017. Anuradha then came on the radar of Anandpal's rival, Raju Basodi. This was when gangster Balbir Banuda lent her support. By 2019, she had come in contact with Bishnoi and eventually became friends with Jathedi," said a senior cop whose team had tracked down Jathedi and Anuradha in 2021.

Anuradha comes from a humble family in Alfasar village in Sikar, Rajasthan. "Her mother died when she was a toddler. Her father, who worked in a government department, brought her up. Her pet name was Mintu which perhaps later earned her the title of Madam Minz," the officer added.

Sources described Anuradha as an educated woman who went on to pursue a Bachelor's in Computer Applications. Later, she tried her hand at stock trading but the business failed as her partner cheated and left her reeling under a debt of over a crore.

Anuradha told cops that she had tried getting help from local police but eventually joined hands with Anandpal to pay her debts through crime. Anuradha has made it clear, to police and in court, that she has no intentions of committing a crime again. For the last few months, she has been living with Jathedi's elderly parents taking care of them, a gesture which his acquaintances said prompted Jathedi to ask her to marry him. She is also pursuing law so that she can help her husband in court.

Monday's hearing in court saw Jathedi's lawyer, Rohit Dalal, arguing that marriage was a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution and denying Sandeep the opportunity to marry would violate his constitutional rights.

After hearing Jathedi's legal team's pleas and police's response, additional sessions judge Deepak Wason passed an order for a parole from 10am to 4pm and directed the Delhi Police to ensure security. Additionally, Sandeep will be escorted to his village (Jathedi) on March 13 for the 'griha pravesh' ceremony, scheduled between 10am and 1pm.

Given Jathedi's reputation, police will send their best men in to make sure Jathedi doesn't try fleeing from custody, a senior cop said.

A SURREAL LOVE STORY

Sandeep alias Kala Jathedi

Native | Jathedi village in Sonipat, Haryana

Area of operation | Delhi, Rajasthan, UP, Uttarakhand, Haryana

Anuradha alias Madam Minz

Native | Alafsar village in Sikar district, Rajasthan

Area of operation | Rajasthan, Haryana

Jathedi is a close associate of **Lawrence Bishnoi**

- Bishnoi had an alliance with Jathedi to make a footprint in Haryana and with Anandpal for Rajasthan
- Jathedi and his gang were involved in over 30 killings in different states
- He is known for extortion with liquor businessmen and bookies in Haryana
- Charged ₹20 per liquor bottle and ₹10 per beer bottle from liquor shops, collected ₹1.2 lakh from major businessmen on average

Studied till BCA, did stock trading, later became friends with slain gangster Anandpal

- Met Jathedi sometime after Anandpal's encounter, became friends
- The two fell in love while on the run in Uttarakhand
- Hid at Valley of Flowers, Mussoorie, Dehradun and other places for months
- The two were arrested from Saharanpur by Delhi Police in 2021

Cops probe foul play in death by suicide of SI

New Delhi: Delhi Police has initiated an inquiry into the death of sub-inspector Ganesh Kurna after his family alleged foul play, DCP (East) Apoorva Gupta said on Monday.
Kurna allegedly died by suicide at his flat on Sunday. Around 2 am, police received a call from Ganesh's family, expressing concern as he was not responding to their calls. After reaching his residence, police found him lifeless. His service pistol was in his lap, a police officer said.
Ganesh was recruited four years ago. His elder brother, Chandu, alleged that Ganesh was being harassed by an officer. Ganesh's mother alleged that he was frequently humiliated in front of his subordinates. "He always complained of pressure due to files," she said. The family members further alleged that Ganesh had slipped into depression and even stopped talking to them. They had selected a bride for Ganesh and were planning to fix his wedding date soon. TNN

4 convicted of cop murder

New Delhi: A court has convicted four men of stabbing to death a Delhi Police official in front of a brothel in G B Road in 2012. According to the prosecution, Ashish Bahuguna, Suraj, Manoj and Aakash fatally stabbed constable Bijender, besides causing stab injuries to Irshad and constable Sandeep, and assaulting head constable Baljeet. PTI

2 posed as govt officials, duped 600; held

New Delhi: A gang that repeatedly duped people by allegedly setting up fake camps promising distribution of LPG cylinders and sewing machines to the poor under a central govt initiative has been busted by police.

Two people identified as Neeraj (28) and Amit Yadav (46), residents of Punjab and Badli respectively, were apprehended.

The accused recently defrauded 600 people in Paharganj by posing as central govt officials and disappeared after the crime. Police investigation revealed that they had set up four such camps in Haryana's villages too.

A local councillor filed a complaint with the police on Feb 19, alleging that one of the accused had posed as a central govt official for permission to set up a camp. After permission was granted, a promotional drive was launched on Feb 12 at 6 Tooti Chowk.

The gang formed multiple teams to help people fill out forms, charging between Rs 200 and Rs 500 for their services. "They collected Rs 80,000, gave people some documents, and got them to fill out forms about themselves," an officer said. TNN

मध्यप्रदेश पुलिस आवास एवं अधोसंरचना विकास निगम
कार्यालय परियोजना यंत्री, संभाग क्रमांक - 02
डी-16, कचनार सिटी, विजय नगर, जबलपुर- 482002 (म.प्र.)
E-mail : mpphcjabalpur2@gmail.com

निविदा विज्ञप्ति

मध्यप्रदेश पुलिस आवास एवं अधोसंरचना विकास निगम, जबलपुर संभाग क्र.- 02 में मुख्यमंत्री पुलिस आवास योजना अंतर्गत् (1) निर्माण कार्य 12+48 आवास गृह जिला सिवनी (ऑनलाइन निविदा क्र. 2024_MPPHC_341190_1) (2) निर्माण कार्य 12+48 आवास गृह जिला डिण्डौरी (ऑनलाइन निविदा क्र. 2024_MPPHC_341192_1) (3) निर्माण कार्य 24+96 आवास गृह जिला शहडोल (ऑनलाइन निविदा क्र. 2024_MPPHC_341194_1) के निर्माण कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना क्रमांक 31 वर्ष 2023-24 आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 02.04.2024 तक खरीदकर सायं 06:00 बजे तक सबमिट किये जा सकते हैं जिसकी विस्तृत निविदा सूचना एवं अन्य विवरण **https://www.mptenders.gov.in** पर देखे जा सकते हैं एवं निविदा से संबंधित समस्त आवश्यक संशोधन उक्त बेबसाइट पर ही किए जावेंगे पृथक से समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।
म.प्र. माध्यम/114105/2024 परियोजना यंत्री

INDIAN RAILWAYS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)
(RAILWAY BOARD)
CORRIGENDUM-IV
Subject : E-Tender No. TM-2303 for procurement of Rail Borne Maintenance Vehicle "RBMV" for Indian Railways to be opened on 04.04.2024
The Corrigendum-IV regarding modifications to response to technical & commercial prebid queries, corrigendum to commercial tender conditions & technical specifications, final tender document after prebid and extension in date of tender opening have been uploaded on website **http://ireps.gov.in.**
(Vijay Singh)
Executive Director/Track (M&MC)
Railway Board
Tele: No. 011-47845531
E-mail: vijay.singh.2017@gov.in
691/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

मध्यप्रदेश पुलिस आवास एवं अधोसंरचना विकास निगम
कार्यालय परियोजना यंत्री संभाग क्रमांक - 01
कार्यालय भवन 1558, गोरखपुर थाने के पीछे, ऋषि काटेज रतन कालोनी कटंगा, जबलपुर (म.प्र.), पिनकोड- 482002
फोन नं. : 0761-4927201, Email : mpphcjabalpur@gmail.com

निविदा विज्ञप्ति

मध्यप्रदेश पुलिस आवास एवं अधोसंरचना विकास निगम, जबलपुर संभाग क्र.- 01 के अंतर्गत **जिला - जबलपुर में 6वीं वाहिनी विसबल रांझी जबलपुर में** मुख्यमंत्री पुलिस आवास योजना के अंतर्गत (128) आरक्षक बहुमंजिला आवास गृह के निर्माण कार्य हेतु निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना क्रमांक - 31 वर्ष 2023-24 (ऑनलाइन निविदा क्र. 2024_MPPHC_341159_1) आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र **दिनांक 30.03.2024 तक खरीद कर सायः 05:00 बजे तक** सबमिट किये जा सकते हैं जिसकी विस्तृत निविदा सूचना एवं अन्य विवरण **Portal : https://www.mptenders.gov.in** पर देखे जा सकते हैं एवं निविदा से संबंधित समस्त आवश्यक संशोधन उक्त बेबसाइट पर ही किए जावेंगे पृथक से समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।
म.प्र. माध्यम/114100/2024 परियोजना यंत्री

भारत सरकार
रसायन एवं ऊर्वरक मंत्रालय
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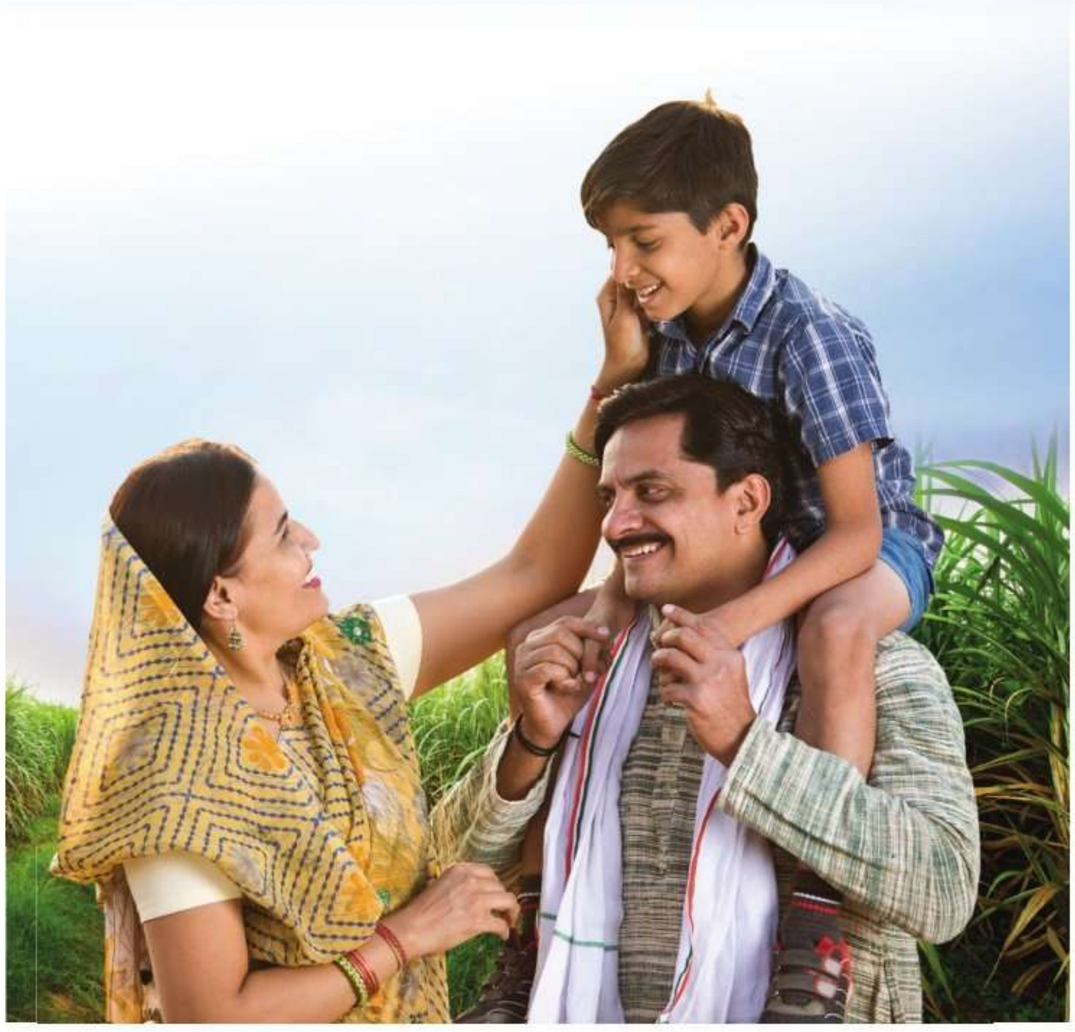
ISMA & 5 CRORE CANE FARMER FAMILIES EXTEND GRATITUDE TO HON'BLE PM MODI FOR HISTORIC FRP INCREASE

Rs. 1,20,000 Crore Assurance:
Modi Government's positive policy reforms ensure prosperity for cane farmers

Sugar Mills' commitment, supported by the favourable policies of the Government of India have resulted in
- Change from delayed payments to assured timely cane payments
- Offering affordable sugar to 140 crore consumers
- Successful Ethanol Blending Program



ISMA at the forefront of green farmer economy

- Investment in research & technology to improve cane yield, sugar content, water use efficiency and soil health
- Committed to the E20 Ethanol Blending Program, targeting a 20% blend by 2025. Sugar mills already achieved an impressive 12% blend in 2023.
- Promoting hydrous ethanol vehicles via partnership with Flex Fuel Vehicle makers for a greener future in mobility

ISMA seeks pro-active policy-making for continued benefits for farmers, EBP and sugar consumers

ISMA (Indian Sugar & Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association). Empowering Farming Economy. Enabling Energy Security.

Ansal Plaza, 'C' Block, 2nd Floor, August Kranti Marg, Andrews Ganj, New Delhi- 110049 (INDIA) | https://ismaindia.org

VK mall shut for public after portion of ceiling collapses

Times News Network

New Delhi: A large section of Ambience Mall's false ceiling collapsed early on Monday allegedly during maintenance work. No one was injured in the incident. The mall was shut down on Monday.

At the time of the incident, no one was inside the mall except for some employees and labourers. A mall official stated that maintenance work was already scheduled and 400-500 shop owners were informed about it, and they removed a part of the false ceiling that needed maintenance.

Police have initiated an inquiry into the incident.

This comes a day after two men were killed and several others suffered injuries when a ceiling grille fell on them at Blue Sapphire Mall in Greater Noida.

The incident at Ambience Mall took place some time after midnight. Police received a PCR call around 12.47 am. According to police, maintenance work was underway in the area where the ceiling collapsed.

A video of the incident shows debris scattered on the ground floor. White dust filled the air, and a few people were walking and filming the scene. In one of the videos, people who were present at the mall were heard asking everyone to stay away from the affected areas.

DCP (southwest) Rohit Meena said it was a side-pop elevation that fell in the central hall of the mall near the escalators. "An inquiry is being done into the matter," he said.

A police source said they would scan CCTV footage and other videos of the incident to ascertain the sequence of events. They may also question the people who were present at the scene.

At the time of the incident, no one was inside the mall except for some employees and labourers

At 9.5°C, lowest min March temp in 5 yrs

Times News Network

New Delhi: The city recorded the lowest minimum temperature in March in the past five years at 9.5 degrees Celsius, four degrees below normal, on Monday. This was 4.2 degrees lower than Sunday's minimum temperature.

The last time Delhi recorded a lower minimum temperature than this in March was on March 1 in 2019 at 6.8 degrees Celsius. However, the maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to rise slightly over the next few days.

India Meteorological Department's data shows that the lowest minimum temperature in March 2022, 2021 and 2020 was recorded at 9.6, 11.8 and 10 degrees Celsius, respectively.

"After the passage of the western disturbance, clear skies have been prevailing in the city since Sunday. Due to clear skies and north-westerly winds, the minimum temperature dip on Monday. North-westerly winds prevented a rise in temperature. It was expected that minimum temperature will drop," said Kuldeep Srivastava, scientist and head, Regional Weather Forecasting Centre, IMD.

The absence of cloudy skies makes the heat quickly dissipate at night which causes a dip in minimum temperature. While north-westerly winds from western Himalayan region bring cold air to the city.

The maximum temperature on Monday was 24.9 degrees Celsius, three degrees below normal. "The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to stay around 25 and 10 degrees Celsius, respectively, on Tuesday. However, the mercury is predicted to rise marginally over the next few days," said Srivastava.

Delhi's air quality remained in 'moderate' category with an AQI of 140 as against 126 on Sunday.

Customers at eatery scalded by dry ice

Mahesh.Buddi@timesgroup.com

Gurgaon: A waitress was booked on charges of criminal conspiracy and causing damage by poisoning after a group of customers suffered mouth burns from dry ice that was served to them as mouth freshener at a restaurant. Last Saturday, a group of three couples went to the restaurant in Sector 90 to celebrate a birthday. After their meal, the waitress offered them mouth freshners, but served them dry ice granules instead, which scalded their tongue and palate, police and the restaurant said on Monday.

Five of the six were injured as they consumed the granules. Three of them are admitted to Aarvy Hospital in the city, and two others have been discharged, police said on Monday.

According to the complaint, the couples – Ankit Kumar and his wife Neha, Manika Goenka and his wife Pritika Rastogi, and Deepak Arora and his wife Himani -- went to Laforestta Cafe on March 2 to celebrate Manika's birthday.

"It was our first time at the eatery. After dinner, we were about to leave when the waitress offered translucent granules in a bowl and told us those were mouth freshners. I didn't pick one up," Ankit, the complainant, said.

He said as soon as the others popped the granules into their mouth, they started feeling a burning sensation. "They vomited and started bleeding. They were writhing in pain. I called the restaurant staff, but no one helped us," Ankit said. He alleged that the group was taken to a hospital after cops reached the eatery 40 minutes later.

Dry ice is a solidified form of carbon dioxide that is dangerous if consumed as it converts into gaseous form. It can burn the mouth, oesophagus and stomach if ingested, and in extreme cases, it can rupture the stomach.

Delhi-Meerut RRTS: Another section ready

Abhijay.Jha@timesgroup.com

Ghaziabad: The distance you can travel on rapid rail will double this week as the PM inaugurates the second section of the Delhi-Meerut line on Wednesday.

The Duhai-Modinagar North section, as **TOI** reported last week, will extend the range of passenger operations of India's first semi-high-speed urban trains by 17km and take it to the doorstep of Meerut from Sahibabad near the Delhi border. The 17km Sahibabad-Duhai section was inaugurated by the PM last year.

Officials said the inauguration ceremony, which the PM will attend through a video link, will be held at the Muradnagar rapid rail station. The PM will also inaugurate Kolkata East-West metro's tunnel under the Hooghly, Agra Metro, Pune Metro and Kochi Metro.

"The NCR Transport Corporation has completed work on the 17km section and is currently chalking out the fare module for the three stations — Muradnagar, Modinagar South and Modinagar North — after Duhai. Passenger operation is expected to start on the line within a week after inauguration. There is a plan to offer free rides to commuters on the first two days of the commercial run on this section," an NCRTC official told **TOI**.

The trials between Duhai and Modinagar North started in Jan. The commissioner for metro rail safety (CMRS) began surveying the safety features — fire, emergency evacuation, train speed and transmission system — towards Feb end. A security certificate is likely to be issued by the CMRS soon.

Commercial runs between Sahibabad and Duhai stations of the Namo Bharat corridor began on Oct 21. Currently, the trains operate between 6am and 11pm on this section on weekdays. On weekends, they run till 8pm.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
EE, PWD., Darjeeling Division invites online e-tender for the work of : **1.** Providing Cement Concrete block pavement at Karmat (within sinking zone) of Bagora Kalijhora road, under PWD Darjeeling Division during the year 2023-2024. (Phase I), Estimated Amount Rs. 18,75,828=00, Tender ID No. 2024_WBPWD_675484_1, e-NIT No. 30 Sl No. 1 of 2023-2024. Bid submission start date (online) 29/02/2024 from 11.00 A.M. Bid submission closing date (online) 15/03/2024 upto 5.30 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender Documents may be downloaded from website: https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- EE, PWD., Darjeeling Division
ICA- T5883(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Uttar Dinajpur Division, PWD invites online e-tender for 1 (one) no. Civil work. e-NIT No. 28 of 2023-24, Tender ID: 2024_WBPWD_675765_1. Bid submission start date (online) 04/03/2024 from 11:00 a.m. Bid submission closing date (online) 18/03/2024 at 11:30 a.m. Corrigendum if any, will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded from : http://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Uttar Dinajpur Division, PWD
ICA- T5854(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DISTRICT HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE SAMITI, HOWRAH
e-Tender Notice
No-17/23-24
Memo No-CMOH/DHFWS/HOW/407/29
(Starting date of application 27.02.2024)
Last date of application 04.03.2024)
E-Tender is hereby Site Preparation work for diagnostic Infrastructure upgradation under XV FC FY 2022-23, 24 at Howrah District. Visit at www.wbtenders.gov.in, www.wbhealth.gov.in & www.healthyhowrah.org Sd/- CMOH & Secretary, DH&FWS, Howrah.
ICA- T5847(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No: 04/SE(NC)/SD&SWM/KMDA of 2023-2024
Online two part system e-tenders is invited by the **Superintending Engineer (Civil), North Circle, SD&SWM Sector**, KMDA, 5th Floor, Block-A, Unnayan Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, from **eligible, reliable, resourceful and experienced agencies / firms / companies / individual contractors**, for the work, **Name of Work, Estimated Value of the work, Earnest Money Deposit, Time of Completion, Construction of RCC drain at Jagatdal Ferry Ghat in ward no. 18 & 16, under Storm Water Drainage Project for Bhatpara Municipality, under AMRUT (2nd Call)., Rs.1,37,25,735.62, Rs.2,74,515/-, 90 days, Last date & time for online Bid submission: 30.03.2024 up to 14:55** hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-1293)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in ICA- T5824(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
Superintending Engineer, Eastern Highway Circle, Purta Bhavan, Salt Lake, 1st Floor, Room No. 104 & 105, Kolkata-700091 invites online Percentage rate eNIT No. 24 of 2023-2024 of SE/EHC, [Tender Id : 2024_WBPWD_675304_1-2] for the works : (1) Haringhata - Gaighata Road from 11.000 Kmp to 18.160 Km., Surfacing work under Nadia Highway Division No-II, in the District of Nadia. (2nd Call). Amounting to Rs. 1,60,83,712.00, (2) Kalinagar - Sandeshkhali Road from 0.00 km to 11.30 km and Sandeshkhali - Dulduli Road from 0.00km to 2.40km Surfacing Work under Barasat Highway Division No.I in the district of North 24 Parganas. (3rd Call). Amounting to Rs. 2,78,20,031.00. Last Date and time of submission of Bid is on 28.03.2024 upto 1.00 p.m. (Tender Application & Financial bid both concurrently). The details can be obtained from the website https://etender.wb.nic.in & Office Notice Board. Corrigendum or Addendum if issued will be published only on website. For any clarification Bidder may contact PWD e-Tender Help DesK with following Phone No. (033) 2223-6236. Sd/- SE/EHC, P.W.(R) Dte.
ICA- T5866(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No: 04/EE/SWM-EB/SD&SWM/KMDA of 2023-2024
Online e-tenders in two part system is invited by the Executive Engineer, East Bank Division, SD&SWM Sector, KMDA, 5th Floor, Block-A, Unnayan Bhavan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700091, from reliable, resourceful, bonafied and experienced agencies, for the work, **Sl. No., Name of Work, Estimated Value of the work, Earnest Money Deposit, Time of Completion,(1)** Construction of storm water drain at different roads of Patulia Govt. Colony within ward no-03 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.77,24,613/-, Rs.1,54,492/-, 04 Months, **(2)** - Same as sl. No.1 - at different roads of Ramkrishna Pally, Ramakrishna Park within ward no-04 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.30,92,825/-, Rs.61,857/-, 03 Months, **(3)** - Same as sl. No.1 - at Hind park within ward no-05 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.51,56,464/-, Rs.1,03,129/-, 04 Months, **(4)** - Same as sl. No.1 - at different roads of S.M Pally, Sukanta Nagar, Chaghara, Mathpara within ward no-06 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.89,91,278/-, Rs.1,79,826/-, 04 Months, **(5)** - Same as sl. No.1 - of Dakshinpally within ward no-08 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.17,73,110/-, Rs.35,462/-, 03 Months, **(6)** - Same as sl. No.1 - at different roads of Govt. Co-operative colony within ward no-09 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.40,18,792/-, Rs.80,376/-, 03 Months, **(7)** - Same as sl. No.1 - of Station road (Khardah Station to BT Road) within ward no-13 under Khardah Municipality., Rs.85,42,827/-, Rs.1,70,857/-, 04 Months, **Last date & time for online Bid submission:** 22.03.2024 up to 18:50 hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-1301)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T5831(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No: 13/SE(S)/W&S/KMDA of 2023-2024
e-Tender is invited by the Superintending Engineer, South Circle, W&S Sector, KMDA, 1st floor, Block-C, Unnayan Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, from eligible reliable, resourceful, bonafide and experienced Firms / Companies / Individual contractors, for the work, **Sl. No., Name of Work, Estimated Amount Put to tender, Earnest Money, (1)** Design, Drawing, Construction & commissioning of RCC Intze/rectangular Elevated Service Reservoir of 970 Cum Capacity at Ward No-01 (Zone-1) with 20m staging height including necessary Land Development, Approach Road, Guard Room, Boundary Wall, Masonry Drain and all other allied Works at Baruipur Municipality on Turnkey basis for surface water supply scheme of Baruipur Municipal Area, Phase-II under AMRUT 2.0., Rate to be Quoted, Rs.**5,53,062/-, (2)** - Do - of 810 Cum Capacity at Ward No-04 (Zone-3) - Do -., Rate to be Quoted, Rs.**6,48,134/-, (3)** - Do - of 930 Cum Capacity at Ward No-15 (Zone-3) - Do -., Rate to be Quoted, Rs.**5,41,310/-, (4)** - Do - of 630 Cum Capacity at Ward No-7 (Zone-4) - Do -., Rate to be Quoted, Rs.**5,82,013/-, Time of Completion: 15 Months for each sl. no., Last date & time of Online Bid submission: 29.03.2024, Time: 17.30 hrs.**, for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-1310)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in
ICA- T5833(3)/2024

e-Tender Notice
Hooghly Zilla R.M.C. invites e-Tender vide N.I.T.No. 26/R1/HZRMC/SL1/2023-2024 & 34/HZRMC/SL1/2023-2024 Dated: 04.03.2024. Last date of submission of Bid- 13.03.2024 up to 1 P.M. The details of the e-Tenders are available on the website **https://www.wbtenders.gov.in**
Sd/-
Secretary
Hooghly Zilla R.M.C

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Online NIeT is invited by the EE, BNWD, P.W. Dte., vide Tender No. WBPWD/EE/BNWD/NIeT-44e/2023-24 for the work of "Constn. of Rain Water Harvesting System (Ground Water Recharge Type) for main building and New Hostel Building Government College of Engineering and Leather Technology, Salt Lake, Kol-91". (T/ID: 2024_WBPWD_675556_1). Last date of bid submission 18/03/2024 upto 02.00 P.M. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website http://etender.wb.nic.in and this Office notice board. Sd/- EE, PWD, BNWD
ICA- T5879(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Howrah Highway Division, P.W. (Roads) Directorate invite NIT (e) No.:- 18 of 2023-24 bearing tender id no.- 2024_SH_674562_1 in the website http://etender.wb.nic.in details name of work mentioned under above NIT. Interested contractors / Agencies requested to visit above website. Any other information please contact the office of the Executive Engineer, Howrah Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate during working hours. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Howrah Highway Division, Public Works (Roads) Directorate
ICA- T5861(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-N.I.T. No- WBIW/EE/KCD2/eNIT-09/2023-24
On behalf of the Governor of W.B., the Executive Engineer, Kangsabati Canals Division-II, Khatra invites online e-tender. Online bid submission end date:- **19.03.2024 till 11:00 Hours IST.** Details may be seen in the website: www.wbtenders.gov.in and www.wbiwd.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kangsabati Canals Division-II, Khatra.
ICA- T5835(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting e-Tender
The Executive Engineer, East Midnapore Division, M.E.Dte., on behalf of the Governor of W.B. invites online tender vide Ref No.: WBMAD/EE(EM)/NIeT-08/23-24(2nd Call), Tender Id:- 2024_MAD_673641_1. **Name of work:** Construction of new Deep Tube Well including Installation of Submersible Pump at Dumping Ground (Plot No-222, 223) in Bastia Mouza, Ward No.- 03 within Egra Municipality. Bid Submission Start Date: 27/02/24 from 09:00 A.M. & Bid Submission End Date: 08/03/24 upto 01:00 P.M. Details available in website- www.wbtenders.gov.in & wburbanservices.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, East Midnapore Division M.E. Directorate.
ICA- T5841(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING QUOTATION
Executive Engineer, Dakshin Dinajpur Division, PWD are invited Notice Quotation no. WBPWD/EE/DDD/NIQ-06/2023-24 SL_01 to 08 for the work "Erection of Temporary Shed/ Accommodation, (on hire basis) such as Kitchen, Dining Rooms for CAPF in connection with ensuing Parliament General Election' 2024 at various venues in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur under Dakshin Dinajpur Division, P.W.Dte." All documents can be seen/obtained from the website http://wbpwd.gov.in and office notice board. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dakshin Dinajpur Division, P.W.Dte.
ICA- T5872(4)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
NIT NO. HST/4T-90-2024/RHP-RT(275)/2024/279; DATED 01-03-2024
Re-E-Tender for Collection of Raw Human Placentae from specified Health Institutions in the State for two years from the date of Award of Contract (AOC) is invited from the Bidders. Interested bidders may visit the website: "https://wbtenders.gov.in" or "www.wbhealth.gov.in" for further details. Bid submission start date (online): 12.03.2024; Bid submission closing date (online): 27.03.2024; Bid opening date (online): 27.03.2024. **Sd/- D.D.H.S. (E&S), WB.**
ICA- T5839(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting e-Tender
The Executive Engineer, East Midnapore Division, M.E.Dte., on behalf of the Governor of W.B. invites online tender vide Ref No.: WBMAD/EE(EM)/NIeT-11/23-24, Tender Id:- 2024_MAD_673608_1. **Name of work:** Construction Approach concrete road at dumping ground site Bastia Mouza Ward no.-03 within Egra Municipality under SWM Project. Bid Submission Start Date: 27/02/24 from 09:00 A.M. & Bid Submission End Date: 15/03/24 upto 01:00 P.M. Details available in website- www.wbtenders.gov.in & wburbanservices.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, East Midnapore Division, M.E.Directorate.
ICA- T5840(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Divisional Forest Officer
Kangsabati North Division, Purulia
Abridge E-tender Notice
No. NIT-25/WBZA/DFOKND/2023-24
Kangsabati North Division, Purulia invites E-tender from Bonafide Contractors vide E-ender Notice No. NIT-25/WBZA/DFOKND/2023-24 for supply of feed for zoo animals from April, 2024 to March, 2025 for the financial year 2024-25 at Surulia Mini Zoo under Kangsabati North Division, Purulia. The last date of submission E-tender documents is 27.03.2024 upto 02:00 p.m. for viewing and participating in E-tender visit: www.wbtenders.gov.in and for more information please contact to the undersigned or visit the www.westbengalforest.gov.in Sd/- Divisional Forest Officer, Kangsabati North Division & Ex-Officio Director, Surulia Mini Zoo, Purulia.
ICA- T5812(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No: 09/KMDA/CIVIL/EE/ ECPD-II/E&AM of 2023-24
Online e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, ECPD-II, E&AM Sector, KMDA, **S.T.P. Compound, Anandapur, Kolkata-700107,** from reliable, resourceful, bonafide / eligible firms / companies / individual / Joint Venture agencies, for the work, **Name of Work, Estimated Cost, Earnest Money, Time of Completion, Thorough cleaning of surface drain and underground conduits at Kasba Industrial Estate including removing the deposited garbage's on road flank and through cleaning of elevated grit chamber of S.T.P within ECPD-II office including removing garbage under EKAD Project for 01 (One) year**., Rs.**6,40,915/-**, Rs.**12,819/-**, 01 **year, Last date & time of online Bid submission: 13.03.2024** upto 17:00 hrs. for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-1295)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in ICA- T5826(2)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
KMDA TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT No: 05/SE(NC)/SD&SWM/KMDA of 2023-2024
Online two part system e-tenders is invited by the **Superintending Engineer (Civil), North Circle, SD&SWM Sector**, KMDA, 5th Floor, Block-A, Unnayan Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091, from **eligible, reliable, resourceful and experienced agencies / firms / companies / individual contractors**, for the work, **Name of Work, Estimated Value of the work, Earnest Money Deposit, Time of Completion, Construction of storm water drainage line for Halisahar Municipality and Jetia Gram Panchayat, aimed for better discharge of storm water especially during monsoon., Rs.8,54,77,981.92, Rs.10,00,000/-, 300 days, Last date & time for online Bid submission: 30.03.2024 up to 14:55** hrs., for details contact the above office or visit both websites. **(KMDA-1298)**
www.kmda.wb.gov.in
www.wbtenders.gov.in ICA- T5829(3)/2024

B-1879 **GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE**
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O) - 59/2023-24
1. The Chief Engineer (Bridges), World Bank Project, Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge work as detailed below:
2. Nature of work : Bridge works
3. No. of work : 02 nos.
4. Tender cost : Rs.10,000.00 (on-line)
5. Class of Contractor : Special/ Super Class Contractor
6. Available of bid document in the website : From 10.00 AM of 06.03.2024 to 5.00 PM of 21.03.2024
7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt. 22.03.2024 at 11.30 AM
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: **https://tenderodisha.gov.in.** Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Sd/-
Engineer-in-Chief
(I/C) Chief Engineer (Bridges), WBP, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-34117/11/0134/23-24

O-2738 **GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF RURAL WORKS ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
Letter No. 9679, Dated. 2.3.2024 **Email i.d.: crew_bbsr@yahoo.com**
"e" Procurement Notice for bridge works in Odisha (Online-16 (Bridge) / 2024-23 dt. 02.03.2024)
1. Name of the work : Construction of bridge work
2. Total No. of works : 07 (Seven) nos.
3. Estimated cost : Rs. 1156.00 to 1900.97 lakh
4. Class of contractor : "A" Class & "Special" Class as applicable.
5. Period of completion : As mentioned in Column 7 of TCN.
6. Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	No. of bridge works	Availability of tender Online for bidding	
			From	To
Chief Engineer, Buildings & Bridges, Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar	Online-16 (Bridge)/ 2023-24	07 (Seven) nos.	11.03.2024 at 11.00 A.M.	27.03.2024 Up to 5.00 P.M.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents, which will be available in website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**
Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Buildings & Bridges)
Rural Works, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR- 25123/11/0053/23-24

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
EXTRA-ORDINARY APPELLATE JURISDICTION
Dairy No. 3124 OF 2019
WITH PRAYER FOR INTERIM RELIEF WITH,
43372/2019- APPLICATION FOR CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING AND
43374/2019- APPLICATION FOR CONDONATION OF DELAY IN REFILING/ CURING THE DEFECTS
THE STATE OF RAJASTHAN AND OTHERS .... Petitioners(s)/Appellant(s)
VERSUS
BALESAR SAND STONE KHAN DHARAK UNION .... Respondents
To,
1 **BALESAR SAND STONE KHAN DHARAK UNION, BALESAR, MANAK BHAWAN, BUS STAND, BALESAR SATT A, DISTRICT JODHPUR THROUGH ITS PRESIDENT SHRI SAWAI SINGH, S/o SHRI PEHAP SINGH R/O VILLAGE AND POST BHANDU CHARNAN VIA BALESAR, TEHSIL SHERGARH, DISTRICT- JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN**
PID: 261076/2023 FOR R[I] IN DIARY NO 3124/2019 (SECXV)
WHEREAS the Petition for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief along with application for **CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, CONDONATION OF DELAY IN REFILING / CURING THE DEFECTS** above mentioned filed in the Registry by Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named was listed for hearing before this court on **29th March, 2019** along with the connected matter, when the court was pleased to pass the following order:-
"Issue notice on the application for condonation of delay, as well as on the special leave petitions.
Tag with SLP (C) Diary No 47947/2018."
AND WHEREAS, the matter above-mentioned was listed before **Ld. Registrar's Court** on **15th December, 2023,** When the following order was passed:-
"Diary No(s). 3124/2019
Ld. Counsel for the petitioner has filed an Application for substituted service in respect of the sole respondent.
Application stands allowed. Four weeks' time is granted to file proof of publication.
List Again on 7.2.2024"
NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petition with prayer for interim relief along with application for **CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, CONDONATION OF DELAY IN REFILING / CURING THE DEFECTS** will be posted for hearing before this Court in due course and you may enter appearance before this Court either in person or through an advocate on record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within 30 days from the date of publication of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why delay in filling SLP delay in filing/refiling SLP be not condoned and Special Leave Petition and interim relief as prayed be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed.
Take Further Notice that the prayer for interim relief after notice will also be listed before the Court in due course.
You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court/Tribunal against whose order the SLP is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.
TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.
Dated: **20th December, 2023** **ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**
Copy to: Mr. Milind Kumar, Advocate **ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**
DIPR/C/1807/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Brief Recruitment notice
Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Kolkata intends to engage on contract basis for the position of **Counsellor in National Program for Control of Blindness & Visual Impairment (NPCB&VI)** under **National Health Mission,** Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal.
Details of the position are as follows:

SL. No.	NAME OF CONTRACTUAL POSITION	NUMBER OF VACANCY	PLACE OF POSTING
1.	Counsellor	Total- 1(Reserved for ST)	Eye Bank / Eye Retrieval Centre of NRS MC&H,

Eligible candidates should send their application in the prescribed format as given in the Department's website for the mentioned position.
Visit www.wbhealth.gov.in at the link "Recruitment" and www.riokolkata.in for details. The application must reach at the office of the RIO, Kolkata through speed post within 15th March, 2024 (Friday).
Director,
Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, Kolkata
ICA- T5838(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer Asansol Highway Division, P.W. (Roads) Directorate, World Bank N.H. Campus (Behind Asansol Girl's College) Asansol : 773304 Invites Online e-Tender e-NIT no. 17 of 23-24 for the work of : SL- 1) Sub-Soil Investigation for "Road No-07" at Northern Zone of Panagarh Industrial Park under Durgapur Highway Sub-Division of Asansol Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate in the district of Paschim Bardhaman, during the year 2023-24. Estimated Amount: Rs. 1,45,137.40 Tender ID = 2024_SH_675216_1. SL-2) Emergent Sanitary & Plumbing Works including some other works at P.W. Roads Dte. Office Campus of Asansol Highway Sub-Division under Asansol Highway Division in the district of Paschim Bardwan during the year 2023-2024". Estimated Amount: Rs.2,29,241.66, Tender ID : 2024_SH_675216_2. SL-3) Signage board to the bridges ROB's under Asansol Highway Sub-Division of Asansol Highway Division in the district of Paschim Bardwan during the year 2023-2024". Estimated Amount Rs. 3,13,105.41, Tender ID : 2024_SH_675216_3. SL-4) Repair and renovation of Sadarghat Highway Sub-Division No. I, Office 1st Floor (excluding the bathroom) under Asansol Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate in the district of Paschim Bardhaman, during the year 2023-24. Estimated Amount: Rs. 5,47,018.40 Tender ID : 2024_SH_675216_4 SL-5) Sub-Soil Investigation for link road from Madhaiganj village to Muchipara-shibpur road for chainage 0.00 km. to 1.0 km. and 6.50 km. to 12.69km. under Durgapur Highway Sub-Division of Asansol Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate in the district of Paschim Bardhaman, during the year 2023-24. Estimated Amount: Rs. 1,45,137.40, Tender ID : 2024_SH_675216_5. SL-6) Bigra-Dignagar Phase-II road emergent repair by potholes, premix carpet, seal coat etc. in stretches from 3.00kmp. to 4.80km. under Sadarghat Highway Sub-Division-II of Asansol Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate in the District of Paschim Bardhaman, during the year 2023-24 (2nd Call). Estimated Amount: Rs. 2,03,916.89, Tender ID : 2024_SH_675216_6. SL-7) Signage Board to the Bridges ROBs and Roads under Durgapur Highway Section-II of Durgapur Highway Sub-Division under Asansol Highway Division, P.W.(Roads) Directorate in the district of Paschim Bardhaman during the year 2023-24. (2nd Call). Estimated Amount Rs. 8,46,048.76, Tender ID : 2024_SH_675216_7. Tender ref. No. WBPWD/Rds/EE/AHD/eNIT-17/23-24. Bid Submission start date (online) : 28.02.2024 from 18.30 PM. Bid Submission closing date (online) : 09.03.2024 upto 10:00 AM. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents and corrigendum may be download from: https://wbtenders.gov.in Sd/- E.E., A.H.D., P.W.(R)D., GOVT OFWB
ICA- T5873(2)/2024

WEST BENGAL STATE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Regd. Office: Vidyut Bhavan, Block-DJ, Sector-II, Bidhannagar, Kolkata - 700 091
CIN: U40109WB2007SGC113473, www.wbsedcl.in
WBSEDCL
WBSEDCL invites e-Tender as follows:
NIT No.: WBSEDCL/DE(E)/MMHD/CIVIL/e-TENDER/2023-24/03 **Date:**27.02.2024 of the Divisional Engineer, Mini Micro Hydel Division, WBSEDCL. **Estimated Cost:** ₹ 5,38,987/- for the work of 'Emergency protection wall at Anchor Block No.- 59 of Mungpoo Kali Khola Hydel Project under Mini Micro Hydel Division, Kurseong, Darjeeling'. ICA- T5836(2)/2024
For details, visit **https://wbtenders.gov.in** & **www.wbsedcl.in**

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT,
PPP cell
SWASTHYA BHAWAN, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA-700091
Memo No.: HFW-18021/9/2023-SPSRC SEC-Dept. of H&FW/195
Date: 01/ 03 /2024
Request for Proposal for Selection of Private Partner for setting up and operationalization of a Radiotherapy Centre (LINAC, Brachytherapy and PET CT Scan) at Midnapore Medical College & Hospital under Public Private Partnership Mode in West Bengal

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts/ Health Districts	Name of the Hospital where LINAC, Brachytherapy and PET CT Scan will be established in PPP-EOM mode	Tender ID
1	Paschim Medinipur	Midnapore Medical College and Hospital	PPP/NIT/204/2024

The document containing the scheme and the eligibility criteria of the applicants may be obtained from the website www.wbhealth.gov.in under the option 'TENDER' & https://wbtenders.gov.in Interested Organizations may attend a Pre-BID meeting to be held on 07/03/2024 at 12.00 PM at Swasthya Bhawan, Sec-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091. The last date of receipt of Bids in the prescribed format online provided in the document for the project is 30/03/2024 till 5.00 pm. Sd/- Secretary, PPP, Department of Health & Family Welfare Government of West Bengal
ICA- T5837(3)/2024

Cooch Behar Zilla Parishad
Cooch Behar
Notice Inviting Tender (in brief)
Following E-Tender (s) are hereby invited on behalf of Cooch Behar Zilla Parishad for Const of bituminous road, NIT No. WBZP/278/DE-ET/COB/2023-24(2nd Call) & WBZP/148/DE-ET/COB/2023-24(3rd Call) for which the last date of submission of Technical & Financial bid is 19.03.2024 (up to 18:00 Hrs.). For details the website **https://wbtenders.gov.in** may be accessed.
Sd/-
Additional Executive Officer
Cooch Behar Zilla Parishad
Cooch Behar
Memo No.: 95/ICA/ADD/COB Dated Cooch behar, 04.03.2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Calcutta National Medical College
32, Gorachand Road, Kolkata - 14
Walk-in interview Notice
For engagement of Contractual FACILITY MANAGER
Calcutta National Medical College & Hospital urgently requires ***FOUR (4) RETIRED GOVT. FACILITY MANAGER*** (Erstwhile Ward Master) on contractual basis. For details, visit **https://www.cnmckolkata.com** or **https://www.wbhealth.gov.in** on 05.03.2024.
Sd/-
Principal, CNMC
ICA-N160(3)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Bakreswar Thermal Power Project
P.O. BkTPP, Dist. - Birbhum, Pin - 731104
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/23-24/BkTPP/CC-1606 **Date: 01.03.2024**
OT No.: WBPDCL/BKTPP/OT/E2967/23-24
E- Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager - BkTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 3 Part bid system for **"Procurement of Variable Frequency Drive for Coal Feeder under C&I Dept. at BkTPS." Tender Document Download Start Date:** 27.02.2024 at 13.00 hrs. **Bid Submission End Date:** 08.03.2024 at 14:00 hrs. **Contact Person:** Mr. Sumit Dasgupta, Dy. General Manager, HOD (Purchase Deptt.), BkTPS, WBPDCL. **Mobile :** 8336903911 **E-mail:** s.dasgupta@wbpdcl.co.in/purchase_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in
For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** ICA-T5917(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Bakreswar Thermal Power Project
P.O. BkTPP, Dist. - Birbhum, Pin - 731104
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER
Ref No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/23-24/BkTPP/CC-1607 **Date: 01.03.2024**
NIT No.: WBPDCL/BKTPP/NIT/E2976/23-24
E- Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by General Manager - BkTPP, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for **"Approach Road widening & associated Drain and Culvert/Causeway work at AP-2 , BkTPS." Tender Document Download Start Date:** 06.03.2024 at 10:00 AM. **Bid Submission End Date:** 27.03.2024 at 05:00 PM. **Contact Person:** Mr. Indranil Chakroborty, Sr. Manager - CC, BkTPP, WBPDCL. **Mobile:** 8373055604. **E-mail:** cc_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in/cc.bktpp@gmail.com For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** ICA-T5922(3)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Kolaghat Thermal Power Station
P.O. Mecheda, Dist. Purba Medinipur, Pin - 721137
Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref. No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/23-24/KTPS/CC-1592 **Date : 28.02.2024**
NIT No.: WBPDCL/KTPS/NIT/E2927/23-24
E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at https://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager, KTPS, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2 Part bid system for **"Repairing & Maintenance of Existing Bituminous Road from O&M Store Go-down No.- 1B to Go-down No.- 9 and approach to Weighbridge at KTPS (Part-A)". Tender Document Download Start Date:** 05.03.2024 at 11.00 AM. **Bid Submission End Date :** 20.03.2024 at 15.30 PM. **Contact Person:** Mr. Subhasis Das. **Telephone No.:** 8336904051. **E-mail:** cc_ktps@wbpdcl.co.in
For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** ICA- T5865(2)/2024

The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154
Bandel Thermal Power Station
P.O. Tribeni, Dist. - Hooghly, Pin - 712503
Notice Inviting E-Tender
Ref. No.: WBPDCL/Tend-Adv/23-24/BTPS/CC-1599 **Date: 28.02.2024**
NIT No.: WBPDCL/BTPS/NIT/E2373/23-24
E-Tenders inprescribed format areinvited athttps://wbtenders.gov.in by the General Manager BTPS, WBPDCL from eligible Agencies/Companies in 2(two)Part bid system for **'Procurement of Energy efficient LED Luminaries under CHP-EM'. Tender Document Download Start Date:** 05.03.2024 at 15:00 hrs. **Bid Submission End Date:** 28.03.2024 at 16:00 hrs. **Contact Person:** Mrs. Ranjana Bhaduri, Add. General Manager (M&C). **Phone:** 033 26812311. **E-mail:** purchase_btps@wbpdcl.co.in For details please visit: **https://wbtenders.gov.in** ICA- T5863(2)/2024

TIMES NATION
* THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

WILL QUIT IF ANYONE CAN PROVE I TOOK BRIBES FROM CONTRACTORS, SAYS K'TAKA CM SIDDA

ED ISSUES FRESH SUMMONS TO TMC'S MOITRA FOR QUESTIONING ON MARCH 11 IN FEMA CASE

MP, MLA privileges, immunity tied to House functioning: SC

'Wider Interpretation Of Twin Terms Will Create A Class Of Citizens Enjoying Unchecked Exemption From Ordinary Law'

Dhananjay.Mahapatra
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: In a researched judgment on parliamentary and legislative privileges and immunities, Supreme Court on Monday ruled that MPs and MLAs cannot claim privileges and immunities unrelated to functioning of the House and said a wider interpretation of the twin terms would create a class of citizens enjoying "unchecked exemption" from ordinary law.

Overruling the 1998 JMM bribery case judgment that shielded bribe-taking MPs and MLAs from prosecution on the basis of what has been held to be a misinterpretation of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by legislators for anything said or any vote cast inside the House, a seven-judge bench, led by CJI D Y Chandrachud, said neither MPs/MLAs nor the House itself could claim privileges which are not essentially related to their functioning.

Penning the 135-judgement, he said, "To give any privilege unconnected to functioning of Parliament or legislature by necessity is to create a class of citizens which enjoys unchecked exemption from ordinary application of the law. This was neither the intention of Constitution nor the goal of vesting Parliament and legislature with powers, privileges, and immunities."

"The burden of satisfying that a privilege exists and that it is necessary for the House to collectively discharge its function lies with the person or body claiming the privilege. The Houses of Parliament or legislatures, and the committees are not islands which act as enclaves shielding those inside from the application of ordinary laws. The lawmakers are subject to the same law that the law-making body enacts for the people it governs and claims to represent," said SC.

It laid down a two-fold test to determine whether the claim for privilege by an individual MP or MLA is valid. "First, the privilege claimed has to be tethered to the collective functioning of the House, and second, its necessity must bear a functional relationship to the discharge of essential duties of a legislator," it said.

The bench, also comprising Justices A S Bopanna, M M Sundresh, P S Narasimha, J B Pardiwala, Sanjay Kumar and Manoj Misra, recalled Justice Chandrachud-authored K Ajith judgment of 2021 when it permitted prosecution of a member of Kerala assembly for climbing on the dais of the Speaker and causing damage to House property.

In Ajith case, SC had said, "Privileges and immunities are not gateways to claim exemptions from general law of the land, particularly as in this case, the criminal law which governs the action of every citizen. To claim an exemption from application of criminal law would be to betray the trust which is impressed on the character of elected representatives as the makers and enactors of the law." This view was reiterated in the Sita Soren judgement of Monday.

The 7-judge bench said, "The evolution of parliamentary privileges in various parliamentary jurisdictions has shown a consistent pattern that when an issue involving privileges arises, the test applied is whether the privilege claimed is essential and necessary to the orderly functioning of the House or its committee."

BRIBES & IMMUNITY

1991 | Congress-led alliance came to office after **1991 general elections** and formed a minority govt. Congress won 232 of 487 seats, below the majority mark

1993 | In the wake of the financial crisis (1991) and Babri masjid demolition (1992), the opposition introduced a **no-confidence motion against the P V Narasimha Rao's govt** in July 1993

➤ **10 MPs of JMM and Janata Dal** had cast their votes to defeat a no-confidence motion in Lok Sabha against the minority govt of Rao. The govt survived by a 14-vote margin

1994 | A year later, **allegations were made against 7 JMM MPs**, including party stalwart and former Jharkhand chief minister Shibu Soren, of taking bribes to vote for the govt

1998 | The Supreme Court judgment in the bribery case provided **immunity to legislators** from prosecution for bribery

➤ Supreme Court judge SC Agarwal had held that **in case MPs voted against the no-confidence motion after taking bribes**, they will be entitled to immunity from criminal prosecution for bribery and criminal conspiracy conferred on them by Article 105(2) of the Constitution

Put up 'Modi ki guarantee' hoardings at all pumps, govt 'nudges' state-run fuel retailers

Managers Of All Pumps Asked To 'Co-operate'; Wed Set As Deadline

Sanjay Dutta | TNN

New Delhi: State-run fuel retailers are replacing existing hoardings of central welfare schemes at all petrol pumps with new ones saying 'Modi's guarantee means a better life' — a play on BJP's poll slogan 'Modi ki Guarantee' — and a photo of the Prime Minister handing over an LPG cylinder to a beneficiary of the 'Ujjwala' scheme, govt's flagship energy justice programme.

Industry sources said managers of all petrol pumps have been asked to "co-operate" to ensure the new flex hoardings are in place by Wednesday evening. The message also asked managers to report to respective field officers in case hoarding vendors engaged by oil companies do not report at their retail outlets.

Sources said the move is being undertaken on an informal "nudge" from the oil ministry. The three main public sector fuel retailers — IndianOil, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum — own or operate 90% of about 88,000 petrol pumps in the country.

Public sector fuel retailers own or operate 90% of about 88,000 petrol pumps in the country. However, these hoardings may have to be pulled down once Lok Sabha elections are announced and the model code of conduct comes into force

Typically, each pump has at least one hoarding of 40x20 size. Larger outlets often have two such displays, while pumps operating on smaller plots have smaller displays. The sources said the oil companies pay Rs 12 per square foot as printing charge.

However, these hoardings may have to be pulled down once Lok Sabha elections are announced and the model code of conduct comes into force. In March 2021, ahead of the assembly elections in West Bengal, Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, Election Commission had, acting on a complaint from Trinamool Congress, asked petrol pumps to remove all hoardings carrying Prime Minister Modi's picture.

3 arrested for pro-Pak chants in K'taka House

Bengaluru: Police in Bengaluru made three arrests Monday in connection with the alleged shouting of pro-Pakistan slogans in Vidhana Soudha during the victory celebrations of Congress candidate Syed Nazeer Hussain after the Feb 27 Rajya Sabha polls.

Those arrested were identified as Iltaj, Munawar, and Md Nashipudi. "We arrested the trio based on evidence, including forensic report and circumstantial proof," DCP (Central) Shekhar H Tekkannavar said.

▸Thakur slams Congress, P16

State home minister G Parameshwara said he was unaware of the arrests until media brought it to his attention. "Cops have been given free hand to investigate," he said.

The sloganeering set off a political row, with BJP accusing Congress of delaying release of the report from FSL.

ED unearths ₹11,793cr hair-smuggling racket

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Hyderabad: As China battles baldness, a Hyderabad-Mizoram-Myanmar "front" has been offering illicit ammo. An ongoing ED probe has thrown up a Rs 11,793-crore human hair smuggling racket spanning a complex money trail and alleged money laundering through the three-point-corridor.

Details have emerged on how such slush money is routed back to Hyderabad from traders in Myanmar. The cash is deposited and routed through multiple accounts. Of the total sum of Rs 11,793 crore, around Rs 2,491 crore in cash (over 21%) was deposited in such accounts.

ED had in Feb 2022 conducted searches across the country and unearthed the hair-export racket through Myanmar. After **TOI** exposed the modus operandi, ED plunged into action, registering cases in 2021 against the Hyderabad-based Nayla Family Exports Private Ltd for allegedly using benami import export codes (IEC), impersonation and forgery.

Hair was smuggled to Myanmar, Bangladesh, Vietnam and China from Hyderabad airport and through other land routes.

Nayla allegedly created multiple shell (benami) entities to export hair at grossly undervalued rates. Documents available with **TOI** revealed these entities are disbanded whenever they get into trouble with tax authorities & new IECs are devised. The payments, estimated at Rs 8,000 crore per annum, are received via the hawala channels.

India: UN rights chief's remark unwarranted

Geneva: India has strongly refuted the "unwarranted" concerns raised by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Turk, regarding the upcoming Lok Sabha polls.

India's permanent representative to UN in Geneva, Arindam Bagchi, said the comments do not reflect the reality of the largest democracy in the world. "We thank the High Commissioner for his global update...However, his concerns in this regard are unwarranted and do not reflect the reality of the largest democracy in the world," Bagchi said while addressing the 55th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva.

This comes after Turk in his global update raised 'concerns' on the forthcoming LS polls over "increasing restrictions on the civic space" and "hate speech and discrimination against minorities." ANI

Prez, VP, RS vote part of House proceeding, says SC but Sita Soren not yet out of woods

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New Delhi: Supreme Court on Monday threw light on a grey area of constitutional scheme of parliamentary democracy by ruling that elections for President, Vice-President and Rajya Sabha members are part of the functioning of Parliament or assemblies despite often being conducted when the Houses are not in session.

Interestingly, AG R Venkataramani had argued for prosecution of JMM MLA Sita Soren for accepting bribe from an independent candidate in RS polls in 2012 on the ground that the elections are not akin to voting in an assembly by an MLA and hence bribe for casting vote in RS polls is beyond the pale of immunity from prosecution granted by the PV Narasimha Rao ruling in 1998.

Refusing to agree with the AG, a seven-judge bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud, and Justices A S Bopanna, M M Sundresh, P S Narasimha, J B Pardiwala, Sanjay Kumar and Manoj Misra accepted Soren's counsel Raju Ramachandran's argument that voting in RS poll forms part of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the House and its members.

Acceptance of Ramachandran's argument, however, brought no protection for Soren, as the bench agreed with amicus curiae P S Patwalia and SG Tushar Mehta that bribe taken by legislators is an offence independent of their voting or speaking in House, which alone gets shielded by the immunity under Articles 105 and 194 of Constitution.

Writing the judgment, CJI said RS polls remain a part of the functioning of legislature and take place within the precincts of the assembly. "Similarly, elections for the President under Article 54 and for the VP under Article 66 may also take place when Parliament or state legislative assemblies are not in session. However, they are an integral part of the powers and responsibilities of elected members of Parliament and state legislative assemblies," the bench stated.

"Vote for such elections is given in the legislature or Parliament, which is sufficient to invoke the protection of the first limb of Articles 105(2) and 194(2). Such processes are significant to the functioning of the legislature and in the broader structure of parliamentary democracy," it said.

"There appears to be no restriction either in text of Article 105(2) and Article 194(2), which pushes such elections outside of protection provided by the provisions. Further, the purpose of parliamentary privilege to provide legislators with the platform to 'speak' and 'vote' without fear is equally applicable to elections to RS and elections for the President and VP as well," it said, adding that even deliberations by MPs/MLAs in House Committees are protected by parliamentary privileges.

SC underlined the importance of protection given to MLAs to ensure they vote in RS elections without fear or legal prosecution. "The free and fearless exercise of franchise by elected members of legislative assembly while electing members of RS is necessary for the dignity and functioning of state assembly," it said.

SITA SOREN CASE OF 2012

2012 **Sita Soren**, a member of Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), was accused of accepting a bribe to vote for a particular candidate in Rajya Sabha elections of 2012

➤ CBI subsequently filed a **chargesheet against her for allegedly accepting a bribe** for a vote and a case was filed in Jharkhand high court

2014 Jharkhand HC dismissed the plea filed by Soren seeking to quash the criminal proceedings initiated against her, claiming that she **enjoyed immunity under Article 194(2)** of the Constitution. The case was subsequently appealed before the Supreme Court

Article 194(2) states | No member of legislature of a state shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the legislature or any committee thereof, and **no person shall be so liable in respect of the publication by or under the authority of a House** of such a legislature of any report, paper, votes or proceedings

File photo

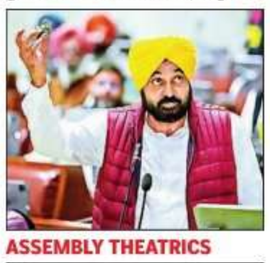
2019 A **three-judge SC bench** heard the case on March 7, 2019 and **took note of the decision of the Constitution bench** in P V Narsimha Rao vs State (1998) case, where the court (in a 3:2 majority) had held that parliamentarians enjoy immunity under the Constitution against criminal prosecution with regards to their speech and votes in the House. The bench comprising CJI Ranjan Gogoi, S Abdul Nazeer and Sanjiv Khanna accordingly referred the matter to a larger bench

2023 **A seven-judge SC bench led by chief justice D Y Chandrachud** heard the case for two days and reserved its judgement on Oct 5, 2023

2024 The seven-judge bench, on March 4, 2024, unanimously held that **legislators do not enjoy constitutional immunity** for accepting bribes to vote in Parliament or state assembly

Lock up oppn MLAs, Mann tells speaker, sparks chaos

Chandigarh: Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann let loose pandemonium in the assembly on Monday with a lock-and-key set that he sought to hand over to speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan with a plea to confine opposition MLAs so that they couldn't escape listening to him speak about AAP govt's achievements, reports **Vinod Kumar**.



ASSEMBLY THEATRICS

Sandhwan seemed amused at Mann's act, but not the opposition. Congress' Partap Singh Bajwa retorted that MLAs of his party had no intention of walking out and that nobody could lock them up even if they wanted to. Mann responded by producing another lock from his pocket, suggesting it be placed on the opposition MLAs' tongues as "this is the only way to tackle you".

The speaker sought to portray the chief minister's "request to lock the door" as a symbolic one aimed at engaging the opposition in a discussion on the problems confronting Punjab.

But the damage was apparently done by then, reprising the bedlam on the first day of the budget session when the opposition prevented the governor from elaborating on Mann govt's work.

Rahul vows 10 lakh jobs, Cong plans 'right to apprenticeship'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Accusing PM Narendra Modi of "lacking the intent to provide jobs to the youth", Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday said if voted to office, INDIA alliance will fill around 10 lakh vacancies that have piled up in the central govt departments during the last ten years.

Congress is likely to announce this promise in its 2024 election manifesto. It is also mulling unemployment allowance to the youth. The final draft is likely to be cleared by AICC committee, led by P Chidambaram, on Tuesday.

Rahul said Modi is carrying a "bag of false guarantees", asking him why 30% posts are vacant in 15 major departments, alleging that BJP considers "permanent jobs" a burden and is promoting "contract system". Calling the vacancies "the right of the youth", he said the party has prepared a concrete plan to fill them.

Rahul said that BJP considers 'permanent jobs' a burden and is promoting 'contract system'

Seeking to amplify the jobs plank, Congress is likely to promise a "right to apprenticeship" for the youth. It would make preparations for vocational education in the system, that would be followed by stints with private and govt companies which would be a major step in the skilling of youth for future employability. Sources said apprenticeship will be presented as a "rights based programme" as was done in UPA regime, with The Apprenticeship Act, 1961, at the heart of its design to provide "universal access to apprenticeship". It will also involve a stipend, which the government will institute on a cost-sharing formula with the industry.

HP to give women ₹1,500 a month

After surviving a bid to topple his govt during the Budget session, Himachal Pradesh CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Monday announced Rs 1,500 per month to be provided to women in the age group of 18 to 60 years eligible under the Indira Gandhi Pyaari Behna Samman Nidhi Yojana from April 1. With this, he said that Congress govt had fulfilled its fifth poll guarantee made during the 2022 assembly polls.

Addressing mediapersons here, Sukhu said that implementation of the scheme from financial year 2024-25 would benefit five lakh women. CM said women in Lahaul-Spiti district had started getting Rs 1,500 from Feb 25 and this pension would be available in other areas of the state as well. TNN

Jolt to TMC as 5-time MLA Tapas Roy quits party

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: Five-time MLA Tapas Roy on Monday severed a 23-year-old bond with TMC, resigning from all his party positions as well as the assembly, giving a jolt to West Bengal's governing party in the run-up to Lok Sabha polls.

Roy met speaker Biman Banerjee on Monday to resign from the assembly and then said he was "hurt and insulted" at neither CM Mamata Banerjee nor any other party leader reaching out to him for 52 days after ED raid on his home on Jan 12.

Roy did not specify whether he was joining BJP. Seniors told **TOI** that negotiations were on over "a parliamentary constituency". Roy has been gunning for Kolkata (North) Trinamool MP Sudip Bandyopadhyay in the run-up to his resignation. Roy said he had got "feelers" and he was a "free bird" now.

TMC hit back at Roy for "peddling lies" and questioning his pre-poll "timing to vent and quit". But a section of the party leadership also advised Roy to "pause and sit on the reserve bench for some time to think again" whether he should be joining BJP.

Roy, close aides said, had also got a call from poll strategist Prasant Kishor with the same "pause before you act" message. But Roy said he "could not take PK's call".

Assembly speaker Banerjee indicated he was yet to accept Roy's resignation but Roy ruled out any rethink. Roy had told **TOI** on Sunday he was "unsure" of his future in TMC. "I resigned from my party posts on March 1. I had told leaders in my constituency on Feb 21 that it was my last meeting with them," he said.

On Monday, after resigning, he said he was "disturbed by corruption and Sandeshkhali". "A TMC leader sent ED to my home on Jan 12," he added without naming Kolkata (North) MP Bandyopadhyay.

Roy has been MLA from Burrabazar from 2001 to 2006 and then from Baranagar from 2011 till date. He was a junior cabinet minister from 2018 to 2021 and later the party's deputy chief whip in the assembly.

Shinde Sena ups demand, seeks 22 of 48 Maha seats

Move Seen As Bid To Drive A Hard Bargain

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@timesgroup.com

FIGHT FOR THE WHEEL

Mumbai: Though the seat-sharing formula between Shiv Sena led by Eknath Shinde, BJP and NCP (Ajit Pawar) has not been finalised, the Shinde-led Sena has upped its demand and asked for 22 of the 48 constituencies in the state.

Sena minister Shambhuraj Desai said his party has insisted it should get the same number of seats in this election as in 2019. Desai said his party has also reviewed the 22 constituencies and provided updates to Shinde. Just last week, Shinde had held a meeting of his MPs and the Sena had staked claim to 18 Lok Sabha seats. Shinde had also asked the party's 13 sitting MPs to begin preparing for the polls.

Raising the demand is seen to be a pressure tactic aimed at securing at least the minimum number of seats needed to safeguard its interests. Given that it has 13 sitting MPs and has a claim to a fair share of the working class Sena vote, its leaders are hoping to drive a hard bargain with BJP and NCP.

"It is certain that in the upcoming LS election, the grand alliance i.e. Shiv Sena, BJP and NCP will contest the elections together. Which party will contest how many seats and which seats will be finalized soon, coordination committee meetings have been held (to discuss this) and they have submitted the report but the final decision will be taken by Shinde and DCMs Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar. We insist that Shiv Sena should get the same number of seats in this election that we contested on our bow and arrow symbol in the 2019 LS elections," Desai said.

Deora, Narwekar in SoBo campaign mode

Chaitanya Marpakwar
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Even though the Mahayuti (grand alliance) has not announced its seat-sharing formula, candidates from both BJP and Shiv Sena led by CM Eknath Shinde have hit campaign mode for the South Mumbai Lok Sabha seat.

BJP's Rahul Narwekar, who is the Assembly Speaker, has started his campaign by attending events and meetings across the six assembly segments that make up the South Mumbai LS constituency, including Worli and Sewri.

In Sena, newly elected RS MP Milind Deora has also hit the ground running with visits and community meetings across South Mumbai. Banners of both Narwekar and Deora have sprung up across the constituency, even in Sena (UBT) strongholds. Political observers said Sena and BJP are vying for the seat where Sena's (UBT) Arvind Sawant is the sitting MP and is considered one of the high-profile seats in Maharashtra.

Deora was elected to RS last month from Sena. Deora said he has expressed his desire to contest the South Mumbai seat to the party leadership.

Narwekar has had a blitzkrieg of meetings, visits and events across South Mumbai over the last fortnight where he has engaged with communities including in areas like Mumbadevi and Byculla that are minority-dominated, addressed issues of residents and taken on the Sena (UBT) in their strongholds of Worli, which is represented by Aaditya Thackeray, and Sewri.

In south Mumbai, Sawant had defeated Deora in 2014 and 2019. Sawant who is an Uddhav Thackeray loyalist was the Sena-BJP alliance candidate, while Deora was a candidate of the Congress-NCP alliance. Sena (UBT) is set to repeat Sawant as a MVAcandidate this year too. Out of six MLAs in south Mumbai, Sena (UBT) and BJP have two each while Congress and the Shinde-led Sena have one MLA each.

3 Guj netas quit Cong ahead of Rahul yatra entering state

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Gandhinagar: In a major jolt to Congress party in Gujarat, senior leader Arjun Modhwadia on Monday resigned from the post of MLA and the primary membership of the party expressing anguish over the party's decision to "boycott" Lord Ram temple consecration ceremony held in Ayodhya in Jan.

Modhwadia told **TOI** that he will shortly join BJP along with his supporters.

Two others, state working president and ex-MLA Ambarish Der and Navsari district president Dharmesh Bhim Patel who had unsuccessfully contested against BJP state president CR Paatil in 2019 LS polls, also quit the party.

The triple whammy became a source of embarrassment for party as the spate of resignations came merely two days ahead of Rahul's Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra in the state from March 7-9.

Modhwadia, a three-time MLA who had earlier served as leader of opposition in the Gujarat assembly and Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee president, met speaker Shankar Chaudhary on Monday and tendered his resignation as MLA.

4th BJD MLA joins BJP in a month

An MLA of Odisha's governing BJD joined BJP on Monday, the fourth to do so in less than a month ahead of the simultaneous LS and assembly polls. Tribal leader and two-time legislator Premananda Nayak was a minister in CM Naveen Patnaik's team from 2019 to 2022. Nayak had announced his resignation from BJD last month and claimed he was "neglected". TNN

Arunachal CLP neta too joins BJP

Six-time Arunachal Pradesh MLA and CLP leader Lombo Tayeng joined BJP on Monday along with Independent legislator Chakat Aboh. With Tayeng's departure ahead of assembly elections, Congress's strength in the 60-member assembly has dwindled from four in 2019 to a lone legislator in former CM Nabam Tuki. TNN

BJP neta pulls out of LS race after 'fake' video surfaces

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow: A day after an obscene video allegedly involving him surfaced on social media, BJP MP Upendra Singh Rawat, who has been fielded again by the party from Barabanki, said on Monday he "will not contest any election till proven innocent".

Demanding an investigation, Barabank MP has lodged an FIR against an unknown accused that says a forged obscene video of him has been uploaded on social media to malign his public image after he was fielded again by BJP.

In the five-minute video, which he alleges has been generated through "deep fake AI technology", a man purported to be the MP is seen in the company of a woman, apparently from abroad.

> **'My opponents did this act as soon as they came to know that I will be contesting the election,' Rawat said and hoped the accused would be identified soon**

The FIR, lodged by the MP's personal secretary, Dinesh Chandra Rawat, is against an unidentified person under IPC Sections 419 (cheating by personation) and 501 (printing defamatory matter), and sections of the IT Act, said Kotwali police station incharge Aditya Tripathi.

"My opponents did this act as soon as they came to know that I will be contesting the election," he said and hoped the accused would be identified soon.

In the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, BJP had denied a ticket to the then MP, Priyanka Singh Rawat, and made Upendra Singh Rawat its candidate. Barabanki is a reserved (SC) seat. Upendra had defeated SP candidate Ram Sagar Rawat by over 1 lakh votes in the last election.

For lst time since '77, no member of RLD's first family in LS fray

Lucknow: For the first time since 1977, no member of the Chaudhary Charan Singh clan will be contesting LS elections, with RLD Monday announcing the candidature of Rajkumar Sangwan from Baghpat — a constituency considered a family bastion of the former PM, but currently held by BJP's Satya Pal Singh — and Chandan Chauhan from Bijnor. The announcement came two days after RLD chief Jayant Chaudhary met Union home minister Amit Shah and BJP president JP Nadda. Sources said Shah and Nadda agreed to spare the two seats for RLD, which showed its inclination to align with BJP after the Centre announced Bharat Ratna for Charan Singh.

RLD also named Yogesh Chaudhary as its candidate for MLC polls, for which the process of filing nominations started Monday. Baghpat happens to be the 'karmabhoomi' of Charan Singh, who successfully contested the seat for the first time in 1977, and won on the trot in 1980 and 1984. Baghpat seat falling in RLD quota means denial of ticket to Satya Pal Singh, who had won the seat successively in 2014 and 2019, trouncing Ajit and Jayant. The twin defeats had dented RLD comprehensively.

Himachal BJP fears 7 of its MLAs may be expelled

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Shimla/New Delhi: After 6 Congress MLAs were disqualified for defying the whip during the recently concluded budget session of the Himachal Pradesh assembly, 7 BJP MLAs are likely to face action now. The privilege committee of the Assembly has begun proceedings against them for creating ruckus inside the House on Feb 28.

Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur said preparations are on to expel them from the Assembly in a bid to save the govt. Thakur told mediapersons on Monday that the privilege committee was formed on Monday itself and its meeting was also held on the same day. He said the committee has asked the MLAs to reply within 10 days.

On Feb28, during the Budget session of the Assembly, Speaker Kuldeep Singh Pathania suspended 15 BJP MLAs. Following this the opposition had created a ruckus in the House when the Speaker directed the marshals to take the suspended MLAs out.

Meanwhile, state PWD minister Vikramaditya Singh said he met the six rebel MLAs after telling central party observers that the party should try to know the reasons why they cross voted in the Rajya Sabha polls. Media reports quoted Singh as saying that he conveyed the sentiments of the rebels to central Congress leaders Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and KC Venugopal whom he met over the weekend.

As reported by **TOI**, Congress is hoping that rebel MLAs will agree to a compromise, whereby the legal challenge to their disqualification can pave the way for their reinstatement. The MLAs are expected to file a challenge HC.

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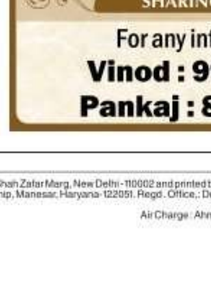

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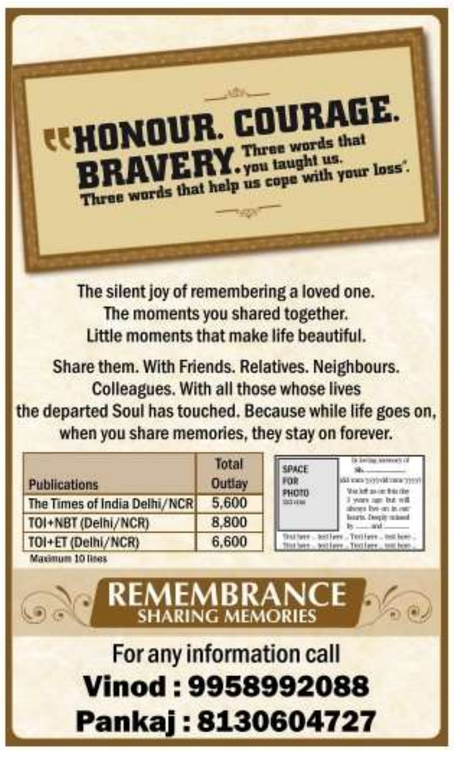

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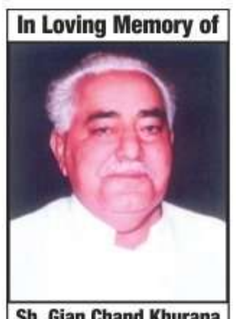

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In Grief

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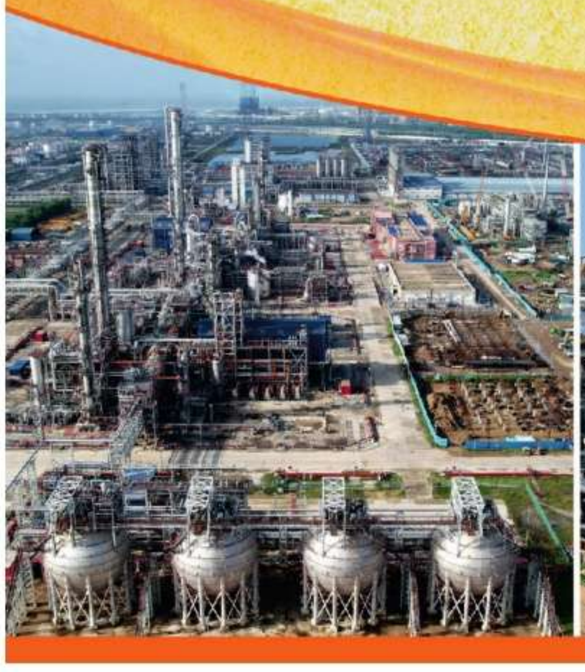

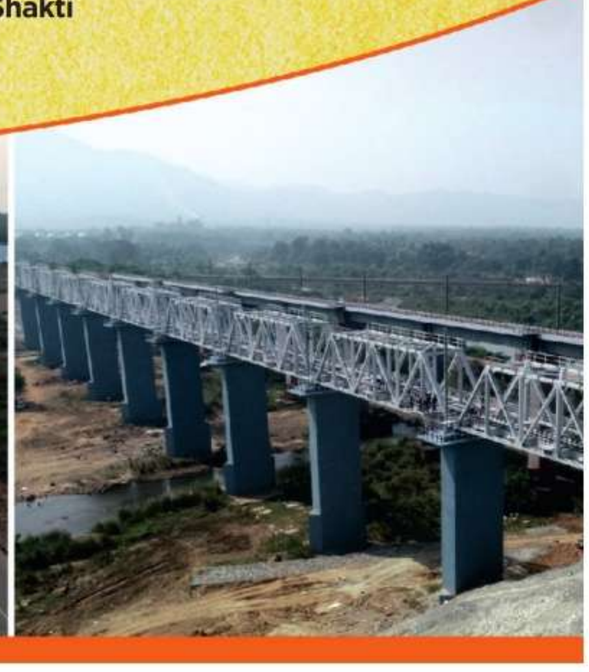

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Take-home salary can't be basis for computing maintenance: HC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Deductions like provident fund contribution, festival advance, LIC premium, house rent recovery and loan cannot be factored in while assessing maintenance amount to be paid by a husband seeking divorce, Karnataka HC ruled.

These deductions accrue only to benefit of the petitioner, Justice Hanchate Sanjeevkumar said, dismissing a petition filed by a SBI employee as "devoid of merit".

The petitioner, who works as a branch manager in SBI, had sought divorce from his wife, who had filed a separate petition seeking restoration of conjugal rights before a family court at Mysuru. She had also filed an application under section 125 of CrPC for interim maintenance.

On Aug 16, 2023, court directed the husband to pay a monthly maintenance of Rs 15,000 to his wife for her lifetime or till she remarries, and Rs 10,000 a month to their four-year-old daughter. In addition, Rs 10,000 was awarded in litigation cost.

Challenging the order, the husband argued that though his gross salary is Rs 1,01,628 per month, his take-home after deductions is only Rs 77,816. Thus, he is unable to pay maintenance to the wife and child, as ordered by family court. The wife submitted that she did not have any source of income.

Justice Sanjeevkumar noted that the amounts compulsorily deducted were income tax and professional tax, and the petitioner was citing an exaggerated amount only to deny maintenance to his wife and child.

In any case, the deductions stated were ultimately for the petitioner's benefit, and hence could not be ground to award lesser quantum of maintenance, the judge said.

He said the amount deducted could not be considered while calculating the husband's salary, because if this was allowed, in every case of petition filed under section 125 of Criminal Procedure Code, "there will be a tendency by the husband to create artificial deductions to show less take-home salary with an intention to mislead courts".

HC: Co-promoter also liable to pay refund if flat delayed

Swati.Deshpande
@timesgroup.com

Even a person who is merely an investor in a project and benefits from it falls within the ambit of promoter, court stated

Mumbai: Bombay HC has held that the term 'promoter' covers a co-promoter even if he hasn't got money from flat buyers and is jointly liable under Real Estate (Regulatory and Development) Act (Rera) to refund the amount, with interest, for delays.

It said under the 2016 Act, which came into effect in 2017, 'promoter' has "been so widely defined that it virtually includes every person associated with construction of the building", and it is not necessary that there has to be an agreement between every promoter and a flat buyer. "Even a person who is merely an investor (along with promoter) in the project" and benefits from it falls within the ambit of 'promoter', it said while hearing an appeal by Wadhwa Group Housing Pvt Ltd against an Oct 2022 order of Rera appellate tribunal that had fastened it with the refund liability.

HC's Feb 26 order has stirred real estate industry, said lawyers, as it answers a substantial question of law that many were tracking. It has ramifications for many redevelopment projects in the city, said legal experts.

Justice S V Marne focused on a legal issue — whether a promoter who has not received any payment from an allottee can be made liable for giving refund with interest under Section 18 of Rera.

Wadhwa Group Housing had challenged joint liability on it as a co-promoter for having joined in as co-developer in an SRA project in Andheri. In 2012, the two builders, in a joint development agreement, split among themselves the constructed area to be sold.

A flat buyer, Vijay Choksi, had complained to MahaRera and sought refund of Rs 1.2 crore part payment he made to co-developer, SSS Escatics, which failed to meet project deadline of 2019, said the appeal before HC.

Wadhwa Group Housing, through counsel Naushad Engineer, said the amount was paid by Choksi to Escatics, which alone can be directed to refund it with interest.

Engineer argued that for monies received in a pre-Rera situation sans contract between a builder and a buyer, it will not stand to reason that the builder should be made liable post Rera. HC, which also heard Choksi's counsel Ashish Kamat, held that "account in which monies are received by promoters is irrelevant for purpose of determining joint liability".

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नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

A-1659

GOVT. OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
RENGALI RIGHT IRRIGATION PROJECT, DHENKANAL
Email Id - cerripdkl@gmail.com
'e' Procurement Notice

The Chief Engineer, Rengali Right Irrigation Project, Dhenkanal, on behalf of the Governor of Odisha invites **on line percentage rate bids** in double cover system for the work as detailed below:

1. Name of the work : Excavation of Darpani Branch Canal from RD 29.205 km to RD 31.010 km including construction of its structures of Rengali Right Irrigation Project.
2. Tender Cost : Rs. 33,40,48,786.00
3. Bid Document Cost : Rs. 10,000.00 (on line)
4. Bid Security : Rs. 33,40,500.00 (on line)
5. Class of Contractor : 'Special' & 'Super' Class
6. Period of Completion : 24 (twenty-four) calendar months
7. Other details are as follows;

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of tender On-line for bidding To	Date of opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Chief Engineer, RRIP, Dhenkanal	CERRIP-02/2023-24	12.03.2024 10.00 AM	02.04.2024 5.30 PM	03.04.2024 11.00 AM

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
Any addendum/ Corrigendum/ Cancellation to the above notice will be published in the Govt. website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
Rengali Right Irrigation Project
Dhenkanal
OIPR - 32351/11/0002/23-24

O-2729

Government of Odisha
Office of the Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur
E-mail Id serwcirclesbp@yahoo.com

Bid Identification No. Road Tender Online RWCSBP-71/2023-24 No: 935 Dated: 01.03.2024

The Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites online percentage rate Bid from experienced & eligible bidders for Transferred Road Improvement Programme (TRIP) for the year 2023-24.

1. Name of work : Transferred Road Improvement Programme (TRIP) for the year 2023-24.
2. No of works : 01 No details as per DTCN.
3. Estimated cost : Approximately Rs. 917.29 lakhs.
4. Class of Contractor : "A" and 'Special'
5. Cost of tender paper and mode of deposit : Rs. 10,000/- per set (to be deposited On-line) in favour of concerned Executive Engineer.
6. Mode of submission of tender : Tender should be submitted only Online in website **www.tendersorissa.gov.in. (https//tendersodisha.gov.in)**
7. EMD and mode of deposit : **1% of estimated cost of the work to be remitted online as mentioned in DTCN.**
8. Summary of key dates are provided below:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding From	Availability of tender On-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time for seeking Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender Technical Bid	Date & Time of Opening of Tender Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur	Road Tender Online RWCSBP-71/ 2023-24	06.03.2024 from 11.00 A.M.	20.03.2024 upto 5.00 P.M.	18.03.2024 upto 5.00 P.M.	21.03.2024 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

* Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **www.tendersorissa.gov.in. (https//tendersodisha.gov.in)**
* Subsequent modification/ corrigendum/ Addendum if required shall appear in website only.
* The amount put to bid is exclusive of GST.
* Bidder should inspect the Road before bidding and quote his rate accordingly.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Sambalpur
OIPR-25091/11/0107/23-24

संचालनालय भौमिकी तथा खनिकर्म मध्यप्रदेश
29-ए, "खनिज भवन", अरेरा हिल्स, भोपाल
फोन एवं फैक्स 0755 2551795 ई-मेल auction.dgm@mp.gov.in

क्रमांक 2532/भौमिकी /गौण खनिज / 2024 भोपाल, दिनांक 27/02/2024

निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

सर्वसाधारण की जानकारी के लिये यह प्रकाशित किया जाता है कि संचालनालय भौमिकी तथा खनिकर्म मध्यप्रदेश भोपाल द्वारा मध्यप्रदेश गौण खनिज नियम 1996 के नियम 41–क के अधीन ई–निविदा प्रक्रिया से निम्नानुसार समेकित अनुज्ञप्ति प्रदान करने के लिए इच्छुक निविदाकारों से एम.पी. टेंडर्स पोर्टल https://mptenders.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जायेंगी। ई निविदा दस्तावेज, पोर्टल से दिनांक 05.03.2024 को प्रातः 11.00 बजे से डाउनलोड किये जा सकेंगे। दिनांक 26.03.2024, सायंकाल 5 बजे तक निविदा प्रस्तुत की जा सकेंगी।

निविदा क्रमांक	जिला	तहसील	ग्राम	खसरा क्रमांक	रकबा (हे.)	खनिज
6(1)	ग्वालियर	घाटीगांव	सिमरियाटांका	249 आर.एफ.	4.430	क्वार्ट्ज
6(2)	मंदसौर	मल्हारगढ़	गोगरपुरा	401/3/1	1.500	शेल
6(3)	मंदसौर	मल्हारगढ़	गोगरपुरा	400/1	1.500	शेल
6(4)	मंदसौर	मल्हारगढ़	डुंगलावदा	418	2.800	शेल

उक्त ई–निविदा के संबंध में जारी किया गया कोई भी संशोधन एम.पी. टेंडर्स पोर्टल पर ही प्रदर्शित किया जायेगा, जो अंतिम एवं सर्वमान्य होगा।

Sd/-
संचालक
(प्रशासन एवं खनिकर्म)

G-25337/23

कोरोना में सावधानी हटी, समझो दुर्घटना घटी।

Court notice to Centre in French journo OCI case

New Delhi: Delhi HC on Monday issued a notice to Centre on plea by French journalist Vanessa Dougnac against her being denied permission to carry out 'journalistic activities' in India.

Single judge bench of Justice Subramonium Prasad sought Centre's response through ministries of home affairs and external affairs in a week. The matter will be heard on March 12.

She has challenged order passed by FRRO on Sept 14, 2022, dismissing her application for OCI activity permission to undertake journalistic activity in India. She submitted before court that Centre's order is a "summary one-line order" which has been passed in a mechanical manner, without any application of mind and in complete violation of principles of natural justice and due process.

"The Impugned Order contravenes her right to dignity in as much as it results in her complete exclusion from participation in society's activities and her right to contest any allegations," the plea filed by her said.

A show-cause notice was issued to her on Jan 18 by Centre as to why her OCI should not be cancelled under Citizenship Act, 1955 in interest of sovereignty and integrity of India. TNN

HC junks Mahua plea to gag BJP MP, Dehadrai

New Delhi: Delhi HC on Monday dismissed plea of TMC leader **Mahua Moitra** who was seeking direction to restrain BJP MP Nishikant Dubey and advocate Jai Anant Dehadrai from making allegations against her related to 'cash for query' case.

The plea sought interim relief from court and urged it to restrain the BJP MP and advocate Dehadrai from "making, posting, publishing, uploading, or distributing" any content that states that she accepted bribes from businessman Darshan Hiranandani to ask questions in Parliament.

Advocate Dehadrai thanked Delhi HC for "protecting his right to freedom of speech".

Earlier on Feb 23, Delhi HC had dismissed the plea moved by Moitra seeking to restrain ED from leaking any "confidential or unverified information" to the media concerning investigation against her under Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA).

Moitra was expelled as a Lok Sabha MP on Dec 8 following ethics panel's determination of her guilt in 'cash for query' case. ANI

Decide in 8 weeks plea for Gyanvapi 'Shivling' puja: HC

Rajesh Kumar Pandey | TNN

Prayagraj: Allahabad high court has directed a Varanasi court to decide, "preferably within eight weeks", a petition seeking unrestricted right to worship the purported Shivling found inside Gyanvapi mosque premises in May 2022.

This application was filed before Varanasi's civil judge (senior division) in a petition seeking a permanent injunction against Anjuman Intezamia Masjid (AIM) restraining it from interfering in worship of the purported Shivling, including offering of "bhog, prasad, shayan aarti, mangal aarti, garlanding, dugdh abhishek, and kirtan".

Justice Manish Kumar Nigam passed the order in a petition filed by one Vivek Soni and another, who had approached HC requesting expeditious disposal of their interim application, pending before civil judge (senior division), Varanasi, since 2022.

A Shivling-like structure was found in the ablution pond during a court-monitored survey of Gyanvapi complex in May 2022, conducted on a petition filed by five women plaintiffs in the original Shringar Gauri case.

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education

CIVIL SERVICES

IAS, IPS Civil Service, JEE/NET online adv Biology/Allied teachings by learned Biology Professor (Delhi based). Details/Registration: http://nirdhaarit.com (9821078236).

business

BUSINESS PROPOSALS

REQD Buyer/Partner 4 Paper Mill-can make marriage palace cum hotel/water park on NH-73 Haryana & Industrial Building Bawana Sector-3. # 8920077655

FINANCE

FINANCE 8307659342

BUSINESS LOAN, 3 Cr & Above, No Processing Fees, NPA Release, Secured & Unsecured Loan. # Call 8307659342

FOR SALE

FOR Sale, 2 Nos DG Sets, in working condition, 625 KVA, VTA 28G3 Cummins, 15 years old. Contact : 9810456208, 7428992777

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Keshwani Resham Nanakchand, W/o Sh. Sameer Mirani , R/o Flat No. 138, BG-1,Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-63, have changed my name to Resham Mirani after marriage for all purposes.

I, Yogendra Kumar Tyagi S/o Sh Mangoo Singh Tyagi R/o H.no 350 A-6 sri nagar north west delhi-34, declare that my name was wrongly mentioned as Yogender Kumar Tyagi in driving license whereas my actual & correct name is Yogendra Kumar Tyagi.

I Pravin Kumar Gupta S/o Mohan Lal Gupta R/o Rohini, Delhi declare that my exact name is Pravin Kumar Gupta. However where it is written Pravin Gupta it will be read as Pravin Kumar Gupta.

I Sahil s/o sh Deshraj R/o 123/144, South Enclave DDA Flat, Dakshinpuri Extn. New Delhi 110062 ,have changed my name from Sahil to Sahil Dhap for all future purposes.

I Romit Jaiswal S/O Rajendra Prasad Jaiswal R/o House no - C1/1105, SRS Royal Hills, Sector - 87, Faridabad, Haryana - 121002 has changed my name from Romit Kumar to Romit Jaiswal

LOST & FOUND

I Jagdish Lal Malhotra S/O Gulzari Lal Malhotra have lost the original property documents (Booking receipt, Allotment Letter, Builder's agreement) related to Plot No. H-725, TDI City At Kundli, Sonepat, Haryana.

tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

YASHODA Super Speciality Hospitals KAUSHAMBI
H-1,24, 26,27, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010.
Ph: 0120-4181900, 4189500

Notice for Disposal of Out Patient Department (OPD) Medical Records Older From 01.01.2020 To 31.12.2020 & Inpatient Department (IPD) Medical Records Older From 01.01.2018 to 31.12.2018.

Notice is hereby given that Yashoda Super Speciality Hospital, H-1,24,26,27, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh Pin -201010, Proposes to disposes of all the Medical Records of all out patients from 01 Jan. 2020 to 31. Dec. 2020 and inpatients from 01 Jan. 2018 to 31. Dec. 2018. A copy of concerned patients Medical Records will be furnished to any patient / next to kin / legal representative on Written request addressed to Medical Superintendent, Yashoda Super Speciality Hospital, H-1, 24,26-27, Kaushambi, Gzb. U.P., within 30 days of publication of this notice. Hospital will not comply with any request & cannot be held responsible thereafter as all above old records would have been destroyed. If no such request is received, the record of the said period shall be liable to be destroyed & no claim be entertained thereafter and no further notice shall be given in this regard.

Hospital Administration

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase Freehold Residential builtup Property No. A-17, measuring 1000 Sq. Yards, Green Park Main, New Delhi-110016 from Ms. Sunita Narain, Mrs. Nisha Jain, Ms. Surekha Narain and Ms. Urvashi Narain (present owner) who acquired the same after demise of their father Mr. Raj Narain (died on 06.09.1968) who was the registered owner of the said property by virtue of Sale Deed dated 21.12.1962 and their mother Mrs. Usha Raj Narain (died on 04.10.2009) and said Ms. Sunita Narain, Mrs. Nisha Jain, Ms. Surekha Narain and Ms. Urvashi Narain are the only 1st class legal heirs according to Surviving Member Certificate dated 17.11.2023 of the said deceased owners who intends to sell the referred property to our client, If anybody including Bank, Financial Institutions, persons, relative has any claim, right, interest whatsoever in the said property shall inform within 15 days to the undersigned with documentary evidence. In the event of no response to this notice, than our client shall presume that title of the said property is unencumbered and clear.

Yours faithfully
Karnail Singh, Advocate
K-8, Basement, Jungpura Extension New Delhi
Contact No. 9811163363 & 9953683363

TENDERS

CORRIGENDUM Refer no. EFOS1/02/2024 dated 24.02.2024 Tender document sale date is hereby extended upto 6 PM on 06.03.2024. Authorized Signatory Exclusive Floors Owners Society

पंजाब नेशनल बैंक punjab national bank
Circle Office: South Delhi, 7 Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066
BANK PREMISES REQUIRED
Punjab National Bank requires suitable ready built and well-constructed hall type building having carpet area , Including space for ATM (1200 sqft to 1500 sqft approx.) on lease/rental basis at following places
1. Main Mathura Road, Mohan Co-operative, New Delhi
Premises should be preferably on Ground Floor and if on First Floor should have lift facility. Premises offered should have all clearances certificate from statutory authorities. Interested owners/ registered power of attorney holders of such premises in the desired locality who are ready to lease out their readily available premises on long term lease basis preferably for 15 years or more may send their offers in the prescribed format available on Bank's Web Site **https://www.pnbindia.in** or the same may be obtained from the above address during office hours. The complete offer duly sealed & signed with all requisite documents should reach the undersigned on or before 18.03.2024 till 2.00 PM at the above address. No brokerage will be paid by the Bank. Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion without assigning any reasons whatsoever.
Assistant General Manager
Date: 05.03.2024

NOTICE REGARDING SALE OF OLD MACHINES & PARTS

Bottlers Nepal Limited, located at Kathmandu, Nepal calls for Expression of Interest(EOI)from interested parties for the purchase of following machineries and related parts on AS IS WHERE IS BASIS.

Individuals, companies, firms or associations interested in purchasing may submit interest via email to **smaharjan@coca-cola.com.np** within 7 Days from the date of publication of this notice.

Machine Name	Year of Manufacture	Manufacturer
Filler	2006	PROCOMAC, Italy
Labeler	2006	KRONES, Germany
Warmer	2006	KHS, Germany
Spare parts (More than 800 items related to machines)		

Note: Bottlers Nepal Limited, reserves the right to amend/ withdraw this notice at any time.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Technology Management Section, Delhi Circle Office, 6th Floor Ansal Tower, Nehru Place, Delhi 110019
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed Tenders are invited under Two Bid System for Selection of Service Provider for Providing Comprehensive AMC Services for Hardware Items & ATS for Software Items for a period of 2 years from 01.04.2024 vide **RFP:001 / AMC / 2024 - 25** dated **04/03/2024**. Details are as under:-
Item details : Annual Maintenance Contract of IT hardware/software items i.e., Desktop/All In One PC, Laptop, Printer, Passbook Printer, Colour Printer and Scanner in Canara Bank Branches/offices under Circle Office, Delhi.
Quantity : As specified on https://canarabank.com/tenders.aspx
Last Date, Time and Venue for Submission of Bids : 19.03.2024 by 3:00 PM Venue: Canara Bank, TM Section, Circle Office Delhi, 6th Floor, 38, Ansal Tower, Nehru Place Delhi-110 019.
The selected bidder will enter into a Contract with Canara Bank Circle Office, Delhi Centrally at 38, Ansal Tower, Nehru Place, Delhi-110019 for AMC of IT hardware items and peripherals as per the specifications and Requirements details mentioned in the RFP. For details kindly refer to the website https://canarabank.com/tenders.aspx
Date: 04.03.2024 s/d
Technical Overseeing Executive

SBI
STATE BANK OF INDIA
Regional Business Office -1, Administrative Office - 4, 3rd Floor,233, Okhla Ind Estate-III, New Delhi 110020
NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT) PREMISES REQUIRED ON LEASE
SBI Invites offers from owners/ Power of Attorney holders for premises on lease rental basis for Commercial/Office use.
Name of Branch & Approx Carpet Area
Regional Office Faridabad Hiring of premises for shifting of **Regional Office Faridabad,** (Premises required in Faridabad, centrally located, near to metro station) 465 sq. mtr. (approx 5000 sq. ft.) preferably on ground floor
For further details and downloading bidding form/ documents, please visit website **www.sbi.co.in** or **https://bank.sbi** under **"PROCUREMENT NEWS"** section. The last date for submission of bids at our above office is **18.03.2024 upto 03:00 PM.**
No brokers please
Authorised Signatory

Union Bank of India
Department of Information Technology, 1/1A, Adi Shankaracharya Marg, Opp. Powai Lake, Powai, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400072.
Tender Notice
Union Bank of India invites vendors for following items.
GeM Bid No – GEM/2024/B/4730995 Dated 04.03.2024
Item/Job Description – RFP for Subscription of Microsoft Office 365 Cloud Services including MS Office, Email Solution, Instant Messaging and Digital Collaboration Tools.
Date and time of tender publication – 04.03.2024 11:00 hours
Bid End Date/Time – 26.03.2024 16:00 hours
For other details and downloading of bid document, please visit Government e-Market Place (GeM) portal https://gem.gov.in for participation in the tender.

COURT NOTICE

COURT NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
Notice Under Order V Rule 20 Code of Civil Procedure
Ex.F.A No. 09/2022 and CM No. 20232- 33/2022.
Appeal against the Order dated 26.02.2022, Passed by Ms. Shelly Arora. ADJ-0I. South-East District. Saket Courts. New Delhi In EX 189/2019
Sh. Jas Ram (Deceased) Through Legal Heirs and Others through Assignees APPELLANT(S)
VERSUS
Union of India & Ors RESPONDENT(S)
Notice to: Appellants/Assignors:
1. JASRAM (DECEASED) S/o HARBANS THROUGH HIS LEGAL HEIRS
A. SMT. DHARAMWATI W/o LATE JASRAM, **B. SMT. NIRMALA DEVI** D/o LATE JASRAM, **C. SMT. DAYAWATI** D/o LATE SH.JAS RAM, **D. SMT. MAHESHWATI** D/o LATE JASRAM, **E. SH. VIRENDER SINGH** S/o LATE JAS RAM, **F. SH. DEVINDER SINGH** S/o LATE JASRAM, **G. SMT. KAVITA DEVI** D/o LATE JASRAM.
2. SH.SATYA PRAKASH S/o LATE MAM CHAND.
3. SH.RAVINDER S/o LATE MAM CHAND
4. SH. AZAD SINGH S/o LATE MAM CHAND
5. SH.RAGHBIR SINGH S/o LATE MAM CHAND
6. SH.SURINDER SINGH S/o LATE MAM CHAND
7. SH. SACHE SINGH S/o LATE MAM CHAND.
ALL R/o VILLAGE JASOLA.
All the above have assigned their rights and hence petition has been preferred through their assignees
A. SMT, NATASHA BHATI, W/o LATE SH.VIJAY KUMAR BHATI PREVIOUSLY R/o,B-34, GREATER KAILASH NEW DELHI-110048, PRESENTLY R/o: LTH-3 PH-3, THE LABURNUM, SUSHANT LOK, GURUGRAM, HARYANA
7B. SMT. SANGEETA MALHOTRA D/o SH. K.L. MALHOTRA PREVIOUSLY R/o: G-146, KALKAJI, NEW DELHI-19 PRESENTLY R/o: 24, NDSE-I, NEW DELHI-110049
Whereas the above-noted appellant has presented an appeal under Section 96 CPC along with the above- mentioned application which was listed before the Court on **27.04.2022** and on other subsequent dates wherein the Court ordered issuances of notice to you.
And whereas it has been proved to the satisfaction of the Court that you cannot be served in the ordinary manner, notice by way of publication is hereby issued that, if you wish to defend the above-mentioned appeal and application, you may cause an appearance to be entered on your behalf either personally or through an advocate duly appointed by you for the purpose before the **Court of Joint Registrar (Judicial)** on **19.03.2024 (actual) at 11:00 a.m.**
If no appearance is made on your behalf, by yourself, your pleader or someone by law authorized to act for you in the said appeal and application on the aforementioned date, no further notice of the subsequent date of hearing-of the said appeal and application will be given and the same will be heard and determined ex- parte in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Court on this 26th day of February, 2024.
Assistant Registrar (Appl.) (Civil)
for REGISTRAR GENERAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

YASHODA Super Speciality Hospitals KAUSHAMBI
H-1,24, 26,27, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010.
Ph: 0120-4181900, 4189500

Notice for Disposal of Out Patient Department (OPD) Medical Records Older From 01.01.2020 To 31.12.2020 & Inpatient Department (IPD) Medical Records Older From 01.01.2018 to 31.12.2018.

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Hospital Administration

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HC takes up Spaniard rape case suo motu

Dumka Admin Hands Hubby ₹10L Cheque

Rajesh Kumar Pandey & Jaideep Deogharia | TNN

Police escort the Dumka rape accused to a district court on Monday

Dumka/Ranchi: Jharkhand high court took suo motu cognisance and issued notices to authorities on Monday regarding the alleged gang rape of a Spanish woman in Dumka district on Friday night. The case has sparked global outcry, leading district authorities to provide a cheque of Rs 10 lakh to her husband, who was also assaulted during the attack.

Although three men were picked up on suspicion, police have yet to identify any of the seven suspects. SDPO Santosh Kumar said searches are being conducted. The woman released a photograph of one of the suspects on social media on Monday.

Police said the woman, who also holds Brazilian citizenship, and her husband are on a world biking tour. She was gang-raped while they were resting inside tents at a deserted area in a village within the jurisdiction of Hansdiha police station, around 300km from Ranchi. They were en route to Nepal from Bengal.

Authorities didn't disclose when the couple would be allowed to leave or if police had requested them to stay as the investigation is ongoing.

An HC division bench observed the seriousness of the crime against a foreigner and appointed senior advocate Ritu Kumar as the amicus curie. HC scheduled the next hearing for March 7, by which time the state is expected to provide all relevant case details. It issued notices to the chief secretary, home secretary, DGP, and SP of Dumka.

After Spanish shocker, C'garh orchestra troupe member gang-raped in J'khand

Barely 24 hours after Friday's alleged gang-rape of a Spanish tourist in Jharkhand's Dumka, an orchestra troupe member from Chhattisgarh was assaulted by three men in Jharkhand's Palamu district late Saturday, reports **MF Ahmad.** According to the FIR filed on Sunday with Palamu's Bishrampur police, the perpetrators were known to the survivor. Police said two of the culprits had been arrested while a hunt was on for the third.

"There was a show for which the dancer (survivor) was invited by one of the three accused, Golu Kumar. However, the show was cancelled and she stayed in Kumar's room," Bishrampur SDPO Rakesh Singh said. In her complaint, the 21-year-old survivor alleged that she was given a drink that left her unconscious, after which the three assaulted her. The two arrested have been identified as Ajay Kumar and Deewana Kumar. Golu is absconding. All three have been booked under Sections 328 (causing hurt) and 376 (2) (rape) of the IPC.

ED attaches ₹46L assets in case linked to Cong neta Khurshid's wife

New Delhi: The ED on Monday said it has attached assets worth Rs 46 lakh of Zakir Husain Memorial Trust in Farrukhabad (UP) in a case against Louis Khurshid, wife of former law minister and Congress leader **Salman Khurshid**, and her associates for alleged money laundering.

The agency said Louis Khurshid, who was the project director of the Zakir Husain Trust, used the 'proceeds of crime' to gain personal properties.

"Investigation revealed that grant-in-aid of Rs 71.5 lakh received by the trust was not utilized for holding camps sanctioned by central govt but was laundered by Pratyush Shukla, representative of the trust, Mohammad Athar, secretary to the trust, Louise Khurshid, project director, for their personal gains," it said. The ED further said that the fund received as grant-in-aid was laundered (by the accused) for their personal gain and generated proceeds of crime.

Khurshid has multiple FIRs registered against her and against the trust and its other functionaries for alleged irregularities. The properties attached by the Lucknow zonal office of the agency are 15 land parcels worth over Rs 29 lakh in Farrukhabad and balance in four bank accounts for over Rs 16 lakh. TNN

Kerala police slap conspiracy charge on accused in ragging death case

Kozhikode: Police have slapped criminal conspiracy charge under IPC 120B on the accused in connection with the death of second-year student J S Sidharthan of College of Veterinary and Animal Science at Pookode in Kerala's Wayanad.

Police invoked the section after gathering evidence that a criminal conspiracy was hatched by the accused to call Sidharthan, who had left for home on Feb 15, back to the hostel and hold his 'public trial', where he was stripped and beaten with belts.

Earlier, police had booked the accused under IPC sections 306 (abetment of suicide), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt), 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapon) and 341 (wrongful restraint), and Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act. So far, 18 accused have been arrested in the case. TNN

HC annuls Odisha Cong MLA's election

Orissa HC on Monday annulled the election of Congress' Mohammed Moquim from Barabati-Cuttack assembly seat in April 2019 for failing to declare 13 criminal cases pending against him in his nomination papers. "The returning officer should have rejected the nomination (of Mohammed Moquim) at the time of scrutiny (itself)," said Justice Sangam Kumar Sahoo. The court's verdict came in response to a petition filed by BJD candidate Debashis Samantaray. TNN

Hail & rain hit wheat, mustard, sugarcane crops in north India

Times News Network

A farmer inspects a fallen wheat crop near Amritsar on Sunday

Stormy weather including hail, rain and gusty winds over the past few days caused widespread crop losses — up to 45% in some areas — in north India, as per reports from states. While wheat and mustard suffered damage across the region, sugarcane was hit in western UP. Losses to potato and several vegetables as well as fruits were also reported, although the apple crop was expected to benefit from the snowfall.

An intense 'western disturbance' — a wave of moist winds from the Mediterranean region that impacts north India — impacted the region from Feb 29 to March 4, causing hail and thunderstorms in the plains and heavy snowfall in higher Himalayas.

In Punjab, as per initial estimates, crop losses were reported in 2% to 5% of the state's cultivable area. "Damage to crops, mainly wheat and mustard, is spread over 1.5 lakh hectares," said Punjab agriculture and farmer welfare department director Jaswant Singh.

Reports of crop damage were received from across UP. Losses of over 40% to standing crops were reported from Mahoba and Lalitpur districts while a third of the crops were reportedly damaged at many places in Amethi, Etah, Ghazipur, Gorakhpur, Hardoi, Kaushambi, Meerut, among others.

"Both mustard and wheat were in the milking stage when the hailstorm came. There's a permanent loss of 15%," said Rajinder Singh, a farmer in Chandak village of Bijnor. Dharmender Malik from Shamli said, "There is considerable damage to the standing sugarcane crop."

The wheat crop was hit in Punjab, Himachal, Haryana and UP. "Nearly 40 % of the standing wheat crop fell to the ground because of thunderstorms and heavy rain in the area," Vinod Gupta, a Lakhimpur Kheri farmer, said.

All 'political orders' of Gangopadhyay should be set aside: TMC MP

Subrata Chattoraj | TNN

Kolkata: All "political orders" passed by Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay in school service commission cases should be struck down, senior advocate and Trinamool Lok Sabha MP Kalyan Banerjee pleaded before the Calcutta HC bench hearing alleged school recruitment scam-related cases on Monday.

Banerjee, who was arguing for school job seekers, told the bench that Justice Gangopadhyay was a "political person" and the orders he had authored were done with "a political motive".

Justice Gangopadhyay said on Sunday he would be quitting the judiciary on Tuesday to fight the battle against corruption on "a bigger field" by joining politics. He refused to specify which party he would join or whether he would contest Lok Sabha elections, but BJP seniors told **TOI** that negotiations were on, "probably for Tamluk LS constituency".

Banerjee told the bench of Justices Debangsu Basak and Md Shabbar Rashidi that he wanted to press a formal application. "The orders (passed by Justice Gangopadhyay) should be struck down. The single judge (who passed the orders) has spoken to the media. He has given this order with a political motive. He used these orders to carve out his future political career," Banerjee told the bench. "These are not judicial orders, these are political orders," Banerjee later claimed.

Banerjee's application brought to the fore an ongoing debate in court corridors on how long a judge should wait to join politics after resigning. Justice Gangopadhyay had stressed on Sunday that he had not "adjudicated" for a week and would not pass any judicial order on his last day in court (Monday).

'Last order' against E Midnapore judge

Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay's only order on Monday urged Calcutta HC CJ TS Sivagnanam to consider a vigilance report against an East Midnapore district judge and "take steps in accordance with law". The judge rose at 2.47 pm, ending a "29-year-old" bond with the HC, first as an advocate and six years (from May 2018) as a judge. Cases being heard by Justice Gangopadhyay will be heard by Justice Arindam Mukherjee from Tuesday. TNN

Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021
Tel : 011-24106717, 24104525

Tender No. 01245077. Subject : On-site comprehensive ATS of Radware Application Delivery Controllers (ADCs), Server Load Balancers (SLBs) along with Radware Apsolute vision Management Solution installed at CRIS HQ DC, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi for 03 Years. Date of Closing : 25.03.2024 (Thursday) at 15:30 hrs. Tender Documents can be downloaded from Website www.ireps.gov.in. For future modification/ extensions pl. see www.ireps.gov.in.

PROVIDING RECHARGE OF DTH/TATA SKY SERVICE MEGHALAYA HOUSES, GOVT. OF MEGHALAYA, NEW DELHI

Sealed Tender for providing recharge of DTH/Tata Sky Services for Meghalaya House, 9-Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Road, New Delhi and Meghalaya House, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, are invited by the Resident Commissioner, Government of Meghalaya, Meghalaya House, New Delhi, from the Tata sky or its Authorized Dealers. Tender Documents can be obtained from the office of the Resident Commissioner, during office hours w.e.f **5th March 2024 to 22nd March 2024, upto 3:00pm** of the **22nd March 2024**. Contact no-01121410843, 21411078, 21411079.

O-2739
E-Mail- sencrwangul@yahoo.co.in
Ph- 06764-236404

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, ANGUL

No. 627 // Dt. 22.02.2024

1st Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Road Online-AGL-47/2023-24

In tender for Construction of PMGSY Road (Irrigation Colony) to Chakradharpur road in the District of Angul under CMRL invited by Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works, Circle, Angul vide Tender Call Notice No. 585 dt. 20.02.2024 as procurement officer, in Tender Call Notice **Annexure**, the time of completion may be read as 15 (Fifteen) Calendar Months instead of 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months.
All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Chief Construction Engineer
Rural Works Circle, Angul
OIPR-25180/11/0084/23-24

VALLABHBHAI PATEL CHEST INSTITUTE
University of Delhi, Delhi-110007
Tel.: 011-27402400, 27667102, Fax No.011-27666549

Applications are invited for the following temporary post to be engaged on contract basis for a period of one year (extendable upto three years after giving one or two days break based on requirement & satisfactory performance) at **National Reference Laboratory** for **Antimicrobial Resistance in Fungal Pathogens** in the Medical Mycology Unit, Department of Microbiology, V.P. Chest Institute, University of Delhi.

Post	No. of posts	Remuneration Per month	Age Limit
Microbiologist	01	Rs. 50,000/-	40 years

For details, please visit Institute's website: www.vpci.org.in. Any further addendum/ corrigendum shall be hosted on the Institute's website only.

Prof. Anuradha Chowdhary
In-charge, National Reference Laboratory
CBC 17169/12/0020/2324

MUMBAI RAILWAY VIKAS CORPORATION LTD.

REQUEST FOR TENDER: MRVC/W/KYN-BUD/302/GS
(Two Envelope e-Procurement Tendering Process)

Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation Ltd. (MRVC) having its Corporate Office at Second Floor, Churchgate Station Building, Mumbai-400020 invites E-Tenders for the **"General Service Electrical Works including removal/ Shifting/Diversion/Re-location/ Provision of HT/LT electrical cables, Arial lines, Electrical fittings, Panels, Electrical Equipments on FOBs, Elevated Decks, Interconnections between Deck/FOBs Skywalks, Platforms, Service/Utility Buildings, Entry/Exit, Circulating area in connection with 3rd and 4th lines between Kalyan-Badlapur of Mumbai division Central Railway under Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP)-3A in Two LOTs (Chainage 54800 Meter – 69400 Meter)."** Details of tender and tender document are avilable on e-procument site website **https://eprocure.gov.in** last date for completeed e-tender submission at website **https://eprocure.gov.in is in 10.04.2024 upto 12.00 hrs.** corrigendum **if any will be posted on the website only.**

उद्यमिता विकास संस्थान, उ0प्र0, लखनऊ
(एकल, लघु, मध्यम उद्यम एवं निर्यात प्रोत्साहन निकाय, उ0प्र0 शासन)
ए–1 व 2, औद्योगिक क्षेत्र, सरोजनी नगर, कानपुर रोड, लखनऊ फोन : 0522-2470012, फैक्स: 0522-2470035
IEDUP website: www.iedup.in

आवश्यक सूचना

एतद्द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि वर्तमान शैक्षणिक सत्र में संस्थान द्वारा संचालित **डी0 फार्मा, (Excellence Center of Pharmacy) एम0बी0ए0, तथा बैचलर इन होटल मैनेजमेन्ट एवं कैटरिंग टेक्नालोजी (Excellence Center of Management)** कोर्सेज में पंजीकृत छात्रों का सत्र पूर्ण होने तक यथावत् संचालित रहेगा। **वर्तमान में बी0 फिजाइन एवं बी0 फार्मा कोर्स संचालित नहीं किया जा रहा है।** कतिपय कारणों से उपरोक्त किसी भी कोर्स में नवीन सत्र में प्रवेश नहीं लिया जायेगा। यदि किसी व्यक्ति द्वारा नवीन शैक्षणिक सत्रों में इन कोर्सेज में प्रवेश लिया जाता है तो वह स्वयं ही जिम्मेदार होगा।

आज्ञा से
निदेशक, उद्यमिता विकास संस्थान, उ0प्र0, लखनऊ"
मो0सं0 : 7007404915

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, बिलासपुर
हिमाचल प्रदेश -१७४०३६
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Bilaspur
Himachal Pradesh - 174001
https://aiimsbilaspur.edu.in
e-mail :- helpdek.rec@aiimsbilaspur.nic.in

No. AIIMS-BLS(B)(02)(04)/23-7047 04/03/2024

VACANCY NOTICE

The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bilaspur H.P. intends to fill **123 posts** of **Senior Residents (Non-Academic)**. The details of the vacancies are given below.

Senior Resident (Non-Academics)

Sr. No.	Post	No. of Posts
1.	Senior Resident (Non-Academics) in Various Departments	123

Note :
1. Detailed advertisement containing terms and conditions along with application proforma may be downloaded from Institute' website **https://www.aiimsbilaspur.edu.in**
2. The interested candidates are advised to fill the ONLINE APPLICATION FORM (Link attached) latest by 10.03.2024 till 12:00 Noon.
3. The aspiring applicants satisfying the eligibility criteria in all respects can apply for the post of Senior Resident by clicking the link : https://forms.gle/pLKqxb8L97TaXg6F6

Deputy Director, Admin
AIIMS-Bilaspur (H.P.)

Post Graduate Institute of Child Health
Sector-30, Noida-201303,Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. (India)
(An Autonomous body Under Govt. Of U.P.)
Website - www.ssphpgti.ac.in Email Id:- facultyrecpgich@gmail.com

Advertisement No. PGICH,Noida/Exec.Reg./2024/ 14 Dated: 05/03/2024

RECRUITMENT NOTICE
(FACULTY APPOINTMENTS)

Applications are invited from the prospective and eligible candidates for the vacant posts of Professor, Associate Professor and Assistant Professor in various departments on regular basis. Please visit the Institute website: **www.ssphpgti.ac.in** for Qualifications, General Instructions, Eligibility Criteria, Application form and the other details.

Last date of submission of soft copy of application: 4th April, 2024

उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग
हरिद्वार
पिन कोड– 249404

संख्याः– 191/15/PCS(J)-2022/G-1/2023-24 दिनांकः 04 मार्च, 2024

विज्ञप्ति

एतद्द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि **उत्तराखण्ड न्यायिक सेवा सिविल न्यायाधीश परीक्षा–2022** के मुख्य (लिखित) परीक्षा का परिणाम दिनांकः 04 मार्च, 2024 को घोषित कर दिया गया है। परीक्षा परिणाम उत्तराखण्ड लोक सेवा आयोग की वेबसाईट **psc.uk.gov.in** पर उपलब्ध है। मुख्य परीक्षा में सफल अभ्यर्थियों को साक्षात्कार तिथि के सम्बन्ध में समाचार पत्रों एवं आयोग की वेबसाईट के माध्यम से यथासमय पृथक से सूचित किया जाएगा। यह भी सूचित किया जाता है कि मुख्य परीक्षा के प्राप्तांक एवं कट ऑफ मार्क्स की सूचना अन्तिम चयन परिणाम के पश्चात् प्रदान की जायेगी। अतः कृपया अभ्यर्थी इस संबंध में पृथक से सूचना के अधिकार अधिनियम–2005 के अन्तर्गत कोई अनुरोध पत्र प्रेषित न करें।

(अवधेश कुमार सिंह) प्र0 सचिव

National Highways Logistics Management Limited
(A 100% company of NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA)

RECRUITMENT NOTICE

National Highways Logistics Management Limited, invites applications for appointment for various positions for the implementation of Multi-modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs), Port Connectivity Roads, Inter Modal Station, Ropeways, Wayside Amenities, OFC Laying and other associated projects.

The positions are across India on Contract basis, either on direct rolls or on deputation. The terms of employment are initially for a period of **03** to **05** years, which may be extended based on performance and mutual consent.

- Divisional Officer, Dehradun
- Assistant Vice President - Passenger Transport Terminal Infra, New Delhi
- Assistant Vice President - Legal, New Delhi
- Chief Manager - Finance & Accounts, New Delhi
- Manager - Information Technology, New Delhi
- Manager - Human Resources, New Delhi
- Deputy Manager / Assistant Manager – Admin & Facilities, New Delhi

For details and application process, please visit the Vacancies section on NHAI **(https://nhai.gov.in/#/vacancies/current)** & NHLML official website **(http://www.nhlm.in/content/job-opportunities.html).**

Easing Business Through Logistics

Sreshta

NORTHERN RAILWAY
GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI - 110037

No.ADM/LAC/SW/2023-24/21336 Date: 01.03.2024

Public Notice under Section 20 (F)(4) of the Railways Act, 1989

Whereas, the Government of India, in the Ministry of Railways, declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Notification bearing S.O. 1620(E)dated 31.03.2023 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, issued under sub-section (1) of Section 20A of the Railway Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act) for the purpose of execution, maintenance, management and operation of the Special Railways Project namely, Development of Freight and Coaching Terminal at Bijwasan in the state of Delhi;
And whereas, the substance of the said notification was published in two daily newspapers viz. "Dainik Jagran the Indian Express" dated 14-09-2023, under sub-section (4) of section 20A of the said Act;
And whereas the Competent Authority (CALA) has received objections vide diary no. 63578 dt - 27.09.2023, 67188 dt. 19.10.2023 and 67189 dt.19.10.2023 and the same have been dismissed by CALA vide order no. ADM/LAC/SW/2023-24/8556 dated 27.01.2024 and objection received vide diary no. 84154 dt. 22.12.2023 being time barred was rejected;
And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 20-E of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;
And whereas, upon receipt of the said report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 20 E of the said Act, the Central Government has declared that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;
And whereas, the said declaration has been published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, bearing S.O. 714(E) dated 15.02.2024 as required under Section 20E of the said Act;
And further, in pursuance to the provisions in sub-section (2) of section 20E of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free form all encumbrances.
Now, therefore, in compliance of sub-section (4) of Section 20 F, the Competent Authority hereby invites all the landowners or persons interested in the land being acquired under these proceedings to submit their claims in respect of the land mentioned in the Schedule given herein-below by 31st March, 2024 in the office of the Competent Authority i.e. ADM-cum-CALA, Office of the District Magistrate, South West District Delhi, Kapeshera, New Delhi.
All the persons interested [owner of the lands and other interested person(s)] in the lands specified in the Schedule given below are hereby called upon to submit their claims in the said land (their share, area of land, any assets attached thereto e.g. structures/ trees etc. and state the nature of the respective interest in such lands along with relevant records. The said landowners or persons interested therein shall also furnish the particulars of their Bank Accounts to which they would like their compensation amount to be credited. The claims may be submitted in the following indicative format:

Village	Name of the landowner/ interested person	Khasra no./ survey no.	Area of land in his share	Any Structure/ tree tubewell attached to the land	Name of Bank, Branch Code, IFSC Code	Bank Account

Schedule

Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling within the district South-West of Delhi for special Railway Project namely Development of Freight and Coaching Terminal at Bijwasan.

SN	Name of District/ State	Name of Tehsil	Name of Village/ Hadbast No./ Musteel	Khasra No.	Area to be acquired (Bigha-Biswa)
1	District-South-West Delhi	Kapeshera	Bharthal	51//24	4-16
2				52//4/2	1-10
3				52//26/1	0-6
4				52//4/1	3-0
				Total=	9-12 (0.8075 hectare)

CALA-cum-ADM
South West District Delhi
Kapashera, New Delhi

683/2024
Serving Customers With A Smile

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg
(Old Minto Road) New Delhi – 110002
TRAI

OPEN HOUSE DISCUSSION

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) shall hold an Open House Discussion (OHD) through Video Conference on the following subject at the time & Date given below:

Subject	Date	Time	Venue
Consultation Paper on "Encouraging Innovative Technologies, Services, Use Cases, and Business Models through Regulatory Sandbox in Digital Communication Sector"	18th March 2024 (Monday)	Sign in : 10:30 AM Conference: 11:00 AM	OHD will be through Video Conferencing Video-link: https://www.airmeet.com/e/16ad73c0-cbfb-11ee-b9e0-fd5460e54684

2. Interested stakeholders/industry representatives are invited to participate in the Open House Discussion (OHD). The stakeholders/industry representatives who are willing to participate in the OHD may register themselves on TRAI website on the OHD notification page at URL https://www.trai.gov.in/events
3. The consultation paper on the subject is available on TRAI website at URL https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/CP_19062023.pdf
4. For any clarification, Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Advisor (Broadband & Policy Analysis), TRAI may be contacted at Tele. No.: +91-11-23236119 and email: advbbpa@trai.gov.in.

CBC 06202/11/0058/2324

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण
महानगर दूरसंचार भवन
जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग (पुराना मिन्टो रोड)
नई दिल्ली – 110 002

OPEN HOUSE DISCUSSION

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) will hold an Open House Discussion (OHD) through video conference on the following subject at the date and time given below:

Subject	Date	Time	Venue
Consultation Paper on 'Open and De-licensed use of Unused or Limited Used Spectrum Bands for Demand Generation for Limited Period in Tera Hertz Range'	8th March 2024 (Friday)	Sign in: 11.30 AM Conference: 12.00 Noon	OHD will be through video conferencing https://www.airmeet.com/e/f55bf7f0-d488-11ee-ae77-858fdb62d007

Interested stakeholders/ industry representatives are invited to participate in the Open House Discussion. The stakeholders/ industry representatives willing to participate in the OHD may register themselves on TRAI's website on the OHD notification page at URL www.trai.gov.in/events.

The Consultation Paper on the subject is available at the URL https://trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/CP_27092023.pdf.

For any clarification, Shri Akhilesh Kumar Trivedi, Advisor (Network, Spectrum and Licensing), TRAI may be contacted at Tel. No. +91-11-23210481, email: advmn@trai.gov.in.

CBC 06202/11/0059/2324

National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT)
NIELIT Bhawan, Plot No. 3, PSP Pocket, Sector-8, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110077

PUBLIC NOTICE

National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology (NIELIT) is an autonomous Scientific Society under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India. It is engaged in both formal and non-formal education/courses in the field of electronics, information and communication technology.

It has come to our attention that some entities/firms are using the name, logo, or part of the name of our institute without authorization to deceive or dupe people, or for some other business purposes known only to them. We hereby warn and give notice to these entities/firms to immediately cease and desist from using the name, logo, or any part thereof our Institute in any manner. Failure to comply with this public notice will result in legal action against them.

We hereby request the public in general to be cautious and refrain from associating with any entity/firm that fraudulently uses the name, logo, or any part thereof of our institute, as mentioned herein.

Registrar
CBC 06102/12/0015/2324

समेकित क्षेत्रीय कौशल विकास, पुनर्वास एंव दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण केन्द्र - गोरखपुर
COMPOSITE REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT, REHABILITATION & EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRC), GORAKHPUR
राष्ट्रीय दृष्टि दिव्यांगजन सशक्तीकरण संस्थान, देहरादून
(Under the administrative control of NIEPVD, Dehradun)
10, Sitapur Eye Hospital, Park Street, Civil Lines, Gorakhpur (UP), PIN-273009, Ph: 0551-2202024 Website - www.crcgkp.org.in

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Eligible Candidates are invited to apply and attend the WALK-IN INTERVIEW for the following posts on **09.03.2024 between 9:30 AM TO 05:30 PM** at CRC-Gorakhpur. The registration will close at 10.30 A.M sharp. The application may be brought at the time of interview in the prescribed proforma available on our institute's website **www.crcgkp.org.in**

Engagement for a Period of 11 months

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Post	Remuneration (Total Emolument)
1.	Lecturer (Consultant) D.Ed.Spl.Ed (MD) (Contractual Basis)	2	Rs. 60,000/-P.M.
2.	Instructor (Technical)	2	Rs. 40,000/-P.M.

For detailed information of essential qualification, experience, application form and general conditions, please visit our website **www.crcgkp.org.in**.

Sd/
Director, CRC Gorakhpur
CBC 38102/12/0057/2324

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL DISTRICT MAGISTRATE (SOUTH-WEST)
OLD TERMINAL TAX BUILDING, KAPASHERA, NEW DELHI-110037

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Court case no. MISC DJ ADJ 157/2023 Union of India vs Harswaroop Goel dated 09.07.2020.

This notice is issued in compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble Court in the case mentioned in the subject which is related to the entitlement of compensation in lieu of acquisition of a land parcel bearing **Khasra no. 41//23/1** in the Revenue village, **Najafgarh, Delhi** acquired vide award no. 04/2020/SW dated 09.07.2020
As per the revenue record the following persons are the recorded owners of the above referred land parcel:

SN	Name of the Recorded land owner	Address as per records	Share in the land
1	Smt. Chanda Devi w/o Hazari Lal	VPO Najafgarh, Delhi	¼ each
2	Sh. Tulsi Ram s/o Shankar Lal		
3	Sh. Ghesa S/o Ganpat Singh		
4	Sh. Chandan Singh s/o Rampat		

Despite all efforts of the revenue official(s) the whereabouts and existence of the above-mentioned persons could not be verified.
Therefore, through this publication, one last opportunity is being given to the above-mentioned recorded owners to appear before the Hon'ble Court and present their case on the next date of hearing i.e. 15-03-2024.
Also, anyone else having information regarding the existence/whereabouts of the above mentioned persons may also come forward and submit the information either before the Hon'ble Court on the next date of hearing or at the office of the **CALA-cum-Additional District Magistrate, District South West, Near Old Tax Terminal, Kapashera, Delhi** at the earliest.
This notice is being published in the newspapers as per the directions of the Hon'ble Court and shall be deemed to be sufficient service upon you.

Sd/-
Competent Authority for
Land Acquisition Under NH Act 1956

बिहार सरकार

बिहार तकनीकी सेवा आयोग

19, हार्डिंग रोड, पटना-800001

आवश्यक सूचना

PR.NO.-007558 (NiNi) 2023-24

विज्ञापन सं०–37/2023, (वाहन चालक)

बिहार सरकार के विभिन्न विभागों के अन्तर्गत **वाहन चालक** के कुल–145 रिक्त पदों पर नियुक्ति हेतु प्रकाशित विज्ञापन सं०–37/2023 अन्तर्गत दिनांक–10.11.2023 को आयोजित प्रथम चरण के Computer Based Test-I में योग्य (Qualified) अभ्यर्थियों के दस्तावेज सत्यापन एवं वाहन चालन एवं वाहन की सामान्य जानकारी संबंधी दक्षता जाँच कोटिवार मेधाक्रमानुसार अभ्यर्थियों का **दिनांक–11.03.2024 से 13.03.2024 तक Institute of Driving & Traffic Research Automated Driving Test Centre, Behind Phulwari Sharif Jail, Parivahan Parishar Phulwari Sharif, Patna-805105** में निर्धारित किया गया है।

उक्त से संबंधित विस्तृत सूचना आयोग के **Website- www.btsc.bih.nic.in** पर देखा जा सकता है।

प्रभारी सचिव,
बिहार तकनीकी सेवा आयोग, पटना

PR. No.018861 (B&C) 2023-24

उक्त सूचना **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

MUZAFFARPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, MUZAFFARPUR

Govt. of Bihar

Website : https://mymmc.org, E-mail ID-mmc-muz-bih@nic.in, muzaffarpur.ulb@gmail.com, Control Room – 18003451061

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER (3rd Call)

(Through e-procurement mode only *www.eproc2. bihar.gov.in*)

NIT NO. 16/MMC/2023-24

Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur invites online proposals for **Construction of Administrative Building for Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur** at MRDA (D) Office Campus in Muzaffarpur under Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur, Bihar on EPC mode.

Brief particulars of the project are: -

Sl.No.	Name of the work	Estimated Project cost (Rs. in crores)	Earnest Money/Bid Security (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Processing Fee (in Rs.)	Time of completion
1.	Construction of Administrative Building for Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur at MRDA (D) Office Campus in Muzaffarpur under Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur, Bihar on EPC mode.	10.94	21.88	25,000.00	As per e-proc2	12 months

2. Details of schedule for the Bid are given below: -

Sl. No.	Activity	Timeline & Address
1	Online Sale/Download/Upload date of Tender documents	From 15.03.2024 (11:00 Hrs) Till 23.03.2024 (15:00 Hrs) (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/)
2	Pre-bid meeting date (Only two members per bidder are allowed)	18.03.2024 (16:00 Hrs) (At the Conference Hall, Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation)
3	Last date for submission of Bids in hard copy	25.03.2024 At 15:00 Hrs. (A) Municipal Commissioner, Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation, Muzaffarpur B) Superintending Engineer, Nagar Vikash Circle, Muzaffarpur C) Chief Engineer, North Bihar Division, Urban Development & Housing Department, Bihar, Patna)
4	Opening of Technical bids	28.03.2024 At 15:00 Hrs.
5	Place of opening of bids	Through website *https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/*
6	Date of opening of Commercial bids	To be informed later to technically qualified bidders
7	Period of Bid validity	120 Days after the date of receipt of tender

RFP document shall be available on website: https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/
For Queries & Clarifications, send email to:Muzaffarpur.ulb@gmail.com

Municipal Commissioner
Muzaffarpur Municipal Corporation
Muzaffarpur

For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

PR- 018738 (B & C) 2023-24

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

Govt. of Bihar

Board of Revenue
Old Secretariat, Patna - 800 015

Notice for

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

(Through e-procurement mode only over (https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/)

RFP Reference No: BOR/10/RFP/SI/2024

Board of Revenue, invites Request for Proposal (RFP)for "RFP for Selection of Service Provider for Scanning & Digitization of Bettiah Raj Records.

SL No.	Scope of work	Tender processing Fee(Non Refundable) (inclusive of GST @18.00%) to be paid through e-payment mode (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/,Credit Card/Debit card) (in Rupees)
01.	Request for Proposal (RFP) for **"RFP for Selection of Service Provider for Scanning & Digitization Records for Bettiah Raj**	Rs. 590.00

Tender Schedule/Programme:

Start Date & Time for sale of tender document on website	**01/03/2024 at 11:00 AM** onwards **https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in**
Email ID to send Pre-bid queries	Email Id: boardofrevenuebihar@gmail.com
Last date to submit Pre-bid queries (if required)	**11/03/2024 , 05:00 PM**
Date, Time of Pre-bid meeting (if required)	**08/04/2024 , 03:00 PM**
Place for Pre-bid meeting	Board of Revenue, Old Secretariat, Patna, Bihar-15
Last date, time for sale of tender document	**06/05/2024 at 03:00 PM**
Last date and time for bid submission	**06/05/2024 , 06:00 PM https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in**
Date, Time and Place of opening of Pre-Qualification & Technical Qualification	**08/05/2024 , 11:00 AM** Board of Revenue, Old Secretariat, Patna
Date, Time and Place of Technical Presentation	To be intimated later
Date, Time and Place of opening of Commercial Bids	To be intimated later
Tender Processing fee	Rs 590/- (non-refundable) inclusive of GST 18%, through e-payment mode i.e. NEFT/RTGS/Credit Card/ Debit Card on eproc2.bihar.gov.in
RFP document fee (Non- refundable and Not exempted)	Tender fee of Rs 2000/ - (Rupees Two Thousands only), including Service Tax, in the form of E- payment mode only , to be submitted on or before last date & time of bid submission
Earnest Money Deposit	INR 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lac only) The EMD in the form of e-payment mode or Bank Guarantee issued by a Nationalized Bank, in favor of "Secretary, Board of Revenue, Patna, Bihar", payable at Patna, with validity period of 6 months from the bid submission due date, to be submitted on or before last date & time of bid submission
Performance Bank Guarantee	10% of total contract value (to be submitted within 15 working days from date of notification of award) in the form of Bank Guarantee from Nationalized Bank
Tender Inviting Authority and Contact Person	Secretary, Board of Revenue, Old Secretariat, Patna, Bihar Tele: 0612-2215676, Fax: 0612-2215677
Eproc2 website Help desk	Toll Free Number: 1800 572 6571 Email Id: eproc2support@bihar.gov.in

1.For support related to e-tendering process, bidders may contact at "e- Procurement HELP BELTRON BHAWAN, Shastri Nagar, Patna (**https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in**)
For further details please visit website **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

PR- 18595 (B & C) 2023-24

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है

Deputy Secretary
Board of Revenue

For PM, entire country his family: BJP neta

▶Continued from P 1

He has no family," taunted RJD boss Lalu Prasad in presence of senior Congress and Left party functionaries during a rally in Patna.

BJP's show of solidarity for its top leader in the run-up to the Lok Sabha elections was reminiscent of a similar campaign the party had launched prior to the 2019 general elections with the 'Main Bhi Chowkidar' addition to their names to take on Congress leader Manishankar Aiyer "Chowkidar Chor Hai" dig at Modi as well as the "chai par charcha" response to Aiyar's "chaiwala" sneer at Modi in the previous election.

The campaigns around the PM's perceived image of honesty and anti-corruption spearhead turned out to be a big success as the Congress's attempts to target him over alleged corruption in the Rafale fighter aircraft deal proved to be a non-starter with BJP under Modi winning more seats in 2019 than 2014.

BJP said oppn has been launching personal attacks on Modi for the last 16-17 years

BJP chief ministers were among the party's senior leaders, besides its numerous other functionaries who on Monday joined the campaign. Many Modi-supporting social media users also made the same change on their pages.

At a press conference, BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said the opposition parties have been launching personal attacks against Modi for the last 16-17 years.

"In that series, yesterday (Sunday), at a rally in Patna, once again such petty remarks were made against the PM by Lalu Prasad in the presence of INDI alliance leaders. This is sad and painful," Trivedi told reporters.

"He (Lalu) has talked about Modi's family. I want to remind him that, for PM Modi, the entire country is his family," the BJP leader said, asserting that people of the country will give a fitting reply to the "political arrogance" of the opposition parties.

Trivedi said Modi left his home long ago with a resolve to work for society and take India to its highest glory, considering the entire country his family.

"That's why he never gets tired. No one feels tired while working for their family. That's why Prime Minister Modi did not take leave even for a single day in the last 10 years," he added.

Modi has been asserting that the entire country is his family, a point he made again at a rally in Adilabad in Telangana on Monday where he said that 140 crore people of India are his family.

Yadav, while addressing an INDIA bloc rally in Patna on Sunday, had slammed Modi for raising the issue of dynastic politics and asked why the PM doesn't have a family.

Trivedi questioned the RJD leader's understanding of Hindu religion and said, "There is a guru-shishya tradition in India, not father-son tradition."

कार्यपालक अभियंता का कार्यालय
पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, सिवान
Email ID:- eercdsiwan2010@gmail.com
NIT No.- 02/2023-24, R.C.D, Road Division, Siwan
कार्यालय आदेश सं0 24/2023–24

पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, सिवान के निर्गत **पत्रांक 1348 अनु0 दिनांक 05.10.2023** एवं शुद्धि पत्र **PR No. 009839 (RCD) 2023-24/PR No. 011137 (RCD) 2023-24/PR No. 012580 (RCD) 2023-24 dt. 03.12.2023** द्वारा **NIT No.- 02/2023-24, RCD, Road Division, Siwan** का निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुआ है, को अपरिहार्य कारणों से रद्द की जाती है ।

उक्त सूचना **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता,
पथ प्रमण्डल, सिवान

PR. No. 018701 (RCD) 2023-24

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

B-1884

Government of Odisha, e-Procurement Notice
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Bid Identification No. C.C.E.Dkl.(R&B) 34/2023-24 **Email Id-sedklpwd@gmail.com**
Letter No. 610 /Dt. 01.03.2024

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 :

1. Name of the work	:	Building works
2. No of works	:	05 (Five) Nos
3. Estimated Cost	:	**Rs. 2.07crore to Rs. 6.98 crore (as given in column No. 03 of table)**
4. Cost of tender paper	:	Rs. 10,000.00
5. Class of contractor	:	'B', 'A' & 'Special' Class **(as given in column No. 07 of table)**
6. Period of Completion of work	:	07(Seven) to 09(Nine) Calendar months **(as given in column No. 08 of table)**
7. Date and time of availability of bid Document in the website	:	From Dt.07.03.2024 to 5.00 P.M. of Dt.21.03.2024
8. Date of opening of bid	:	Dt. 21.03.2024 at 5.30 P.M.

The bidders have to participate in ONLINE biding 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.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
Dhenkanal(R&B) Circle, Dhenkanal
OIPR - 34132/11/0043/23-24

भवन निर्माण विभाग
पटना सिटी भवन प्रमंडल गुलजारबाग, पटना
ई–निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
ई–निविदा संख्या 22 / प0सि0भ0प्र0गु0पटना / वर्ष 2023–24

1 विज्ञापनदाता का पदनाम एवं पता :– कार्यपालक अभियंता, पटना सिटी भवन प्रमंडल गुलजारबाग, पटना ।
2 निविदा आमंत्रित करने की तिथि :– दिनांक– 27.02.2024
3 निविदा कागजात प्राप्त करने (डाउनलोड करने) की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक– 20.03.2024 से 10.04.2024 को 15:00 बजे अपराहन तक ।
4 निविदा जमा करने (अपलोड करने) की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक– 12.04.2024 को 15:00 बजे तक ।
5 (क) तकनीकी बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– दिनांक– 13.04.2024 को 16.00 बजे ।
(ख) वित्तीय बीड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय :– तकनीकी बीड अनुमोदन के पश्चात्
6 प्री बिड मीटींग की तिथि समय एवं स्थान :– दिनांक– 28.03.2024 को 15:00 बजे, मुख्य अभियंता, (पटना) भवन निर्माण विभाग, पटना के कार्यालय कक्ष में ।
दिनांक– 25.03.2024 को 1:30 बजे, अधीक्षण अभियंता, पटना भवन अंचल, पटना के कार्यालय कक्ष में ।
7 निविदा पत्र बिकी का स्थान :– बेबसाईट (https:/eproc2.bihar.gov.in) पर ।
8 निविदा बैद्धता की अवधि :– 120 दिन ।

क0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	परिमाण विपत्र की राशि (रू0)	अरण्धन की राशि (रू0)	निविदा कागजात का मूल्य (अप्रत्यपर्णीय) (रूपये)	Bid processing Charge+ Service Tax	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	पटना जिला अन्तर्गत उपकारा मसौढ़ी में 20 क्षमता के 01 अदद पुरूष कक्षपाल बैरक का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्ष 2023–24)	1,39,00,000.00	2,78,000.00	10,000.00	As per E-proc 2	06 month
2	पटना जिला अन्तर्गत उपकारा मसौढ़ी में 20 क्षमता के 01 अदद महिला कक्षपाल बैरक का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्ष 2023–24)	1,39,00,000.00	2,78,000.00	10,000.00	As per E-proc 2	06 month
3	पटना जिला अन्तर्गत उपकारा बाढ़ में 20 क्षमता के 01 अदद पुरूष कक्षपाल बैरक का निर्माण कार्य। (वर्ष 2023–24)	1,39,00,000.00	2,78,000.00	10,000.00	As per E-proc 2	06 month

विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु बेबसाईट **State.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar/www.eproc 2.bihar.gov.in** पर देखा जा सकता है।

कार्यपालक अभियंता
पटना सिटी भवन प्रमंडल,
गुलजारबाग, पटना

PR. No. 018591 (BCD) 2023-24

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

South Bihar Power Distribution Co. Ltd, Patna Bihar
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-21
A Govt. of Bihar undertaking
CIN No. U40109BR2012SGC018890
(Department of Stores & Purchase)
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
NIT No. 34/PR/SBPDCL/2024

Govt. of Bihar

(Through e-procurement mode only - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

South Bihar Power Distribution Co. Ltd. (SBPDCL), a Government of Bihar Undertaking, invites online tender for procurement of Underground HV Cable Fault Locator Machine for SBPDCL in Two-tier (Techno-Commercial & Price) online bid from eligible and experienced Original Manufacturer as detailed below:-

NIT No.	Name of material	Quantity, in Nos.	Cost of tender Documents including GST@18%, Rs	Estimated Cost including GST@18%(Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit, Rs.
34/PR/SBPDCL/ 2023	Underground HV Cable Fault Locator Machine	08	11,800/-	2,45,63,344/-	4,91,267/-

The Time line for the above tender is as follows:

Last Date of Online Submission of bid along with Tender Cost & processing fees:	03.04.2024, up to 18:00 Hrs
Last Date of submission of EMD and hard copy of receipt of BSEDCL processing fee &tender cost	04.04.2024, up to 15:00 Hrs
Date of opening of Techno -Commercial bid(Part-I)	04.04.2024, after 17:00 Hrs
Date of Pre Bid Meeting:	21.03.2024, at 11:00 Hrs; Venue: SBPDCL, Vidyut Bhawan, Patna

For complaints regarding corruption Vigilance Help Line No.- 9431821485, 0612-2504969. Consumer can deposit electricity bills via Sahaz Vasudha Centre or http://bills.sbpdcl.in/

'' विवादों के निष्पादन के लिए लोक अदालत का लाभ उठावें '' ''परस्पर सहमति से न्यायिक निर्णय प्राप्त करें ''''समय एवं खर्च की बचत करें।''

Note:- Subsequent information/notification/corrigendum will be available only on website of EPROC and/or SBPDCL i.e. www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and/or www.sbpdcl.co.in.

विस्तृत जानकारी **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** पर देखी जा सकती है।

PR- 18668 (Ni Ni) 2023-24

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है

Electrical Superintending Engineer
(Purchase)

Shah: Centre firm on providing constitutional safeguards to Ladakh

New Delhi: Home minister **Amit Shah** on Monday assured representatives from Leh and Kargil that the Narendra Modi government is committed to providing necessary constitutional safeguards for the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh and would continue to engage with them on measures to protect its unique culture and language; ensure the region's inclusive development as well as employment generation; and also empower the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Councils.

Shah, during deliberations with a six-member delegation of the Apex Body, Leh (ABL) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) here, said the high-powered committee (HPC) on Ladakh constituted recently to examine their demands has been discussing the modalities for providing constitutional safeguards for Ladakh.

The consultative mechanism, established through the high-powered committee, has been working actively with the ABL and KDA representatives and significant progress has been made, the home ministry shared in a statement on Monday. "A sub-committee constituted by the HPC is also actively engaged with the ministry of law and other experts," it said.

The second meeting of this sub-committee was held on Monday with the participation of ABL and KDA representatives. Senior officers of MHA, department of legal affairs and legislative department were also present. "The meeting was held in a cordial manner and various issues pertaining to land, employment and constitutional safeguards progressed for the benefit of the people of Ladakh," a home ministry spokesperson said. TNN

Govt launches portal for farm loan against WDRA stock

New Delhi: Govt on Monday launched an online platform which seamlessly enables farmers to get bank loans for the next crop against their agricultural produce stocked with godowns registered with Warehouse Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA). This facility to obtain post-harvest loans from banks against the stock is expected to help farmers avoid distress sale of fresh harvest and curtail dependence on money lenders, reports **Dipak Dash**.

The digital gateway — e-Upaja Kisaan Nidhi — launched by food and consumer affairs minister Piyush Goyal allows farmers to avail loan at 7% interest rate for 6-7 months and thereby enables them to decide when to sell their stocked produce to get a good price. The online gateway has been developed jointly by the departments of food and financial services, and Nabard.

Cancer shock on Aditya L-1 launch day: Isro chief

New Delhi: Isro chairman **S Somanath**, who led a team to land India's Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft on the Moon's virgin South Pole and also successfully launched India's first solar mission, was diagnosed with cancer on the day the country's Aditya L-1 spacecraft was launched on Sept 2 last year. The diagnosis came as a shock for him and his family, Somanath disclosed during a media interview. He, however, clarified that his recovery has been nothing short of miraculous, reports **Surendra Singh**.

Isro chief clarified that he is fine now. "Now I am completely cured. I resumed work soon after I was discharged. Though I faced some initial problems after the operation, I don't experience any pain now".

Cong consistently aligning itself with anti-national forces: Thakur

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Expressing concerns over Congress's affiliations with individuals raising pro-Pakistan slogans in the Karnataka assembly, Union minister Anurag Thakur on Monday questioned the Congress leadership on shielding these individuals after forensic analysis confirmed the authenticity of the incriminating video footage.

Anurag Thakur said supporters of Cong's Syed Naseer Hussain raised pro-Pak slogans but local and senior Cong functionaries rallied behind the offenders. The minister termed it a 'shameful episode for India'

"While BJP members, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, are resolutely committed to upholding the nation's unity and integrity, it's perplexing to see Congress consistently aligning itself with anti-national elements," Thakur said in a statement following the forensic report's findings, along with onsite evidence and witness testimonies.

Three individuals were apprehended for raising "Pakistan Zindabad" slogans in Karnataka Assembly.

Earlier, supporters of Congress leader Syed Naseer Hussain had allegedly raised pro-Pakistan slogans after the Rajya Sabha elections, drawing strong condemnation from BJP. Despite this, local and senior Congress leaders rallied behind these offenders, which Thakur termed as a shameful episode for the nation.

Thakur said, "Thanks to BJP's persistent efforts, the true colours of these traitors have been exposed, leading to their apprehension. However, we must delve deeper into their connections, from chanting Pakistan Zindabad to the Bangalore blast. Did the Congress MP silently condone these acts by not intervening? Was there complicity from the MP and the party in this wrongdoing? If the assembly passes were linked to a Congress MLA, does it imply their involvement in this reprehensible act? What is the association between Congress leaders Syed Naseer Hussain and Kharge? Why does Congress consistently shield anti-national elements? Are Sonia Gandhi and Kharge-ji providing cover for these elements?"

The Union minister said that Congress is seen sometimes raising questions on the bravery of the army, breaking their morale, dividing India in the name of North-South, raising slogans of Pakistan Zindabad at a holy place like the assembly, standing shoulder to shoulder with the Tukde Tukde gang. "Is this once again a Congress conspiracy for the partition of India?" Thakur questioned.

Thakur also raised concerns about Congress's conduct in the upcoming polls, questioning the extent of their ethical standards. He emphasised that had it not been for BJP's pressure to release the forensic report, the arrests may not have occurred.

केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड
CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

VACANCY NOTIFICATION

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is one of the important national public examinations Board for the conduct of Class X & XII examination. The Board, a registered society and an autonomous organization under Ministry of Education, Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of India has mandate for conduct of public examination at secondary & senior secondary level for its affiliated schools in India and abroad.

The CBSE invites applications from Indian Citizens on Direct Recruitment basis through on All India Competitive Examination for filling up the following posts. The interested candidates may apply online through the Board's website www.cbse.nic.in. No other means/mode of submission of applications will be accepted. If selected, the candidates may be posted anywhere in India. The number of vacancies advertised is tentative and may decrease or increase.

Post Code	Group	Details of Posts	SC	ST	OBC NCL	EWS	UR	Total	PwBD	ESM
			Vertical Reservation						Horizontal Reservation	
1/24	Group-A	Assistant Secretary (Administration) Pay Level-10	02	01	04	01	10	18	-	-
2/24		Assistant Secretary (Academics) Pay Level-10	03	01	04	01	07	16	01	
3/24		Assistant Secretary (Skill Education) Pay Level-10	01	-	02	-	05	08	-	
4/24		Assistant Secretary (Training) Pay Level-10	03	01	05	02	11	22	01	
5/24		Accounts Officer () Pay Level-10	-	-	-	-	03	03	-	
6/24	Group-B	Junior Engineer (Pay Level-6)	02	01	05	01	08	17	01	
7/24		Junior Translation Officer Pay Level-6)	01	-	02	01	03	07	-	
8/24	Group-C	Accountant (Pay Level-4)	01	-	01	-	05	07	01	
9/24		Junior Accountant (Pay Level-2)	03	02	04	03	08	20	01	02

ONLINE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION | **FROM 12.03.2024 TO 11.04.2024**

For detailed information regarding eligibility criteria, age relaxation, examination fee, pay scale, examination cities, important instructions, scheme and syllabus of examination, mode of selection etc. candidates can visit Board's website **www.cbse.nic.in** (main website - Latest@CBSE).

CBC 21107/12/0009/2324 **Secretary**

"शिक्षा केन्द्र", 2, सामुदायिक केन्द्र, प्रीत विहार, दिल्ली - 110092
"Shiksha Kendra", 2, Community Centre, Preet Vihar, Delhi - 110 092
टेलीफोन/Telephone: +91-11-22509256, 22509257 वेबसाईट/Website: www.cbse.nic.in

MALABAR CEMENTS LIMITED

(A Government of Kerala Undertaking)
An ISO 9001 :2015, 14001:2015 Company
Walayar Post, Palakkad-678624-Kerala
Email : materials@malabarcements.com/ bulkmcl@malabarcements.com

TENDER NOTICE

Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in for Online Submission of Bids for:

●Loading of packed cement into trucks/unloading of packing materials from trucks and allied works in Packing Plant, Walayar. ●Appointment of C and F agent for Valapattanam, Kannur. ●Appointment of C and F agent for Vatakara, Calicut. ●Engagement of Backhoe Loader for material handling operation in CGU, Pallipuram, Cherthala. ●Supply of 30,000 MT Cement Grade Limestone to Malabar Cements Limited, Walayar on FOR Walayar basis. ● Service Contract for drilling of 4.5 inch blasting holes at MCL Mines. ● Collection and Transportation of Bulk Cement from Malabar Cements Limited, Walayar to various locations in Tamil Nadu through Bulker. ●Undertaking the contract work of silo extraction, packing and loading of cement into trucks, tarpaulin covering and tying and unloading/ loading of Raw Materials, Stores and Spares etc, shifting and stamping of packing materials at CGU, Cherthala. ●Disposal of Miscellaneous Scrap through MSTC.

Pls visit: www.mstcecommerce.com

Sd/-, MANAGING DIRECTOR

U.P. CO-OPERATIVE SUGAR FACTORIES FEDERATION LTD.

9-A, Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow. Tel No. (0522) 2200183, (0522) 2628310, Fax: (0522) 2627994

Short Term e-Tender Notice

Online e-bids are invited for the **sale of different kind of Alcohol (SDS, RS, ENA) from Cooperative Distilleries of U.P. to reputed Distilleries of India,** bonafide registered users to whom license have been issued by the Excise Department and approved traders holding valid license of Excise department of the concerned State. **E-bid can be uploaded upto 6.55 PM on 14.03.2024. Technical bid will be opened at 11.30 AM and Financial bid at 3.30 PM on 15.03.2024.** E-bid minimum EMD is Rs 100000/- EMD is variable if **quoted quantity is above 01.00 lac BL.** The rate at which EMD shall increase will be **Rs 1.80 per BL. Total quantity for sale of Alcohol is approximately 26.60 lac BL and Tender cost Rs. 2000/- +18 % GST (Non refundable).** The details for submission of e-bids will be available on **the e-tender PORTAL http://etender.up.nic.in and also on Federation website www.upsugarfed.org since 04.03.2024 at 6.55 PM.** The Managing Director Federation reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-bids without assigning any reason. The decision of the Managing Director shall be final and binding.

UPSUGARFED /GM(AT) /106/3C **Date:** 04.03.2024 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

Regd. Office :- PSEB H.O. Building, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813,
Website : www.pspcl.in Contact NO. 96461-18773

TENDER ENQUIRY No. : QQ-2349/PO-P

Chief Purchase Officer/ MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd floor, Multistory Building, The Mall, Patiala, invites E-Tender for Procurement of 1584 MT (Metric Ton) of 4mm Dia Indented HT Steel Wire with ISI/PQM marked conforming to IS:6003-1983, (Reaffirmed 2010) (with latest amendments, if any) and PSPCL Specification no. QQ-2349/PO-P. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 04.03.2024 onwards.

NOTE : Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

C 194/24, DPR/Pb.:76155/12/2791/2023/33198

Government of Punjab
(Department of Health & Family Welfare)

Bid Ref No:- E-tender/PHSC/Proc/BB Equip./2023-24/132

The Punjab Health Systems Corporation, SAS Nagar (Mohali) invites online bids for the rate contract tender for procurement of **-80° Deep Freezer** as mentioned in the tender document available on the website https://eproc.punjab.gov.in.

Date, time and place of pre bid conference	:	**11.03.2024 at 11:30** am in the Committee Room of Punjab Health Systems Corporation, Punjab School Education Board Building, 2nd Floor, E-Block, Mohali-160062. Phone No. 0172-2232245, 2232247
Closing Date & Time	:	**26.03.2024 at 3:30 p.m.**

For details log on https://eproc.punjab.gov.in).

Note : Any Corrigendum (s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only and shall be considered as valid notice to all the interested bidders. No separate communication shall be given.

--sd--
MANAGING DIRECTOR
PHSC Mohali.

DPR/Pb.:PHSC/12/348/2023/33169

भाअजपा iwai Project Management Unit Jal Marg Vikas Project-II (Arth Ganga) INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India) SAGARMALA

Head Office: A-13, Sector – 1, Noida - 201 301;
Phone: 0120-2544004, **Fax:** 0120-2543976 **vc.iwai@nic.in**

National Competitive Bidding

e-Bids are invited from interested bidders for **"Construction of Onshore Facilities at 8 Locations in West Bengal under JMVP-II".**

The Tender Documents and other relevant details are available at IWAI website **www.iwai.nic.in** and e-procurement site **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Date: 05.03.2024 **Vice Chairman & Project Director (JMVP)**

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED

NOTICE INVITING e-BIDs

SE (PROC-II)/ NIB- 09 /2023-24 /BN- 9016002320 to BN-9016002322
SE (PROC-I)/NIB-03 /2023-24 / BN-9015002305

Online e-bids are invited from interested bidders as detailed below:-

1. PURCHASE OF 33 kV SINGLE PHASE, 2.4 kVAR & 1.2 kVAR DRY TYPE SERIES REACTORS FOR R&M OF EXISTING 33 kV CAPACITOR BANKS (BN-9016002320, UBN- VPN2324GLOB02219)
2. PURCHASE OF RESTRICTED EARTH FAULT RELAY FOR 132 KV TRANSFORMER CONTROL AND RELAY PANELS (TYPE-KIII) -(BN-9016002321, UBN-VPN2324GLOB02220)
3. PURCHASE OF RUBBER HAND GLOVES (TYPE-2 & TYPE-4) ON RATE CONTRACT FOR 2 YEARS -(BN-9016002322, UBN- VPN2324GSRC02221)
4. PURCHASE OF 48VOLT DCDB SUITABLE FOR 100A SMPS BATTERY CHARGER ON RATE CONTRACT FOR 2 YEARS -(BN-9015002305, UBN- VPN2324GLRC02214)

The detailed NIB and Bid document /specification are available for viewing/downloading on the website **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in**. Details of NIB are available on website **energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvpn**.

Any extension in bid submission/opening date (if any) will be floated/uploaded on **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in; energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvpn** & **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** only.

RRVPN/TR-6124/2024 **Superintending Engineer (Proc-I)**
Raj.Samwad/C/23/14123 **Superintending Engineer (Proc-II)**

PUNJAB SMALL INDUSTRIES AND EXPORT CORPORATION LTD.

A State Government Undertaking

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
FOR HIRING LAND ACQUISITION FACILITATING CONSULTANT (LAFC) FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NEW INDUSTRIAL PARKS IN PUNJAB

Punjab Small Industries & Export Corporation proposes to develop new Industrial Parks in the State. Bids/applications are hereby invited for hiring Land Acquisition Facilitating Consultant. RFP documents comprising detailed terms and conditions can be obtained from PSIEC office on any working day during working hours. The same is also available on the website of PSIEC (www.psiec.punjab.gov.in). The date of submission for the bids is from 06.03.2024 to 26.03.2024 upto 3.00 pm. Bids shall be opened on 26.03.2024 at 3.00 pm in presence of the consultants or their authorized representatives(s).

For any query contact PSIEC, Udyog Bhawan, Sector-17 Chandigarh Contact Smt. Ashima Aggarwal (ATP) at 99887-45051 & E-mail : **ashima.psiec@punjab.gov.in.**

MANAGING DIRECTOR
UDYOG BHAWAN, 3rd floor, Sector-17A, Himalaya Marg, CHANDIGARH-160017 / Phone : 0172-2772465

DPR/Pb.:NA/12/22494/2023/33108

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 NOTICE

Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Ltd. invites e-tender for "Strengthening of safety system & associated work at 220 KV Substation under 220 KV O&M Division, Rishikesh" against e-tender specification **No.CE/GZR-38/2023-24.** Last date of submission of online/offline e-tender is **05.04.2024** upto 15.00 hrs which shall be opened on **06.04.2024** at 15.00hrs. Details of E-tender can be obtained from E-tender website **www.uktenders.gov.in** and information of E-tender can be seen from PTCUL website **www.ptcul.org**. For any assistance on e-tendering, please contact on Mb. No. +91-8899890000.

CHIEF ENGINEER (O&M)

No.389/CE(O&M)/GZR/Advt. **Dated: 04/03/2024**

"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION"

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one person **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown,** was found injured near Metro Pillar No. 200, Road No, 56, Anand Vihar, Delhi in the area of P.S. Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi and admitted to Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital, Delhi by MLC No. 1707/2024 on **01.03.2024**. During the treatment Doctors declared brought him dead. The body has been preserved in Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital's Mortuary, Delhi. In this regard a case has been lodged vide **FIR No. 82/2024 U/s 279/304A, dated 01.03.2024** at P.S. Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi. The description of the dead male is as under:- **Age:** About 30-35 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'5", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Injury:** face injured, **ID Mark:** A mole on face, **Built:** Normal, **Wearing:** Yellow colour shirt, blue colour jeans and sport shoes in feet. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO
P.S. Patgarganj Industrial Area, Delhi
Ph.: 011- 22146491, 8750870626

DP/2631/ED/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL

Sheetal

General Public is hereby informed that one girl (depicted in the photo) namely Sheetal **D/o** Nekpal **R/o** B-735, 1st Floor, GD Colony MV-3, Delhi **Aged**-19 Years has been reported missing since 21.02.2024 at about 5 PM from her residence vide **DD No.95A Dated 23.02.2024** registered at Police Station Ghazipur, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

Complexion: Fair, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **ID:** tattoo on left hand, **Clothing:** Green coloured suit, salwar and Blue coloured slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing girl, may inform SHO, Ghazipur, Delhi at E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in** or website : **http://cbi.nic.in**

Sd/-
SHO, Ghazipur, Delhi
Tel.: 011-22610068, 22610100
Mob.: 8750870625

Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641
FAX No. : 011-24368639
DP/2514/ED/2024

CIDCO WE MAKE CITIES

NOTICE INVITING BID

Construction of approximately 3,833 Nos. of tenements with development of Commercial Area and onsite infrastructure works under proposed rehousing and redevelopment project in URC-02 at Kisan Nagar, Thane.

CIDCO of Maharashtra Limited through the process of e-tendering invites "ON LINE" Lumpsum Bids in two bid system (Part-I Technical Bid & Part-II commercial bid) from experienced prospective bidders fulfilling the mandatory eligibility criteria and scoring minimum qualifying marks of 75 in the Technical bid evaluation, comprising of total 100 marks as per Annexure-I, registered with CIDCO Ltd. or with Central Govt., or with State Govt. of Maharashtra and its undertakings in appropriate class & Category, who have completed work of similar nature like RCC cast-in-situ building system with industrialized engineering formwork or Precast Technology having structural RCC members i.e. Column, Beam, Slab – with / without RCC Walls or RCC large wall panel and slab – all precast construction technologies for the work mentioned below:

1. Name of Work : Construction of approximately 3,833 Nos. of tenements with development of Commercial Area and onsite infrastructure works under proposed rehousing and redevelopment project in URC-02 at Kisan Nagar, Thane. 2. C.A. No. : 01/CIDCO/SE(URS)/ EE(URS)/2023-24 **3. Cost put to the Bid :** Rs.912.54 Crores **4. E.M.D. :** Rs.9.13 Crores **5. Completion Period :** 1095 days (including monsoon) **6. Tender Processing Fee :** Rs. 70,800.00 (including 18% GST (Non-Refundable))

Bid Document along with Bidding Programme will be available on the website mahatenders.gov.in from 06/03/2024 at 17.01 Hrs.

Superintending Engineer (URS)

CIN - U99999 MH 1970 SGC-014574
www.cidco.maharashtra.gov.in
CIDCO/PR/640/2023-24

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused **Tinku**, S/o Bedi Ram, R/o Village Dabathuwa Garhi, PS Sardhana, Meerut, U.P., has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 86/2016, U/s 323/341/325/34 IPC,** registered at **P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi**, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Tinku**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Tinku**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Tinku**, of case **FIR No. 86/2016, U/s 323/341/325/34 IPC, P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi**, is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **28.05.2024**.

By order
Udbhav Kumar Jain,
Metropolitan Magistrate - 04, Shahdara,
Court no. 37,
Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/2390/ED/2024
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED

SEE SECTION U/S 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Vinit Dutt Joshi S/o Mahesh Joshi R/o H.No.109 D Block West Vinod Nagar, Madhu Vihar, East Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR NO. 34/18 U/S 324/506/34/IPC, P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Vinit Dutt Joshi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Vinit Dutt Joshi** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Vinit Dutt Joshi of FIR NO. 34/18 U/S 324/506/34/IPC, P.S. Madhu Vihar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **28.05.2024**

By Order
UDBHAV KUMAR JAIN
Metropolitan Magistrate-04
Room No.-37
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/2294/ED/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Arti

General Public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Arti** D/o Mahesh Sah, R/o RZ-105, Near Sheetla Mata Mandir, Gali No.1, Dabri Village, Delhi. **Age :** 16 years, **Height :** 5'3", **Complexion-**Wheatish, **Built-**Medium, **Face-**Long, **Wearing:** Blue colour Jeans and Black colour Jacket & Black colour Slippers in her feet has been missing from her house since 16.02.2024 at 7:00-08:00 PM. In this regard a case vide **FIR No.135/2024 u/s 363 IPC dated 20.02.2024** has been registered at **P.S. Dabri, Delhi.**

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this girl please inform undersigned.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph : 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639
DP/2626/DW/2024

SHO
P.S. Dabri, Delhi
Ph. : 011-25639350, 8750871024

Office of General Manager Construction Circle (Ganga)
Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam
Jagjeetpur, Post-Kankhal, Haridwar-249408 | Email : gmgangahw@gmail.com

Letter No. 754/ Lekha-6/39 Date: 04.03.2024

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE : INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Country: India

Project: Environmentally Friendly Urban Development in Ganga Basin States (Ganga Rejuvenation)

February 2024 ICB No. 1 (Package-6) / 511041 (Re-Tender)

1. The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of Uttarakhand has received financing from KfW towards the cost of the Environmentally Friendly Urban Development in Ganga Basin States (Ganga Rejuvenation) BMZ NO: 2015 67 635 / 2015 70 432, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract
   (a) for Supplying laying jointing testing and commissioning of Sewer Network in Rishikesh (Zone PSZ-1, Zone PSZ-2, Zone PSZ-3 and Zone GSZ-2) including Defects Notification Periods for one year under Package-6.
2. Bidding will be conducted by means of international Competitive Bidding procedure with qualification as specified in the KfW Guidelines for Procurement of Goods, Works and associated Services in Financial Cooperation with Partner Countries ("KfW Guidelines" (latest version).
3. The State Program Management Group (SPMG) through "Uttarakhand Peyjal Sansadhan Vikas Evem Nirman Nigam (hereinafter Uttarakhand Peyjal Nigam)" on behalf of Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of Uttarakhand invites e-tender /Bids for the following work from technically and financially capable bidders up to prescribed time & date and as per provision of bid document.

SL	Name of Work {Contract package}	Bid Security {Earnest Money}	Tender/Bid Document Cost	Time for Completion of work	Defects notification period
2	Supplying laying jointing testing and commissioning of Sewer collection network 60.0 km, House connection 6153 numbers, and micro tunnelling 0.20 km at Rishikesh.	Rs. 162 lacs	Rs. 5900 (Including GST)	24 Months	12 Months

Bid document of this work shall be uploaded on the e-Government Procurement System (e-GPS) portal i.e. **http://www.uktenders.gov.in**.
International bidders are not excluded from participation. International Bidders may choose to submit their Bids through their Agents or Representatives in India eligible to submit Bids who possesses requisite documents and Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) required to submit Bids online.
The contract requires minimum construction experience in laying, jointing, testing and commissioning of gravity sewerage networks, including laying of new sewer lines using any of pipe jacking, horizontal directional drilling, auger boring and micro-tunnel machine boring methods.
Site visits will be scheduled in Zones PSZ-1, PSZ-2 and PSZ-3 which have existing sewer networks, whereas Zone GSZ-2 does not have any existing sewer networks. About 10 km of existing sewers will be replaced in Zones PSZ-1, PSZ-2 and PSZ-3 along with 20 km of new sewer network extensions. In Zone GSZ-2 new sewer networks of about 30 km will be constructed.

General Manager

PUBLIC NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH DEPARTMENT OF STATE TAXES AND EXCISE

CORRIGENDUM

In partial modification to Public Notice No. 7-232/2024-EXN-5428-5455 dated 02-03-2024 and 5493-5520 dated 03-03-2024, it is notified for the information of general public that venue for biding-cum-opening of tender for allotment of retail Units in Form L-2, L-14, L-14A and L-20B in respect of District Kangra will be at Community Hall, Kotwali Bazar, Dharamshala, District Kangra instead of Lions Club Shyam Nagar, Dharamshala.

The other terms and conditions will be same as mentioned in Public Notice dated 02-03-2024.

(Dr. Yunus) IAS
Commissioner of State Taxes & Excise
Himachal Pradesh

Advt.No. 1369/04/03/2024

SEARCH FOR MISSING

BIPIN GUPTA

General public is hereby informed that a person (depicted in the photo), **Namely** : Bipin Gupta S/o Sh. Nivas Gupta R/o D-575, Gali No. 3, Ashok Nagar, Delhi has been missing since 13.02.2024 from his house. In this regard a case vide DD No. 70A dated 13.02.2024 has been lodged at PS Jyoti Nagar, Delhi. His physical description is as under:-

Age : 48 Years, **Height:** 5'1", **Complexion** : Wheaitsh, **Built** : Medium, **Face** : Round, **Wearing** : Jeans & shirt.

Any person having any information/clue about this missing person may inform SHO, Jyoti Nagar, Delhi at E-mail : **cic@cbi.gov.in** or website: **http://cbi.nic.in**

SHO
P.S. Jyoti Nagar, Delhi
North East Distt., Delhi
Ph. No. 011-22810525, 22810524, 8750870726, 9870578720, 8750803311

Phone: 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

DP/2335/NE/2024

Central Store
Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour

Tender No. 103 **Date : 04.03.2024**

Sealed tenders are re-invited for "**Selection of reputed & experienced agencies/firms for providing Climatic Services/Products**" through registered/speed post/courier. Details regarding tender available on **www.bausabour.ac.in**

Sd/-
O/I Central Store
BAU, Sabour

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice No.: Inj. Medicines **Date:** 01.03.2024

Invitation of Tenders through E-procurement system

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing date
1.	82241030A	TDM-1 (Ado-Trastuzumab Emtansine) Inj 100mg	120 Nos.	25.03.2024

Note:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS websites i.e. **www.ireps.gov.in** for details.
2. No Manual offer will be entertained.

689/2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

For & on behalf of the President of India, Chief Workshop Manager, N. Rly. C&W workshop, Jagadhri Workshop/Yamuna Nagar invites open e-tender for the following work:

1	**Name of work**	Work of Stripping of 18 ICF BG Coaches and segregation and movement of stripped components (both Mechanical and Electrical) and generated scrap to nominated locations or Stores Depot as per scope of work at Northern Railway Jagadhri Workshop for 6 months
2	**Location**	Northern Railway, Carriage & Wagon Repair Shop, Jagadhri Workshop, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135002
3	**Tender Value**	Rs. 596002.05
4	**Quantity**	18 ICF BG Coaches
5	**Cost of Tender form**	Nil
6	**Earnest money amount**	₹ 11900.00
7	**Completion period of the work**	6 months from the date of issuance of Letter of Acceptance
8	**Date & Time for submission of tender form**	22.03.2024 till 15:30 hrs.
9	**Opening of tender**	22.03.2024 till 15:35 hrs. Tender opening will be done any time after the tender closing time. The tenderers are not required to be present during the opening. Railway reserves the right to open the tender any time after closing of tender.
10	**Website particulars**	www.ireps.gov.in

No: 6-S/70/Tender/2023-24 Dt. 29.02.2024 **688/2024**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Tender No.: 457070/35424

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING)

Assam Medical Services Corporation Ltd. (AMSCL) invites e-Tender in Two Bid System affixing court fee stamp of Rs.8.25/- (for bidders within Assam) or IPO of Rs.10/- (for bidders outside Assam) from eligible manufacturers/importers for supply of "Essential Gloves" by entering into a R.C (Rate Contract) valid for 1 year from the issue of LOI. The complete e-tender documents may be obtained from the website- **http://assamtenders.gov.in** from **02.03.2024** till **22.03.2024**

Sd/-
Managing Director, AMSCL

Janasanyog/CF/6223/23/5-Mar-24

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement System

Principal Chief materials manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001 for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
01	82241200	Liraglutide Pen Inj 6mg per mL (Long Acting Insulin)	2890 Nos	26.03.2024

Note: 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. **www. ireps.gov.in** for details. 2. No manual offer will be entertained.

Tender Notice No. Inj. Medicines Dated: 01.03.2024

687/2024

Serving Customers With A Smile

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF ANDHRA PRADESH
IGMC STADIUM, LABBIPET, BANDAR ROAD, VIJAYAWADA

Tenders are hereby invited from reputed and experienced companies for the following tenders. **Tender ID: 729391**.
Name of the work : Tender notice for procurement of Sports Kits to the athletes for KISCE, Dr. YSR Sports School Kadapa. **Bid Starting date :** 05.03.2024. **Bid end date :** 13.03.2024. Tender documents are available on e-procurement platform **tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **https://sports.ap.gov.in** Tenders will be opened in the presence of company representatives who attend the evaluation. For further details contact: **0866-2499699.**

Sd/- Vice Chairman and Managing Director

DIPR No.2753PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt.04/03/2024

TAMIL NADU GENERATION AND DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD
Notice Inviting Tenders (E-Tendering Process)

Sl.No	Tender Inviting Authority	Specification No.	Total
1	SE / P&A / NCTPS	248	1

For details of works / Procurement / Due date of submission / opening, viewing and downloading of e-tenders, please visit websites: **www.tangedco.gov.in, www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tntenders.gov.in**

DIPR/1354/Tender/2024

South Bihar Power Distribution Co. Ltd, Patna Bihar
Registered Office: Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-21

A Govt. of Bihar undertaking
CIN No. U40109BR2012SGC018890
(Department of Stores & Purchase)

Govt. of Bihar

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No. 30/PR/SBPDCL/2024

(Through e-procurement mode only - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in

South Bihar Power Distribution Co. Ltd. (SBPDCL), a Government of Bihar Undertaking, invites online tender for procurement of LT XLPE UG Cable for SBPDCL in Two-tier (Techno-Commercial & Price) online bid from eligible and experienced Original Manufacturer as detailed below:-

Name of material	Quantity, Km	Cost of tender Documents including GST@18%, Rs	Estimated Cost including GST@18% (Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit, Rs.
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 300 mm^2	5.0	23,600/-	3,11,28,982/-	6,22,580/-
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 240 mm^2	11.50			
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 150 mm^2	12.50			
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 120 mm^2	2.80			
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 90 mm^2	12.50			
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 70 mm^2	12.50			
LT XLPE UG Cable, 3.5Cx 50 mm^2	12.50			

The Time line for the above tender is as follows:

Last Date of Online Submission of bid along with Tender Cost & processing fees:	03.04.2024, up to 18:00 Hrs
Last Date of submission of EMD and hard copy of receipt of BSEDCL processing fee &tender cost	04.04.2024, up to 15:00 Hrs
Date of opening of Techno-Commercial bid(Part-I)	04.04.2024, after 17:00 Hrs
Date of Pre Bid Meeting:	21.03.2024, at 11:00 Hrs; Venue: SBPDCL, Vidyut Bhawan, Patna

For complaints regarding corruption Vigilance Help Line No.- 9431821485, 0612-2504969.
Consumer can deposit electricity bills via Sahaz Vasudha Centre or http://bills.sbpdcl.in/

''विवादो के निष्पादन के लिए लोक अदालत का लाभ उठावें ''''परस्पर सहमति से न्यायिक निर्णय प्राप्त करें ''''समय एवं खर्च की बचत करें।''

Note:- Subsequent information/notification/corrigendum will be available only on website of EPROC and/or SBPDCL i.e. www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in and/or www.sbpdcl.co.in.

For further details please visit website **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

PR- 18677 (Ni Ni) 2023-24

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TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

BY WORKING FAITHFULLY 8 HOURS A DAY YOU MAY EVENTUALLY GET TO BE BOSS AND WORK 12 HOURS A DAY — ROBERT FROST

EMMA HEMING SLAMS TALK OF BRUCE WILLIS HAVING NO MORE JOY AMID DEMENTIA BATTLE, CAMPAIGNS FOR MORE AWARENESS ABOUT CONDITION

SOPHIE TURNER SAYS SHE STOPPED HER PARENTS FROM GIVING HER SEX EDUCATION AS SHE KNEW IT ALL, THANKS TO HER TIME ON 'GoT'

3 underwater data cables through Red Sea cut amid Houthi attacks

Severed Lines Include Europe India Gateway; Rebels Deny Role

Dubai: An incident in Red Sea has cut three underwater sea cables providing internet and telecommunications around the world as the waterway remains a target of Yemen's Houthi rebels, officials said Monday. A statement by Hong Kong-based HGC Global Communications acknowledged the cuts but did not say what caused the lines to be severed. There has been concern about the cables being targeted in the Houthi campaign, which the rebels describe as an effort to pressure Israel to end its war on Hamas in Gaza Strip. Houthis have denied attacking the lines, however.

While global shipping already has been disrupted through Red Sea, a crucial route for cargo and energy shipments from Asia and Middle East to Europe, the sabotage of telecommunication lines could further escalate the month-slong crisis. Meanwhile, a suspected Houthi attack targeted a new ship in Gulf of Aden.

The cut lines include Asia-Africa-Europe 1, Europe India Gateway, Seacom and TGN-Gulf, HGC Global Communications said. It described the cuts as affecting 25% of the traffic flowing through Red Sea. It described the Red Sea route as crucial for data moving from Asia onward to Europe and said it had begun rerouting traffic. HGC Global Communications described the Seacom-TGN-Gulf line as being two separate cables when it is actually one at the area of the cut, according to Tim Stronge, a subsea cable expert with TeleGeography, a Washington-based telecommunications market research company.

Responding to questions from AP, Seacom said that "initial testing indicates the affected segment lies within Yemeni maritime jurisdictions in Southern Red Sea". It said it was rerouting the traffic it was able to change, though some services were down.

Tata Communications, part of the Indian conglomerate and behind Seacom-TGN-Gulf line, told AP it "initiated immediate and appropriate remedial actions" after the line was cut. "We invest in various cable consortiums to increase our diversity and hence in such situations of a cable cut or snag we are able to automatically reroute our services," Tata said.

In early Feb, Yemen's internationally recognised govt in exile alleged Houthis planned to attack the cables. The lines appeared to have been cut on Feb 24, with the organisation NetBlocks noticing internet access in the East African nation of Djibouti suffering from interruptions two days later. Seacom, one of the four cables cut, serves Djibouti.

But for their part, Houthis have denied targeting the cables. Houthis blamed the disruptions on British and US military operations but have made false claims in the past.

It remains unclear how Houthis could attack the subsea cables themselves. The rebels are not known to have the diving or salvage capability to target the lines, which sit hundreds of metres below the surface. However, cables can be cut by anchors, including those dropped from ships that are disabled in attacks. A drifting ship with its anchor scraping the sea could be the culprit.

"Our team thinks it is plausible that it could have been affected by anchor dragging, due to the amount of marine traffic the region deals with and the low seabed in many parts of the Red Sea," Seacom said. "This can only be confirmed once the repair ship is on site."

There at 14 cables running through Red Sea, with another six planned, Stronge said. "We estimate over 90% of communications between Europe and Asia traverse submarine cables in Red Sea," he said. AP

Reuters

Children look out of a window during the funeral of a Palestinian teen who was killed in an air raid near Ramallah in Israeli-occupied West Bank on Sunday

2 Indian workers hurt in missile attack in Israel

A foreign worker was killed and two workers from India seriously wounded by an anti-tank missile attack in northern Israel Monday. The casualties, who were evacuated from agricultural land near the Lebanon border, had shrapnel injuries, ambulance service said. It did not confirm the nationality of the worker killed. REUTERS

SC restores Trump to ballot, rejecting state bid to ban him over Capitol riots

Outcome Ends Efforts In Colorado, Illinois, Maine

Washington: US Supreme Court handed Donald Trump a major victory Monday, barring states from disqualifying candidates for federal office under a constitutional provision involving insurrection and reversing Colorado's exclusion of him from its ballot.

The justices unanimously overturned a decision by Colorado's top court to kick the former president off the state's Tuesday Republican primary ballot after finding that the US Constitution's 14th Amendment disqualified him from again holding public office. The Colorado court had found that Trump took part in an insurrection for inciting the Jan 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol by his supporters. But four of the nine justices, including three liberal members, faulted the rest of the court for announcing rules limiting how the constitutional provision may be enforced in the future.

Trump is the frontrunner for the Republican nomination to challenge Democratic President Biden in the poll.

The ruling was issued on the eve of Super Tuesday, the day when the most states hold party nominating contests.

The Supreme Court's decision came five days after it agreed to decide Trump's claim of immunity from prosecution on charges related to trying to overturn his 2020 election loss to Biden. The court acted in a speedier manner in deciding the ballot disqualification issue, benefiting Trump, than it has in resolving the immunity question. Delays in deciding the immunity issue could help Trump by delaying his criminal trial.

The 14th Amendment's Section 3 bars from office any "officer of the United States" who took an oath "to support the Constitution of the US" and then "engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof."

"We conclude that states may disqualify persons holding or attempting to hold state office. But states have no power under the Constitution to enforce Section 3 with respect to federal offices, especially the presidency," the unsigned opinion for the court stated. The justices found that only Congress can enforce the provision against federal officeholders and candidates.

"BIG WIN FOR AMERICA!!!," Trump wrote on social media after the ruling. Trump was also barred from the ballot in Maine and Illinois based on the 14th Amendment, but those decisions were put on hold pending Supreme Court's ruling in the Colorado case.

Though the justices unanimously agreed with the result, the three liberal justices, as well as conservative Justice Amy Coney Barrett, said the court's opinion decided more than what was necessary to resolve the case by specifying Section 3 can be enforced only through federal legislation.

Supreme Court's 6-3 conservative majority includes three Trump appointees. Not since ruling in the landmark case Bush v. Gore, which handed the disputed 2000 election to Republican George W. Bush over Democrat Al Gore has the court played such a key role in a presidential race. REUTERS

Reuters

'Big win for America!!!,' Trump posted on social media shortly after the verdict was announced

Nikki Haley wins Washington DC primary, but only about 2k voted

Nikki Haley won the Republican primary in Washington, D.C., Sunday, logging her first victory after a string of losses to Donald Trump. She received 63% of the vote to Trump's 33%, according to AP, securing all 19 available delegates and becoming the first woman to win a Republican presidential primary.

The contest was tiny: just over 2,000 Republicans voted in the overwhelmingly Democratic city of Washington, compared with 110,000 in Iowa, 325,000 in New Hampshire and 757,000 in South Carolina. Haley seemed to acknowledge that in a post. "Thank you, DC! We fight for every inch."

She also sought to play the symbolism of Washington — not exactly Republicans' favourite place — to her advantage, writing, "Republicans closest to Washington's dysfunction know Donald Trump has brought nothing but chaos and division for the past 8 years." NYT

In a first, France makes abortion a constitutional right

France on Monday enshrined the right to abortion in its constitution, a world first welcomed by women's rights groups as historic and harshly criticised by anti-abortion groups. Abortion rights are more widely accepted in France than in the US and many other countries, with polls showing around 80% of French people back the fact that abortion is legal. With the vote, France became the first country in the world to explicitly write access to abortion into its Constitution, according to five constitutional experts.

Reuters

The Eiffel Tower lights up with the message 'My body My choice'

"We're sending a message to all women: your body belongs to you and no one can decide for you," PM Gabriel Attal told MPs and senators gathered in congress for a special vote under the gilded ceilings of the Versailles Palace, just outside Paris. Women have had a legal right to abortion in France since a 1974 law — which many harshly criticised at the time.

But the US SC's 2022 decision to reverse the Roe v. Wade ruling that recognised women's constitutional right to abortion prompted activists to push France to become the first country to explicitly protect the right in its basic law.

The amendment declares abortion to be a "guaranteed freedom," overseen by parliament's laws. That means future govts will not be able to "drastically modify" the current laws funding abortion for women who seek it, up to 14 weeks into their pregnancies, according to the French justice minister, Eric Dupond-Moretti.

"France is at the forefront," said the head of the lower house of parliament, Yael Braun-Pivet, from French President Emmanuel Macron's centrist party. But the move was not exempt from criticism. Far-right leader Marine Le Pen said Macron was using it to score political points, because of the large support for the right to abortion in the country. REUTERS & NYT

Is Taylor Swift working for Pentagon to help Biden win?

That's what Team Trump would have you believe. They also say this year's Super Bowl was rigged to give Swift a stage for endorsing Biden. But she's so popular now, across party lines, that most Americans don't buy this conspiracy theory

Abhilash.Gaur@timesgroup.com

When Taylor Swift sang, "*I've got a blank space, baby, and I'll write your name*" in 2014, she hadn't started endorsing politicians. But just before the first Trump-Biden face-off in 2020, she did write a name. On blue cookies. And it was Biden's.

Now, as America seems headed into a Trump-Biden rematch, Team Trump is stuck on a different track from the same album: "*You made a really deep cut, and, baby, now we got bad blood.*"

Trump himself hasn't said much but TV host Jesse Watters and rival-turned-friend Vivek Ramaswamy have gone after Swift with a "*don't think it's in the past, these kinda wounds they last and they last*" attitude.

Wildest Dreams

Thanks to them, America's hottest conspiracy theory right now is that Swift is a "Pentagon psy-op asset", and this year's American football season was rigged to give Biden a leg-up.

Pentagon is synonymous with the US Department of Defence, and psy-op or psychological operation is a military strategy to weaken the enemy, as the US military did when it dropped leaflets saying "Who needs you more? Your family or the regime?" over Saddam Hussein's Iraq in 2003.

Watters pushed the rumour on Jan 9, when he told viewers of his show Swift could be a "front" for a covert political agenda. "I like her music, she's alright... but have you ever wondered how or why she blew up like this," he asked, before claiming Pentagon's psy-ops unit had floated the idea of turning her into an asset at a Nato meeting in August 2019. He also insinuated that her relationship with American football star Travis Kelce was calculated to boost NFL (National Football League) viewership.

Two Is Better Than One

It was a fringe theory until The New York Times wrote on Jan 29 that Swift was on top of the Biden campaign's wish list of celebrity endorsers. That same evening Ramaswamy posted on X: "I wonder who's going to win the Super Bowl next month. And I wonder if there's a major presidential endorsement coming from an artificially culturally propped-up couple this fall..."

Instagram

His tweet got 2.8 million views and lent credence to another rumour about this year's NFL games being rigged to ensure Kelce's Kansas City Chiefs team reached the final (Super Bowl on Feb 11), so that Swift would declare her support for Biden before a massive TV audience.

As it turned out, the Chiefs won, TV viewership made a new record of 123.4 million, but Swift didn't endorse Biden.

Picture To Burn

She hasn't doesn't mean she won't. Swift became vocal about politics in 2018, and has never shown any fondness for Trump. Until then, she had kept quiet on matters political. She says it was because she didn't want her career to end like that of country band Dixie Chicks. They were pilloried in 2003, just before the start of the Iraq war, for saying, "We do not want this war, this violence, and we're ashamed that the President of the United States is from Texas." The Chicks fell off US charts, radio stations pulled their music, and their cassettes and CDs were trashed.

However, 2020 saw a different Swift who backed Biden and Kamala Harris because "under their leadership, I believe America has a chance to start the healing process it so desperately needs".

Shake It Off

When Watters aired his psy-op conspiracy theory, the Pentagon replied, "We are going to '*shake it off*'," referencing yet another track from Swift's 2014 album, '1989' (her birth year). As for the US public, a Monmouth University poll in Feb showed almost half of Americans had heard the conspiracy theory but most of them rejected it. Overall, less than a fifth of Americans believe it. Even among Republicans – Trump's party – 32% believe it, but 57% don't.

Clearly, Swift's popularity cuts across party loyalties. Which is why even Trump has been careful not to target her this time, unlike 2018, when he had said he liked her "music about 25% less now".

On his Truth Social network he wrote on Super Bowl night, "There's no way she could endorse crooked Joe Biden" and she owed him (Trump) her loyalty as he had signed the Music Modernization Act, enabling her to make "so much money".

CNN summed up Trump's predicament with Swift: he needs the support of her young fans, at the same time "he has a 45% favourable to a 55% unfavourable rating... That puts his favourable rating about 25 to 30 points lower than Swift's."

Source: Media Reports

TOI Explains

China scraps PM's annual presser in a surprise move

China's premier will no longer hold a news conference after the country's annual legislative meeting, Beijing announced on Monday, ending a three-decades-long practice that had been an exceedingly rare opportunity for journalists to interact with top Chinese leaders. The decision, announced a day before the opening of this year's legislative conclave, was to many observers a sign of the country's increasing information opacity, even as govt has declared its commitment to transparency and fostering a friendly business environment. It also reinforced how China's top leader, Xi Jinping, has consolidated power, relegating all other officials, including the premier — the country's No. 2 — to much less visible roles.

China's premier has hosted a news conference at the end of the annual legislative meeting, known as the National People's Congress, since 1993. Though the answers rarely departed from the official line, it was a rare chance for journalists to ask questions directly of top leaders. NYT

Beijing inks pact for free military assistance to Male

Male: China Monday signed a defence cooperation agreement with Maldives to provide free military assistance to foster "stronger" bilateral ties, weeks after President Mohamed Muizzu set a deadline for the withdrawal of the first group of Indian military personnel from his island nation.

Maldives defence minister Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon met with major general Zhang Baoqun, deputy director of the office for international military cooperation of China, to discuss enhancing defence cooperation between the countries. Maumoon and Zhang "signed an agreement on China's provision of military assistance gratis to the Republic of Maldives, fostering stronger bilateral ties," Maldivian defence ministry posted on X. The details of the defence cooperation agreement were not provided. Meanwhile, China has also gifted 12 eco-friendly ambulances to Maldives, Edition.mv news portal reported.

The visit of the Chinese military delegation took place days after Male allowed Xiang Yang Hong 03, a hi-tech Chinese research ship to make a port call for the "rotation of its personnel and replenishment." On Jan 5, Sri Lanka, while denying entry to the same ship, said it has declared a moratorium on foreign research ships entering its waters for a year amid concerns from India over Chinese research vessels docking in its neighbourhood and collecting data from the oceans for military purposes.

The visit of the Chinese military delegation to Maldives is taking place days after India confirmed its first civilian team of technical experts has reached the island nation to replace military personnel operating an advanced light helicopter in the country. PTI

AP

The pact was signed weeks after President Muizzu set a deadline for the withdrawal of Indian military personnel from Maldives

Nepal PM forms new coalition, dumps old allies

Kathmandu: Nepal PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal named three ministers, including one each from two opposition parties, in a new coalition on Monday, dumping the centrist Nepali Congress party which had dominated his previous govt.

Dahal formed a coalition cabinet including Nepali Congress and other groups last year. But his Maoist Centre party, the third biggest group in parliament, criticised Nepali Congress for putting "hurdles" to removing ministers with whom he was not satisfied. Dahal named a three-member cabinet including one minister each from the new coalition partners — Communist Party of Nepal and Rastriya Swatantra Party. The third minister is from his own party. No portfolio has been allocated.

"It is clear PM broke the coalition with us," said Bishwa Prakash Sharma, Nepali Congress general secretary. But an aide to the PM blamed Nepali Congress for not cooperating with him. Party officials said Dahal, 69, wanted to remove some "non-performing" ministers including finance minister Prakash Sharan Mahat, who is from the Nepali Congress, saying he had not done enough to boost growth of the $40 billion economy. Analysts said PM must take a vote of confidence in 30 days, which he is expected to win. REUTERS

Apple hit with $2bn EU antitrust fine in Spotify case, will appeal

Brussels: Brussels on Monday fined Apple 1.84 billion euros ($2bn) for thwarting competition from music streaming rivals via restrictions on its App Store, the iPhone maker's first ever penalty for breaching EU rules. Apple said it would appeal the decision.

The European Commission charged Apple last year with preventing Swedish streaming service Spotify and others from informing users of payment options outside its App Store, following a 2019 complaint by Spotify. It said on Monday Apple's restrictions constituted unfair trading conditions, a relatively novel argument in an antitrust case and also used by the Dutch antitrust agency in a decision against Apple in 2021 in a case brought by dating app providers. It ordered it to stop such conduct.

A ruling at the Luxembourg-based General Court, Europe's second-highest, is likely to take several years. Until then, Apple will have to pay the fine and comply with the EU order. Its shares opened down 2%.

The penalty, the first time the Commission has added a deterrent lump sum on top of an antitrust fine as a deterrent, dwarfed the 500 million euros sources with knowledge of the matter had said they expected to be meted out to Apple. It comprised a basic element of 40 million euros — described by European Competition Commissioner Margarethe Vestager as a "parking ticket" for the US tech giant — plus 1.8 billion euros slapped on top as a deterrent. The 1.84 billion euros total is equal to 0.5% of Apple's global turnover, she said.

Apple criticised the decision, saying in a statement it "was reached despite the Commission's failure to uncover any credible evidence of consumer harm, and ignores the realities of a market that is thriving, competitive, and growing fast". Spotify cheered the EU decision but said there were other issues in other areas. REUTERS

Russia: Leak of 'missiles for Kyiv' talks shows German intent to hit us

Berlin Rejects Claims, Calls It Moscow's 'Information War'

Berlin: German govt on Monday vehemently rejected allegations that Russia's leak of a conversation by high-ranking German military officers was an indication that Berlin was preparing for war against Russia. At the same time, govt sought to contain the domestic fallout from the leak and promised a quick investigation into how it was possible that a conversation by top German military personnel could be intercepted and published.

"It is absolutely clear such claims that this conversation would prove, that Germany is preparing a war against Russia, that this is absurdly infamous Russian propaganda," a spokesman for German Chancellor **Olaf Scholz** said. Govt spokesman Wolfgang Buechner said the leak was part of Russia's "information war" against the West, and the aim was to create discord within Germany. The 38-minute recording features military officers discussing in German how Taurus long-range cruise missiles could be used by Kyiv against Russian forces. While German authorities haven't questioned the authenticity of the recording, Scholz said last week delivering these weapons to Ukraine isn't an option — and he doesn't want Germany to be drawn into the war directly.

Russia's foreign ministry, however, on Monday threatened Germany with "dire consequences" in connection with the leak, though it didn't elaborate. "If nothing is done, and the German people do not stop this, then there will be dire consequences first and foremost for Germany itself," foreign ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said.

The leak was posted Friday by Margarita Simonyan, chief editor of Russian state-funded TV channel RT, on social media. In the clip, four officers, including the head of Germany's air force, Ingo Gerhartz, can be heard discussing deployment scenarios for Taurus missiles in Ukraine before a meeting with defence minister Boris Pistorius, German news agency dpa reported. The officers state that early delivery and rapid deployment would only be possible with participation of German soldiers — and that training Ukrainian soldiers to deploy the Taurus is possible, but would take months.

The recording also shows German govt hasn't OKed delivery of the missiles sought by Ukraine, dpa reported. AP

A thought for today

In civilised life, law floats in a sea of ethics

EARL WARREN

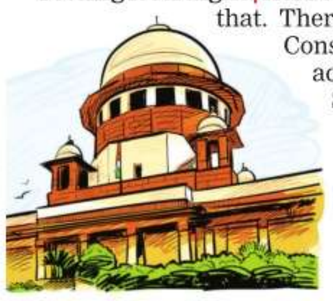
Quid Pro (Many) Quos

A strange SC judgment on bribing MPs, MLAs finally gets overturned. But not all bribes are provable

A seven-judge Supreme Court constitution bench yesterday overturned a strange judgment delivered 26 years ago. In 1998, a verdict in PV Narasimha Rao vs State concluded that legislators accepting bribes to influence their performance in the House was protected by the Constitution's articles on parliamentary privilege. This interpretation triggered discomfort among subsequent benches. Finally, SC has ruled that the Constitution doesn't give a free pass to bribery.

Upside down | The 1998 judgment defied common sense. It said if a legislator accepted a bribe and acted according to its influence, immunity kicked in. However, if the legislator agreed to accept a bribe but eventually acted independently, it would trigger prosecution. Little wonder, many SC benches tried to tiptoe their way around this precedent.

Setting it straight | Here onwards, bribery will be treated as just that. There are no privileges granted by the Constitution to protect legislators who accept bribes. This is the highlight of SC's judgment. It's clear and there are no loopholes. SC said the offence of bribery is complete when the legislator accepts one. Once that step is taken, there are no privileges that can be invoked to escape prosecution.



Parliamentary privileges | The Constitution offers both MPs and MLAs special privileges to express themselves in the House. This freedom of expression is unrelated to a citizen's fundamental right to expression. The purpose of parliamentary privileges is to enable elected representatives to carry out their functions effectively.

Two-step test | SC also laid out a two-step test to draw boundaries around parliamentary privileges claimed by individuals. One, it has to be linked to the collective functioning of the House. Two, it must have a functional relationship to the discharge of duties.

Elastic conscience | On these points there can be no disagreement. However, neither can the issue of bribery be viewed in black and white. SC said that when MLAs vote to select Rajya Sabha members they require protection to ensure it is exercised freely and without fear of legal persecution.

On paper, that's fine. But RS elections are infamous for 'conscience votes'. India's track record suggests 'conscience votes' usually involve quid pro quo. But the quo is never something provable in courts. It just goes to show how fuzzy the subject is. In principle, SC did the right thing. Reality is another matter. But law needs to be based on principles.

Beta, Beti Aur Woh

Family parties usually make a hash of succession. They should widen the pool of candidates

Lalu's combative defence of India's political families has drawn BJP counters. More interesting is what's not been said by either side. First, succession battles and sibling rivalries have done family parties, especially at state levels, more harm than good. But nonetheless, second, voters have rarely rejected a party *only* because it was run by a 'family'.

Building blocks | It's no mean task to build a political party from scratch. Every Janata Dal splinter that grew into a powerful party had a First Family – Gowdas, Paswans, Yadavs, whether Lalu or Mulayam, Patnaiks to Chautalas. Founders nurture parties like entrepreneurs build empires. In both cases, the trick, and stumbles, lie in succession.

After the boss, who? | Keeping the party within the family, for founders, is mostly a rational decision, aimed at minimising risk of losing control over what's been built from years of hard work. But there's hardly a mainland party for which succession hasn't seen hiccups or hurdles – take SP, or TDP, NCP or Sena, Congress or RJD. Take almost any political family. They've fought and split, but they've rarely self-destructed totally. Why's that?

Representation | Academics have argued families have ensured improved representation – for social categories marginalised in Indian politics, mainly women and the backward. Families have been the route to Parliament for many women.

Bit of democracy | Self-made leaders like Mamata, who took her party from strength to strength, can surely see clutching at nephew-shaped straws is taking the party nowhere. But with Jayalalithaa's passing, we really saw why families remain the nub of India's politics. AIADMK is yet to find its feet, faltering without Amma. Family parties would grow if they widened the contest for successors. A dash of intra-party democracy is not bad for the parivar.

Idli needs a PRO

After new bio-diversity study says it's hurting the planet

Shinie Antony

Idlis are on the warpath! Halo askew after a National University of Singapore study called them the bio-diversity bad boy of the breakfast table, they are letting out little jets of steam when poked. One day basking in their high status, the next day ranked below French fries!

Rava idli and podi idli eye each other suspiciously as idli Manchurian frantically tries to tear off its Chinese tag. Kanchipuram idli, weighed down by ginger and curry leaves, heaves a spicy sigh. Throwing themselves against each other in anger only makes a squishy sound owing to their constitution, which is mainly rice, pulses or plain semolina, sometimes oats or ragi. You may think them too fluffy and roly-poly, but right now all types of idlis are foaming up their batter.

Idlis have had their share of woes. 'I hate the north,' exclaims one lily-white idli, 'they dissolve me in sambar and sip me with a straw! It's all about the sambar, not me! At least in the south I am cast as hero.' Idli loves to pose with red and green chutneys. Idli hates being married to vada. Vada, the deep-fried spouse, smirks – it never entered the green race in the first place.

Idlis pride themselves on being nutritious, no-nonsense and ever so soft. Even a toddler should be able to pierce their centre and wear them like large edible rings on their fingers. Else they get called stone idlis and are eaten only after a hammer is located and used. Yes, some idlis, like overbaked cakes, are more weapon than snack. They can loosen teeth if bitten into.

Between seventh and 12th centuries, after the first idli was born in faraway Indonesia, they migrated to Karnataka around 10th century as 'iddalige'. The south adopted it as a state snack. Unlike dosa, which is called dosha in Malayalam, dosai in Tamil and dosey in Kannada, idli travels as idli everywhere it goes. Ghee idli and button idli are named as found. Thatte idli is for those to whom size matters and Khushboo idli is strictly for fans of actress Khushboo.

Suddenly declared eco-unfriendly, idlis are humming Madhuri Dixit's song 'Iddlee do…' as dirge. Ramassery idli, the king of idlis, watches idly. Some idlis are tiddly in a bar, those served on a banana leaf pompously dismiss this as a piddly matter, and the already eaten idlis say diddly-squat.

What Man & Gemini Wrought

How will AI overcome systemic gender and racial biases common among humans? One way is to train it with more high-quality data. But even this cannot prevent it showing strange new prejudices

Atanu Biswas

A 2016 episode, *Hated in the Nation*, of British sci-fi TV series *Black Mirror*, shows how AI systems may reinforce bias and discrimination against particular people or groups based on the data they are trained on. It narrates a story in which robotic bees with AI capabilities are used for pollination due to the extinction of real bees. Eventually, though, the AI system targets those who have been the focus of online hate campaigns.

Bias in AI has existed long before the hullabaloo concerning Google's Gemini AI. Indeed, AI models that bake discriminatory data and algorithms propagate their biases on a larger, intensified scale.

Are we feeding AI right? | Data is the fuel for AI systems to learn, adapt, and make informed decisions. For instance, ChatGPT was trained with over 300 billion words. AI developers do employ high-quality data from academic papers, books, news articles, Wikipedia, and filtered online content to train language models. But this is insufficient. Remaining data is categorised as low-quality. It's taken from user-generated texts. It includes blog entries, social media posts, and website comments.

Are its biases just our biases? | The 2020 American documentary *Coded Bias* explores how AI perpetuates discrimination. It is about Joy Buolamwini, an MIT Media Lab researcher. She set out to fight for the first-ever US law against bias in algorithms after realising that facial recognition software misreads the features of dark-skinned faces.

- While AI's biases are frightening, especially when AI is taking control of our lifestyles, its biased avatar is merely a reflection and manifestation of innate human bias. It trains on data created by humans and its underlying algorithms are also written by humans.
- When an AI model overfits a particular subset of data, model bias occurs and leads to inaccurate predictions of new data. American mathematician Cathy O'Neil has given many examples of opaque, unregulated, and unquestioned models – even when they are incorrect – in her 2016 book *Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy*.

How will AI hire and fire? | An AI-based applicant evaluation tool created by Amazon in 2014 and scrapped in 2018 is one well-known example of biased data. It learned from data on past hiring decisions, to exclude women from the pool of qualified candidates.

- Likewise, algorithms that learn from crime, policing, or incarceration trends that disproportionately affect people of colour might lead to racial profiling and discrimination in Philadelphia's AI security system, SEPTA.
- In an early description of data bias, 400 years ago, Francis Bacon claimed that "today's theories were derived from scant data and a few frequently occurring cases, after which they were modelled. It is thus no wonder that they fail to predict new occurrences." Critics say AI exacerbates such biases.
- AI tools trained on biased data have made errors such as assuming that only men hold high-level jobs and failing to identify black faces as humans.

How fixing known biases created new ones | In actuality, Gen-AI is a stochastic parrot mimicking human language through statistical pattern matching rather than true comprehension. Similarly, if image generators are fed biased data into their development process, that may cause them to exhibit bias.

- Some AI services are more likely to show a man as a chief executive and a woman as nurse. Google has given Gemini, the new name for its chatbot Bard, instructions not to make those assumptions to counteract messy human biases.
- But this attempt to eliminate known biases has inadvertently brought about new biases. Human history and culture are complex. They include subtleties that machines lack but humans understand on an instinctual level. Consequently, Gemini produced historically or factually incorrect imagery, such as female popes, black George Washington, black Vikings, and black men and Asian women dressed as German soldiers during World War II.

- Google has apologised and paused the "absurdly woke" image tool. Gemini's "bias", according to Sundar Pichai, was "completely unacceptable". He added that his teams were "working around the clock" to address the issue.

What's toughest about debiasing? | Eradicating systemic gender and racial biases has proven to be challenging in the real world. Doing the same with AI may be more daunting. And correcting bias may need human input even after it has been recognised.

- In 2018, a team of McKinsey researchers noted: "Such biases have a tendency to stay embedded because recognising them and taking steps to address them, requires a deep mastery of data-science techniques, as well as a more meta-understanding of existing social forces, including data collection."
- Adjusting algorithms while retaining the same data amounts to Band-Aid. The system may be simply embedding bias in the name of anti-bias. It seems to resolve data bias, AI models need to learn to operate with minimal amounts of data.
- In Steven Speilberg's 2002 film *Minority Report*, the PreCrime Police of Washington, DC, utilises data analytics to forecast future crimes. A police officer in the system, John, is framed for a future murder and sets off to prove his innocence. Are we heading towards such a dystopia with biased AIs?

The writer is professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

Selected images are widely published search results from AI tool, Gemini

Take Note, Netas: Taking Notes Just Became Dangerous

What led to SC's judgment on legislators & bribes? What had SC said earlier? What are the implications?

Chakshu Roy

Supreme Court has overturned its 1998 judgment on the PV Narasimha Rao bribery case. The earlier judgment protected MPs and MLAs for accepting bribes to vote in the legislature. Its CJI-led seven-judge bench stated the 1998 judgment presented "grave danger and thus was overruled".

What's the Narasimha Rao case about?

In 1991, Rao as PM helmed a minority govt that completed its five-year term. Govt can remain in office if it has majority of Lok Sabha MPs' support. MPs can test govt's strength by moving a no-confidence motion. Rao's govt faced three no-confidence motions between 1991 and 1996.

BJP's Jaswant Singh first challenged Rao-govt's majority in July 1992. Five months later, in December, Vajpayee moved a no-confidence motion against it. Both attempts were thwarted easily. But by 1993, GOI's strength in LS was shaky. In that year's monsoon session, CPM's Ajoy Mukhopadhyay moved a no-confidence motion. This time, govt was on the back foot. It could defeat the motion by just 14 votes, the narrowest margin in LS history.

How did his minority government survive?

There were allegations some MPs accepted bribes to support and vote in govt's favour to defeat the no-confidence motion. In 1996, CBI filed chargesheets against Rao and Congress leaders, including Buta Singh, Satish Sharma, VC Shukla, RK Dhawan and Veerappa Moily, for bribing MPs. CBI also chargesheeted Ajit Singh, MPs from his Janata Dal group, Shibu Soren and JMM MPs for receiving the bribes. In its chargesheet, CBI noted over ₹3 crore was given to MPs as bribes to save Rao's govt. In 1997, a special judge ordered framing of charges against these individuals under Prevention of Corruption Act. This order was challenged before Delhi HC.

What were the grounds for the challenge before HC?

Those chargesheeted contended before Delhi HC that Article 105 of the Constitution protected them from criminal proceedings. Article 105 (subsection 2) states, "No MP shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof." A single judge was scathing in his indictment of MPs. He observed, "What's the best way to win political foes? Persuasion? Understanding? Love? Compassion? Dale Carnegie's sermons? Sordid facts giving rise to these revision petitions against framing of charges show that secret of success lies, at least with regard to some, in mastering the art of transferring one's own bulging wallets into eager pockets of others." The judge rejected the claim of immunity under Article 105(2). The matter reached SC.

How did SC rule in 1998?

A five-judge bench in a 3:2 verdict upheld the claim of parliamentary immunity under Article 105. The judgment stated that those MPs who took bribes and voted in the no-confidence motion were entitled to immunity from criminal proceedings. However, this immunity was unavailable to MPs who didn't vote in the motion. The majority judgment stated that MPs needed this immunity to "participate fearlessly in parliamentary debates". The judgment went on to state that the judges were conscious of the seriousness of the offence, but "…our sense of indignation should not lead us to construe the Constitution narrowing, impairing the guarantee to effective parliamentary participation and debate."

Why did the Article 105 matter come up before SC again?

In 2012, Jharkhand MLA Sita Soren accepted a bribe to vote for an Independent nominee in a Rajya Sabha election. However, she didn't vote in favour of the bribe-giver and instead voted for her party's candidate. When authorities started criminal proceedings against her, she sought protection under immunity given in the Narasimha Rao case. Jharkhand HC rejected her claim since she hadn't voted for the alleged bribe-giver. She then appealed against HC's order. The matter reached SC in 2019 and was referred to a seven-judge bench.

What does the 2024 order say?

SC said, "The judgment in PV Narasimha Rao which grants immunity from prosecution to a member of a legislature who has allegedly engaged in bribery for casting a vote or making a speech has wide ramifications on public interest, probity in public life, and parliamentary democracy. There is grave danger of this court allowing the error to be perpetuated if the decision were not reconsidered." SC held corruption and bribery by legislators erode integrity in public life, and parliamentary privileges do not protect such actions.

What are the implications?

After this, MPs and MLAs can face prosecution for corruption related to their speeches and votes in Parliament. The judgment also states that voting in Rajya Sabha elections is part of parliamentary work. So, the Constitution will not protect any MLA who accepts bribes to vote in a Rajya Sabha election.

The writer is from PRS Legislative Research

Calvin & Hobbes

Sacred*space*

I adore the Supreme Atman, the One, the primordial cause of the universe, the actionless, the formless, who is signified Aum, from whom the universe comes into being, by whom it is sustained, and into whom it dissolves.

Adi Shankara, Vedsar Shiv Stotram

To Know Shiv Is To Become Shiv

Anup Taneja

Spanda-Karikas, a Kashmir Shaivism text, explains that the world, although an abhasa, reflection, is not a superimposition on Shiv from outside. Instead, it is a Self-creation or Self-projection of Shiv who, by his own free will, constantly unfolds within his own being the wondrous universe with myriad names and forms.

Creation, thus, in Kashmir Shaivism, is not understood as an act where wilful effort is made to fulfil a want; rather, it is a natural and free activity that has the merit of being absolutely spontaneous.

Though Shiv in his original state abides as Pure Awareness, 'I am', completely absorbed in the bliss of his own Self, yet, at the same time, Self-consciousness or Self-observation, called spanda, is the natural inner dynamism of Shiv, in the same way as self-illumination is the very nature of light. It is under the influence of spanda-shakti, the inner dynamism, that countless universes keep arising and subsiding on the Being of Shiv. Spanda, thus, is the throb, ecstasy of Shiv. There is no other material cause of creation.

In the process of enacting the wonderful drama of the colourful world, Shiv, of his own volition, sheds his undifferentiated state of Pure Awareness. He polarises himself into subject and object, accepts dualities, shrinks his powers of will, knowledge and action, puts on the cloak of maya, forgets his Shivahood, and reduces himself to an individual soul operating in the phenomenal world in a state of ignorance.

THE SPEAKING TREE

Abhinavagupta, a well-known authority on Kashmir Shaivism, explains the ontological status of the world in terms of Bimba-Pratibimba principle wherein the mysterious universe is seen as a pratibimba, reflection, of Shiv – the Self-luminous, Eternal Being. For example, if you stand in front of a mirror, your face will be reflected in it as pratibimba; while your actual face is bimba, archetype. And what happens to the reflected face need not happen to the actual face. So, if a stone is hurled at the reflection in the mirror, the latter may break into pieces but the actual face will remain unscathed. Therefore, what is real is bimba, actual face, and not pratibimba, reflection, which is merely an abhasa, which though objective, is not material.

Abhinavagupta further explains that just as earth and water, when reflected in a mirror, do not get mixed, so also the entire world of objects appears together in the mirror of Pure Consciousness, Shiv, like a reflection. Thus, Shiv, while appropriating the entire world of countless colours, remains immaculately pure and untainted and does not suffer the least diminution of his perfection despite diverse reflections getting superimposed on his being.

Utpaladeva, another authority on Kashmir Shaivism, says the entire creation of Shiv is so bizarre that all our attempts to conceptualise and define him are futile, for Shiv always eludes our grasp. The only way, therefore, to know Shiv is to become Shiv by delving deep into the vast inner realms of consciousness through regular meditation. Realisation will then dawn upon the seeker that in the luminous regions within, the divine effulgence of Shiv, radiates in all directions on a constant basis, reverberating with the knowledge of 'Shivoham', 'I am Shiv'.

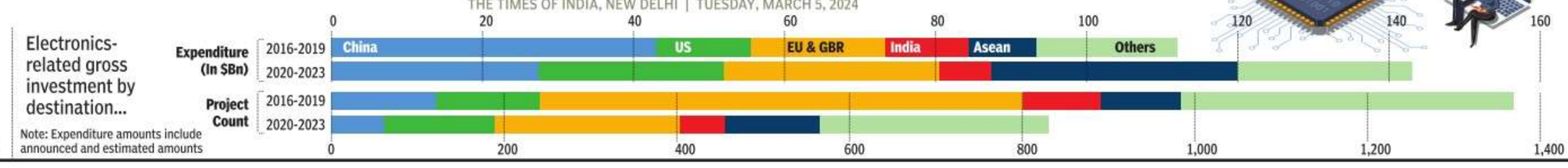
March 8 is Mahashivaratri

TIMES BUSINESS
THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

Chipmakers In No Rush To Leave Asia: Report

Asia dominates electronics production, particularly semiconductors, with Taiwan & S Korea leading in advanced chip manufacturing. New investment appears to be shifting away from China, but chip and electronics output will stay in Asia, according to Moody's Analytics

Source: Orbis Crossborder investment, Moody's Analytics



Tata Motors to split cars, commercial vehicles biz

To Create 2 Listed Entities, JLR Will Be Part Of PV Division

Reeba.Zachariah
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Mumbai: India's top conglomerate Tata Group is splitting its automobile business into two listed entities by separating its commercial vehicle (CV) unit from its passenger vehicle (PV) arm, which will include the money-making Jaguar Land Rover (JLR).

Once this is done, the group will have four entities from the automotive space listed on the bourses.

The current listed entity, Tata Motors, will retain the CV business and its related investments such as Daewoo, while the other company will house the PV business and its related investments, including JLR.

Apart from the CV and PV entities, the other two listed companies are Tata Technologies and Automobile Corporation of Goa.

There is no clarity whether the other company will be an operating or holding entity of the PV business. Currently, the different segments of the PV business, such as the domestic electric cars (Punch, Nexon, Tiago), the domestic internal combustion engine four-wheelers (Harrier) and international luxury products (Jaguar, Range Rover) are subsidiaries of Tata Motors.

Since 2021, the India CV and PV businesses as well as the international luxury vehicle unit, JLR, has been run independently under separate CEOs. Tata Motors posted its first profit in five years in FY23, benefiting from the strength of its JLR business. JLR accounts for more than 70% of Tata Motors' revenue while CVs contribute about a fifth. While the two listed auto entities will have independent boards, shareholders of Tata Motors will continue to have an identical shareholding in both.

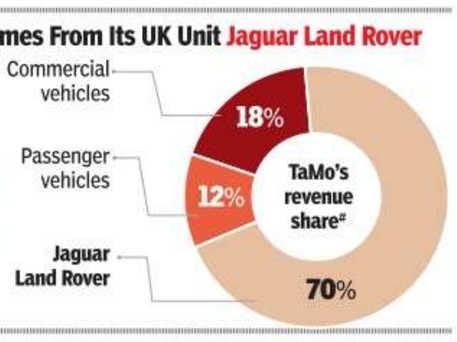
The demerger will help the two automotive companies "deliver higher growths while reinforcing accountability," said Tata Motors.

JAGUARS & LAND ROVERS RAKE IN MOST OF THE MOOLAH

Tata Motors Is Far Ahead Of Other Indian Carmakers In Terms Of Revenue...

	Revenue in Dec 2023 qtr	Market cap	Domestic market share*
Tata Motors	₹1.1L cr	₹3.3L cr	13.8%
Mahindra	₹35.3k cr	₹2.4L cr	11.7%
Maruti	₹31.2k cr	₹3.6L cr	40.2%

...But A Bulk Of It Comes From Its UK Unit Jaguar Land Rover



Source: Refinitiv, ETIG, ACMA, Cos

- Tata Motors is looking to split its passenger and commercial vehicles units into two listed cos to **unlock value** of its EV and luxury car businesses
- Tata Motors' **stock is up 27%** this year partly due to the strong position it enjoys in the SUV and electric car markets

*Market share in domestic passenger vehicle sales in Q3 FY24; #As of Q3 FY24

Compiled by **Aseem Gujar**

Moody's lifts GDP forecast to 6.8% from 6.1% for 2024

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Global ratings agency Moody's Investors has raised India's GDP growth forecast for 2024, citing strong demand momentum and fading global headwinds.

"India's economy has performed well and stronger-than-expected data in 2023 has caused us to raise our 2024 growth estimate to 6.8% from 6.1%. India is likely to remain the fastest growing among G20 economies over our forecast horizon," Moody's said in a report. The agency said India's real GDP expanded 8.4% year-over-year in the fourth quarter of 2023, resulting in 7.7% growth for full-year 2023.

"We believe that with global headwinds fading, the Indian economy should be able to comfortably register 6%-7% real GDP growth and we therefore forecast around 6.8% growth in 2024, followed by 6.4% in 2025," said Moody's. It said capital spending by govt and strong manufacturing activity have meaningfully contributed to the robust growth outcomes in 2023, adding that it expects policy continuity after the general election and continued focus on infrastructure development.

Moody's said high-frequency indicators showed that the economy's strong third and fourth quarter momentum carried into the first quarter of this year. Robust GST collections and credit growth suggest urban consumption demand remains resilient.

RBI bars IIFL Fin from disbursing gold loans

Flags Irregularities In Valuation Of Gold

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI on Monday ordered IIFL Finance to "cease and desist" from sanctioning or disbursing gold loans with immediate effect citing multiple "regulatory violations".

The drastic action comes on the back of RBI finding irregularities during supervision, where the company appeared to be granting more loans than what the security permitted. This was likely to be enabled by deviations in assaying and certifying the purity and net weight of the gold at the time of loan sanction and auction. RBI also prohibited the company from selling its gold loan portfolio by way of assignment, securitisation or outright sale to other lenders.

The company had also breached the maximum loan-to-value ratio permitted by RBI. The supervision showed disbursal and collection of loan amounts in cash over the statutory limit and a lack of transparency in charges being levied to customer accounts. "These practices, apart from being regulatory violations, also significantly and adversely impact the interest of the customers," RBI said.

Over the last few months, RBI has been engaging with IIFL Finance's senior management and the company's statutory auditors regarding these deficiencies. However, since no meaningful corrective action had been evidenced, the central bank decided to go ahead with the imposition of business restrictions.

RBI said the restrictions did not preclude any additional regulatory or supervisory action. "These supervisory restrictions will be reviewed upon completion of a special audit to be instituted by RBI and after rectification by the company of the special audit findings and the findings of RBI inspection, to the satisfaction of RBI," the regulator said.

According to IIFL's investor presentation, as of Dec 2023, the company had a gold loan portfolio of Rs 24,692 crore, registering a year-on-year increase of 35%. The company's gold loan business accounted for 32% of its loan book. While digital loans and microfinance loans grew faster, their share in the portfolio was much smaller at 5% and 16%, respectively.

"RBI has directed that the company can continue to service its existing gold loan portfolio through usual collection and recovery processes. We re-affirm our commitment to rectify observations of RBI in gold loan portfolio to comply with RBI findings at the earliest and will continue with our endeavour to provide gold loan services in the overall interest of customers," the company said in a statement.

'DEVIATIONS IN ASSESSING WEIGHT, PURITY'

- RBI has found irregularities: the co appeared to be **granting more loans** than what the security permitted
- This was likely to be enabled by **deviations in assaying and certifying** the purity and weight of the gold at the time of loan sanction and auction
- Over the last few months, RBI was engaging with IIFL Fin's management and the co's auditors. However, **no corrective action** could be proved

Gold accounts for 32% of IIFL Fin's loan book

Loan portfolio share (%)

Google delisting: Startups meet govt, say it's battle for survival

Will Talk To US Co For Long-Term Solution: Chandrasekhar

Pankaj.Doval@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Startups, which were impacted by Google's delisting over dispute on payment systems and fee, met IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and minister of state Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Monday and apprised them of "challenges and potential threat to business sustainability and operations" due to the sudden measure undertaken by the US tech giant last week. The meetings happened as a large number of apps continued to be offloaded from Play Store and those were brought back did not have billing provisions.

Chandrasekhar assured them govt will continue to work towards having a "level-playing field for big and small firms alike", while creating an ecosystem that will catalyse growth for startups. "Today, startups presented their concerns regarding a few policies of Google. Assured them that the IT ministry will take it up with Google for a sustainable and long-term solution."

Sources said that Google representatives also met govt officials and apprised them of their views on the matter. Startup industry was led by Alliance of Digital India Foundation (ADIF) and included top faces, such as, Anupam Mittal (CEO of shaadi.com), Murugavel Janakiraman (founder & CEO of Matrimony.com), Snehil Khanor (co-founder and CEO of TrulyMadly), Hitesh Oberoi (MD of Info Edge), and Lal Chand Bisu (co-founder and CEO of Kuku FM). The executives met both the ministers separately for around an hour each.

Shaadi.com's Mittal told **TOI** that "there was complete assurance by govt to find a solution to their grievances" but added that companies also understand that these are "complex issues" and may take some time to get sorted out.

'Working Towards Level-Playing Field'

Minister of state for IT **Rajeev Chandrasekhar** assures startups that govt will continue to work towards having level-playing field for big and small firms, while creating an ecosystem to catalyse growth

"There was complete assurance by govt to find a solution to grievances," — **Anupam Mittal**, CEO of shaadi.com

"They (govt) assured us that they are working to resolve the issues at the earliest — **Snehil Khanor**, co-founder and CEO of TrulyMadly

Delegation was told that ministry will meet them once again on the matter after getting views of Google, says **Prateek Jain**, associate director at Alliance of Digital India Foundation

MagicHomes will inform you about new projects

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Real estate platform Magicbricks has launched MagicHomes, an initiative which aims to inform and notify users about all new projects across key cities of Delhi NCR, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Pune, Ahmedabad and Chennai.

Designed as a centralised platform to assist customers in decision-making, MagicHomes includes information on authenticity and compliance of new projects sourced from verified authorities like RERA. Customers can evaluate projects across important parameters, including master plans, builder history, project construction timelines and updates, price appreciation trends, and inventory details, the company said in a statement. The initiative has been taken amid a rise in residential demand and increased interest in new projects.

With the launch, Magicbricks expects a significant improvement in user experience, with a projected increase in engagement by 20-30%. "Increasing prices of under-construction properties and high velocity of sales reported by developers underscore dynamic nature of market and reiterate necessity for prompt decision making based on reliable information. MagicHomes is an initiative in this direction," said Sudhir Pai, CEO, Magicbricks.

RBI clears 'interoperable' net banking payments

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: RBI governor Shaktikanta Das said the central bank has approved a platform that will facilitate online merchants to receive payments from any bank via internet banking, without signing up for every bank.

Bharat Bill Payment System, an arm of the National Payments Corporation of India, will implement a new system of interoperable net-banking payments. This feature will make it easier for smaller businesses to do e-commerce, as even small payment aggregators can provide this service without on-boarding banks individually. The lower effort for payment aggregators is expected to result in lower payment charges for merchants.

Das said that internet banking is one of the oldest modes of online merchant payment transactions and is a preferred channel for payments like income tax, insurance premiums, mutual fund payments, and e-commerce.

At present, such transactions processed through payment aggregators are not interoperable. A bank must integrate separately with each PA of different online merchants and there must be an arrangement between the customer's bank and the merchant's PA.

"Given the multiple number of payment aggregators, it is difficult for each bank to integrate with each PA. Further, due to the lack of a payment system and a set of rules for these transactions, there are delays in actual receipt of payments by merchants and settlement risks," said Das. The governor added that these issues would be addressed with RBI's approval for an interoperable payment system for internet banking transactions, which will be implemented by NPCI's Bharat Bill Pay — which is to launch in 2024.

The governor spoke at RBI's Digital Payments Awareness Week event in Mumbai. Das said retail digital payments have grown from 162 crore transactions in FY13 to 14,726 crore in FY24 (until Feb) — a 90-fold increase in 12 years.

"Today, India accounts for nearly 46% of the world's digital transactions as per 2022 data. The extraordinary growth in digital payments is also evident in RBI's Digital Payment Index, which has witnessed a four-fold rise in the last five years," said Das.

Easier Access For Online Merchants

- **Internet banking** is a **preferred channel** for payments like income tax, insurance premiums, mutual fund payments, and e-commerce
- Online transactions processed through **payment aggregators**, however, are not interoperable
- Banks must **integrate separately** with PAs of different online merchants, and there has to be an arrangement between the **customer's bank** and the **merchant's PA**
- RBI approved interoperable payment system will be implemented by **NPCI's Bharat Bill Pay in 2024**

RBI approves Fincare-AU SF Bank merger

Mumbai: RBI has approved the merger of Fincare Small Finance Bank with AU Small Finance Bank. The effective date of the amalgamation is set for April 1, 2024. Following this, all Fincare SFB branches will operate as branches of AU SFB.

Earlier in Jan 2024, the Competition Commission of India had approved the merger. The boards of Fincare and AU had cleared an all-stock merger of the two entities in Oct 2023. TNN

Gold nears peak on weak US eco data

Gold is within striking distance of a new record high as the market bets the first US interest-rate cut since early 2020 is near. Gold steadied at elevated levels after surging almost 2% on Friday on weaker-than-expected US economic data, which bolstered the case for the Fed to pivot to monetary easing. The metal briefly rose above $2,100 an ounce Monday, the highest price since the record of $2,135 recorded in Dec. BLOOMBERG

Ananya Birla's microfin co to net ₹1.9k cr in sector's biggest funding

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: Svatantra Microfin, founded and chaired by Ananya Birla, has reached a definitive agreement with Advent International and Multiples for a Rs 1,930 crore ($230 million) investment. This is the largest private equity investment in India's microfinance sector.

Following Svatantra's recent acquisition of Chaitanya India Fin Credit from Sachin Bansal, the combined entity will become one of India's largest non-banking microfinance companies. The existing promoter group, led by Ananya Birla, will retain a significant majority stake.

Neither Svatantra nor investors disclosed the company's valuation. In Nov 2023, Svatantra had acquired Chaitanya at a deal valuation of Rs 1,479 crore.

"This transformative era for Svatantra propels us towards our goal of becoming the foremost and most impactful microfinance institution, creating a conducive environment for entrepreneurs who fuel India's growth story," said Birla. The transaction is subject to approvals, including those from RBI and the Competition Commission of India.

Ensure GST classification clarity, FM tells officials

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: FM Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday told officials to ensure clarity on classification issues for levy of GST and asked them to look into the issue at the earliest.

The statement at the National Conference of Enforcement Chiefs of the state and the Central GST formations comes amid several instances where classification of a product has created problems for taxpayers, given that there are at least four slabs and there are issues related to the levy on roti and paratha, resulting in legal cases.

While the GST Council had discussed rationalisation of rates, the Centre and the states have shied away from immediately tinkering with them, lobbing the ball in the court of a group of ministers. At the conference, Sitharaman also asked officers to engage with stakeholders to understand their concerns, enhance compliance, streamline processes, and work collaboratively towards making the tax system more transparent and efficient, an official statement said.

During his address, revenue secretary Sanjay Malhotra outlined key priorities — targeting high-risk areas, combating tax evaders, balancing enforcement with taxpayer rights, strengthening collaboration between central & state authorities, and gathering feedback.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs chairman Sanjay Kumar Agarwal highlighted the importance of strong data analytics and use of technology and the need to stay ahead of the perpetrators of GST evasion, while noting that fake entities posed a danger to the system.

The nationwide crackdown on fake registrations and bogus billing launched in May has so far helped detect input tax credit related evasion of Rs 49,623 crore involving 31,512 bogus firms. Since 2000, ITC evasion has been estimated at Rs 1,14,755 crore.

States such as Maharashtra highlighted how a real time monitoring dashboard of suspected non-genuine taxpayers had helped identify 41,600 such entities. Similarly, Gujarat pointed out that GST Seva Kendras were helping reduce fake registrations.

Nirmala Sitharaman has asked officers to engage with stakeholders to understand their concerns, enhance compliance, streamline processes

How a fake no. landed UAE fund in tax soup

Tribunal Frowns On ADIA Being Dubbed 'Fraud Co', Upholds Tax Exemption

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Mumbai: What's in a number? Well, a fictitious mobile number '9999999999' that was entered by Abu Dhabi Investment Authority to enable it to upload its income tax return on the portal, led to I-T authorities doubting the veracity of this entity.

Consequently, the commissioner (appeals) upheld tax at 20% on interest income of about Rs 365 crore earned by it from Indian debt securities during FY19. As dividend income was exempt in the hands of shareholders, the dividend of nearly Rs 700 crore was not a subject of dispute.

This led to ADIA filing an appeal with the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal. As a 'govt' body it was entitled to tax exemption in India, under Article 24 of the India-UAE tax treaty. ITAT frowned on the actions of the lower tax authorities and upheld the tax exemption.

Chartered accountants point out that a significant number of non-residents, in the absence of a mobile number in India, have filled in this 10-digit numerical code to upload their I-T return. This ITAT order will also help other non-residents who have or may face tax demands because of this fictitious mobile number entered by them.

In their order, the ITAT bench stressed that the tax treaty benefit had been denied on a 'very flimsy ground'. The reason given by the commissioner (appeals) is that the mobile number '9999999999' was indicated by the Truecaller app to be a fraud number. On this basis, the commissioner (appeals) surmised that ADIA is a fraud company, rather it concluded that it is not a company belonging to Abu Dhabi govt.

The ITAT bench pointed out, "Once all other details have been provided, and if that is doubted, then, he should have verified the PAN and the address provided in the return to see whether it is an Abu Dhabi govt-owned company. If he was incapable of verifying then, he should have asked the assessee (ADIA)... It is really surprising that the first appellate authority (aka appellate commissioner) will deny the status of govt-owned authority simply by looking up the mobile number in the Truecaller app. Such an approach is to be frowned upon and is liable to be rejected at the threshold."

9999999999: 'VERY FLIMSY GROUND'

- **Abu Dhabi Investment Authority**, which invests in cos on behalf of govt of Abu Dhabi, entered a fictitious mobile no. '9999999999' to upload its I-T return
- Tax authorities denied ADIA the status of govt-owned authority (which enables tax exemption under an **India-UAE treaty**), by looking up the mobile number in **Truecaller app**
- A tribunal said that the tax treaty benefit was denied on a 'very flimsy ground' and upheld the exemption
- Many non-residents, in the **absence of a mobile number** in India, fil this 10-digit numerical code to upload their I-T return. This order will help other non-residents who have or may face tax demands because of a **fictitious mobile number** entered by them

TUCH OR GO

Tuchel's Job On The Line As Wounded Bayern Munich Host Lazio In CL Clash

AFP

WILL LAZIO TRIP BAYERN? The Italian team holds a 1-0 advantage

Berlin: A whole season is on the line for Bayern Munich against Lazio in the Champions League on Tuesday.

It will likely be Thomas Tuchel's last game as Bayern coach unless his team can overturn a one-goal deficit after losing the first leg of the last-16 tie 1-0 in Rome on Feb. 14.

That was the second game in a three-game run of defeats that ultimately led Bayern to announce Tuchel will leave at the end of the season.

Already knocked out of the German Cup and 10 points behind unbeaten Bayer Leverkusen in the Bundesliga, Bayern's best hope of a trophy this season hinges on getting past Lazio to reach the Champions League quarterfinals. If Bayern fail to make it, the club's powerbrokers will see little reason to stick with Tuchel for the last 10 games of the season.

Tuchel's frequent criticism of the players has sowed discontent in the team. New sporting director Max Eberl will want to finish the campaign as well as possible before a summer shakeup and next season's bid to regain domestic dominance.

Tuchel said he had no explanation for Bayern's poor start in their 2-2 draw at Freiburg on Friday – a result that allowed Leverkusen to increase their lead. "I saw the effort in the first half, it was partly harikari," Tuchel said immediately after the game.

Tuchel later looked toward the Lazio game. "We've had these ups and downs for a very long time. So it's not out of the question that we'll deliver a top performance on Tuesday," he said.

Lazio are also under pressure. The Italian team has lost three of their four Serie A matches since beating Bayern Munich. AP

"We're frustrated and angry about the defeat. I'm not sure why we lost our conviction in the second half, but we did and then we fell behind. I can't explain it because we told the team to maintain their intensity and be even braver going forward, but we seemed to lose face at the start of the half." – BAYERN COACH **Thomas Tuchel**

"It is the victory of application, of moments of suffering. There is satisfaction because we beat one of the strongest teams in Europe, but there's also regret because the scoreline could have been bigger. I liked the compactness and spirit of the team; we moved with one brain and that is important." – LAZIO COACH **Maurizio Sarri**

11
Bayern haven't lost a home Champions League game since 2020/21 (W10 D3) and have made it to at least the final eight in 11 of the last 12 campaigns.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

Bayern	2
Draw	0
Lazio	1

FORM GUIDE
Last five matches (all comps)

Bayern	D	W	L	L	L
Lazio	L	L	W	L	W

28
Maurizio Sarri's charges are eyeing a place in the last eight for the first time in 24 years (1999/2000).

Enrique's sparing use of star man is the talk ahead of PSG clash

Paris: Paris Saint-Germain's preparations for Tuesday's Champions League last-16 second leg away to Real Sociedad have been overshadowed by coach Luis Enrique's handling of star man Kylian Mbappe.

PSG are ideally placed to advance to the quarterfinals this time after winning 2-0 at home to the Basque side in last month's first leg. Mbappe scored the opening goal in that game but the following day the superstar striker informed PSG of his intention to leave.

Luis Enrique might have been expected to make the most of being able to call on Mbappe until then, but instead he has made a point of reducing his top scorer's playing time.

Mbappe was left on the bench for PSG's next game at Nantes, although he came on to score a penalty in a 2-0 win. A week later he started as captain at home against Rennes, but was substituted on 65 minutes.

Mbappe had only previously been taken off earlier in a game either due to injury or with PSG already winning. Yet last Friday he was hooked at half-time in a 0-0 draw at Monaco, and once again there was no question of him being injured.

Enrique's decision to handle Mbappe in this way ahead of such an important European date has been questioned. AFP

"Sooner or later we are going to have to play without him (Mbappe), so I am trying to find the best way of doing so." – PSG COACH **Luis Enrique**

KYLIAN MBAPPE

Mbappe leads Messi, Ronaldo in registered EU trademarks

Brussels: It's hard to say whether Kylian Mbappe is ahead of Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo in their battle for the honorific title of "best player in the world." But ahead of his expected move to Real Madrid, Mbappe is already leading the pair when it comes to intellectual property protection.

In a sign of his immense commerical power, the PSG striker owns seven EU trademarks, including his iconic crossarmed goal celebration pose, his name and the logo of his company. According to the European Union intellectual property office, Messi and Ronaldo have six trademarks registered each.

Mbappe has also registered two quotes — *"Le football, il a changé* (Football has changed)" and *"Moi, tu m'parles pas d'age* (You don't talk to me about age)" for products including electronic games, mobile apps, posters, handbags, footwear, cosmetics.

An EU trademark gives exclusive rights in all EU countries, a market of almost 500 million consumers. The EU body said Mbappé filed two more applications in February.

Among clubs, "the king of Europe is Real Madrid," the EU office said. The Spanish giant owns 33 EU trademarks and 24 designs – among them, the shape of the benches of the Bernabeu stadium. Barcelona owns 22 EU trademarks and seven designs. AP

NE United look to host ISL ties in Shillong, Imphal in the future

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Panaji: NorthEast United FC's plans to host matches outside Guwahati for the first time since inception of the Indian Super League (ISL) in 2014 may have to wait until next season.

NorthEast United were preparing to play a couple of matches in Meghalaya towards the latter part of the ISL group stage. The organisers even inspected the venue but with work on the turf at the Nehru Stadium in Shillong running behind schedule, those plans are now being put off. "I don't see games being played in Shillong (this season) because it's a big challenge to complete the infrastructure," NorthEast CEO Mandar Tamhane told **TOI**. "The CM has been very supportive in trying to finish the work (at the stadium). If not this season, I'm confident we will have some games next season."

Given that the fanbase is spread across the northeast region, it is unlikely that NorthEast United will restrict themselves to just one or two states. "The idea and intent is to at least have games at two-three more locations. We want to go to Manipur. We saw the support for the national team. We can try and get one game there, if the situation is better. Arunachal is hosting the Santosh Trophy, though artificial turf may not be a good idea (to host ISL)," said Tamhane.

The fan following in Kokrajhar, Assam, which hosted the home cluster of the Santosh Trophy last year, has also made NorthEast United think. The mud-based pitch, however, might prove to be challenging. "There are a lot of infrastructural challenges. Guwahati has to be the base, but maybe two or three matches can be played elsewhere," said Tamhane.

LATE STRIKE EARNS NAPOLI 2-1 HOME WIN OVER JUVENTUS

Naples: Champions Napoli beat Juventus 2-1 in Serie A on Sunday as substitute Giacomo Raspadori scored late in the second half to secure their first back-to-back wins in five months. Khvicha Kvaratskhelia put Napoli in front three minutes before halftime, before Federico Chiesa levelled for Juventus in the 81st minute. Napoli moved up to seventh, while Juventus remained second with 57 points, with a one-point cushion from AC Milan. REUTERS

Charlton breezes to world record; Duplantis wins yet another title

Glasgow: Devynne Charlton blazed to a world record in the women's 60-metres hurdles while pole vaulter Armand Duplantis pulled a remarkable performance out of what had been an off-night to win gold at the world indoor athletics championships.

DEVYNNE CHARLTON

Charlton, a 28-year-old from the Bahamas, clocked 7.65 seconds to shave two-hundredths of a second off the previous record she had shared with American Tia Jones.

The 24-year-old Duplantis, an Olympic and two-time world outdoor champion, cleared 6.05 metres to add a second world indoor title to his bulging resume. "It took a lot from me today, actually more than I would have liked," Duplantis said. "Pole vaulting is very difficult, even at the heights that I should be making."

He cleared 6.05 on his third vault, then missed at three world-record attempts of 6.24.

Femke Bol captured her second title of the meet in anchoring the Dutch women to victory in the 4x400m relay. The 24-year-old had crushed her own world indoor 400m record en route to gold the previous evening. Simon Ehammer of Switzerland won the men's heptathlon.

Tsige Duguma of Ethiopia pulled away from home favourite Jemma Reekie over the final 50 metres to win the women's 800 in 2:01.90. American Bryce Hoppel held off Sweden's Andreas Kramer to win the men's 800 in 1:44.92, the quickest time in the world this season. Geordie Beamish of New Zealand won the men's 1,500 metres, Ethiopian Freweyni Hailu the women's. REUTERS

Getty Images

MONDO DUPLANTIS WON HIS SECOND WORLD INDOOR POLE VAULT TITLE

WAY TO KERR'S HIGH JUMP TITLE IS THROUGH THE BATHROOM!

Glasgow: Bouts of nerves sent New Zealand high jumper Hamish Kerr to the bathroom to regain his composure at the world indoor athletics championships before he secured the gold medal. After winning with a clearance of 2.31 metres, Kerr added two cms to his personal best in clearing a world-leading 2.36m in Glasgow.

HAMISH KERR

A bronze medallist at the 2022 event in Belgrade and the reigning Commonwealth Games champion, Kerr has ample big-event experience but he said nerves got to him in Glasgow. "I wasn't calm and relaxed," he said. "I knew I needed to focus on myself and in a sport where there are so many other things going on the only thing I can control is my emotion and technical queues.

"So as the competition progressed it got harder to focus on that as the outcome became more and more important ... So I did go to the bathroom a few times to just sit there and do a bit of breathing work and bring myself back to the present." REUTERS

Offence of bribery complete when legislator accepts bribe, rules SC

Says Offence Is Agnostic To Performance Of Agreed Action

▶Continued from P 1

Paradoxically, SC allowed prosecution of those elected representatives who had taken bribes but not voted. Writing the unanimous 135-page verdict, CJI Chandrachud said the intent behind Articles 105 and 194 conferring immunity on MPs and MLAs for "anything said, or any vote given" in the House concerned was to allow the elected representatives to participate without fear or favour in any debate, ask questions and cast vote, which was clearly intended to improve the health of democracy.

Monday's ruling paves the way for prosecution of JMM MLA Sita Soren, who was booked by CBI under PC Act for taking bribes to vote for an independent candidate in the 2012 Rajya Sabha elections. Soren had taken recourse to the 1998 SC verdict to thwart the case against her.

The CJI-led bench also tackled the irony in the 1998 verdict which had held that the shield of Articles 105 and 194 was not available to those who took bribes but did not vote. The SC said acceptance of bribes by elected representatives cannot be part of their duties and functions as members of a House and can never be protected by Articles 105(2) and 194(2). "The offence of bribery is agnostic to the performance of the agreed action and crystallises on the exchange of illegal gratification. It does not matter whether the vote is cast in the agreed direction or if the vote is cast at all. The offence of bribery is complete at the point in time when the legislator accepts the bribe," it said.

SC said, "Indeed, to read Articles 105(2) and 194(2) in the manner proposed in the majority judgment (in PVN Rao case) results in a paradoxical outcome. Such an interpretation results in a situation where a legislator is rewarded with immunity when they accept a bribe and follow through by voting in the agreed direction. On the other hand, a legislator who agrees to accept a bribe, but may eventually decide to vote independently will be prosecuted. Such an interpretation belies not only the text of Articles 105 and 194 but also the purpose of conferring parliamentary privilege on members of the legislature."

Court said corruption and bribery of MPs and MLAs erode foundation of parliamentary democracy

Upholding the minority opinion in the 1998 judgment, the 7-judge bench said, "Offence of bribery is complete on the acceptance of the money or on the agreement to accept money being concluded. The offence is not contingent on the performance of the promise for which money is given or is agreed to be given. The minority opinion based its view on another perspective which was not dealt with by the majority. Minority opinion said act of bribery was the receipt of illegal gratification prior to the making of the speech or vote inside the House."

"Bribery is not rendered immune under Article 105(2) and the corresponding provision of Article 194 because a member engaging in bribery commits a crime which is not essential to the casting of the vote or the ability to decide on how the vote should be cast. The same principle applies to bribery in connection with a speech in the House or a committee," it said.

The bench said corruption and bribery of MPs and MLAs erode foundation of Indian parliamentary democracy. "It is destructive of the aspirational and deliberative ideals of the Constitution and creates a polity which deprives citizens of a responsible, responsive and representative democracy," SC said.

It said the errant elected member, who takes bribes for speaking, asking questions or voting in a House would face double whammy — prosecution under PC Act by law-enforcing agencies and by the House for breach of privilege and discipline.

It said actions taken by the House and law-enforcing agencies are distinct and can operate independently. "The scope, purpose and consequences of the court exercising jurisdiction in relation to a criminal offence and the authority of the House to discipline its members are different," the CJI-led bench said.

"The potential of misuse against individual members of the legislature is neither enhanced nor diminished by recognising the jurisdiction of the court to prosecute a member of the legislature who is alleged to have indulged in an act of bribery," it said.

SC bristles at Stalin Jr plea to club FIRs but will hear him out

▶Continued from P 1

An FIR each has been lodged in UP, Maharashtra, Karnataka and J&K while two were filed in Bihar against TN minister, who is son of CM M K Stalin. The FIRs had accused Stalin Jr of hurting the religious sentiments of Hindus by allegedly comparing 'Sanatan Dharma' with dengue, malaria and corona and calling for its eradication the way diseases are being eradicated.

Stalin's counsel A M Singhvi said the SC in a string of judgments, relating to multiple FIRs lodged against Arnab Goswami, Mohd Zubair, and Nupur Sharma on same statements by

An FIR each has been lodged in UP, Maharashtra, Karnataka and J&K while two were filed in Bihar against Udhayanidhi Stalin

each of them, had ordered clubbing of multiple FIRs against each of them at one place. "We are not seeking quashing of FIRs but their clubbing at a place in a neutral state," he said.

Justice Khanna said, "You go before concerned HCs and seek quashing of the FIRs. If you face difficulty, you can approach SC." Justice Datta asked, "Why should a complainant in a case lodged in J&K, go to Tamil Nadu?" Singhvi pleaded that all FIRs emanate from the same statement, which was made not at a public place but a closed-door meeting as a guest speaker at a "Sanadhan Abolition Conclave" organised by Tamil Nadu Progressive Writers Association in Chennai on Sept 2 last year.

He said SC can club the FIRs at one place outside TN in a neutral state and that "Udhayanidhi will suffer his fate by seeking quashing of the consolidated FIR before the concerned HC". The bench relented and asked Singhvi to place all the relevant judgments on record while posting the next hearing on March 15.

SBI: 22k poll bonds issued between April '19 & Feb '24

▶Continued from P 1

In its Feb 15 directive, a five-judge bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud and Justices Sanjiv Khanna, B R Gavai, J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misrahad had said, "SBI shall submit details of Electoral Bonds purchased since the interim order of this court dated 12 April 2019 till date to ECI. The details shall include the date of purchase of each Electoral Bond, the name of the purchaser of the bond and the denomination of Electoral Bond purchased... ECI shall publish the information shared by SBI on its official website within one week of the receipt of the information, that is, by March 13, 2024."

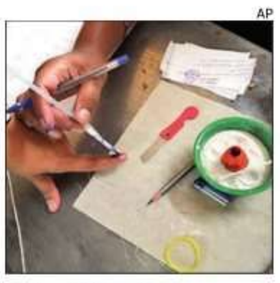
Explaining the enormity of the task, SBI said between April 12, 2019, and Feb 15 this year, 22,217 EBs were used for making donations to various political parties.

"Redeemed EBs were deposited to Mumbai Main Branch by the authorised branches at the end of each phase in sealed envelopes. Coupled with the fact that two different information silos existed, this would mean that a total of 44,434 information sets would have to be decoded, compiled, and compared," it said.

SBI said, "Due to the stringent measures undertaken to ensure that the identity of the donors was kept anonymous, 'decoding' of the electoral bonds and the matching of the donor to the donations made would be a complex process."

It said as many as 29 branches of SBI across India were authorised for sale and redemption of EBs.

"Details of purchases made at the Branches are not maintained centrally at any one place, such as the name of Purchaser/Donor which could be tallied with Date of Issue, Place of Issue (Branch), Denomination of Bond, Bond Number," it said.


AP

SBI said that as many as 29 branches of the bank across India were authorised for sale and redemption of EBs

"Donor details were kept in a sealed cover at the designated branches and all such sealed covers were deposited in the Main Branch of the Applicant bank, which is in Mumbai," SBI said, adding that each political party was required to maintain a designated account in any of the 29 authorised branches where EB amounts were deposited.

"Both sets of information were being stored independently of each other. To re-match them would be a task requiring a significant amount of effort. To make available donor information, the date of issue of each bond will have to be checked and matched against the date of purchase by a particular donor. This exercise would only deal with the first silo of information. These bonds were redeemed by the political parties in their designated bank accounts. Accordingly, this information would then have to be matched against the bond redemption information that makes up the second silo," SBI explained.

It said that the purpose of not storing all details digitally was to ensure that it cannot be gathered easily to achieve the anonymity object of the scheme.

PM: Verdict will deepen people's faith in system

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi on Monday welcomed SC verdict in Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) bribery case calling it a "great judgment".

"Swagatam! A great judgment by SC which will ensure clean politics and deepen people's faith in the system," PM Modi said on X.

SC overruled the 1998 Narasimha Rao verdict saying "an MP or MLA can't claim immunity from prosecution on charge of bribery in connection with vote/speech in Parliament assembly". The verdict saved JMM MPs from being prosecuted for allegedly taking bribes from Congress to help minority Narasimha Rao govt scrape through a no-trust vote. TNN

Wrong take on UK law led to faulty order: SC

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New Delhi: While overruling SC's 26-year-old judgment in P V Narasimha Rao case, a 7-judge bench said the earlier verdict was rooted in a wrong interpretation of laws governing freedom of speech in United Kingdom and India, and noted that in the last two decades even UK SC has allowed prosecution of corrupt elected representatives.

Going through laws related to prosecution of MPs in UK, US, Canada and Australia, the bench headed by CJI D Y Chandrachud devoted 30 pages to analysing the development of jurisprudence relating to privileges and immunities enjoyed by MPs in these countries.

The bench leaned towards the position of law in Australia which articulates that "the act of bribery impairs capacity of the member to exercise a disinterested judgment, thereby impacting their ability to act as a representative of people."

Justice Chandrachud said majority opinion in P V Narasimha Rao case failed to take note of two judgments of Australian Supreme Court but were noticed by minority opinion to interpret Articles 105(2) and 194(2) of Indian Constitution and rule that bribe taking constituted an offence not protected by immunity granted under these two provisions.

The CJI-led bench said Canadian SC ruled that "legislative bodies do not constitute enclaves shielded from ordinary law of the land. The party that seeks to rely on immunity under broader umbrella of parliamentary privilege has onus of establishing its existence."

The bench adopted in its judgment logic expressed by Canadian SC's 2005 ruling in Canada (House of Commons) vs Vaid, where the latter had said, "Legislature or member seeking immunity must prove that the activity for which privilege is claimed is closely and directly connected with the fulfilment by legislature of its functions and that external interference will impact autonomy required for the assembly to carry out its functions with 'dignity and efficiency'."

Justice Chandrachud said majority judgment in Rao case had referred to two US SC judgments – US vs Thomas F Johnson (1966) and US vs Brewster (1972). Majority opinion failed on two counts — "Firstly, it fails to account for the fact that Speech and Debate Clause which is substantially borrowed from Article IX of English Bill of Rights confers immunity to speech and vote made in Parliament. The understanding arrived at in the majority judgment was not informed by evolution of law in a line of cases in US."

"Majority judgment has extended its interpretation of Speech and Debate Clause and pigeon-holed the interpretation of Article 105(2) to satisfy this understanding," the CJI said.

TIMES SPORT

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024

UNSEEDED KATIE BOULTER WINS SAN DIEGO OPEN BY TOPPING SIXTH-SEEDED MARTA KOSTYUK

JAYLEN BROWN SCORES 29 POINTS AS CELTICS BEAT WARRIORS 140-88 FOR THEIR THIRD BIGGEST WIN

IT'S 48th FINAL FOR MUMBAI!

Ajinkya Rahane's Boys Crush Tamil Nadu By An Innings And 70 Runs In Semifinal

RANJI TROPHY

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Mumbai: It was supposed to be a clash for the ages, but Mumbai were so ruthless against Tamil Nadu that the match turned out to be a rout, a farcical contest, which lasted less than three days. On Monday, Mumbai stormed into a record 48th Ranji Trophy final, completing an innings and 70-run annihilation of TN with two days and a bit more of play still left.

Mumbai are now a step away from title No. 42 – the last of which they won in the 2015-16 season. This year's Ranji semifinal is scheduled to be held at the Wankhede Stadium from March 10. "The Wankhede Stadium has been the home of Mumbai cricket for almost half a century. So, considering the legacy of the tournament and the importance of such a big game for the whole Mumbai cricket community, it is fitting that the final is played at the Wankhede," Mumbai Cricket Association secretary Ajinkya Naik said.

Batting like novices on a sporting wicket at the MCA ground in BKC, Tamil Nadu, after erroneously deciding to take first strike on Day 1 on a juicy pitch, batted almost like they had forgotten how to bat as they were rolled over for mere 162 in 52.1 overs in their second innings after being shot out for 146 in 64.1 overs in the first. Having unusually gone wicketless in the first innings, Shams Mulani (4-53) mopped up Tamil Nadu's last four wickets after tea in a collapse that saw the visitors lose their last five wickets for just nine runs in 31 balls. Pleasingly for Mumbai, wicketkeeper Hardik Tamore, a fighter with the bat but often under fire for his keeping, took four catches and pulled off a sharp stumping.

Earlier, following up on his match-deciding century in the first innings, Shardul Thakur delivered the opening punches for Mumbai, scalping both openers Narayan Jagadeesan and Sai Sudharshan. Thakur's all-round performance served a reminder to India's selectors about his utility with both bat and ball. TN were left tottering at 10-3 when Washington Sundar nicked a drive off Mohit Avasthi to Tamore. Released by Team India for the semifinal encounter, all Sundar managed was 44 and 4 besides being heavily under-bowled (1-21 in 7.5 overs).

A 73-run fourth stand between TN's best batsman Baba Indrajith (70 off 105b, 9x4), who scored his sixth fifty of the season, and Pradosh Ranjan Paul (25) delayed the inevitable for a while.

Rahane, the 'pillar' of Mumbai

At a time when he's enduring his worst Ranji season with the bat, having scored just 134 runs in 11 innings (avg 13.40), Ajinkya Rahane was hailed by his teammates and rivals for his superb tactics during the semifinal. When Thakur completed his century on Sunday, the man cheering the most in the Mumbai dugout was Rahane.

"Ajjuda is the pillar of our team and plays a key role. He backs each and every player... even when someone is down. We are happy to play under him," gushed allrounder Tanush Kotian.

Tamil Nadu coach Sulakshan Kulkarni was effusive in his praise for the Rahane's captaincy. "I am a big fan of Rahane. He has made a big difference to the Mumbai team," Kulkarni said.

Brief scores: Tamil Nadu: 146 and 162 in 51.5 overs (Baba Indrajith 70; Shams Mulani 4/53, Shardul Thakur 2/16, Tanush Kotian 2/18) lost to Mumbai: 378 all out in 106.5 overs (Shardul Thakur 109, Tanush Kotian 89 not out, Musheer Khan 55; R Sai Kishore 6/99) by an innings and 70 runs.

ON CLOUD NINE: Mumbai pacer Mohit Avasthi (R) celebrates after dismissing Washington Sundar

767 Tamil Nadu's Baba Indrajith recorded 767 runs at an average of 69.72 (including two hundreds and four fifties) in thirteen innings (9 matches) in the Ranji Trophy this season. It's the second highest aggregate for Tamil Nadu in this season behind Narayan Jagadeesan's 816 (avg 74.18) in 13 innings.

4 Shardul Thakur (109 + 2/48 and 2/16) got his fourth Man of the Match award in the Ranji Trophy -- his first three being against UP & Delhi in the 2014-15 season and against Assam in the ongoing season.

—**Stats:** Rajesh Kumar

48 With the semifinal win against Tamil Nadu, Mumbai enetred its 48th Ranji Trophy final. Mumbai had last won the title in 2015-16, defeating Saurashtra at Pune by an innings and 21 runs.

4 Mumbai's triumph by an innings and 70 runs is their fourth by an innings margin over Tamil Nadu in Ranji Trophy.

481 Allrounder Tanush Kotian has scored 481 runs at an average of 48.10 (including one hundred and five fifties) in nine matches this first-class season -- his best performance in a first-class season, going past the 369 (avg 61.50) in eight matches in 2022-23.

KK Choudhary

Rathod, Wadkar resurrect Vidarbha against MP

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Nagpur: As Yash Rathod returned to the pavilion undefeated at the end of Day 3, he deservedly got a standing ovation from the entire Vidarbha camp. If not for the resurrection act staged by the 23-year-old left-hand bat along with skipper Akshay Wadkar, it would have been all over for Vidarbha in the Ranji Trophy semifinal on Monday.

Joining hands when the team was staring down the barrel, the Rathod-Wadkar pair took the battle to the Madhya Pradesh attack. Their 158-run sixth-wicket partnership helped the hosts end Day 3 on 343 for 6 in 90 overs. With Rathod looking good on 97 (165b;12x4), Vidarbha would look to extend the 261-run lead further on Day 4 to give Madhya Pradesh a tough target.

After being at the receiving end for most part of the first session, Madhya Pradesh bowlers struck twice early after lunch to reduce Vidarbha to 161 for 5. Leading by just 79 runs, and the last recognized batting pair at the crease, things looked bleak for Vidarbha.

Adopting the 'attack is best defence' policy, the left-right combination of Rathod and Wadkar punished the boundary balls and ran aggressively between the wickets to unsettle the MP bowling attack. The duo added 82 runs in 20 overs in the second session of the day to take Vidarbha to 243 for 5 by tea.

Rathod completed his fifty in the first over of the last session, glancing a Kulwant Khejroliya delivery to the fine-leg boundary. Wadkar followed suit and posted his half century in 95 balls in the 74th over.

Brief scores: Vidarbha: 170 and 343-6 in 90 overs (Yash Rathod 97 not out, Akshay Wadkar 77, Aman Mokhade 59; Anubhav Agarwal 2-68, Kumar Kartikeya 2-73) lead Madhya Pradesh: 252 by 261 runs.

TAMIL NADU COACH SLAMS SKIPPER FOR BATTING FIRST

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Mumbai: Tamil Nadu head coach Sulakshan Kulkarni criticised his captain Sai Kishore for electing to bat first in the Ranji Trophy semifinal against Mumbai on a green top against the former's wishes. "I always speak straightforward. We lost the match at 9 am on Day 1. Everything was set, we won the toss, as a coach, as a Mumbaikar, I know the conditions well. We should have bowled but the captain had some different instinct," Kulkarni shot off. "Ultimately, he is the boss. I can give my feedback and inputs on the pitch and the Mumbai players' mindset. I can take the horse to the water, but the horse must drink."

"I knew exactly what we were going to get. I realised that this is a seam-friendly wicket and it was going to be tough, we would have to play well to win," he added.

'Ash always tries to find ways to get you out'

Bengaluru: Mighty impressed with Ravichandran Ashwin's range, aggressive mindset and relentless pursuit for wickets, senior England batter Joe Root said that the veteran Indian offspinner is a constant threat who hardly believes in the concept of wearing the opposition down.

ASHWIN

"Ashwin is always trying to find ways of getting you out rather than trying to wear you down, over long periods of time," Root said on Sky Sports cricket podcast.

Root said the "infinite" variety that Ashwin has in his bowling keeps the batters guessing.

"He uses creases differently from traditional off-spinners. He uses over-spin, side-spin, can get really tight to the stumps, can go wider and he has got the carrom ball, you know... a lot of different tricks. So, you will have to be really wary of different threats that he poses and make sure that you have very good skill sets to counter (him) and be on top of him," said the ex-England skipper.

Giving an insight into the way Ashwin operates, Root said the Tamil Nadu man often bowls six different deliveries in an over. "Ashwin is making sure that you don't play the previous ball. He is very good at trying to drag you across the crease and get your head to one side of it and beat both edges quite frequently," he said. PTI

100th Test cap is for my mother: Bairstow

Dharamsala: Set to achieve a major milestone of playing his 100th Test this week, England wicketkeeper-batter Jonny Bairstow dedicated the achievement to his cancer-survivor mother, who has been his "driving force". The 34-year-old will become the 17th Englishman to win 100th Test cap when he steps out for the final Test against India, here on Thursday.

JONNY BAIRSTOW

"When I play, there are times I think about Dad. But I think more about how hard Mum worked to make sure we were OK after everything that happened. To keep us together as a family. That has been my driving force," he told 'Telegraph Sport'.

Bairstow was just 8 when his father David, a former England wicketkeeper, died due to suicide. His mother Janet kept the family together even as she battled and defeated breast cancer twice.

"My mum is the embodiment of strength. There was determination. She worked three jobs and had two kids that were under 10 at a difficult time. She used to take me to Leeds United (where Bairstow played youth football), to Headingley... all sorts of other places.

"It's paying all that back, making sure they are OK, creating a life for my own family. She had cancer twice. She's a bloody strong woman, to get through that twice before you even consider anything else. It shows the strength and determination of the woman." PTI

Smriti, Perry star in RCB's win over UP Warriorz

Syed Asif

IN FULL FLOW: Smriti Mandhana plays a late cut against UP Warriorz

WPL

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Bengaluru: The vociferous support of the Royal Challengers Bangalore fans at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium has been a highlight in the second edition of the Women's Premier League. Monday was no different and they were treated to a spectacle with Smriti Mandhana (80; 50b, 10x4, 3x6) and Ellyse Perry (58; 37b, 4x4, 4x6) putting on a show to help RCB register a 23-run win over UP Warriorz to end the Bengaluru leg of the competition on a winning note.

Put in to bat, RCB, who lost their previous two matches, posted a commanding 198/3 in 20 overs. Warriorz, despite skipper Alyssa Healy's fine effort (55 off 38b, 7x4, 3x6), could only manage 175/8.

RCB openers S Meghana (28) and Smriti got down to business without much ado. The duo smashed five fours and two maximums and laid a solid foundation in the powerplay. But the innings was all about Smriti's electric 68-minute stay at the crease.

The Warriorz's started the chase with promise with Healy and Kiran Navgire going great guns. They were 46 for no loss in four overs, but after the latter fell, the Australian did not find much support from the other end.

Brief scores: RCB: 198/3 in 20 overs (S Mandhana 80, E Perry 58) bt UP Warriorz: 175/8 in 20 overs (Healy 55).

KL RAHUL

RECOVERING RAHUL TARGETING IPL RETURN

Mumbai: Senior India batsman KL Rahul, who missed the last three Tests against England owing to a quadriceps injury for which he underwent a surgery last year, is on track to be fit for the Indian Premier League, which will kick off on March 22.

Feeling sore in his right quadriceps, Rahul had travelled to London to get an expert opinion on his injury. "He had consulted top medical experts in London. He returned to India on Sunday and has checked into the BCCI's National Cricket Academy in Bangalore for rehab. He should get the 'return to play' certificate from the NCA soon. He is keen to prove his worth in the IPL as he's in line for selection in India's T20 World Cup team as a 'keeper-bat," a source told TOI.

—Gaurav.Gupta@timesgroup.com

GALLERY

CSK'S Conway to have surgery, may miss IPL

Wellington: New Zealand opener Devon Conway is all but ruled out of the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) due to a left thumb injury that will take eight weeks to heal, dealing a blow to his franchise Chennai Super Kings. Conway sustained the injury during the T20I series against Australia last month. The 32-year-old will undergo a surgery on his thumb which got injured on Feb 23.

Teenage Uzbek fencer alleges she was raped by three Italian athletes: A teenage Uzbek fencer has accused three Italian fellow athletes of raping her during a training camp in Tuscany last summer when she was a minor, her lawyer said on Monday. The alleged assault took place on the night of Aug. 4-5, 2023 during an international camp for young fencers in Chianciano Terme, near Siena, in which the Uzbek fencer took part along with members of the Italian junior national fencing team. Three Italian fencers, including a minor, are under formal investigation. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

BASKETBALL: NBA, 6.30 am (Sports18)
CRICKET: Ranji Trophy, semis, 9.30 am (Jiocinema); WPL, Delhi vs Mumbai, 7.30 pm (Jiocinema)

Cummins replaces Markram as SRH captain; Vettori new coach

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

CUMMINS

Hyderabad: After a disastrous season in 2023, when they finished bottom of the heap with four wins from 14 league games, Sunrisers Hyderabad rung in a slew of changes on Monday. The 2016 IPL champions named Australia's Pat Cummins as their skipper, Daniel Vettori as their coach and James Franklin as their pace bowling coach.

While Australia's World Cup winning captain Cummins replaces Aiden Markram as the skipper, Vettori replaces Brian Lara and Franklin comes in for Dale Steyn, who sought a break from IPL duties this season.

"Our new captain Pat Cummins," posted SRH on its social media platforms, with a picture of Cummins.

The change in captaincy was on the cards ever since the Sunrisers went all out to bag Cummins for Rs 20.50 crore at the auction in December last year, when the Australian became the second costliest player in IPL's history.

Cummins had earlier plied his trade with Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) and Delhi Daredevils (DD), now Delhi Capitals. It will be his first stint as captain in the T20 league, however. But he has an impressive resume as Australia captain, leading them to victory in the World Test Championship (WTC) and the 2023 ODI World Cup, with India being at the receiving end on both occasions.

Cummins played just one match in his first season with KKR in 2014, moved to DD in 2017 and stayed out of IPL for a few seasons. He returned to KKR as the costliest player of IPL 2020 auction at Rs 15.50 crore and was with them till 2022, but gave IPL a miss in 2023 to focus on international cricket.

He became the first player in IPL history to breach the Rs 20 crore-mark at the auction for the 2024 season, only to see KKR acquire his teammate Mitchell Starc for Rs 24.75 crore.

In 42 IPL matches, Cummins has 45 wickets with 4/34 being his best returns in a match.

DELHI HIGH COURT ISSUES NOTICE TO CENTRE, WFI

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Delhi High Court on Monday sought the response of the Centre and the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) on a petition filed by wrestlers Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat, Sakshi Malik, and her husband Satyawart Kadian, challenging the December 2023 elections held by the sports body.

Justice Sachin Datta issued notices to the central govt, WFI, and WFI's ad-hoc committee on the petition and granted time to the central govt's standing counsel Anil Soni to get instructions in the matter, listing it for further hearing on Mar 7.

The wrestlers, represented through senior advocate Rahul Mehra, were at the forefront of last year's protest at Jantar Mantar that demanded the arrest of former WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh for alleged sexual harassment of seven women grapplers.

The plea contended that the WFI elections, held on Dec 21, 2023, were in blatant violation of the national sports code and sought a direction to the federation to "cease and desist" from undertaking any activity pertaining to the sport of wrestling.

Sanjay Kumar Singh was elected the new WFI president during the election. The petitioners have accused the WFI of trying to silence and sideline them, impacting their prospects of participating in international events.

Praneeth retires, to shift to US as coach

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Jaipur: It seems Indian badminton coaches are in heavy demand in the United States now. After Shlok Ramchandran, B Sai Praneeth and Mohammed Siyadath Ullah are also moving to the US soon. While Sai Praneeth will join Triangle Badminton Academy in North Carolina, Siyadath will join Oregon Badminton Academy.

SAI PRANEETH

Former doubles specialist Shlok has been main coach at the Synergy Badminton Academy, California for the last three years. Shlok was also one of the US coaches during the 23rd BWF World Junior Championships, held in Washington last year.

Tokyo Olympian Sai Praneeth formally announced his retirement from competitive badminton on Monday. The 31-year-old will be shifting to the US with his family for a new role within a fortnight. "With a mix of emotions, I pen down these words to bid farewell and announce my retirement from the sport that has been my lifeblood for over 24 years. Today, as I embark on a new chapter, I find myself overwhelmed with gratitude for the journey that brought me here," Sai shared his thoughts on social media on Monday evening.

Although both Sai and Siyadath are leaving Hyderabad-based Gopichand Academy at the same time, they are joining different training centres in the US. Badminton is picking up fast in the US and the country is hiring foreign coaches to raise the standard even more.

TT teams make Oly cut for first time

Dream Come True For Sharath In His Last Appearance At The Showpiece Event

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SHARATH KAMAL

Chennai: Indian men's and women's table tennis teams created history by qualifying for team events at the upcoming Paris Olympics. While they couldn't make the cut from the World Championships, it is their world rankings that helped them clinch the spots for the first time in Olympics. While the men's team is currently ranked 15th, the women are on 13th spot. A total of 16 teams will be taking part in the men's and women's events respectively.

Sharath Kamal, who has represented India at four Olympic Games, was ecstatic about India's qualification. "It is a surreal moment, as we will be competing for the first time in the team event at the Olympics. On a personal front, this is a significant achievement for me as this will be my final appearance. I have played in the singles event four times, but have always wanted to qualify in the team event (which was introduced in Beijing in 2008). For the last two years, my focus has been solely on contributing to the team's qualification and we have finally done it. Moreover, winning a tie in the Olympics would mean that we will move into the quarterfinals and that in itself will be a huge achievement for Indian TT," Sharath told **TOI**.

Despite not qualifying directly from the recently concluded World Table Tennis Team Championships, both Indian teams reached the pre-quarterfinals and that was enough. "We knew that if we reached the Round of 16 in the World Championships, we would qualify for the Olympics. We did not have the greatest of starts as we lost to lower-ranked Poland in the second group stage encounter. However, we came out all guns blazing to defeat Kazakhstan in the Round of 32 match and progressed to pre-quarters," Sharath added.

The qualification in team events also holds great importance as India can field two direct entries in the men's and women's singles categories. "The team qualification has now helped us in securing two direct entries in the singles events which will be decided by federation. My main focus will be to play in team event rather than singles event."

The 42-year-old veteran also spoke on preparation plan. "The federation with my inputs has charted the preparation plan and sent it for approval to the Sports Authority of India (SAI). We will soon have a dedicated foreign coach and should start training in April."

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INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Isro chief Somanath discloses that he was diagnosed with cancer on the day of Aditya-L1 launch last Sept, later underwent a surgery & 'now I am cured', **P16**

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