WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026

The Indian EXPRESS

NEW DELHI, LATE CITY, 22 PAGES

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THE INDIAN EXPRESS

The World

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026

Israeli troops advance beyond Yellow Line into south Lebanon

Reuters
Beirut, May 26

THE ISRAELI military has expanded its ground operations in southern Lebanon beyond a demarcation line that Israel set up several kilometres inside Lebanese territory after an April 16 ceasefire with Hezbollah, two sources said on Tuesday.

The sources gave no further details on the extent of the advance beyond the so-called "Yellow Line".

The line forms part of a proposed buffer zone extending 5 km to 10 km into southern Lebanon, where Israeli troops continue to operate in dozens of largely abandoned villages. An Israeli military official said the military was "operating in a targeted manner beyond the Forward Defense Line in order to remove direct threats to the citizens of the State of Israel" and Israeli soldiers "in accordance with the directives of the political echelon."

Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu said on Monday Israel would intensify strikes against Hezbollah, while a US official said the Iran-backed group had ignored warnings to halt attacks that risked undermining negotiations to end the US-Israeli war on Iran.

IRGC SAYS 25 OIL TANKERS, CONTAINER SHIPS PASSED THROUGH HORMUZ WITH ITS PERMISSION

US strikes boats, missile sites in Iran; Tehran: Gross violation of ceasefire

Both sides play down prospect of an imminent peace agreement

Reuters
May 26

An Iranian woman walks next to an anti-Israeli mural on a street in Tehran on Tuesday. REUTERS

IRAN SAID the United States had violated a ceasefire after the latter conducted what it called "defensive strikes" in southern Iran, while Secretary of State Marco Rubio said that negotiating a deal to halt the conflict could "take a few days".

Iran's foreign ministry said US strikes in Iran's southern Hormozgan province, where Iranian media reported sounds of explosions early on Tuesday, represented a "gross violation" of a tenuous ceasefire in place for nearly seven weeks. Both sides had indicated progress on a MoU that could halt the war and restart shipping through the blockaded Strait of Hormuz, while giving negotiators 60 days to negotiate more complex issues including Iran's nuclear programme. Following strikes against targets that the US said included boats attempting to lay mines and missile launch sites, Rubio told reporters on his plane in Jaipur that the Strait of Hormuz had to be open "one way or the other".

The war, which began with US and Israeli strikes on Iran on February 28, has caused an unprecedented oil supply shock, pushing up prices along with the costs of fuel, fertiliser and food. Iran responded to the strikes by launching drones and missiles at Gulf states that host US bases.

Only a few dozen vessels have been passing through the Strait of Hormuz compared with 125 to 140 daily previously. About a fifth of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas usually flows through the waterway. Global benchmark Brent crude oil rose almost 3% on Tuesday to $98.91 following news of the US strikes.

'Clock cannot be turned back'

Despite a ceasefire in place since early April, the US Central Command said on Monday it had carried out fresh strikes designed "to protect our troops from threats posed by Iranian forces."

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said on Tuesday they reserved the right to retaliate. They said air defence units had downed a US drone and fired at another drone and a fighter jet which they said had entered Iranian airspace over the Gulf region. In comments posted on his Telegram channel on the occasion of the annual Haj pilgrimage, Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei said, "The clock cannot be turned back, and the nations and lands of the region will no longer be a shield for American bases."

Abraham Accords push

Trump also called on more Arab and Muslim states including Saudi Arabia to sign up to the Abraham Accords, brokered during his first term in office and aimed at normalising ties between those states and Israel.

Saudi Arabia's longstanding position has been that it would not sign the accords unless there is an agreement on a roadmap to Palestinian statehood.

Doha talks

Iranian and US officials have said recent indirect talks have made progress on a MoU, or initial deal, that would lead to further negotiations over a final agreement. Iran's top negotiator Mohammad Baqr Ghalibaf, its foreign minister and its central bank governor were in Doha on Monday for talks with Qatar's prime minister on a potential deal, an official said.

Ghalibaf was seeking agreement on the release of around $24 billion of Iranian funds frozen overseas as part of the memorandum of understanding, Iran's Tasnim news agency reported. Iran's Fars news agency said the unfreezing of the funds was the last serious sticking point for the MoU to be finalised. According to Iranian sources, an initial deal would cover ending the war on all fronts, establishing a 30-day framework for movement through the Strait of Hormuz, and possibly providing some financial relief — with more complex issues such as Iran's nuclear programme to be negotiated in a second phase.

Inside Iran, internet monitoring group Netblocks reported a partial restoration of connectivity after a nearly 90-day blackout.

• BRIEFLY

IRELAND

Goods from Israeli settlements in West Bank to be banned: Minister

Helen McEntee, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland. FACEBOOK

IRELAND AIMS to pass a law curbing goods trade with settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank by mid-July with Israel, some US lawmakers and business groups opposing the move, Foreign Minister Helen McEntee said on Tuesday. Ireland's government, one of the most outspoken critics of Israel's war in Gaza, first promised to sanction Israeli settlements in October 2024. The legislation has since been held up by pressure from opposition politicians who aimed to extend the ban also to services trade, on one side, and international company lobbyists seeking to scrap the bill, on the other. AP

SOUTH KOREA

3 dead, 3 injured as old overpass collapses in Seoul

Three people were killed and three others were injured Tuesday when a decades-old overpass undergoing demolition partially collapsed in the South Korean capital, Seoul, fire officials said. The accident occurred during a safety inspection after workers halted demolition work upon noticing that a part of the structure had slightly sunk while concrete slabs were being cut, said Lee Jong-woon, an official at Seoul's Seodaemun District Fire Station. suddenly collapsed, officials said. AP

PAKISTAN

Ahmadis allege harassment ahead of Eid

MEMBERS OF minority Ahmadiyya community have alleged that police in Karachi are seizing their sacrificial animals ahead of Eid-ul-Azha, saying they were being targeted because of their faith. "We have to face religious persecution and discrimination every time there is a religious festival," community representative Amir Mahmood said. He said members of the community in Karachi were finding it difficult to buy or keep sacrificial animals ahead of Eid-ul-Azha. PTI

NEPAL

Shah eyes large investments by global businesses

PRIME MINISTER Balen Shah today invited larger investment from the international community promising to create friendly procedures and environment for the purpose. Interacting with diplomats from European Union member states at his office, Prime Minister Shah spoke clearly and candidly that Nepal was keen to pursue sustainable develop-ments, and gain from the global markets and seek cooperation in the areas of trade, investment, tourism, climate activities and green energy. YUBARAJ GHIMIRE

Planes carrying 19 Australians linked to Islamic State group land in Melbourne

Associated Press
Melbourne, May 26

TWO PLANES carrying 19 Australian women and children linked to the Islamic State group in Syria landed in Melbourne and Sydney on Tuesday, despite Australia's government warning that the returnees could face charges.

The government earlier confirmed seven women and 12 children were heading home on Qatar Airways flights, less than three weeks after a group of 13 people in similar situations returned to Australia's two largest cities.

Two women with seven children flew to Melbourne. Four women with six children landed about an hour later in Sydney, a joint police and intelligence agency statement said.

No one had been charged on arrival, but investigations into their activities in Syria were continuing, the statement said. Three of four women who returned home earlier were charged with slavery and terrorism offences and remain behind bars.

Home Affairs Minister Tony Burke said anyone among the 19 on their way to Australia who has committed crimes "can expect to face the full force of the law." "The government has not and will not provide any assistance to this group," Burke said in a statement.

"These are people who have made the horrific choice to join a dangerous terrorist organisation and to place their children in an unspeakable situation," he added.

Australian law enforcement and intelligence agencies have been preparing for their return since 2014 and have long-standing plans in place to manage and monitor them, Burke said.

4 dead, 5 injured in crash between train, schoolbus: Belgian officials

Associated Press
Buggenhout, May 26

A CRASH between a bus and a train travelling at high speed in northern Belgium killed four people, including two children, and injured five other children, prosecutors said Tuesday.

The injured children were taken to the hospital in a serious condition, spokeswoman Lisa De Wilde said at a news conference.

The accident happened at a level crossing during the morning rush hour near the town of Buggenhout, about 30 kilometres (20 miles) northwest of the capital, Brussels.

De Wilde said that the dead included the driver of the minibus and an escort as well as two children. She said that the cause of the accident had not been established. Investigators are questioning witnesses and checking for images from cameras mounted nearby.

"What we do know is that the barrier was closed and the red light was on," she said.

Pilgrims' Progress

Muslim pilgrims gather at the Mount of Mercy on the plain of Arafat during the annual Haj pilgrimage, outside the holy city of Mecca on Tuesday. REUTERS

Russia pounds Ukraine, fires 100 drones & 2 ballistic missiles

Associated Press
Kyiv, May 26

RUSSIA FIRED more than 100 drones and two ballistic missiles at Ukraine overnight, the Ukrainian air force said Tuesday, as the country's foreign ministry noted that Moscow's recent threat to hit Kyiv especially hard from the air brought nothing new.

Russia on Monday urged foreign citizens, including members of diplomatic missions, to leave the Ukrainian capital as quickly as possible and told residents to steer clear of military and government facilities. It said that "systemic strikes" on Kyiv were being prepared.

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told US Secretary of State Marco Rubio by phone Monday that the US should evacuate its diplomatic staff from Kyiv, a foreign ministry statement said. Rubio didn't say whether the State Department would take that step, but expressed concern during a trip to India that the "terrible" war in Ukraine could escalate further.

The Trump administration has tried for more than a year to stop the fighting that broke out after Russia's February 2022 invasion. But its efforts yielded no significant breakthrough and are now on ice as Washington focuses on the Iran war. There were no announcements of diplomatic departures from Kyiv. The European Union, French and Polish delegations publicly said that they would not leave.

The level of security threats posed by Russia to Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities "remains the same as in previous years and months," Ukraine's foreign ministry said in a statement late Monday.

Moscow says US did not grant visa to minister to attend UN meet

RUSSIA'S UN ambassador said on Tuesday that the US did not grant a visa for Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Alimov to attend a U.N. Security Council meeting and called it a breach of U.S. obligations under the UN headquarters agreement. Vassily ebenzia made the comment at a UN Security Council meeting chaired by China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi that he said Alimov had intended to attend. The State Department did not immediately respond to questions about Nebenzia's statement. REUTERS

To crack down on leaks to journalists, Trump admin proposes gag order on federal staffers

Reuters
Washington, May 26

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump's administration on Tuesday proposed asking federal employees to sign non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) with the goal of preventing them from sharing confidential information with journalists.

The Office of Personnel Management, the human resources office for the US government, released a draft non-disclosure agreement designed for federal agencies to use with new and existing employees. Under the draft agreement, the administration could pursue civil and criminal penalties against employees who violate it. The US government would be entitled to all "royalties" that employees receive from disclosing information that violates the agreement, according to the draft. The OPM did not immediately offer further explanation.

The draft form is the latest step in the president's effort to exert more control over U.S. government workers and the flow of information to the public.

"This move is rooted in concerns that unauthorized disclosures of sensitive government information are disrupting agency operations and eroding trust across government," said OPM spokesperson McLaurine Pinover. Former government employees would need "written permission from an authorized agency official" to speak to journalists about information the Trump administration deems "confidential" after leaving their jobs, according to the draft. Former staff who violate that rule could be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Federal law prohibits government retaliation against federal workers who disclose fraud, abuse and misconduct in their workplaces to internal government watchdogs and Congress. The NDA would not apply to those disclosures, according to the draft agreement. Since taking office for the second time, Trump has waged an aggressive campaign against news outlets and media figures he sees as too critical of him.

Sonny Rollins, saxophonist and restless genius of jazz, dead at 95

Associated Press
New York, May 26

Sonny Rollins died at his home in New York. AP

SONNY ROLLINS, the tenor saxophonist and restless genius whose bold, distinctive tone and constant experimentation kept him on the cutting edge of jazz for more than 50 years, died Monday at age 95.

Spokesperson Terri Hinte said that Rollins died at his home in Woodstock, New York. She cited no specific cause of death, but said he had been largely housebound over the past couple of years.

From his early days as a teen phenom to his more measured solo work and experimentation with free jazz, Rollins was revered for his improvisational skill. He was one of the last living greats of the bebop era and one of the most influential saxophonists of his time.

Rock fans got a dose of his music with the Rolling Stones' 1981 album "Tattoo You," which features' Rollins' wistful sax solo on the ballad "Waiting on a Friend," devised after watching Mick Jagger dance.

• LONDON RECORDED A RARE 'TROPICAL NIGHT,' DEFINED AS ONE IN WHICH THE TEMPERATURE DOES NOT FALL BELOW 20 CELSIUS

Exceptionally early heat wave in Europe shatters records and brings deaths

Jill Lawless
London, May 26

TEMPERATURE RECORDS have toppled as a spring heatwave continued to scorch parts of Western Europe on Tuesday, triggering government warnings about risks to life. Several drownings were reported in Britain and France as people tried to cool down.

London recorded a rare "tropical night," defined as one in which the temperature does not fall below 20 Celsius (68 Fahrenheit), and Britain's Met Office weather service said the temperature in southern England could reach 35 C (95 F) on Tuesday.

Monday was the U.K.'s hottest May day on record, with the temperature hitting 34.8 C (94.6 F) at Kew Gardens in London, smashing the previous record of 32.8 C (91.4 F) set in 1922 and 1944. Records also fell in France, where temperatures reached 36 C (97 F) on Monday and widely remained above 20 C (68 F) at night.

The national weather service, Météo-France, said a "heat dome," with heat held in place by a high-pressure weather front, was producing temperatures more than 10 degrees Celsius above what used to be usual for this time of year.

Unpredictable and extreme weather are becoming more frequent as Earth's warming builds. Experts say unprecedented and deadly weather extremes that sometimes strike at abnormal times and in unusual places are putting more people in danger.

After a UK long weekend that sent people flocking to beaches, pools and shady parks, London commuters sweltered on Tuesday in subway carriages without air conditioning. Trains to and from the busy Waterloo station were disrupted by a report of smoke on the tracks.

In Scotland, firefighters worked through the night to douse a grass fire that sent smoke billowing from Arthur's Seat, the rocky hill that looms over Edinburgh.

A man sleeps on the street in London during a heatwave, after the UK recorded its hottest May on Tuesday. REUTERS

The U.K. Health Security Agency issued an amber health alert for large parts of the country through Thursday, warning of a potential health risk, particularly among older people, at the hottest times of the day. The U.K. is used to moderate temperatures, and many homes, schools and businesses do not have air conditioning.

13-year-old boy died in the water of a reservoir in Halifax, northern England, on Monday, police said.

French government spokesperson Maud Bregeon said there have been reports of at least seven deaths potentially related to high temperatures, including five drownings and two deaths in sports competitions.

The early heatwave has struck before the annual summer window when lifeguards watch over bathers at popular beaches, increasing risks.

On France's Atlantic seaboard, where magnificent beaches have powerful riptides, officials reported a rash of emergencies in the surf with two drowning deaths on Sunday at popular resorts in the Gironde region in the southwest.

The top regional administrator, Sophie Brocas, urged beachgoers "to exercise the utmost caution."

The unseasonable heat extended to Spain, where weather service spokesperson Rubén del Campo said "we find ourselves with temperatures we normally see in the middle of the summer now in the month of May."

He said Seville hit 38 C (100 F) over the weekend, while large parts of the peninsula saw temperatures 5 to 10 degrees Celsius higher than normal.

And in Rome, temperatures were expected to reach 32 degrees C (89.6 F) on Tuesday. AP

The Editorial Page: In new world, with US, India has the cards. It must play them confidently 10

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EXPRESS investigation

HDFC Bank 'camouflaged' crores as marketing spend to pay higher interest to state firm

In March, HDFC Bank chairman quit citing ethics. What bank didn't reveal: Its probe found that violating RBI, bank's norms, Rs 45-cr extra interest was paid to Maharashtra State Road Development Corp as sponsorship for road safety drive

Sandeep Singh
Mumbai, New Delhi, May 26

WHEN ATANU Chakraborty abruptly resigned on March 18 as chairman of HDFC Bank, the country's largest private bank, citing "certain happenings and practices within the bank" that were not in "congruence" with his personal values and ethics, it didn't ring many alarm bells across the banking establishment.

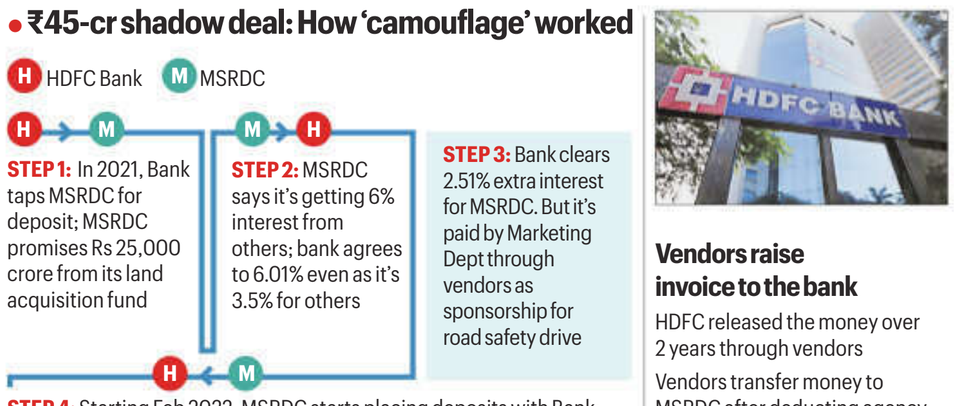
The bank's newly appointed interim chairman, Keki Mistry, was quick to step in with a statement. "The bank has very strong ethics," he said on March 19. "I would never remain on the board if there were any issues with governance." He said board members had pressed Chakraborty for details the previous day but he "did not give any specific explanation."

The Reserve Bank of India, too, moved just as swiftly. In a press statement the same day, it declared, "Basis our periodical assessment, there are no material concerns on record as regards its conduct or governance."

What went undisclosed was that, just six days earlier, on March 12, the Audit Committee

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

• ₹45-cr shadow deal: How 'camouflage' worked



Vendors raise invoice to the bank

HDFC released the money over 2 years through vendors

Vendors transfer money to MSRDC after deducting agency fee, GST & TDS

Why this raises questions on bank's governance and its code of ethics

Sandeep Singh
New Delhi, May 26

EXPLAINING ITS code of ethics for directors and top management, HDFC Bank, on its website, underlines how "integrity, transparency and accountability are fundamental" to its ethos and how it intends to ensure its management's commitment to "highest business and ethical standards while conducting the business of the Bank and compliance with the legal and regulatory requirements."

The fact that the bank's top brass were aware of the Rs 45-crore payment, which, according to its Vigilance probe, violates RBI rules and bank's own norms, raises questions about HDFC Bank's corporate governance and its adherence to its code of ethics.

From the CEO to the CFO and CMO, according to the probe, several key management personnel were fully aware of the "differential interest" being routed through the marketing department as payments for road safety campaigns by MSRDC, a state government agency that

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DAY AFTER EXPRESS INVESTIGATION

Govt acts on Delhi dust: More machine sweepers

Environment Minister meets CM, officials; dust mitigation on agenda

EXPRESS impact

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

A "SIGNIFICANT increase" in the number of Mechanical Road Sweeping Machines (MRSMs) in Delhi to tackle road dust was among a series of measures directed by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav to tackle air pollution, in a meeting with Chief Minister Rekha Gupta and top officials, according to an official statement.

"Air pollution control requires collective responsibility and continuous action at every level. The Centre remains committed to working closely with the Delhi government and all stakeholders to ensure cleaner air for the people of Delhi," Yadav said.

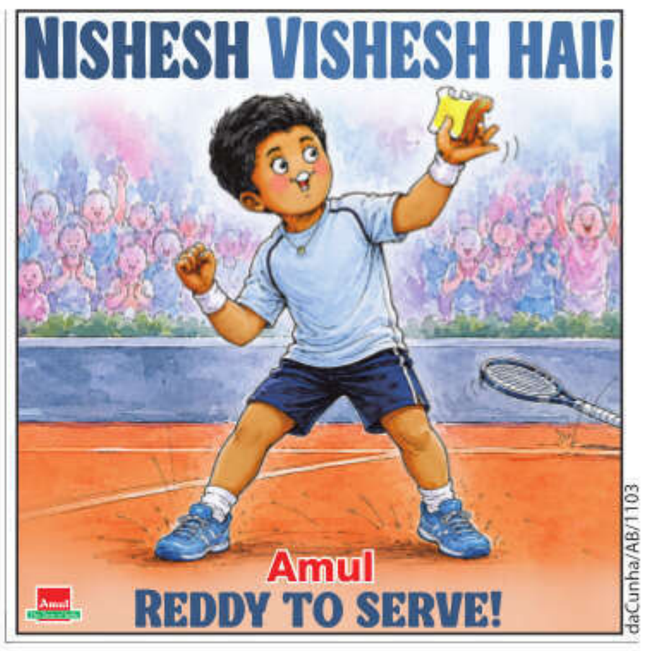
The Union Minister's directions came a day after *The Indian Express* published the findings of its investigation into how Delhi is losing its war on dust — one of the main villains in the city's toxic air, and one of the easiest to fix.

The Indian Express investigated the daily movement logs of MRSMs across a year until March, revealing that these machines cover only a fraction of the city, with a fleet that is vastly underpowered — 80% short of the 505 recommended by the Prime Minister's Office.

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Delhi's Killer Dust

The Indian Express report published on May 25.



Cong for change in Karnataka, wants Siddaramaiah to go

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar in New Delhi, Tuesday. ANIL SHARMA

Manoj C G
New Delhi, May 26

AMID AN all-out tussle for leadership in Karnataka, the Congress high command is learnt to have conveyed to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah Tuesday that it was looking at a transition in the state, and reorienting the party organisation and government while keeping in mind the future challenges. In other words, the leadership wants the Chief Minister to step down and make way for a new leader.

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Energy to rare earth to Fiji port: Quad bid to counter China rise in Indo-Pacific

Shubhajit Roy
New Delhi, May 26

UNVEILING REGIONAL initiatives for energy security and critical minerals, Foreign Ministers of the Quad nations Tuesday agreed to launch an Indo-Pacific Maritime Surveillance Corporation, expand maritime domain awareness and enhance port infrastructure in Fiji.

These moves by the Quad, comprising the US, India, Japan and Australia, come at a time when China's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific are on the rise, and ongoing conflicts, most recently in West Asia, are disrupting supply chains and hurting economies.

In a clear message to Beijing, the Quad voiced serious concern about the situation in the East China Sea and the

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

NEET leak: Minor son of arrested coaching founder may be 'star witness'

Mahender Singh Manral
New Delhi, May 26

DAYS AFTER arresting the founder of a coaching institute in Latur, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is planning to make his minor son — who also sat for NEET-UG on May 3 — a "star witness" in the paper leak case, *The Indian Express* has learnt.

"The student has reportedly admitted during questioning that his father procured the NEET question paper for him — Physics, Chemistry and Biology — about 10 days before the exam," said a source.

"The CBI is also planning to make a Latur-based paediatrician, who allegedly purchased the leaked question paper for his son, a witness," the source said.

"Following these

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Business as Usual
By EP UNNY

At Bengal border post, 'fear' drives many seeking to cross over to Bangladesh

Ravik Bhattacharya
Hakimpur (North 24 Parganas), May 26

STANDING WITH her husband Musharraf Biswas and four children, Khukumoni Bibi (39) says it is "fear" which is causing them to try and leave for Bangladesh — fear of police, of detention centres, of demolitions.

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

At Hakimpur border check-post in North 24 Parganas. PARTHA PAUL

• FAMILY IN U.S. SAYS NISHESH BASAVAREDDY A FAN OF ALLU ARJUN FILMS

Behind tennis upset, Indian-origin youth who left Stanford to turn pro

PAGE 1 anchor

Nitin Sharma
Chandigarh, May 26

TWO YEARS ago, Nishesh Basavareddy, then 19 years old, left the data science programme at Stanford University to become a tennis professional. That wasn't a path that children of first-generation Indian immigrants in the United States are known to take.

Despite his outstanding academic record and interest in Maths, Nishesh thought tennis was his true calling, and his family supported his decision. That call is now paying dividends.

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Nishesh Basavareddy (extreme left), his parents Muralikrishna and Sai Prasanna, and elder brother Nishanth. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Happening today

• **SUPREME COURT** is set to deliver its verdict on pleas challenging SIR's constitutional validity. PAGE 5

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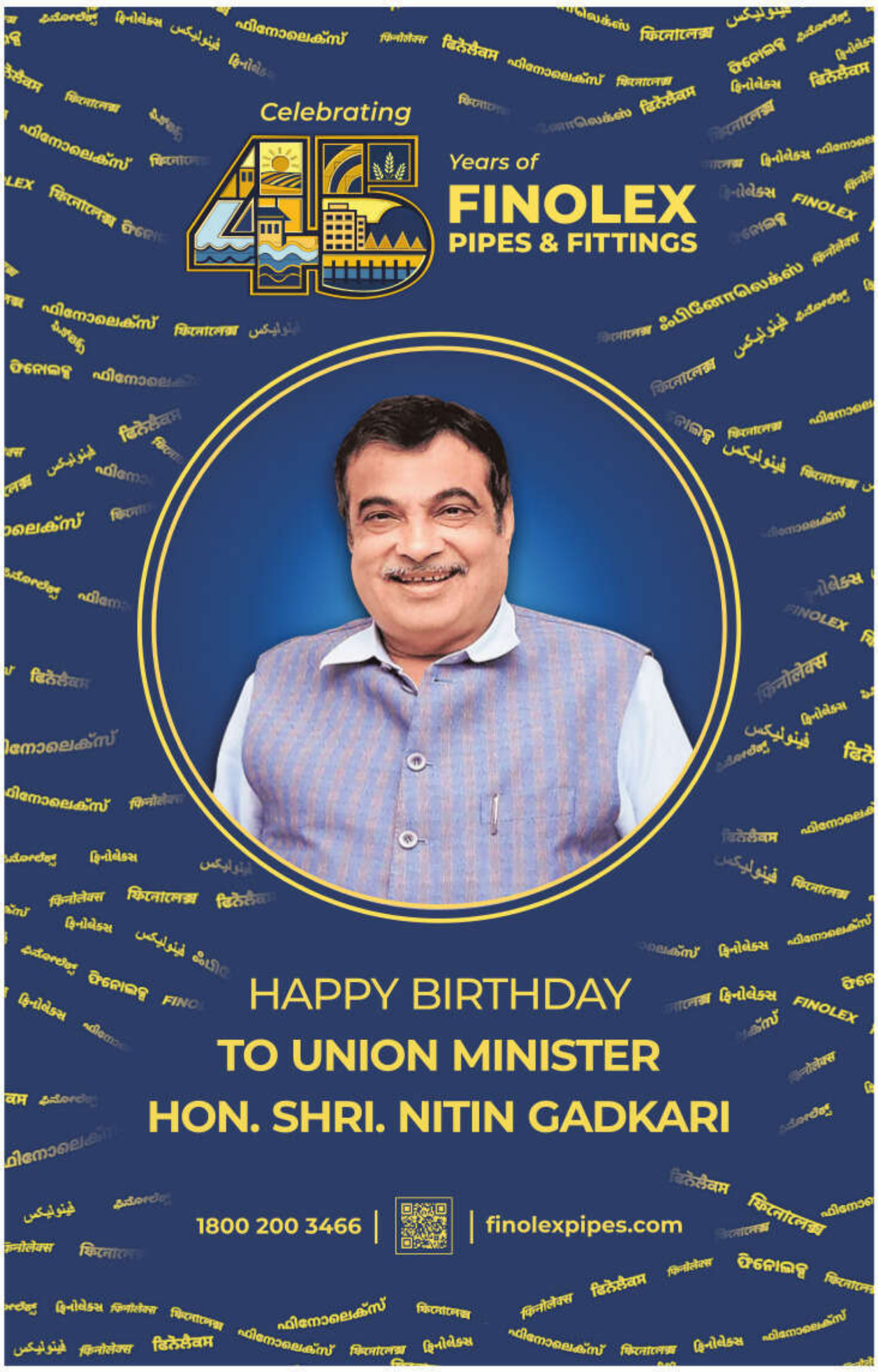
CITY PAGE 4

GYMKHANA: GOVT SAYS WILL FOLLOW DUE PROCESS

EXPRESS interview

'NCERT THREW US UNDER THE BUS...'
MICHEL DANINO, ACADEMIC
PAGE 8



Rajasthan govt apathetic to illegal mining in Chambal, says Supreme Court

Hamza Khan
Jaipur, May 26

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday pulled up the Rajasthan government for its "apathetic administrative tendency" which responds "only upon direct judicial scrutiny and compulsion," while hearing the suo moto case on illegal mining in the Chambal region.

The court noted as a "disturbing fact" that a majority of the state's measures appear to have been initiated only after stringent directions were issued requiring the personal presence of Rajasthan's senior officers before the court. It also said that the state's mechanisms to check illegal mining in Chambal will only be completed in the next "18-36 months", and that such a time frame was not desirable considering the "emergent nature" of the prevailing situation.

In March this year, the top court took suo motu cognisance of reports on illegal mining in Chambal, while impleading the states of Rajasthan, MP and UP, as well as the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as parties.

Subsequently, the states filed compliance affidavits with the SC. Rajasthan has filed five separate compliance affidavits through the departments of Home, Finance, Forest, Transport and Road Safety, and Mines and Geology. In the affidavits, Rajasthan has said that it has approved over Rs 65 crore for IT-enabled monitoring systems, and is in the process of installing 118 CCTVs, hiring additional vehicles, etc.

Noting that certain significant measures have been initiated by Rajasthan, the Bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta Tuesday said, "This court cannot overlook the fact that the affidavits filed by the State of Rajasthan themselves indicate substantially prolonged timelines for implementation of several critical measures... proposed to be completed over a period extending between 18 to 36 months. Such timelines do not comport with the emergent nature of the situation presently prevailing in the affected regions." The Bench said that it "cannot ignore the disturbing fact that a substantial number of the actions now projected before this court appear to have been initiated only after stringent directions were issued requiring personal presence of senior officers of the State of Rajasthan before this Court."

"The chronology emerging from the record prima facie indicates that several crucial decisions relating to surveillance infrastructure, constitution of enforcement mechanisms, operational coordination, seizure protocols and inter-departmental action plans were undertaken only after judicial intervention assumed a more coercive and supervisory character. Such a state of affairs reveals an apathetic administrative tendency which responds to grave environmental and governance issues only upon direct judicial scrutiny and compulsion, rather than through timely institutional initiative and responsible governance," the court said.

Just 12 days ago, the apex court had noted: "In stark contrast to the steps reportedly undertaken by the states of MP and UP, we are compelled to express our serious displeasure at the manner in which the state of Rajasthan has conducted itself in the present proceedings."

On May 12, it had said that despite pertinent directions issued by the court, the state had failed to file any compliance affidavit. "The conduct of the state reflects a wholly casual, indifferent, and indolent approach towards the grave issues prevailing in this matter, that is, rampant illegal mining, irreversible environmental degradation, and destruction of protected wildlife habitats within the National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary."

[FROM PAGE 1 | FULL REPORTS ON WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM]

Govt acts on Delhi dust: More machine sweepers

Using geospatial mapping and route-level analysis, the newspaper also built a dashboard to track 52 geo-tagged MRSMs managed by Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

The findings were stark: just five of the 52 designated MRSM routes accounted for nearly 18 per cent of all running and sweeping distance; the fleet routinely operated below capacity, including during peak dust months; deployment was tilted toward winter, when air pollution becomes a political flashpoint; and coverage across municipal zones was uneven, with better-funded zones faring considerably better.

As part of the investigation, *The Indian Express* tracked these MRSMs on the ground for two nights to find out how the dust is collected by teams of drivers and sanitation workers, and the challenges they face. It also reported that the MCD plans to add 70 road sweepers by October and put in place an app for real-time tracking.

Tuesday's statement on Yadav's meeting to "review Delhi-NCR Air Pollution Action Plan" said that he "reviewed the deployment of Mechanised Road Sweeping Machines and observed the need for a significant increase in their current numbers".

"He requested the Delhi Government to intensify road-cleaning operations and ensure deployment of 78 large and medium MRSMs, along with 1,000 litter pickers by September 2026, as proposed earlier. He said that intensive and deep road cleaning, and dust suppression remain among the most effective interventions for reducing particulate pollution in urban areas," it said.

On road dust mitigation, the statement said the Minister "noted the need for a more focused approach to meet annual targets for road redevelopment and address delays in planning, tendering, issuance of work orders and supply-chain disruptions". He urged the Delhi government to expedite execution so that all pending redevelopment works are completed by October 2026.

Yadav also called for extensive greening activities alongside roads by identifying open patches to minimise dust pollution, and said the pending Memorandum of Agreement with the Central Road Research Institute and School of Planning and Architecture may be finalised by end of May 2026, to ensure adherence to prescribed road development standards.

Apart from the Chief Minister, the meeting was attended by her Cabinet colleagues Pravesh Sahib Singh, Minister for Public Works Department, and Sardar Manjinder Singh Sirsa, Minister for Environment, Forest and Wildlife. The Secretary, Union Environment Ministry, senior officers of the Central Pollution Control Board, and the chairperson of the Commission for Air Quality Management were also present.

Stressing that identified implementation gaps must be addressed in a mission-mode manner, Yadav said, "The coming months are crucial for Delhi's air quality management. Timely completion of planned interventions, strict enforcement and coordinated action on the ground are essential to protect public health and improve the quality of life for citizens."

On transport, the Minister called for expedited procurement of electric buses and rapid expansion of EV charging infrastructure, with a phase-wise plan due by October 2026. He also pushed for stronger Metro connectivity and seamless last-mile integration to reduce vehicular emissions across the NCR region.

He detailed deadlines across multiple fronts, including ANPR cameras at all border entry points and 15 signal-free corridors by September 2026, adequate parking facilities by December 2026, and geotagging of construction waste vehicles by July 2026.

On industrial pollution, the Minister ordered regular inspections of emission monitoring systems and strict action, including sealing, against non-compliant units. He also called for intensified drives against illegal diesel generator sets.

Addressing waste management, Yadav stressed zero-tolerance for open waste burning and urged firm timelines for Waste-to-Energy plant commissioning and legacy waste clearance.

The Minister also called for dedicated task forces to monitor pollution hotspots monthly and urged a "Whole of Government, Whole of Society" approach through public greening and deep-cleaning campaigns.

Karnataka

Keen that the transition be smooth and dignified, sources said the CM has been given time to mull over the idea. While the high command, respecting his stature, is not said to have set a timeline, a shocked Siddaramaiah is learnt to have told ministers loyal to him, at a dinner meeting in New Delhi before leaving for Bengaluru, that he will convene a meeting of the CLP soon and announce his decision to step down.

The signal from the party leadership was said to be clear, that it was looking at a change of guard in the state. Deputy CM D K Shivakumar has waited in the wings for a long time to take over the reins of the state. With a majority of Congress MLAs and state leaders still backing Siddaramaiah and urging him to weigh all options, it is to be seen how the powerplay will play out in the coming days.

The Congress, for the record, said the six hours of separate discussions that the leadership had with Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress chief, were over selection of candidates for the MLC and Rajya Sabha elections.

While the Congress asked the media to stop speculating, it did not specify that Siddaramaiah would continue as the Chief Minister and that there would be no leadership change.

After the meeting, AICC general secretary (Organisation) K C Venugopal, flanked by Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, said, "The entire discussion was only concentrated on the coming RS elections and Council elections in Karnataka. Whatever speculation you people are doing... that is only speculation... Today, we discussed the Rajya Sabha seats and Council seats of Karnataka. The candidates... will be announced along with other seats in other states. That is all we have decided today. Nothing else was discussed today."

It was a day of marathon discussions at the new Congress headquarters in New Delhi. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Venugopal and AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala first met for over two hours after which they met Siddaramaiah.

Gandhi then met the Chief Minister alone for nearly an hour. Sources said Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi too was consulted.

Sources said he was told he can pick a post of his choosing — from state Congress chief to becoming a Rajya Sabha MP.

Indian-origin youth who left Stanford to turn pro

At the French Open on Sunday, the 21-year-old defeated World No. 9 Taylor Fritz 7-6, 7-6, 6-7, 6-1, becoming the first American to beat a top-10 opponent at Roland Garros since 2000. This was the first big splash on the international tennis circuit for the Indian American, currently ranked 148 in the world.

At the Australian Open last year, Nishesh took a set off Novak Djokovic, but lost the match.

The Basavareddys have been living in the US since 1999, when Nishesh's father, Muralikrishna Basavareddy, a mechanical engineer from Nellore, quit his job at Praga Tools to take a leap of faith from Secunderabad to California. His sons — Nishesh and his elder brother, Nishanth — were born some years later, and he encouraged them to take up sports from an early age.

"Nishesh and his brother Nishanth have lived tennis almost every moment of their lives. And we, as parents, did whatever we could to support their dreams. From making an 18-hour car journey to Florida once, to taking flights to the Caribbean to let Nishesh play in tournaments, we just wanted him to chase his dreams," Muralikrishna, now working with Toyota in Indiana, tells *The Indian Express*.

Nishanth recalls the time when they started their tennis journey. "Our father would take us for tennis lessons when Nishesh was four and I was seven... we played in tennis tournaments together and our father would drive us. Many times, Nishesh would defeat me in matches; we would play doubles too," says Nishanth.

When the family relocated to Indiana, Muralikrishna enrolled his sons with noted coach Bryan Smith. This proved to be a decisive move in Nishesh's career. He started winning tournaments and climbing ranking ladder on the junior circuit. He won the United States Tennis Association National Winter Championship in 2015 and the Orange Bowl in 2019. The wins made him the No. 3 junior in the US.

Like any pro, his journey, too, had pitfalls. The young champion had to deal with injuries, as well as some travel travails.

Nishesh's mother, Sai Prasanna Basavareddy, shares what he looks forward to when he returns home after a tournament. "He loves chana masala, pani puri and soan papdi. He would like to have that when he returns from Paris," she says.

Food is not the only desi influence. The brothers grew up watching Telugu and Bollywood movies with subtitles. Nishanth says that Nishesh, who has been taking Telugu classes lately, loves to binge-watch Allu Arjun films. "He is a fan of Allu Arjun's movie *Ala Vaikunthapurramuloo* and *Kick*. He loves the song *Julayi* from another Allu Arjun movie," says Nishanth. While learning the ropes from Coach Smith in Indiana, Nishesh met Rajeev Ram, reputed American tennis player with Indian roots. The winner of six Grand Slam doubles titles and two Olympics doubles medals, Ram later became Nishesh's guiding light.

"I remember meeting Nishesh for the first time when he was eight or something and he was not very imposing physically. But he had this eye for the game... His parents took a lot of pains... like any other Indian-origin parent. When he was having a bad phase in his junior days with injuries, I would visit his home and have a talk with him as well his parents about how he can also choose some good universities like Stanford. He had two knee injuries in his career but has recovered tremendously," says Ram, who is also competing in the doubles at the French Open.

Coach Smith remembers Nishesh's determination to get back on his feet after going under the knife. "When the knee injuries happened, he would sit on a stool and hit the balls. Such was his willpower to make a comeback," he says.

What about the match against Fritz? "I messaged him after the win that the only thing which was terrible was his French," says Ram, with a laugh.

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Bengal

She is among a crowd of about 300 men, women and children, with their belongings bundled in small bags, squatting on a small field under the sun, beside the BSF check-post at Hakimpur. It is about 90 km from Kolkata, and right next to the border with Bangladesh.

The people have been trooping here since Sunday, hearing that crossover into Bangladesh is possible from Hakimpur border outpost. Nearby under the tin shade of a tea shop, police officials note down details of the people, including their names and addresses they give for Bangladesh, in a diary. Most don't have valid papers for India, but have documents certifying them as Bangladeshi.

The SIR over, state elections swept by BJP, and the Suvendu Adhikari government having opened detention camps, the people gathered in Hakimpur say staying back is not worth the risk. They entered Bengal "illegally", they say, and now want to go back.

On Tuesday, referring to people heading for the border, Adhikari said: "*Jaldi jaldi bhago, nahin toh jo karna hai sarkar karega* (Quickly leave, otherwise the government will take necessary action)." Meanwhile, the number of people at the two detention centres in Malda and Murshidabad has swelled to 16.

Khukumoni says she belongs to Satkhira district in Bangladesh but had been living in the New Town area adjacent to Kolkata for five years. "My husband worked as a garbage collector and I as a domestic help. A few days back, our landlord told us to leave. Then we heard detention camps were being set up. So we decided to give up everything and return to Bangladesh... My four children were enrolled in schools here. Now we will have to restart," says the 39-year-old.

Four men who say they made a living doing labour work in Kerala are also headed to Bangladesh. Fahim Malida, 30, says they crossed over eight months back. "Everything was arranged by a tout in Bangladesh. From Kustia we entered Murshidabad in Jalangi area, crossing a dry river, at around 12 noon; we were told the BSF had a change of guards at that time. The tout charged Rs 7,000 each."

Almost immediately, they left for Kerala on a bus, Malida says. They worked as masons and got paid Rs 1,000 for a day's work. That money meant a lot, the men say. "In Bangladesh, we would get 500 takas (around Rs 390) for a day's work, and work once or twice a week," says Shahjahan Khan. Motleb Hussain, 30, who crossed over with the two, says they first started facing questions during elections (Kerala went to polls along with Bengal). "The landlords wanted Aadhaar cards to let us stay. We did not have them."

Quad

South China Sea and opposed "any destabilizing or unilateral actions" that would threaten "peace and stability" in the region.

Meeting at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi, the Quad Foreign Ministers — External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Japan's Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong — issued a joint statement which said, "We look forward to the convening of the Quad Leaders' Summit, the next Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting, and continuing our engagements that advance peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond."

Rubio, on his part, described the Quad grouping as "a partnership of action" and said "we are deeply committed to this partnership. It is a linchpin and a cornerstone of our global strategy as a nation in the United States"

Jaishankar, who was chairing the meeting, said much of the discussions and the bilateral exchanges were devoted to the "current state of the world".

"We naturally focused on issues of particular relevance to the Indo-Pacific, because we are four maritime democracies located at different ends of the Indo-Pacific..." he said.

"Our four nations are also market economies. We believe strongly that economic resilience should be promoted, that supply chain should be strengthened..." he said.

Without mentioning the Strait of Hormuz, Jaishankar said, "We spent some time on the question of safe and unimpeded maritime commerce and reaffirmed the significance of scrupulously observing international law." "Our deliberations touched on the current energy and fertilizer availability, as well as that of critical minerals and resources. The goal is to intensify cooperation among ourselves while also assisting others."

On energy and fuel security, Rubio said, "The Quad initiative on Indo-Pacific energy security will help strengthen regional energy resilience... The Department of Energy of the US will be hosting Quad partners later this year for a fuel security forum to further expand on this."

The joint statement said, "We remain seriously concerned about the situation in the East China Sea and the South China Sea. We reiterate our strong opposition to any destabilizing or unilateral actions including by force or coercion that threaten peace and stability in the region. We express our serious concerns regarding dangerous and coercive actions, including interference with offshore resource development, repeated obstruction of freedom of navigation and overflight, and the dangerous manoeuvres by military aircraft and coast guard and maritime militia vessels, especially the unsafe use of water cannons and flares, and ramming or blocking actions in the South China Sea..."

Wong said, "We are today announcing the strongest ever commitment from the Quad to the Pacific through Quad Ports of the Future Partnership, where we are launching a pilot for port infrastructure in Fiji... It's a practical demonstration of our collective ability to deliver high-quality, resilient infrastructure in partnership with the region..."

Rubio said the Quad Critical Minerals framework will guide each to "leverage economic policy tools".

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NEET

admissions, the agency is currently seeking legal opinion to make them their star witnesses in the case and is corroborating the statements with documentary and digital evidence," the source said.

In its remand application filed in a Delhi court, the CBI had said the leaked questions were found on the phone of the coaching institute founder. "He distributed copies of the leaked papers and answer sheets to multiple persons. There is a video where he is seen in his coaching centre saying that the questions which he gave to the students were there in the final question paper. His links with co-accused Prahlad Kulkarni are under investigation," the agency had told the court.

Kulkarni is the retired Chemistry teacher who was "associated with NTA" and arrested from Pune. The CBI has arrested two other teachers, Manisha Mandhare and Manisha Sanjay Havaldar, in the case.

IN THE WAKE OF SHORTAGE IN SEVERAL PARTS

Haryana releases water for Delhi

Sophiya Mathew
New Delhi, May 26

The Haryana government on Tuesday released 979.5 cusecs of additional water to the Capital from the Yamuna after its Delhi counterpart approached it in the wake of an emerging supply crisis caused by critically low water levels at the Wazirabad pond and rising demand amid the prevailing heat.

Senior Delhi government officials said 442.94 cusecs was received through the Carrier Lined Channel (CLC) while another 536 cusecs reached Delhi through the Delhi Sub Branch (DSB) system as of 8 pm on Tuesday.

The CLC and DSB are two major systems through which water from Haryana is transferred to Delhi for treatment and distribution across the Capital.

On Tuesday, *The Indian Express* had reported that the Delhi government has sought additional water from Haryana for four weeks to avoid additional supply cuts amid a fall in the water levels at Wazirabad pond.

"Water was released specifically to address the ongoing supply stress," said a senior official in Delhi.

A senior official from Haryana's Water Resources and Irrigation department maintained that the releasing water for Delhi was being treated as a priority. "It is a humanitarian need... and it's Delhi," the official said.

Officials said this is only the second time such a request from Delhi has been accommodated. In October last year, Haryana had diverted nearly the entire discharge from Hathnikund Barrage into the Yamuna river during Chhath Puja to improve river conditions for devotees.

As per DJB officials, the water level at Wazirabad pond — the primary reservoir that stores Yamuna water before treatment and distribution — had fallen to 668.7 feet on Monday, significantly below the standard level of 674.5 feet required for normal functioning of water treatment plants.

'No water at home is not a thought one wants to wake up to every morning'

Residents stock up water at Faridpuri in West Delhi's Patel Nagar on Tuesday. SHREYA SINGHAI

Devansh Mittal
New Delhi, May 26

AROUND 4 pm every day, 50-year-old Neelam steps out of her one-room home in West Delhi's Faridpuri carrying three buckets and a stack of steel containers.

She places them in a queue and sits under the harsh summer sun, waiting. One by one, her friends and neighbours also join her with their containers. Sitting on their upturned buckets and drums, they talk about what they watched last night on television and what they plan to cook in the night.

Around half-an-hour later, a blue-coloured water tanker appears at the end of the street.

All conversations stop. Faces tighten and the women stand up. As soon as the tanker reaches their spot, there is a scramble – everyone tries to tie their pipes to the water outlet and fill their containers before the supply runs out.

Male members of the family shuttle filled buckets back home while the women guard their place in the queue.

Neelam says this is not how they fill water usually. But they have to now — their area is fullly dependent on tankers to fulfill their daily needs, as their usual supply has gone dry.

"Earlier, the supply came between 6 am and 7.30 am every day. We depended on water tankers on alternate days to fulfill our additional demand. But for almost a month now, we have not received any water in our homes. Everyone is relying on tankers now," she adds.

Neighbourhoods across the Capital are reeling under water shortage, as water levels at the Wazirabad pond continued to fall sharply amid peak summer demand.

The shortage has spared neither low-income colonies nor affluent neighbourhoods.

Trisha Arora (40), who lives in Block E of Greater Kailash 1, says, A neighbour who has someone suffering from Parkinson's at home broke down when we did not get water for 15 days straight. No water at home is not a thought one wants to wake up to every morning. We check the water tank six times a day to see how much is left."

She adds that even supply by private tankers is unreliable because of the restrictions that have been put on diesel vehicles during peak pollution days. "Sometimes tankers also are not avaibable."

Sanjay Anand, president of the Greater Kailash Residents Association, recalls that this might be the first time that the locality is facing supply cuts. "But to the credit of Delhi Jal Board, whenever we call them, they send tankers," he adds.

Sunanda (41), who lives in South Delhi's Dakshinpuri and irons clothes for a living, says they are trying new things every day. "We collect water from wherever we can— tankers, bottled cans... we also get water from neighbours who have borewells. You just learn to manage somehow."

Ramesh Ahuja, president of Northwest Delhi's Ashok Vihar D Block RWA, said people are angry.

"Earlier, we used to get water for four hours in the morning and two hours in the evening. This has now come down to two hours in the morning and one hour in the evening. As we don't know when water will come in the four-hour slot in the morning, residents stay awake since 4.30 am. Else, they will miss the day's supply," he adds.

• Skywatch

Forecast: May 27, 2026: Mainly clear sky, heatwave conditions at isolated places

MAX: 44-46
5.6°C above normal

MIN: 27-29
0.4°C above normal

- *Sunrise: 5:25 AM (May 28)*
- *Sunset: 7:12 PM (May 27)*
- *Moonrise: 3:47 PM (May 27)*
- *Moonset: 3:05 AM (May 28)*

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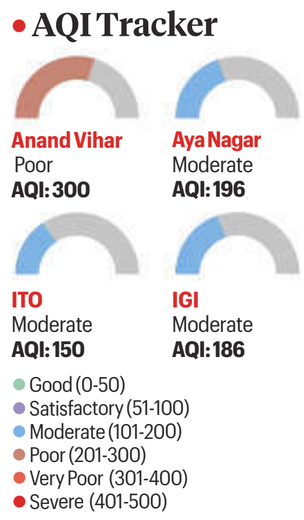

Eye on dust mitigation, Delhi to redevelop 5 key corridors

• A look at the revamp plan

Five key traffic-heavy stretches are set to transform into dust-free, green corridors

Corridor 1: Minto Road-Aruna Asaf Ali Marg-Jawaharlal Nehru Marg-Delhi Gate

Corridor 2: Minto Road, ITO, Laxmi Nagar, Kadkardooma

Corridor 3: Netaji Subhash Marg-Shanti Van-Mahatma Gandhi Marg (along Yamuna)-ITO-IT Estate Metro Station

Corridor 4: Dhaula Kuan-Jail Road/Cariappa Marg-Tilak Nagar Crossing

Corridor 5: Uttam Nagar-Tilak Nagar-Rajouri Garden on Najafgarh Road

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

THE DELHI Government is set to revamp five busy corridors in the Capital as "model road" stretches in an effort to transform them into dust-free, green, and pedestrian-friendly transit corridors with round-the-clock activity, officials said on Tuesday.

As per officials, the five key roads identified for the "model road" project on a pilot basis are: Minto Road–ITO–Karkardooma; Minto Road–Aruna Asaf Ali Marg–Jawaharlal Nehru Marg–Delhi Gate; Netaji Subhash Marg–Shanti Van–Mahatma Gandhi Marg (along the Yamuna)–ITO–IT Estate Metro Station; Dhaula Kuan–Jail Road/Cariappa Marg–Tilak Nagar Crossing and Uttam Nagar–Tilak Nagar–Rajouri Garden on Najafgarh Road, officials added.

Once redevelopment is completed, officials said, the five corridors will not only serve as models of dust mitigation but will also be transformed into green, pedestrian-friendly, employment-oriented, and recreational stretches functional on a 24x7 basis.

Meanwhile, LG Taranjit Singh Sandhu chaired a meeting on Tuesday to review the progress made so far in the redevelopment of these corridors through coordination between the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) and the respective road-owning agencies.

Officials said the LG emphasised that the transformation should aim at making these heavily traffic-laden stretches totally free of road dust and the resultant ambient air pollution, as outlined by the Commission for Air Quality Management.

"The LG also stressed that the exercise should succeed in bringing the people of the city close to these stretches of roads so as to instil ownership of these public assets in them. This, in turn, will ensure safety, security, and proper maintenance, apart from providing much-needed open recreational spaces," an official said.

On the concept of the model road, a senior official said the roads will be equipped with a fool-proof stormwater drainage system to ensure that no flooding takes place, which will consequently prevent silt from being left behind. With flooding brought under control, commuting and traffic flow during rains will be smoother, and the absence of silt will ensure there is no dust pollution.

Officials also said that the central verges along these stretches will be developed scientifically, with grass carpeting and a piped watering facility, thereby eliminating silt spillage caused when tankers are used for watering. "This.... will also result in ending the traffic congestion caused due to the movement of slow-moving water tankers," the official said.

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Barapullah Phase III will be ready for inauguration by June 30, says PWD Minister

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

COME JULY, the commute between East Delhi and AIIMS is set to become signal free, as the much-awaited Barapullah Phase III project will be completed by June 30, Delhi PWD Minister Parvesh Sahib Singh said on Tuesday.

Singh, while inspecting the work, told mediapersons, "After reviewing the work on ground, I am satisfied that the project is now in its final phase. We have personally monitored every approval, every coordination process and every technical challenge to ensure that the project moves forward without further delay."

"Our target is firm. By June 30, Barapullah Phase III will be ready for inauguration and Delhiites will finally get long-awaited relief from congestion on some of the city's busiest roads," he added. Singh also said that this project is unique because "for the first time in India, a flyover has been designed with a dedicated cycle track". He added that the project reflects the government's commitment towards environment-conscious and future-ready infrastructure development in Delhi.

The Barapullah Phase III has been under construction since 2015 and has witnessed several cost escalations and missed deadlines decade due to technical, environmental and procedural challenges. Initially estimated to cost Rs 1,260.63 crore, the project has already seen expenditure of Rs 1,238.68 crore, and is expected to cost around Rs 1,500 crore by the time the work is completed.

The 3.5-km stretch of the Phase III, which is an extension of already operational Barapullah Phase I and II, will start from Mayur Vihar and merge with the existing flyover at Sarai Kale Khan, completing a stretch of around 9 km. The three-laned flyover will provide eight loops – four each at Sarai Kale Khan and Mayur Vihar.

Gymkhana Club row: No interim relief for petitioners, Govt says will follow due process

The Delhi Gymkhana Club at Safdarjung Road. GAJENDRA YADAV

Sohini Ghosh
New Delhi, May 26

THE CENTRAL government informed the Delhi High Court on Tuesday that no evictions would take place at the Delhi Gymkhana Club without following the due process of law.

The court took the statement on the record, but declined to issue any direction to the government restraining further action in the matter until the next date of hearing in July.

"The issue is premature and presumptive," Justice Avneesh Jhingan of the High Court said.

Members and employees of the Delhi Gymkhana Club have challenged the May 22 notice issued by the Land and Development Office under the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) initiating the "re-entry and resumption" of the land occupied by the club on Safdarjung Road in the heart of Lutyens' Delhi.

"As on date there is nothing on record to substantiate that the action under Public Premises Act has been taken and in case need so arises, plaintiffs can avail the remedies in accordance with law...," Justice Jhingan said in his order. "Taking into account that summons have been issued in the main suit and accepted, statement made by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta (who appeared for MoHUA) takes care of the apprehensions (raised by members and employees of the Club)... no further interim directions are called for," the order said.

Three suits have been filed in the HC – one each by a member of the club, by employees under the aegis of Delhi Gymkhana Club Ltd Staff Welfare Association, and by a member of the last elected governing body of the club before nominees appointed by the government took over the management in 2021.

The Centre has said that the 27-acre land is "critically required... for the strengthening and securing of defence infrastructure and other vital public security purposes".

SG Mehta told the court that the May 22 communication was only "vis-a-vis re-entry and termination of the perpetual lease deed by invoking clause 4 of the lease deed", and that the apprehensions of members and employees were "baseless". Clause 4 of the perpetual lease deed allows the government to take back the land if it is required for a public purpose.

Senior advocates Abhishek Manu Singhvi, representing the member of the club, and Kapil Sibal, who appeared for the member of the last elected body, expressed apprehension that the current governing council, comprising nominees appointed by the government, "may act hand-in-glove with the Union of India to hand over the possession of the club".

SG Mehta argued that such apprehensions were baseless since the club's governing committee had already approached the authorities against the May 22 communication through a letter written on May 23. He emphasised there has been no violation of the perpetual lease deed on the part of the government.

The court recorded Mehta's submission that the May 22 communication was for termination of the perpetual lease deed and re-entry, "not for forcible eviction proceedings, for which the proceedings in accordance with law, after issuing of notice shall be entertained".

Singhvi, who appeared for club member Vijay Khurana, who claims to represent the interests of over 550 members, primarily argued that the May 22 notice by MoHUA was "vague" and did not demonstrate public purpose which, Singhvi said, "has to be genuine, and specific". Singhvi also argued that the notice violated the right to property under Article 300A of the Constitution, and since no notice was issued before May 22, the government's action suffered from legal mala fide.

"...The body which ought to be taking action – Delhi Gymkhana Club – have been since replaced by nominees of [SG] Mr [Tushar] Mehta...," Singhvi said. "Voluntary handover (of the premises by the club to the government) does not suffice in this case (as an assurance for the members)..."

"(The club) is in the saddle, I (Khurana) am not... The nature of the suit (by Khurana) is one of derivative action since the oppressed entity is unable to file its own suit," Singhvi said.

Sibal, who appeared for Atul Dev, the head of the last elected body of the club, argued that clause 4 of the perpetual lease deed, which the government has invoked, was framed prior to the commencement of the Constitution. "All clauses of any document have to be tested on the touchstone of our Constitution now, not in reference to the clause," Sibal argued. "Any clause that empowers government or imperial power of the time to take possession is an anathema to the Constitution. It is in the teeth of Article 14."

The court asked Singhvi and Sibal whether "different members [could] take different stances". The counsel clarified that for the interim, they were seeking the same relief: that no further action be taken pursuant to the May 22 notice until the next date of hearing.

A 70-year-old tussle: Union Govt had sent Gymkhana Club its first notice in 1956

Ritu Sarin
New Delhi, May 26

FROM THE illegal construction of buildings inside Delhi Gymkhana Club such as the "Empire Store" and a "petty Baniya Shop" to the proposed acquisition of 1.99 acres of land abutting the Prime Minister's residence, the elite club has been slapped with notices for demolition and eviction from as far as six decades ago.

Each time, the matter has been settled — the "illegal constructions" have been demolished, commercial stores shut down, and in the case of the security concerns regarding the PM's residence, some staff quarters have been relocated.

Correspondence between Gymkhana Club and the Land and Development Office of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) show that the government dispatched its first notice back in 1956, asking the club to remove "unauthorized constructions". As the list of alleged unauthorised constructions grew longer, the L&DO, in 2000, issued orders for "peaceful possession" of the premises.

In one communication, the club admitted that "thereafter, several notices were received asking the club to remove several more unauthorised constructions/ breaches...".

In a letter dated September 29, 2000, the L&DO chastised the club for neither removing the "breaches" nor paying up the penalty. "The entire plot of land forming the subject matter of the relevant Lease Deal and all the buildings standing thereupon including all structures, erection and fittings shall vest with the lessor," it said.

In 2004, the club paid penalties of Rs 74.22 lakh, including Rs 38.16 lakh for unauthorised construction, Rs 2.61 lakh for running the Empire Store, and Rs 23.91 lakh for the "Jumbo Shop".

In 2008, the club informed the government that the premises had never been "re-entered", and that they had withdrawn the writ petition in the Delhi High Court since the "regularization" charges had been paid.

Inside the Delhi Gymkhana Club. FILE

> *As the list of alleged unauthorised constructions grew longer, the L&DO, in 2000, issued orders for 'peaceful possession' of the premises*

While the matter appeared settled, it took another five years for the L&DO to write to the club, in December 2009, informing that it was withdrawing the "re-entry" order.

The correspondence shows that following the original 1956 notice, the Empire Store was demolished in 1980, and the Jumbo Shop was shut in 2001.

The club received notices in 2001-2002 for "re-acquisition" of 1.99 acres of land adjoining the PM's residence. This matter too was before the HC, and was sorted out in an "out-of-court" settlement – the staff quarters on the periphery of the club were moved and the "security zone" was sanitised.

The records show that in 2001, after the club received notices for the "resumption" of the land, a list of 178 families/ quarters was prepared. In May 2000, the Municipal Corporation issued orders for their rehabilitation with Rs 81.88 lakh being calculated as the cost of the shifting project, which the club paid and converted the area into a "green" belt.

At that time, the government prosecutor had told the HC that "it is naïve to suggest that the Prime Minister's security should be left to the care of officials of the Delhi Gymkhana Club."

A confidential letter from the Delhi Police in May 2001 noted, "There are over 150 servant quarters in Delhi Gymkhana club area which have been considered one of the most potential threat areas, being in close proximity with Race Course Road. It has therefore been decided that these servant quarters should be removed forthwith..."

Even the rooftop of the squash court and the store rooms were categorised as "convenient hiding places" by the police.

Former Additional Solicitor General Vikas Singh, who had appeared for the Gymkhana Club in 2001-2002 before the HC, recalled: "Even earlier, the matter of the Prime Minister's security has been cited by the ministry and has been sorted out amicably. The government, back then, gave alternate land in Molarband on the outskirts of Delhi to the club staff who were asked to vacate their homes. And even then, back in 2001, orders were issued for compensation as per Clause 4 of the 1928 lease."

Teenager shot in head after argument at Amar Colony market, critical

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

A TEENAGER was critically injured after being shot in the head at South Delhi's Amar Colony market on Tuesday evening following an argument with a group of men, said police. The incident took place around 7 pm when the boy was sitting outside an eatery and having snacks with a friend from his school, according to officers.

"Prima facie, it appears that an argument broke out following a heated exchange between the boy and three men standing near the eatery. It appears that the accused had touched the chair of the victim on which he was sitting. Initially, it seemed, the matter was resolved after the accused apologised. However, four-five minutes later, one of the men approached the boy again and fired at him," a police officer said.

Even as eyewitnesses told the police that the accused had allegedly passed objectionable comments, which led to the confrontation, police said they are still verifying and corroborating the exact sequence of events. Officers said they are scanning the CCTV footage from the area.

After being shot at, the boy collapsed to the ground as his friend started screaming for help. The shooter and the two other men allegedly fled the spot on foot, according to eyewitnesses.

With the help of shopkeepers and staff members nearby, the injured boy was taken to Moolchand Hospital, from where he was later shifted to the AIIMS Trauma Centre.

The police were subsequently informed. The family members of the duo were also informed.

According to doctors, the condition of the boy remains critical while his friend is being counselled, said officers.

Valuables worth Rs 50 L stolen from scientist's residence at DRDO complex

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

A SENIOR scientist was robbed of valuables worth Rs 45-50 lakh after thieves broke into her home inside the Scientist Hostel at the DRDO Timarpur complex in North Delhi, a highly secured area, police said.

The complainant, Seema Gautam, who is posted in Delhi, had travelled to Chandigarh on leave on May 15 to meet her husband and five-year-old daughter.

Her husband is also a scientist and is posted as Joint Director with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in Chandigarh

On Saturday, a neighbour found the flat's door open and alerted Gautam, who filed a complaint at Timarpur police station that night. Local police, along with the Crime Branch and forensic teams, immediately inspected the premises and collected evidence.

Police said the burglars broke open an iron cupboard to access jewellery and other valuables.

According to the FIR, stolen items include about Rs 15,000 in cash, foreign currency (20 pounds and 50 dirhams), multiple gold ornaments and silver articles, children's jewellery, and expensive watches. Specific losses listed are a necklace set, six bangles, seven chains, five rings, four sets of earrings, a nose pin, a silver anklet, 20 grams of silver coins, two Daniel Klein watches and a Titan watch.

The incident has raised serious questions about security inside the DRDO complex, which houses around 300 scientists, including several senior officers. Police said it is suspected that the accused scaled the wall of the campus to enter into the premises. Officers said multiple teams are investigating the case.

After fight with security guard, minor ran SUV over him twice; among 4 held

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

UPSET THAT Bijender, a 60-year old security guard at a tempo stand in Outer Delhi's Peeragarhi, did not recognise his clout in the neighbourhood, a minor boy allegedly nursed the grudge for nearly a month, targeted him with three others, including a minor, in the early hours of Sunday at the tempo stand, thrashed him with a stick and ran an SUV over him twice, leading to his death, said police. The two minors were detained and the other two accomplices — 22-year-old Vinay and and an 18-year-old — were arrested on Tuesday

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer) Vikram Singh said the murder case was cracked within 48 hours following a joint operation of Paschim Vihar West police and the Special Staff of Outer District even as the incident was initially reported as an accident.

Investigators analysed footage from more than 200 CCTV cameras to trace the four accused who had fled the crime scene. Police received a tip-off that the accused were attempting to flee to Haridwar in a black Mahindra Bolero used in the crime. Acting on the information, police laid a trap near Mundka Industrial Area and intercepted the SUV, said officers.

Ravi Sharma, the son of the deceased, Bijender, urged for justice. "My mother passed away 11 years ago. My father was living with me and my wife. Nobody should have the misfortune of seeing this day. Usually, the minors are released after six months or so, but police should ensure that that does not happen in this case," he said.

During questioning, the accused admitted that they had killed the security guard, according to officers.

HC vacates stay on eviction action against Delhi Race Club

Sohini Ghosh
New Delhi, May 26

THE DELHI High Court Tuesday vacated the stay on eviction proceedings against the Delhi Race Club.

Allowing an appeal by the Centre, which had challenged the stay ordered by a single judge, Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia reasoned that "nothing has been considered by the... Single Judge in respect of a prima facie case, irreparable loss, and balance of convenience while passing the impugned order" staying the action by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

"... what we notice is that the learned Single Judge, while passing the impugned order after discussing the respective cases of the parties, only observed that looking at the chequered history of the previous litigation and in the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case, the matter requires consideration and, thereafter, without giving any reason, even for namesake, directed that the Estate Officer shall not proceed further with the show-cause notice...," the court said. "... Such a course, in our opinion, was not available to the learned Single Judge for passing the interim order, which has impacted the valuable right of the appellants to invoke the statutory right... without giving reasons and... a finding...," the division bench noted.

The Club has been in possession of the land since 1926. FILE

The Single Judge, in its April 24 order, had stayed further proceedings before the Estate Officer in relation to a show cause notice on April 17, under Section 4 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, issued by the MoHUA to the Club.

In its show cause notice, the Ministry had sought the Club's response on why an order of eviction should not be made under provisions of the PP Act.

The Club, which has been in possession of the land since 1926, was issued a showcause notice by the government for re-entry in 1999. Following a legal challenge to this, the notice was set aside by the Delhi HC in 2012.

While the Club contended that its lease stood renewed after payment of pending dues — Rs 3.48 crore — in 2013, the Centre, through Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma and central government standing counsel Ashish Dixit, had disputed the Club's claim. It contended that this was not acceded to "in view of the requirement of the subject land for government/public purposes, including defence and security considerations," and, accordingly, no further extension/renewal of the lease was granted in favour of the Club.

The division bench observed, "It is settled law that this Court, while passing interim orders even while exercising its extraordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is under an obligation to conform to the legal principle governing the grant of an interim order, which requires adjudication to be made regarding a prima facie case, balance of convenience and irreparable loss."

● DELHI JAL BOARD CONDUCTS INSPECTION, UNDERTAKES REPAIR WORK

'Smells like sewage': Gulmohar Park residents complain of dirty water, illnesses

Sophiya Mathew
New Delhi, May 26

OVER LAST one week, residents of South Delhi's Gulmohar Park have been alleging severe contamination in drinking water supply, with many reporting foul-smelling, yellow and murky water as well as multiple cases of illness and hospitalisation, prompting inspections and repair work by the Delhi Jal Board (DJB).

Many families have shut off their DJB connections and are relying on private tankers, as fears grow over possible sewage mixing with drinking water in underground pipelines.

An emergency meeting was convened on Tuesday between the affected residents and local MLA Satish Upadhyay — also the nominated DJB chairman — as authorities attempted to identify the source of the contamination affecting households in A, B, C and D blocks.

Upadhyay said DJB officials traced the possible contamination points to illegal makeshift toilets set up amid ongoing construction activity behind B-40 and B-46 homes, along with an old pipeline near a drain close to Gate 2 that had not been properly sealed. "Whenever a new house is built, a new connection for water is laid. But the old pipeline along these houses was left redundant... as the pipelines are interconnected, water started getting sucked from there," he said.

Upadhyay added that while illegal makeshift toilets had been demolished and old pipelines plugged, repair work around the drain area had been initiated. "We have requested MCD to take legal action and issue notices. The DC (South) has also been informed," he said.

Residents said DJB teams spent much of Tuesday digging up stretches to inspect damaged pipelines and identify possible leak points between sewer and drinking water lines.

According to the residents, more than 80 complaints have been filed on the Chief Minister's grievance portal regarding the issue. They alleged the contamination has led both senior citizens and children to catch diarrhoea and infections. Some have also been hospitalised.

No clear water at Gulmohar Park; a resident develops skin rash. TASHI TOBGYAL

"Four residents are in the hospital. There may be far more. The water supply is not only muddy, it also contains pathogens... maybe that is what is causing diarrhoea," resident Subrat Birla said. "We have more than 50 cases, every day it's increasing. Even after boiling water we are not sure, so people are buying drinking water," he added.

Residents said the problem began around a week ago with complaints from a few homes before spreading rapidly across multiple blocks over the last two to three days. "The water smells bad, tastes bad, and is also yellow," said one. "Four senior citizens are in the hospital because of diarrhoea. Two children have also been impacted."

An 18-month-old child was hospitalised on Tuesday, residents claimed, while several others reported gastrointestinal illness and skin irritation.

"It is contaminated with faecal matter. We have cleaned the tanks and plugged the DJB supply. Chlorine etc will not be of much use," a resident from B Block alleged in a message circulated among residents.

Residents who attended Tuesday's meeting said that DJB officials have advised them not to use the water supply until the issue is resolved. They alleged that demand for water supply by tankers has surged sharply, with many depending either on DJB or private suppliers.

The Gulmohar Park Joint Citizens Welfare Association had written to authorities on May 23. "Residents are falling sick. Please correct the problem on an urgent basis," the complaint by RWA president Nirupama Verma said.

Residents said the colony, developed in the early 1970s and home to a large elderly population, has an ageing underground pipeline network. Many also alleged that low water pressure and intermittent supply may have worsened the contamination risk. "Everybody has online meters now. These suck in even dirty water during low-pressure hours," one resident said.

Some said they were relying entirely on tankers. "I drained all the water from my underground tank. Since then, I have been dependent on tankers," a resident said. "My mother and sister are down with diarrhoea. My neighbour's grandson is hospitalised."

As per RWA representatives, while officials assured that the issue may be resolved within two to three days, they remained uncertain about when normal supply would resume.

Top court verdict on SIR validity today

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

THE SUPREME Court will on Wednesday deliver its judgment on petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls carried out by the Election Commission of India (ECI) in various states beginning with Bihar.

A bench of Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi had reserved its decision on a batch of petitions challenging the ECI's powers on January 29 this year.

The court while refusing the stay the SIR process had, however, said that it will examine if ECI had the powers to do the special revision. It said that publication of the final list will not stop it from intervening if it is satisfied that there is some illegality in the exercise.

The ECI took the stand that the power flows from Article 326 of the Constitution dealing with universal adult suffrage, which gives the right to vote to only citizens, and this empowers it to ensure that those on the roll are indeed citizens. Allowing non-citizens to vote would "go against the grain of the Constitution", the poll panel had argued.

It had said that it is empowered "to verify the citizenship status of an individual for the limited purpose of ensuring that an individual fulfills the eligibility criterion of being on the electoral roll". It added that the exercise was needed to weed out voters who may be dead or have shifted to another constituency.

The petitioners, including NGO Association for Democratic Rights, contended that while there is no dispute that citizenship is a prerequisite for voting, the core question was whether the ECI can determine citizenship at all.

They also claimed that the process was rushed through in Bihar while parts of the state were reeling under floods, leading to disenfranchisement of many eligible voters, including religious minorities. The ECI, on the other hand, had claimed that there was hardly any appeal filed against the exclusions.

Some of the petitions also challenged the SIR exercise in Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and some other states. Petitioners included TMC MP Mahua Moitra, RJD MP Manoj Jha, Congress MP KC Venugopal, and NCP (SP) MP Supriya Sule.

Bihar orders 2-day family vacation for all govt employees every 3 months

Himanshu Harsh
Patna, May 26

THE BIHAR government has directed all state government officials and employees to undertake periodic two-day stays at tourist destinations in the state, including eco-tourism and rural tourism destinations, as part of an initiative aimed at encouraging the development of local tourism infrastructure.

"All government officers and employees working in the state of Bihar shall, once every three months, undertake a two-day visit (including two nights) with their families to any district within the state, excluding their home district, and stay in tourist, eco-tourism or rural tourism destinations," a communication issued by the General Administration Department said.

The order specifies that the stay should include Friday and Saturday nights, during which the visitors should tour up to three nearby destinations.

The government has said the duration of such travel would be "treated as time spent on duty". At the same time, it has barred officials from combining these visits with official review meetings or site inspections. "During this tour, no official shall conduct review meetings or site inspections for official work purposes," the order stated.

The directive, issued by Additional Chief Secretary of the General Administration Department, Dr B. Rajender, has been sent to all additional chief secretaries, principal secretaries, secretaries, divisional commissioners, district magistrates, police officials and forest department officers across Bihar.

The government said the move was aimed at identifying ways to improve tourism-related infrastructure and facilities in areas that remain relatively under-recognised despite Bihar's historical, cultural and ecological diversity.

"Bihar is a state rich in diversity, with several places having significant art, culture, environmental diversity and historical importance. Apart from internationally and nationally established tourist sites, there are many important places that need to be brought to the global stage," the letter said.

According to the communication, officials and employees will be expected to submit a consolidated report after their visit, including photographs of tourist sites, information related to the destinations and their personal experiences. These reports will be submitted to district magistrates, divisional commissioners or respective departments, depending on the officer's place of posting. The government has also directed departments and district administrations to appoint nodal officers to compile these reports and forward them to the departments concerned.

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR
Ganderbal www.cukashmir.ac.in

ADMISSION -2026 M.TECH. IN STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING (WORKING PROFESSIONALS)
(AICTE Approved)

The Central University of Kashmir invites online applications from working professionals for admission to M.Tech. (Structural Engineering) programme in the Department of Civil Engineering for the academic session 2026-2027. The registration process shall begin from 26th May, 2026 (2:00 PM onwards). The last date of registration is 10th June, 2026 (upto 11:55 PM). For registration process & detailed information, candidates are advised to visit the University website: www.cukashmir.ac.in. S/d Director (I/C) Directorate of Admissions Date: 26.05.2026

मुख्यालय
उत्तराखण्ड प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड
"गौरा देवी पर्यावरण भवन" 46बी, आई.टी. पार्क, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, देहरादून
E-mail: msukpcb@yahoo.com, दूरभाष: 0135-2607092

पत्रांक–यूईपीपीसीबी / एचओ / NOC–8318 / 300 दिनांक 26.05.2026

जन सूचना (शुद्धि पत्र)

दिनांक 28 / 04 / 2026 को दैनिक समाचार पत्र "दैनिक जागरण (सम्पूर्ण उत्तराखण्ड संस्करण) एवं India Express (दिल्ली संस्करण) में मै० कैलाश रिवर बैंड मिनरल्स एल. एल. पी. निवास सं0 28 लेन नं–2 गोविन्द नगर, सहस्त्रधारा रोड, देहरादून, द्वारा राऊ नदी पर खसरा संख्या – 639, 02 ग्राम सुमन नगर पाथरी, तहसील एवं जिला हरिद्वार में रेत, बजरी और बोल्डर खनन परियोजना (क्षेत्रफल – 8.71 है०) की पर्यावरणीय स्वीकृति हेतु लोक सुनवाई हेतु तिथि 28.05.2026 की सूचना प्रकाशित कराई गई थी। उत्तराखण्ड शासन के आदेश संख्या 753/CCCI(15)G/2026–74(सा०) / 2016 दिनांक 26.05.2026 के अनुसार दिनांक 27 मई, 2026 (बुधवार) को घोषित सार्वजनिक अवकाश के स्थान अब दिनांक 28 मई, 2026 को सार्वजनिक अवकाश घोषित किया गया है। उक्त आदेश के अनुक्रम में लोक सुनवाई की तिथि 28.05.2026 के स्थान पर 09.06.2026 नियत की जाती है। शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

सदस्य सचिव

Advertisement No.: 54/2026
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Managing Director
in
National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation
Last date of submission of application by applicants is by 15:00 hours on
15/06/2026
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal Officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on
24/06/2026
For details login to website
https://pesb.gov.in

UNIVERSITY OF RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR
Notification for Rajasthan University PhD Admission (RUPA)
Online application are invited for admission to the PhD programme of the University of Rajasthan. Online applications may be submitted on https://rupauniraj.org from **27th May 2026 (11 am onward) to 7th June 2026**. For more details, please see the University website. (https://www.uniraj.ac.in).
Ashu Choudhary (Registrar)
Prof. Shailendra Kumar Gupta
Convener, RUPA-2025

Advertisement No. 53/2026
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR
in
BRAITHWAITE & CO. LIMITED (BCL)
Last date of submission of application by the applicant is by 15:00 hours on 15th June, 2026
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on 24th June, 2026
For details login to website:
https://www.pesb.gov.in

भारत सरकार / Government of India
गृह मंत्रालय / Ministry of Home Affairs
महानिदेशालय, सशस्त्र सीमा बल / Directorate General, SSB
पूर्वी खण्ड–5, आर. के. पुरम / East Block-V, R.K. Puram
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi – 110066

Corrigendum

The advertisement for walk-in-interview for GDMOs & Specialist Doctors in SSB was published in employment news dated 16-22 May 2026. Postal address of Frontier Hqrs. SSB Guwahati may please read as Frontier Hqrs. SSB Guwahati, Village Borkhat, PO & PS- Sonapur, Distt- Kamrup Metro, Assam, PIN- 782402 in place of Frontier Hqr. SSB Guwahati, Research Gate, Jaya Nagar, Khanapara.
Other contents of advertisement shall remain unchanged.

CBC 19114/11/0006/2627 Second-In-Command(Rectt.)

राजीव गाँधी राष्ट्रीय विमानन विश्वविद्यालय
RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL AVIATION UNIVERSITY
नागर विमानन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के तहत
एक केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
(A Central University under Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India)
2013 में संसद के एक अधिनियम द्वारा स्थापित
Established by an Act of Parliament in 2013

ADMISSION NOTICE-2026

The Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University (RGNAU) is a Central University established by an Act of Parliament, under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India. RGNUA invites applications for admission to the following Undergraduate Programmes and the doctoral degree programme for the Academic Session 2026-27:

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

1. B. Tech. in Aerospace Engineering (Seat: 60)
2. B. Tech. in Electronics & Communication Engg-Avionics (Seat: 60)
3. B. Tech. in AI & Data Science-Aviation System (Seat: 60)

Admission Process: JEE (Mains) through CSAB/JOSAA-2026 Counselling

4. B. Sc (Aviation) (Seat: 30)

Admission Process: CUET 2026 Score/Exam to be conducted by the RGNAU

5. BBA in Aviation Management (Seat: 60)
6. BMS in Aviation Services & Air Cargo (Seat: 120)

Admission Process: CUET Score 2026/Exam to be conducted by the RGNAU

Application Fee: UR/OBC/EWS: 1000/- & SC/ST/PwD/ Female: 500/-

DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES
(PART-TIME & FULL TIME)

1. Aerospace Engineering & Aviation Sciences
2. Electronics & Communication Engg-Avionics
3. Management Studies & Aviation Management

Admission Process: GATE/NET/Exam to be conducted by the RGNAU

Application Fee: UR/OBC/EWS: 500/- & SC/ST/PwD/Female: NIL/-

How to Apply:

Interested may visit- www.rgnau.ac.in for detailed Eligibility Criteria, Selection Process, Last Date of Application Submission and Apply Online.

CBC 03110/12/0012/2627

भारतीय प्रकौशल विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी प्रतिष्ठान, शिवपुर
भारतीय अभियांत्रिकी विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, शिवपुर
Indian Institute of Engineering Science & Technology, Shibpur
(An Institute of National Importance)

Employment Notification
Special Drive for Faculty Recruitment against Backlog Reserved Vacancies on Mission Mode

Advt. No. RO/MY/26/14 **Date: 20/05/2026**

Online applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the posts of Assistant Professor Grade II (Level 10), Assistant Professor Grade I (Level 12), Associate Professor (Level 13A2) and Professor (Level 14A) against the backlog reserved vacancies [ST, SC and OBC (NCL)] in different Academic Units. The last date of submission of filled in application form through SAMARTH Portal is **June 12, 2026 up to 11: 55 pm.** For eligibility criteria and other details, please visit the Institute website:
(https://www.iiests.ac.in/en/updates?tab=notifications&category=Employment).

Registrar

भारतीय प्रकौशल विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी प्रतिष्ठान, शिवपुर
भारतीय अभियांत्रिकी विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, शिवपुर
Indian Institute of Engineering Science & Technology, Shibpur
(An Institute of National Importance)

Employment Notification
Recruitment of Faculty on Mission Mode

Advt. No. RO/MY/26/15 **Date: 22/05/2026**

Online applications are invited from Indian Nationals for the posts of Assistant Professor Grade II (Level 10), Assistant Professor Grade I (Level 12), Associate Professor (Level 13A2) and Professor (Level 14A) in different Academic Units. The last date of submission of filled in application form through Samarth portal is **June 15, 2026.** For eligibility criteria and other details, please visit the Institute website:
(**https://www.iiests.ac.in/en/updates?tab=notifications&category=Employment**).

Registrar

HARERA
GURUGRAM

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF THE RETIREMENT HOUSING COLONY NAMELY "ADVIK BY ROF" SITUATED IN REVENUE ESTATE OF VILLAGE DHUNELA, SECTOR 36, SOHNA, GURUGRAM BEING DEVELOPED BY M/S ROF INFRATECH AND HOUSING PVT. LTD.

It is for the information of the general public that an application dated 18.05.2026 for registration of the project under Section 4 of the Act of 2016 is submitted in the Authority for the project **"ADVIK BY ROF"**.

The Department of Town & Country Planning, Haryana granted license no. 129 of 2024 dated 24.10.2024 to **M/s ROF Infratech And Housing Pvt. Ltd.** for development of Retirement Housing Colony on the land measuring 2.08125 acres in the revenue estate of village Dhunela, sector 36, Sohna, Gurugram.

The applicant has further obtained the building plan approval of the project vide memo no. ZP-2237/JD(G)/2026/17104 dated 15.05.2026.

The relevant application and related documents are available in the office of the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram which can be seen by any concerned on any working day during office hours up to 10.06.2026.

Also, if anyone wishes to appear, may appear before the Authority on 15.06.2026 at 11:00 am during the hearing.

Given under the approval of the Authority and its seal.

Sd/-
Secretary, Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram

Dated: 27.05.2026

HARERA
GURUGRAM

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF THE GROUP HOUSING COLONY NAMELY "J 36" SITUATED IN SECTOR-36, SOHNA, GURUGRAM BEING DEVELOPED BY M/S FANTASY EXIM PVT. LTD.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of the general public that M/s Fantasy Exim Pvt. Ltd. has applied for registration of the project "J 36" under Section 4 of the Act of 2016 in the Authority covering an area of 3.825 acres under License No. 116 of 2025 dated 04.07.2025 valid upto 03.07.2030 over an area measuring 3.825 acres issued by DTCP, Haryana in favour of M/s Jandu Construction India Pvt. Ltd. in collaboration with M/s Fantasy Exim Pvt. Ltd.

Thereafter, the promoter has obtained the approval of building plans for the group housing colony issued by DTCP over an area measuring 3.825 acres vide Memo no. ZP-2189/JD(G)/2026/17202 dated 18.05.2026.

Now, the promoter has approached the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram, for the registration of the project namely "J 36" dated 19.05.2026 for the project over an area measuring 3.825 acres situated in revenue estate of Village Dhunela, Sector-36, Sohna, Gurugram, Haryana.

The relevant application and related documents are available in the office of the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram which can be seen by any concerned on any working day during office hours upto 09.06.2026. Also, if anyone wishes to appear, may appear before the Authority on 15.06.2026 at 11:00am during the hearing. Given under the approval of the Authority and its seal.

Sd/-
Secretary,
Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram.

Dated: 26.05.2026

TATA

TATA STEEL LIMITED

Registered Office: Bombay House, 24, Homi Mody Street, Fort, Mumbai 400 001, India
Corporate Identification Number: L27100MH1907PLC000260
Tel No: +91 22 6665 8282 **E-mail:** cosec@tatasteel.com **Website:** www.tatasteel.com

NOTICE

Transfer of Equity Shares of Tata Steel Limited (arising on account of the amalgamation of The Tinplate Company of India Limited and Tata Metaliks Limited with Tata Steel Limited), to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF)

This Notice is published pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, as amended, ('**Act**') read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016, as amended, ('**Rules**'). The Act and the Rules, *inter alia*, contain provisions for transfer of unclaimed dividend to IEPF and transfer of shares, both held in physical form as well as in electronic form, in respect of which dividend(s) has not been paid or claimed by the shareholder(s) for seven consecutive years or more, to the IEPF Authority in their dematerialized account maintained with National Securities Depository Limited.

Pursuant to the approved and sanctioned Scheme of Amalgamation amongst The Tinplate Company of India Limited ('**TCIL**') and Tata Steel Limited ('**Company**') and their respective shareholders, TCIL has amalgamated into and with the Company effective January 15, 2024 ('**TCIL Amalgamation**'). Consequently, all public shareholders of TCIL holding shares as on the record date of January 19, 2024 have been allotted Ordinary (equity) Shares of the Company in the share exchange ratio of 33:10.

Further, pursuant to the approved and sanctioned Scheme of Amalgamation amongst Tata Metaliks Limited ('**TML**') and the Company and their respective shareholders, TML has amalgamated into and with the Company effective February 1, 2024 ('**TML Amalgamation**'). Consequently, all public shareholders of TML holding shares as on the record date of February 6, 2024 have been allotted Ordinary (equity) Shares of the Company in the share exchange ratio of 79:10.

In compliance with the Act read with the Rules, the Company has sent individual communication, in physical mode, to the concerned shareholder(s) (who held shares in TCIL and TML respectively and consequent to the TCIL Amalgamation and TML Amalgamation, became shareholders of the Company) at their registered postal address, requesting them to claim their unclaimed dividend(s). This communication is addressed to those shareholders whose past dividend(s) from (i) erstwhile TCIL and TML (amalgamated into and with the Company during FY2023-24) for FY 2018-19 to FY 2022-23 and (ii) the Company for FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 remains unclaimed and consequently whose shares held in the Company (allotted pursuant to the TCIL Amalgamation and TML Amalgamation) are liable to be transferred in favour of the IEPF Authority, on September 30, 2026 (applicable for TCIL) and October 1, 2026 (applicable for TML) as per the process laid down in the Act read with the Rules and applicable notifications from Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The eligible shareholder(s) of TCIL and TML are advised to claim such unclaimed dividend(s) by **September 29, 2026 (applicable for TCIL) and September 30, 2026 (applicable for TML)** from the Company.

The Company has made available the relevant details of the TCIL and TML shareholder(s) whose shares are liable for transfer to IEPF in 2026, on its website at www.tatasteel.com. Shareholders are requested to refer to https://www.tatasteel.com/investors/investor-information/unclaimed-dividend/ to verify the details of their unclaimed dividend(s) and their shares.

Shareholders are requested to note that in case the dividend(s) are not claimed by their due dates, as mentioned above, the unclaimed dividend of TCIL and TML for FY2018-19 (paid in FY2019-20) will get transferred to IEPF. Further, the equity shares of the Company allotted to the shareholders consequent to the TCIL Amalgamation and TML Amalgamation against those equity share(s) held by shareholders in TCIL and TML (now amalgamated into and with the Company) respectively, in respect of which the dividend(s) remains unclaimed for 7 consecutive years shall be transferred in favour of IEPF Authority without any further notice to the shareholders in the following manner:

In case the equity shares are held:

- **In physical form** - new share certificate(s) will be issued and transferred in favour of IEPF Authority on completion of necessary formalities. Hence, the original share certificate(s)/letter(s) of confirmation issued in your name will be deemed cancelled and non-negotiable.
- **In dematerialized form** - the Company shall transfer the shares by way of corporate action through the Depositories to the demat account of IEPF Authority established by the Central Government.

The concerned shareholders are requested to note that all future benefits arising on such equity shares transferred to IEPF, will also be issued/transferred in favour of the IEPF Authority established by the Central Government.

The shareholders may note that both the unclaimed dividend(s) and/or Equity Share(s) already transferred in favor of the IEPF Authority can be claimed by visiting the website of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs at www.mca.gov.in

The shareholders may further note that the details of unclaimed dividend and/or shares of the concerned shareholders uploaded by the Company on its website shall be treated as adequate notice in respect of issue of new share certificate by the Company for the purpose of transfer of shares in favour of IEPF Authority pursuant to the Act read with the Rules and other applicable notifications issued by MCA from time to time.

Please note that no claim shall lie against the Company in respect of unclaimed dividend(s) and equity shares that will be transferred to the IEPF within statutory timelines.

For any queries on the above matter, Shareholders are requested to contact either of the following:

Contact details of the Company	Registrars and Transfer Agents (RTA)
Mr. Parvatheesam Kanchinadham Company Secretary and Chief Legal Officer (Nodal Officer for IEPF purpose) Bombay House, 24 Homi Mody Street, Fort, Mumbai 400 001. Tel No: +91 22 6665 7279 Email: cosec@tatasteel.com	MUFG Intime India Private Limited (formerly Link Intime India Private Ltd) C-101, 1st Floor, 247 Park, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai 400 083. Tel No.: +91 810 811 8484 Email: Investor.helpdesk@in.mpms.mufg.com For raising queries, please visit the website: www.in.mpms.mufg.com

Tata Steel Limited
Sd/-
Parvatheesam Kanchinadham
Company Secretary and Chief Legal Officer
Membership No. ACS: 15921

May 27, 2026
Mumbai

TATA STEEL

DELHI CONFIDENTIAL

Book over Bouquet

CONGRESS MP Shashi Tharoor's meeting with Kerala Chief Minister V D Satheesan in Delhi on Tuesday came wrapped in both politics and symbolism. In a statement after their hour-long interaction, Tharoor said the two discussed Kerala's development roadmap "in extensive detail", with Satheesan seeking his "help and policy advice" on a wide range of issues. But it was the closing flourish in the statement that caught attention in political circles. Knowing Satheesan to be a "tireless reader", Tharoor said he gifted him his latest book on Sree Narayana Guru, adding that the CM agreed "a book is always better than a bouquet". In Delhi's political ecosystem, where bouquets are standard-issue optics for courtesy calls, the Thiruvananthapuram MP's literary touch — and the careful mention of it — was read as classic Tharoor.

Personal Touch

IN WHAT he termed was among the most emotional and unforgettable moments of his life, Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan personally invited leaders from across the BJP and RSS's ranks to be part of the release of 'Apnapan' – his memoir on his longstanding association with Prime Minister Narendra Modi – in the Capital on Tuesday. According to party insiders, Chouhan's personal invitations to leaders — whether currently or previously in office — as well as karyakartas irrespective of their seniority, went beyond into the ranks of the NDA, leading to representatives from alliance partners also attending the event.

Panel set up to study demographic changes — causes & consequences

Chaired by retd SC judge, committee is expected to submit report in a year

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

THE GOVERNMENT on Tuesday constituted a High-Level Committee on Demographic Changes (HLCDC) under the Ministry of Home Affairs "to undertake scientific study of the nature, causes and consequences of such demographic changes occurring across the country and to recommend appropriate policy, administrative and legal measures".

The committee will be chaired by retired Supreme Court judge Justice Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar and will include the Census Commissioner, former UP Chief Secretary Durga Shanker Mishra, former BPR&D chief Balaji Srivastava, and economist Dr Shamika Ravi as members. The Joint Secretary (Foreigners-I), MHA, will serve as the Member Secretary.

Justice Naolekar, 82, retired in June 2008 after serving a four-year tenure. As SC judge, he was part of the two-judge bench that upheld Mohammad Afzal Guru's death sentence in the 2001 Parliament attack case.

The notification said the panel may also consult local governments, security agencies, social organisations and academic institutions, and nominate other experts or agencies if required. The committee shall submit its final report within a period of one year, it said.

In a statement announcing the constitution of the committee, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said: "Infiltration and other reasons causing unnatural demographic change pose a very significant challenge to the present and future of any nation."

Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had first announced the proposed committee in his Independence Day address in 2025. "Demographic change is a serious issue linked not only to our sovereignty but also to national security, law and order, profound changes in social structure, and the preservation of tribal society," he said, adding that the committee would conduct a "comprehensive assessment" of demographic changes occurring due to "illegal immigration and other unnatural causes".

In his Independence Day speech last year, Modi had flagged what he described as "unnatural demographic imbalance" in some parts of the country and announced what he called a "Demographic Mission" to study the issue. He had linked demographic shifts to illegal infiltration, border security and stress on local resources, especially in border and tribal regions.

The committee's constitution formalises a long-standing ideological and political pitch of the RSS and BJP, both of which have repeatedly raised concerns over demographic change allegedly driven by illegal immigration — particularly from Bangladesh — and differential fertility rates among communities. Over the years, BJP leaders have frequently used the term "ghuspaithiya" (infiltrator) in political campaigns, especially in eastern and northeastern states, arguing that unchecked infiltration alters electoral, social and cultural balances.

According to the notification, demographic changes observed in certain regions are "not attributable to normal fertility or mortality trends" but are emerging due to "external abnormal factors such as illegal immigration, irregular population mobility, and administrative laxity". While such changes are most visible in border districts, their effects have spread to "urban centres, industrial corridors, tribal regions, and other socially and economically sensitive areas", affecting public service delivery, local governance, resource distribution and "social cohesion", it said.

According to the terms of reference, the committee has been tasked with undertaking an "extensive consideration" of challenges arising from demographic changes, including due to illegal immigration. It will study possible causes such as fertility variations, cross-border movement, economic opportunities and socio-environmental factors.

The panel will also identify underlying drivers, including "illegal immigration, abnormal settlement patterns, and planned migration", and analyse "structural population changes at the level of religious or social communities, especially those diverging from uniform trends".

E. EXPLAINED

Getting to the core

THE MOVE is a formalisation of the BJP's core ideological issue of "demographic imbalance" and "Ghuspaithiya politics". The terms of reference of the committee spell out that its core job would be to examine the fears often expressed in political speeches of BJP leaders and RSS functionaries. The remedies suggested by the committee would likely become the template for the government to take action on this front.

Annamalai remarks on CBSE 3-language policy signal churn in Tamil Nadu BJP

Arun Janardhanan
Chennai, May 26

IN TAMIL Nadu's rapidly shifting political climate, former state BJP chief K Annamalai has delivered what appeared to be a simple appeal on school language policy.

Inside BJP circles, however, his statement on Monday was read as something more layered. It is being seen as part policy intervention, part political signalling, and part personal frustration by a leader who once dominated the party's Tamil Nadu narrative before Delhi pushed him into an uneasy alliance with the AIADMK, which ended up in failure as he had predicted.

In a sharply worded statement, Annamalai urged the Union Education Ministry to withdraw a recent CBSE notification that advanced the implementation of compulsory learning of a third language for Class 9 students from the 2029-30 academic year to the current academic year.

The unusual aspect was not merely the criticism itself, but who was making it. Annamalai, one of the BJP's most aggressive defenders of the Centre in Tamil Nadu over the last few years, publicly questioned the timing and practicality of the move. He warned that forcing Class 9 students to suddenly learn a new language "will only pressurise children and affect their overall learning outcomes".

"Expecting a Class 9 student to learn a new language in a short time will only pressurise children," he said, asking the ministry to "roll back this notification immediately".

For a state where language politics has historically shaped governments, the statement immediately drew attention. But within sections of the BJP, it also triggered another conversation: what exactly was Annamalai signalling?

Several leaders and functionaries interpreted the intervention as a message aimed as much at Delhi as at parents in the state.

"He is effectively saying: either trust me fully and let me build the party here over the next six or seven years at least without constant interference from Delhi leaders who have a little understanding about Tamil Nadu, or understand that he will not remain politically silent," said one BJP leader.

Another senior BJP leader described the statement as the frustration of a politician who built visibility for the party in Tamil Nadu in a short span of time, only to be sidelined.

The BJP today finds itself in an unfamiliar situation in Tamil Nadu. The DMK has lost power and is struggling to hold together its alliance ecosystem. The AIADMK is vertically split and fighting for survival. And the BJP risks appearing stranded between the two collapsing Dravidian formations while actor-turned-Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay absorbs much of the anti-establishment energy that once fuelled Annamalai's own appeal.

"For now, Annamalai framed it entirely as concern for students and parents. But in a state where every sentence is politically decoded within minutes, the subtext mattered almost as much as the text itself. Even after the electoral defeat and the changing equations with AIADMK, Annamalai's role became visibly uncertain. Which is partly why his latest statement felt striking," said a senior RSS leader.

Yet another AIADMK MLA quits, joins TVK

A FOURTH AIADMK MLA, again from the rebel camp led by C Ve Shanmugam-SP Velumani duo, on Tuesday resigned from the Tamil Nadu Assembly, bringing down the strength of the opposition party in the 234-member House to 43 from 47. Ambasamudram MLA Esakki Subaya met Speaker J C D Prabhakar and submitted his resignation letter. Subsequently, Subaya joined the TVK. Earlier, the Palaniswami camp cited alleged legal and procedural lapses behind the three MLAs' move to quit on Monday. **PTI**

Union Home Minister Amit Shah plants a sapling at the Sanchu Border Outpost in Bikaner on Tuesday. ANI

Anti-drone systems along border within six months: Shah in Bikaner

Hamza Khan
Jaipur, May 26

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said anti-drone systems will be deployed along the international border within the next six months, underlining the need to view the BSF's traditional role "from a new dimension".

Speaking at an event near the international border in Rajasthan's Bikaner, Shah said that the BSF must strengthen its preparedness by maintaining constant vigilance against illegal smuggling, infiltration, and cross-border activities, highlighting the Centre's decision to expand BSF's jurisdiction from 15 kilometres to 50 kilometres from the border.

He said, "It is our responsibility to inform the civil administration if any illegal construction takes place within villages located inside this 50-kilometre zone," adding that if any artificial demographic change takes place, the BSF must remain alert and inform the state government.

He said it is also the responsibility of the force to take all necessary measures to strictly stop the smuggling of narcotics and weapons through drones and other means. In this regard, the government will begin installing anti-drone systems within the next six months, he said, stressing that it is equally important to identify who receives the drones once they land on Indian soil and who uses the materials brought by them for anti-national activities.

FINDING CANDIDATE FOR NANDIGRAM ALSO A STRUGGLE

TMC unravels rapidly as over 100 councillors in 7 civic bodies resign, dissent snowballs

Atri Mitra
Kolkata, May 26

THREE WEEKS since losing power in West Bengal, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) appears to be teetering on the edge of an organisational collapse.

The party has been hit by a series of resignations, even as leaders continue to question the state of affairs in the TMC and its trajectory. Over the past few days, party councillors have resigned in municipalities across its former strongholds of North and South 24 Parganas. One estimate puts the number of councillors who have resigned at over 100 from seven municipalities.

Among the civic bodies affected is the Diamond Harbour Municipality, which is part of TMC second-in-command Abhishek Banerjee's Lok Sabha constituency. Of its 16 board members, 8 have resigned, throwing the status of the civic body into question. "We have tried in every possible way to develop the municipality area...I am the chairman and the board (of Councillors) may break up. Everyone is needed for the development of the area," said chairperson Pranab Das.

Among the councillors who have resigned are Dibyendu Halder, Manju Mondal, Tamal Halder, Mridul Halder, Swapan Halder, Alok Halder, Amit Saha, and Debokee Halder. The councillors alleged that lawlessness had prevailed in the area in the name of the "Diamond Harbour model". "The police had excessive control... We told our leadership repeatedly, but no action was taken," alleged Tamal. Das said he was unaware of these allegations.

TMC councillors have also stepped down from five civic bodies in North 24 Parganas. Besides, 12 of the 17 TMC councillors in Kanthi in Purba Medinipur district have also left.

Officials said according to the West Bengal Municipal Act, 1993, the state government can dissolve a Board of Councillors in certain situations, including when "more than two-thirds of the total number of Councillors ...have, for any reason, resigned".

"Public opinion has turned against us... New people should be given a chance..." said North Barrackpore Municipality chairperson Malay Ghosh, one of those who resigned.

The party is also struggling to field a candidate for the bypoll in Nandigram. After the TMC's candidate in the Assembly polls, Pabitra Kar, expressed reluctance to contest one more election, the party reached out to its local leader Sheikh Sufian. Several leaders, including Dola Sen, visited him to ask him to contest, but Sufian instead praised CM Suvendu Adhikari, saying he had the potential to be a good CM.

The organisational troubles of the party come at a time when senior leaders have started speaking up against the leadership. After Barasat MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar stepped down from a party post a couple of days ago and publicly aired her discontent, the party's Rajya Sabha MP Sukhendu Sekhar Roy posted on X, "In 44 BC, Roman Emperor Julius Ceaser was stabbed to death in the Senate on the Ides of March. As per Roman calendar, Ides generally meant for 15th of March, May, July and October. But before Ides of May, people of West Bengal put an end to unbearable anarchical situation."

FIR against Mamata for poll remarks

The FIR against the TMC chief was lodged in Siliguri

AN FIR has been registered against former West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee in Siliguri for alleged criminal intimidation and hurting religious sentiments for her remarks in the Assembly poll campaign in North Bengal earlier this year.

The cybercrime unit lodged the FIR on May 15 on a complaint lodged by lawyer Rinki Chatterjee Singh. In her complaint, she alleged that the TMC supremo insulted the religious sentiments of Hindus with her remarks against Sanatan Dharma.

The lawyer also alleged that certain remarks made by Banerjee during campaigning created fear among members of the Hindu community, and promoted social unrest and religious provocation "with the intention of influencing voters through fear and intimidation." **ENS**

Punjab: Clashes mar civic polls, 63.94% turnout is recorded

Raakhi Jagga, Divya Goyal & Kamaldeep Singh Brar
Patiala, Ludhiana, Amritsar, May 26

NEARLY 64% polling was recorded Tuesday in the urban local body elections in Punjab which was marred by incidents of violence, stone pelting, clashes, attacks on political workers and allegations of booth capturing, officials said.

Violent incidents were reported from Samana in Patiala district, Raikot in Ludhiana district and Majitha in Amritsar district, where rival political workers clashed during polling. Opposition parties, including the Congress, BJP and SAD, accused the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) of using intimidation and violence, even as the police maintained that the situation remained under control.

Elections were held in 1,896 wards across eight municipal corporations — Mohali, Bathinda, Abohar, Barnala, Kapurthala, Moga, Batala, and Pathankot — besides 75 municipal councils and 20 Nagar Panchayats, officials said.

Congress candidate from ward No. 4 in Raikot, Jagdev Singh Gill , alias Jagga, was injured in an attack with sharp-edged weapons by a group of people. Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring wrote on X: "Gangsters and political goons are roaming freely while the government is busy with ads and reels..."

AAP's state media in-charge Baltej Pannu said, "Police will take action as per law."

Kerala CM meets PM

Kerala CM V D Satheesan meets PM Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday. Satheesan discussed Centre-state issues during his meetings with PM Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, and sought exemption for national highway project spending from the state's overall borrowing limit. ANI

MINISTER RECOUNTS EKTA YATRA DAYS & NARMADA AGREEMENT AT AN EVENT THAT COINCIDED WITH MODI COMPLETING 12 YEARS AS PM

'Apnapan': Chouhan releases book detailing 35-year-long ties with PM

Jatin Anand
New Delhi, May 26

BASED ON both his personal interface with, and his learnings from, Prime Minister Narendra Modi as they progressed up the organisational ranks of the Bharatiya Janata Party over more than three decades in public life, Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan released a memoir titled *Apnapan – Narendra Modi Sang Mere Anubhav* on Tuesday.

Terming the book release one of the most emotional and unforgettable moments of his life, Chouhan recalled instances ranging from his first set of interactions with Modi during the 'Ekta Yatra', which culminated in the unfurling of the tricolour at Srinagar's Lal Chowk, to the BJP forming government at the Centre.

"Sometimes, you get the opportunity to work with someone whom the entire world considers a leader; but in reality, they are a saadhak (ascetic), a karmyogi, an extraordinary human being – that person is Shri Narendra Modi ji. Today is the historic day when Shri Narendra Modi took oath as PM for the first time (in 2014)... but our association is 35 years old," Chouhan said.

Chouhan's 11-chapter memoir was released by former PM and Janata Dal (Secular) patriarch H D Devegowda and former Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu in the presence of several ministers, Chief Ministers and former Members of Parliament.

Former V-P M Venkaiah Naidu (right) with Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan at the event in New Delhi on Tuesday. ANI

"In these 35 years, I have seen him live every moment for the nation... We worked together for a long time... I gained inspiration from him... I felt that what I have experienced, what I have learnt, I should dedicate to the nation in the form of a book," Chouhan said.

Referring to the Ekta Yatra, held during peak militancy in Jammu and Kashmir in 1991, Chouhan said Modi was handed the responsibility of overseeing the nationwide event, which involved smaller 'yatras' from across the country culminating at Srinagar's Lal Chowk with the unfurling of the Tricolour.

"He (Modi) said this Tricolour will not only be unfurled at Lal Chowk, the attempt will be to unfurl it in the heart of each citizen, each youth...On January 23, at Phagwara, terrorists attacked a bus carrying karyakartas travelling for the yatra; six of them were martyred, people thought that the yatra will stop...in Srinagar, terrorists dared '...come and unfurl the Tricolour at Lal Chowk, if you return alive, we will reward you'. Narendra bhai had said then, 'just a few hours remain till January 26, we will decide this at Lal Chowk'," he said.

Seeking to underline the PM's futuristic vision, Chouhan said, "When I used to go meet him as president of the Yuva Morcha... he would be hard at work on a computer... he knew even back then that if Bharat's future is to be made... technology is essential..."

He said, "When karyakartas like me were not able to fathom the importance of social media, he called me and said 'tell each MP and MLA... if anyone has less than 50,000 followers, there is a danger over the prospect of them getting a ticket this time...' today, the farsighted Narendra bhai, (is the one) who organised the AI Summit."

On the sharing of the Narmada river's waters between MP and Gujarat, Chouhan said, "Narmada ji is the lifeline of both Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat...for years, Congress governments were hanging fire (on the issue) ... on the one hand, the Narmada's waters were flowing into the ocean, on the other, lakhs of throats were dry in Gujarat, its farms were dry... Narendra bhai called me for a discussion at Gujarat Bhawan... it was decided that reservoirs which have been constructed will be filled, (and) new ones will be constructed..."

Amid China concerns, India & US ink pact to secure critical minerals supply

Shubhajit Roy
New Delhi, May 26

INDIA AND the US signed a bilateral "critical minerals framework" on Tuesday, as External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met US Secretary of State Marco Rubio before the latter wrapped up his four-day visit. This is significant since there are legitimate concerns over China's export curbs on rare earth which are crucial for global technology supply chains in the manufacturing of cars to phones, missiles to planes.

This is a key takeaway from the bilateral engagement between Jaishankar and Rubio, since both sides are working towards repairing ties after a challenging year in bilateral relations. This is also important as it comes days after US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping met in Beijing.

At the signing ceremony on Tuesday, Jaishankar said, "We are today signing a bilateral India-US framework on securing supply of mining and processing of critical minerals and rare-earths. This is something which we have also discussed today at the Quad meeting. And whether we're doing it bilaterally, whether we're doing it as a Quad format, or in fact as a larger gathering of like-minded nations, it is clearly something very timely, something very important, something very critical."

(From left) Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio in New Delhi, Tuesday. PTI

"This particular framework aims to deepen our cooperation across the entire critical minerals and rare-earth supply chain, including mining, processing, recycling, and related investments. It will certainly strengthen resilient and diversified supply chains. It will help us to collaborate in financing and in the effective management of critical minerals and rare-earths," he said.

Rubio said, "I've spoken often during my time here over the last few days about the strategic alliance between the United States and India and how important that is for our national interest in the United States, and today is a tangible example of it. We are two countries who have a strategic interest in ensuring reliable long-term access to critical minerals and supply chains that are important for our innovation economy. And today's a tangible result of that; it's tangible evidence of why we are strategic allies. This is a very important step." The US embassy said that the initiative marks a "milestone" in the strategic partnership between the two nations to ensure that the foundational elements required for advanced technology and energy are available within trusted networks.

This agreement builds upon the foundational groundwork laid in February 2026 during high-level meetings in Washington, DC, where Rubio launched the Forum on Resource Geostrategic Engagement (FORGE). Through this framework, the US and India will engage in international efforts to protect sensitive supply chains from "coercive market practices and reduce our collective vulnerability to single-source monopolies", it said, alluding to China's practices.

It said the US government is mobilising unprecedented resources to secure critical mineral supply chains, supporting projects with more than $30 billion in letters of interest, investments, loans, and other support in partnership with the private sector. "These investments, along with Pax Silica and our reinvigorated diplomatic and commercial engagement are having a multiplier effect, mobilizing private capital many times greater than government outlays, which will generate billions of dollars in new projects to secure our supply chains," it said.

This framework, it said, sets a path toward reliable and resilient mineral supply chains, reinforcing key objectives set established by US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the US-India Joint Leaders' Statement.

Rubio recalled that the groundwork for this was laid on February 4 when the critical minerals forum was held in Washington DC.

"It gained momentum later that month when India signed onto Pax Silica. It was one of the first and early member and signatories, and now today, because we both have a strategic and shared interest in the fact that vibrant innovation economies such as ours cannot afford to leave the foundational materials of these industries vulnerable to single-source monopolies that could deny us these things – not just in a time of conflict but as a leverage point contrary to our sovereign national interests."

Zubeen death: Court frames charges against all 7 accused

Sukrita Baruah
Guwahati, May 26

THE SPECIAL fast-track court in Assam, hearing the case connected to superstar singer Zubeen Garg's death, on Tuesday framed charges against all seven accused in the case, paving the way for trial to begin. It included charges of murder against four of the accused.

Dismissing pleas for the discharge of the accused under BNSS Section 250 as "devoid of merit", the court said there was "strong prima facie material" against the accused on the offences under which they had been chargesheeted. Garg died on September 19, 2025, while in Singapore as a cultural brand ambassador for the Northeast India Festival, Singapore.

In its chargesheet, an SIT of Assam Police, probing the case, charged Northeast India Festival Singapore organiser Shyamkanu Mahanta, Garg's manager Siddharth Sharma, and co-musicians Shekhar Jyoti Goswami and Amritprava Mahanta (murder). Garg's cousin and Assam Police Service officer Sandipan Garg was charged with culpable homicide, and his two Personal Security Officers, Nandeswar Bora and Paresh Baishya (criminal conspiracy and breach of trust).

Odisha man acquitted in terror case

Sujit Bisoyi
Bhubaneswar, May 26

A SESSIONS court in Cuttack on Tuesday acquitted Mohammad Abdur Raheman Ali Khan in a case related to alleged links with Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) and Indian Mujahedin (IM), citing lack of evidence. Raheman was arrested by Odisha Police and the Delhi Police's special cell on December 17, 2012, on the allegation of committing terrorist acts and raising funds for such activities.

Also accused of spreading hatred against the Centre, he was arrested under stringent provisions like the UAPA, 1967. The case was initially lodged at Jagatpur police station in Cuttack, and later taken up by Odisha Police's Crime Branch. A native of Satabatia village, Raheman ran a madrasa in Bilteruan village, Cuttack. Several allegations, including that he was propagating anti-national activities and recruiting people through his madrasa, were brought against him. He was accused of collecting funds from abroad for alleged nefarious activities. The chargesheet was filed in December 2016, and charges were framed by the court on September 13, 2017.

Acquitting him, the court observed that "not a single scrap of convincing evidence is there to the effect that the accused... is a member of any such terrorist organisation". He is, however, convicted and sentenced to seven years in an NIA case in Delhi.

'GROWING FRUITS FOR GENERATIONS... GOD ONLY ACTED WHEN NHAI STARTED CUTTING HILLS?'

After 'Act of God' stance, NHAI agrees to pay Shimla orchard owner for landslide damage

Saurabh Parashar
Shimla, May 26

"IT WAS a day exactly like today's... The sun was bright, though not too hot," says Narinder Singh Rathore, talking about May 25, 2025. His two granddaughters sat in the verandah of their pucca house as his wife put out to dry freshly washed linen from the small homestay they ran.

"Suddenly, crate walls laid by the NHAI in a bid to protect the slope just above our apple orchard started falling. In a few seconds, a cloud of dust had engulfed the entire valley... People far away could see it," says Rathore.

Soon after, he filed a case in the National Green Tribunal (NGT), seeking compensation from the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for the 440-odd apple trees he said he lost in the landslide. He sought compensation under provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, alleging large-scale environmental degradation and damage to his agricultural and orchard land.

The NHAI, which earlier disputed the damage quoted by Rathore and called the landslide an act of God, has now told the NGT that it would be paying suitable compensation. The Himachal Horticulture Department has assessed the cost of the damage caused to Rathore at Rs 40 lakh.

Agriculturist Narinder Singh Rathore showing the damaged portion of his orchard

Rathore's orchard is located in a 200-metre deep valley in village Lindhi Dhar in Mashobra block, below an under-construction four-lane project on the Kalka-Shimla National Highway-5. A bunch of four-five houses are clustered together, with all the residents part of one clan. The orchard Rathore owns is spread over 50 bighas, with younger brothers Hitender and Devender co-owners.

The noise of a hydraulic hammer along with a drilling machine employed for breaking the rocks and drilling the hills can be constantly heard in the background.

"How could they call what happened an act of God or a natural disaster? We have been living here, growing fruits for generations. Earlier God didn't act, God only acted when the NHAI started cutting hills at 90 degrees, making national highways, laying tunnels and four-lanes?" says Rathore.

He adds: "Soon after the NHAI and its concessionaire company installed the crate walls last year, we warned that they could collapse any time as they were installed on the slope without digging a foundation. In fact, just a week before the collapse of the walls, we wrote a letter to the NHAI, and were told someone would get back by May 26. Then the landslide happened." Crate walls are retaining or protective structures made from wire mesh "crates" filled with stones, boulders or rubble, to prevent erosion, landslides and road collapse.

In the NGT hearing on May 18, the NHAI disputed the assessment of the Horticulture Department regarding the loss suffered by Rathore. The Horticulture Department had told the NGT that it conducted inspections following complaints of crate wall collapse, and around 550 fruit-bearing apple plants in all were found to have been damaged due to the landslides and debris generated during the highway widening work.

However, the NHAI said: "Our concessionaire conducted an independent site visit and found that only 40 apple trees were actually damaged."

In its submission to the NGT on May 19, the NHAI called the landslide an "act of God", and placed on record a May 2025 report of the India Meteorological Department, stating that Shimla recorded 104.5 mm rainfall against the normal rainfall of 69.8 mm during the period. "Landslides (are) an extraordinary natural event constituting an Act of God or Vis Major, beyond the reasonable anticipation and / or control of (the) NHAI and its concessionaire," the NHAI said.

As regards May 25, 2025, the NHAI said: "... the rainfall (that day) was widespread and vigorous in Himachal Pradesh. Isolated hailstorm activity was also recorded in Shimla district on May 22 and May 25."

Rathore says the area never sees heavy showers in May, and the rains usually come in July. He believes the NHAI submitted the record of the entire Shimla district for May 25, 2025, which included the higher hills that had seen heavy rain that day.

An official with IMD, Shimla, requesting anonymity, says: "We compile overall weather reports, covering an entire district, not a particular location within it." On May 20, Rathore's counsel submitted before the NGT that the NHAI had changed its stand, had assessed the damage in presence of officials and assured it would pay adequate compensation. Rathore wanted to withdraw his petition, the counsel said.

Project Director (Kalka-Shimla) National Highway-5, Anand Dhaiya, noted that 'act of God' was a standard terminology used by lawyers in courts and tribunals. However, he told *The Indian Express:* "Indeed, the incident happened and damage occurred. We acknowledged it... We have assured the petitioner full compensation."

Dhaiya also points out that some damage is unavoidable in projects such as these, despite all necessary precautions.

• BRIEFLY

The accident site in Unnao district on Tuesday. ANI

UTTAR PRADESH

Six killed after bus overturns on Lucknow-Agra e-way in Unnao

SIX PERSONS, including a police sub-inspector, were killed and 21 others severely injured after a double-decker AC bus overturned on the Lucknow-Agra Expressway in Unnao district, Uttar Pradesh, early Tuesday, police said. The accident took place at around 5.15 am near Nibha Kheda village when the bus, travelling from Delhi to Bihar, went out of control and overturned. Police said about 50 passengers were believed to be travelling in the bus. Preliminary probe said that the driver allegedly lost control of the vehicle after dozing off at the wheel. Eyewitnesses said the bus was speeding when it hit the divider and overturned. PTI

VRS plea of IPS officer: SC sets aside MHA order

THE SUPREME Court Tuesday set aside an order of the MHA, which rejected the request of Voluntary Retirement from Service (VRS) of a 1997-batch Maharashtra cadre IPS officer facing disciplinary proceedings for taking part in CAA protests in 2019, and in two other complaints. A bench of Justices P S Narasimha and Alok Aradhe held that the Centre must examine the request of officer Abdur Rahman for VRS afresh, and a decision must be taken within three days. PTI

IAF helicopters douse forest fire in Himachal

THE IAF Tuesday deployed Mi-17 helicopters to assist in the firefighting operations in Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh, where multiple fires have erupted in the forests in Dharampur-Sanawar and Garkhal areas over the past three days. The helicopters lifted water from Sukhna lake using *bambi* buckets and have been cleared to carry out night operations, an IAF statement read. No casualties were reported, but the fires have caused substantial damage to forest flora and fauna. ENS

Dispute over Bakrid goats sparks communal tension at Mumbai housing complex

Manish Kumar Pathak
Mumbai, May 26

A DISPUTE over goats brought into a residential complex in Mira Road for Eid sacrifice escalated into communal tension on Tuesday, prompting heavy police deployment as right-wing activists staged protests outside the complex and clashes broke out.

Tension flared at the complex in Mira Road after a dispute broke out over more than 50 goats being housed within the housing complex premises.

The unrest began at Poonam Cluster 1 on Monday night after residents and right-wing activists objected to the construction of a temporary shed for sacrificial goats inside the complex.

"This has been happening in the housing complex for quite a few years, with goats being tied and even slaughtered. However, a section of the residents has opposed this for some time," a resident said.

On Monday night, a section of residents called Bajrang Dal activists into the complex to intervene in the matter. Police said that around 10 pm, local Bajrang Dal leader Pawan Thakur and others reached the housing complex and asked residents to remove the animals, leading to an argument.

Around 12.50 am on Tuesday, an unidentified man allegedly attempted to attack one of the activists with a knife in which another person was injured. The assailant, however, managed to escape. An FIR was registered.

Following this, over 200 police personnel were deployed in the area. Tensions resurfaced in the afternoon when Bajrang Dal activists again demanded that the goats be moved out, leading to minor scuffles. Around 2.30 pm, the Bajrang Dal members allegedly brought a pig, stating that if Muslims were allowed to bring in goats they would bring pigs into the housing complex. Police stopped them and brought the situation under control. The goats were later moved out of the complex.

{ SHEREEN RATNAGAR • 1944-2026 }

Archaeologist, considered an authoritative voice on Harappan civilisation, dies at 82

Vikas Pathak
New Delhi, May 26

NOTED ARCHAEOLOGIST, historian and scholar of the Harappan civilisation Shereen Ratnagar died at the age of 82 in Mumbai late Monday night. She had been suffering from severe Parkinson's disease for the last few years, historian Aditya Mukherjee, her former colleague at JNU, said.

She authored influential works on the Harappan civilisation such as Encounters: The Westerly Trade Of The Harappan Civilisation, Harappan Archaeology: Early State Perspectives, and The End Of The Great Harappan Tradition.

The first of these was a modified version of her PhD thesis submitted at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) under the supervision of eminent historian Romila Thapar. Ratnagar was born in Mumbai in 1944, and studied at the Parsee Girls' High School in the city. She did her BA in history and then joined the Deccan College in Pune to study archaeology under HD Sankalia.

Shereen Ratnagar at The Great Bath of Mohenjo-daro.
PHOTO COURTESY: TULIKA BOOKS

In 1975, she made a trip to Bahrain, Kuwait and Iraq, receiving assistance from the British Committee for Arabian and Gulf Studies and the British Archaeological Expedition to Iraq. Ratnagar was associated with the Centre for Historical Studies at JNU for a long time, teaching ancient history and also taking a common course, Ancient Societies, for students across different streams of the subject.

She was particularly known for her warmth; students recall her open offer to first-semester students coming from different parts of India to celebrate Diwali at her home if they were feeling homesick. She retired from JNU around 2000 and became an independent researcher. She is considered an influential voice on the Harappan civilisation, mapping its early state systems and also drawing comparisons with the Mesopotamian cultural zone. She also questioned the belief that the Harappans were an absolutely peace-loving people who knew no war.

Along with archaeologist D Mandal, Ratnagar reviewed the 2003 ASI report on Ram Janmabhoomi that had concluded the presence of pillars of a pre-existing structure underneath the Babri Masjid, pointing out what she thought were methodological problems with the finding of the ASI.

42 grooms, no bride: The making of a mass wedding scam in Madhya Pradesh

Anand Mohan J
Bhopal, May 26

FORTY-TWO GROOMS from Madhya Pradesh turned up on their wedding day, some dressed in bright *sherwanis*, marigold garlands and steel *dabbas* carrying sweets. But the brides never arrived, and the men would later realise they had been duped by a fake wedding scam.

What unfolded in Dewas on Sunday was not just a case of financial fraud, police said, but a public humiliation for dozens of men who had travelled from villages and small towns across Dewas and neighbouring districts, believing they were about to get married. By evening, the celebration ground had turned into a scene of anger and disbelief as families realised they may have been trapped in an elaborate scam that allegedly collected lakhs of rupees by promising brides from an Indore-based orphanage.

The men were told that women raised in orphanages would marry them, and were shown photos downloaded from the Internet

A preliminary probe suggests the case involves organised cheating under the pretext of marriage, police said. "We have received complaints from several youths. The matter is being investigated," Bank Note Press police station in-charge Preeti Katare said. "The accused are being identified and traced. We are verifying the claims related to the orphanage whose name was allegedly used."

Each groom had paid between Rs 15,000 and Rs 25,000 to middlemen who promised to organise a "collective marriage ceremony" in Dewas. Some said they had first been shown photos of prospective brides on mobile phones weeks earlier. Others claimed they were assured the women were from poor or orphaned backgrounds and were willing to marry immediately.

Rahul, who travelled from Harniyakalan village, said, "Each of us was asked to pay Rs 25,000 as a registration fee. We were told the brides were from Indore's Matru Chhaya Ashram. When we asked for photographs, the organisers sent us pictures of models downloaded from social media. They told us to reach Dewas a day before the ceremony and assured us that the collective wedding would take place the next morning. They even promised dowry items. But when we reached the venue, nobody was there, and all the phones were eventually switched off," Meena said.

Ashok, one of the grooms, said they were "instructed to come in plain clothes because the groom's attire and all wedding rituals would be arranged there itself". "They specifically told us not to apply haldi or *mehendi* before arriving because all the rituals would happen at the venue," he said. Om Prakash, who went with his family from Bhopal, said they "selected brides from the photos that had been sent to us on cellphones".

"We had submitted documents online for my brother's marriage. After we arrived, the organisers told us that madam was on the way with the brides, but nobody came until midnight," said Rajkumari, the sister of one of the men. "...Everyone was left humiliated."

A senior police officer said the incident came to light on May 24, and a cheating case was filed. "The prime accused, Mukesh, and his wife have been arrested. We are gathering details about their modus operandi. The accused are from Vidisha district...," said the officer.

Traditional practices may be restored at Banke Bihari temple: SC

Express News Service
New Delhi, May 26

TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS practices may be restored at the Banke Bihari temple in Vrindavan but by ensuring that there is no malpractice such as in the name of donation, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday.

It also said that Uttar Pradesh should come forward to improve infrastructural facilities in and around the temple campus, including widening of roads and regulating commercial activities. Hearing pleas against the extension of the temple visit timing by the SC-appointed High-Powered Committee, CJI Surya Kant, presiding over a two-judge-bench, remarked orally that "extending of time may not be in true sense crowd management". "Traditional religious practices may be restored but by ensuring that, under those traditional ritual practices, there is no malpractice of taking (anything) in the name of donation or any hefty amount," the CJI said.

The bench, also comprising Justice Joymalya Bagchi, asked the committee headed by former Allahabad HC judge Justice Ashok Kumar to include four nominees of the Goswamis, the traditional caretakers of the temple, as members. The CJI also spoke against encouraging VIP culture saying "there should not be any privileged class".

Court was hearing pleas against extension of temple visit timings by high-powered panel

Pointing out that things like garland etc are thrown around inside the temple, the CJI said there is a need for developing better civic sense. "With a view to ensure that the suggestions with respect to allowing the traditional religious practices to the extent possible, without any exploitation of visitors and other day to day rituals, we have recommended that among the two groups of Goswamis: Namely, from Shayan Bhog, Rajat Goswami and Shailendra Goswami; and from Raj Bhog sect, Gopesh Goswami and Himanshu Goswami should be nominated to the committee," it said.

The SC asked the four to jointly give suggestions for restoration of traditional religious practices including on temple timings, and other improvements in the day-to-day functioning of the temple. Senior Advocate Shyam Divan, for the Goswamis, said that the panel had changed the temple timings, adding that this goes against the religious practices, including waking the deity and feeding, which have been going on for many years. He contended that the rituals are deeply embedded in temple tradition and should not be tweaked for administrative convenience.

Additional Solicitor General K M Nataraj, for the panel, said timings were changed keeping in mind the huge crowd. He urged the bench to observe that the state would be free to carry out a study for a masterplan to develop the area. Agreeing to this, the court said, "...We, therefore, impress upon the Committee and the state government to prepare a report and submit it for consideration on the next date."

'NCERT threw us under the bus... we shouldn't be afraid of controversies'

Ritika Chopra
Mumbai, May 26

EXPRESS interview

MICHEL DANINO
ACADEMIC

MICHEL DANINO, one of the academics at the centre of the Supreme Court controversy over a section on corruption in the judiciary in a chapter of the Class 8 NCERT social science textbook, said he was "disappointed" with how NCERT handled the issue before the court, though "not finally so surprised" by its response because institutions in India often "try to save their skin".

"I was disappointed, yes, that they threw us under the bus," he told *The Indian Express* in an interview days after the Supreme Court recalled observations in its March 11 order directing governments, universities and public institutions to "dissociate" themselves from him and two of his colleagues over references to judicial corruption in the textbook. "But I was not finally so surprised because in India... institutions always try to save their skin. They will not own responsibility," he added.

At the same time, he said he had hoped NCERT would "try to explain how these textbooks were conceived" and place the broader pedagogical approach before the court. Danino's remarks come weeks after the Supreme Court recalled portions of its March 11 order against him, educationist Suparna Divakar and legal researcher Alok Prasanna Kumar over references to corruption and delays in the judiciary in a revised Class 8 social science textbook.

"We were confident (of the SC eventually overturning the ban) mainly because the NCERT affidavit basically misrepresented the situation," Danino said. "There was nothing false in what it stated... But what was wrong is what it did not state."

Asked whether the team had anticipated criticism while preparing the textbook, Danino said some concerns had been flagged internally by NCERT, but added that such warnings accompanied many social science chapters. "NCERT... was flagging this controversy danger mark, again and again, (for most social science textbooks) from grade 6 onward," he said. "But if we had accepted all the warning flags about supposedly controversial aspects or statements, then the textbook would have been totally bland and boring, which would have been going completely against the spirit of the National Education Policy."

Danino said controversies were "unavoidable" in social science education. "This happens worldwide and not just in India... Textbooks of history and political science have created controversies in many countries of the world." He said the authors "did not expect specifically any significant controversy about this chapter". "We did not see anything wrong in it," he said. "And certainly there was never an intention to defame any institution, something that the Supreme Court bench, to its credit, has accepted."

Danino repeatedly linked the approach adopted in the textbooks to the rationale laid out in the affidavits filed before the court by him and co-author Alok Prasanna Kumar. "We were not creating textbooks in a void," he said. "We were creating textbooks under a very specific mandate — defined by the National Education Policy of 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education." He said the authors had "respectfully disagreed" with the Supreme Court's observation that Grade 8 students were at an "impressionable age" for discussions relating to corruption in the judiciary or backlog of cases. "We respectfully disagreed with this assertion from the court," he said, adding that the NEP itself encouraged critical thinking from middle-school years onward.

Danino maintained that the textbook discussions were framed "in a respectful manner" and drew heavily from statements made by judges themselves. "We were using mostly the voices of the judiciary themselves," he said. "We were using past and present judges. And we were showing how judges themselves try to address these challenges." Danino said, "Let's not pretend that all is well. Let's not produce sanitized textbooks where you present only the theoretical part of how our institutions are expected to work."

Danino, however, acknowledged that, in hindsight, parts of the controversial subsection could perhaps have been framed differently. "The one thing that I thought in hindsight could have been avoided was the title of this subsection 'Corruption in the Judiciary'," he said. "We could have had a different title."

He also said the Supreme Court proceedings and the March 11 order had created what he described as a "chilling effect" on academics and textbook writers. "This will definitely make people think twice before bringing up controversies to the students for discussion," he said.

6 trapped, die in Odisha septic tank as rescue op goes wrong

Sujit Bisoyi
Bhubaneswar, May 26

AT LEAST six persons died of suspected asphyxiation after getting trapped inside an under-construction septic tank in Odisha's Kalahandi Tuesday.

The mishap took place in Gaud Karlakhunta village, when the men entered the septic tank to remove the centring materials from the structure. A father-son duo, Nimai Pal (48) and Akash (27), at whose house the septic tank was being built, are among the deceased; others include three masons and a worker.

Police said the workers appear to have inhaled toxic gases accumulated inside the structure. A person who fell sick has been hospitalised, and in a critical condition. A worker first entered the tank but failed to return, as he might have collapsed due to breathing difficulties. Six others then entered the tank, but lost consciousness. Locals, police and fire service personnel recovered the bodies, officers said.

An unnatural death case has been registered. "The septic tank was built three weeks ago. Toxic gas might have accumulated because of excess heat...," said a police officer. Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi has announced an ex gratia of Rs 4 lakh for the next of kin of each person.

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Ref. No. 01-2026-27-MOP-01EW Dated: 27.05.2026

NOTICE INVITING GLOBAL E-TENDER

Bids are invited for Supply of loose bulk fertilizers as detailed below:

E-tender No.	Product	Qty. [in MT]	Coast	Last date of bid submission
2026_NFL_278645_1	Muriate of Potash (MOP)	30,000 30,000	ECI WCI	09.06.2026 till 11:30 Hrs. IST

For details, visit websites: **www.nationalfertilizers.com** or **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app**. Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, shall be published only on above websites.

GM (Mktg.)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Open E- Tender Notice

For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Chg.), Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites open e-tender on 'SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM' for following work from experienced and capable tenderers.

1.	Name of Work	Repair of Automatic Twist Locks at Wagon Care Centre, Tughlakabad for Two years
2.	Work Place	Delhi (TKD)
3.	Period of Work	Twenty four (24) Months
4.	Advertised Value	Rs. 32,37,780.00 /- (including provision of GST)
5.	Earnest Money to be deposited	Rs. 64,800.00/-, through net banking or gateway only
6.	Tender Document Cost	Nil
7.	Date and Time availability of E-Tender Document	From 25.05.2026 to 16.06.2026 at 12:00 hrs
8.	Date and time of E-tender Closing	16.06.2026 12:00 hrs
9.	Date and time of E-tender opening	On 25.05.2026 after 17:32 hrs, if the date of opening happens to be holiday then E-Tender shall be opened on the next working day
10.	Place for opening E-Tender	Mechanical Department, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-55

Note: The complete particulars of the tender may be found in website www.ireps.gov.in No. NRDL10MCNW72026 Date: 26.05.2026

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भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

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MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
[North Central Railway
NOTIFICATION
Prayagraj, the 6th April, 2026

S.O. 2389(E).- Whereas, by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Railways **(North Central Railway), number 4451 S.O. 4579 (E) Dated 19-09-2025** published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-Section (ii), **dated the 08-10-2025** and issued under the sub-section (1) of section 20A of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) and the Railways (Amendment) ACT, 2008 (No. 11 of 2008) (hereinafter referred to as ths said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the schedule annexed to the said notification for execution, maintenance management and operation of a Special Railway Project namely. **Construction of 02 Inne Road Over Bridge in place of LC No.538 on 1418/08-10 k.m. of Agra - Palwal section in District Mathura** in the state of Uttar Pradesh;

And whereas, the substance of the said notification has been published in the daily local newspapers namely. **"AMAR UJALA" (Hindi), dated the 17.10.2025 and "THE TIMES OF INDIA" (English), dated the 17.10.2025** under the sub-section **(4)** of section 20A of the said Act;

And whereas, Akbarpur village no objections were received by the Competent Authority.

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 20E of the said Act, the competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government.

Now therefore, upon receipt of the report of the Competent Authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 20E of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the lands specified in the schedule annexed hereto shall be acquired for the aforesaid purpose.

And further, in pursuance of 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 schedule annexed hereto shall vest absolutely in the Central Government free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be Acquired, with or without structure falling within, for the Special Railway Project namely : **Construction of 02 lane Road Over Bridge in place of LC No. 538 on 1418/08-10 k.m. of Agra-Palwal section in District Mathura** in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

Sl. No.	Tehsil	Name of the village	Plot No.	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area propose for land Acquisition (In Hect.)	Name of the Land owner/interested persons
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1	Chhata	Akbarpur	582 M.	Private	agriculture/ non agriculture	0.0588	Dataram, Patiram, Bhudev, Hardwari sons of Mangi Singh resident of Akbarpur
2			587 M.	Private	agriculture	0.0960	Ajay Kumar, Kashyap, Kumar Singh, Charan Singh sons of Bhagwan Singh resident of Kaukera, Saudan Singh son of Hukam Singh resident of Kaukera
3			728/1	Private	agriculture/ non agriculture	0.0696	Olympus Multi Trade Pvt. Ltd. A. 43 Khanpur Extension Deoli Road New Delhi Director Devendra S/o Jasmal Singh R/o Khanpur Deoli Road New Delhi
4			731/1	Private	agriculture/ non agriculture	0.0900	Shah Apartments & Developers Pvt. Ltd. B. 36 Block-B Preet Bihar Delhi 110092 c/o Director Rishi Shah S/o Nirmalkant Shah R/o B. 136 Block B-Preet Bihar Delhi-110092, Suresh Sharma son of Shyamlal Gaud, Dhanesh Kumar Sharma son of Lokchand Sharma, Mrs. Mukeshlata Sharma wife of Dhanesh Kumar Sharma, Mrs. Sangeeta Sharma wife of Pradeep Kumar Vashishtha, Mrs. Geeta Sharma wife of Sudhir Kumar Vashishtha.
5			732 M.	Private	agriculture	0.0888	Dan Singh son of Kirodi resident of Kaukera, Dilip Singh, Pradeep Singh sons of Saudan Singh resident of Kaukera, Radheshyam Developers dwara partner Daljeet Singh son of Darshan Singh resident of 155 B Block Phase-I Goliya Dairy Qutub Bihar-South West Delhi
			Grand Total			0.4032	

[F.No. NCR-GSU0GSU(GSU)/1/2025-O/o CPM/GSU/AGC (Computer No. 132590)]
1187/26 (C) ANAMUL HAQUE, Chief Administrative Officer (Construction)

@CPRONCR North central railways cproncrly CPRONCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

TELANGANA TRADE PROMOTION CORPORATION LTD.
(Formerly TSTPC Ltd) (An Undertaking of Government of Telangana)
Regd. Off.: 5-10-174, Shakkar Bhavan, 2nd Floor, Fateh Maidan Road, Hyderabad - 500 004. Telangana, India.
Tel : +91 040-23237591, Email: info@tgtpc.org, https://tgtpc.telangana.gov.in CIN: U74991TG2014SGC095847

TGTPC/TENDER/GOVT-WD-CON-NB/2026, Date.26.05.2026.

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

(Through e-procurement portal of Government of Telangana only)

Telangana Trade Promotion Corporation Ltd, Hyderabad invites e-Tenders from original manufactures of exercise note books for Welfare Departments / Institutions for the year 2026-27. Tenders can be viewed and downloaded from the Website: **https://tender.telangana.gov.in** (Tender ID.704172) from 10.30 AM onwards on 27.05.2026 and last date & time for submission of tenders: 2.00.PM on 02.06.2026 for further details can be had from TGTPC Office during working hours. Mobile No.9110505855.

Sd/
MANAGING DIRECTOR

DIPR R.O.No.175-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/2026-27, Dt: 26-05-2026

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 84 BNSS

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Abhishek @ Ravi S/o Radhey Shyam R/o C-2/113, Gali No.9, Jagatpuri, Shahdara, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case registered vide **FIR No. 287/2025 U/S 304(2)/317(2)/3(5) BNS, PS Nand Nagri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Abhishek @ Ravi** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Abhishek @ Ravi** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Abhishek @ Ravi** of **FIR No. 287/2025 U/S 304(2)/317(2)/3(5) BNS, PS Nand Nagri, Delhi** is required to appear before this court (or before me) to answer the complaint on or before the day of **27.07.2026**

By Order,
Ms. Deepakshi Rana
Judicial Magistrate First Class- 03
Room No. 19, First Floor, Shahdara District
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/6889/NE/2026(Court Matter)

MADHYA PRADESH RURAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(AN AGENCY OF PANCHAYAT & RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF M.P.)
3rd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.)
(GST No. 23AAATM9054A3ZX)

No./5198/22/D-12/MPRRDA/2026 Bhopal, Dated : 26.05.2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO. 1271 DMF

Online Tenders for Construction of Rural Roads/CDs with 5 years maintenance are invited on the E-Procurement System portal **https://www.mptenders.gov.in** as detailed below.

- **Name of Work :** DMF (MPRRDA SSR : 01.01.2024)

S.No.	Name of District	No. of Packages	Total PAC (In Rs.)
1	2	3	4
1	Singrauli	1	80427000.00

1. Tender document can be purchased and submitted only online from the above website **from 02.06.2026 from 17:30 hrs.** and Last Date for online bid submission is **18.06.2026 (17:00 hrs.)**
2. Other Critical dates and details can be viewed in the detailed N.I.T. and tender document for construction & maintenance of rural roads/Bridges Sept. 2017 on the above-mentioned portal and concerned PIU.

M.P.M./126039/2026 CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (TENDER)

''मेरी सड़क'' एप डाउनलोड कर, फीडबेक देकर राष्ट्र के विकास में सहयोग दें।

NORTHERN RAILWAY

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED UNDER SCHEME OF 'ONE STATION ONE PRODUCT' FOR SETTING UP

A. **Total Ten (08) Stall at:** Delhi, Delhi Cantt., Delhi Shahdara, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Meerut City, Pataudi Road, Gurgaon Railway stations.

B. **Total fourty three (42) Trolley at:** Anand Vihar Terminal, Ballabhgarh, Baghpat Road, Baraut, Delhi Kishanganj, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Faridabad New town, Garhi harsaru, Jakhal, Jind, Muzzafarnagar, Julana Narela, Khekra, Mansa, Meerut City, Nangloi, Narwana, Noli, Okhla, Palam, Shakurbasti, Shamli, Tapri, Tohana, Tughlakabad, Vivek Vihar, Asawati, Delhi Azadpur, Delhi Safadargunj, Deoband, Khatauli, Mangolpuri, Modinagar, Meerut Cantt, Muradnagar, New Ghaziabad, Partapur, Sakoti Tanda, Sampla, Shivaji Bridge, Tilak Bridge Railway Stations.

- The period for setting up of stall/Trolley at Delhi Jn., Kurukshetra, Palwal, Gurgaon & Meerut Cantt., Narela, Rohtak, Julana, Sampla Railway Stations per spell will be 90 days.
- Registration fee for NSG 1, 2, 3 stations will be charged @ rate of Rs. 2000 for each spell of thirty days and for NSG 4, 5, 6 (Delhi Kishanganj, Deoband, Okhla, Shamli, Tapri, Jind, Jakhal, Tohana, Mansa, Narwana, Baghpat Road, Khekra, Nangloi, Muradnagar, Khatauli, Meerut Cantt, Julana, Sampla, Shivaji Bridge, Tilak Bridge, Ganaur, Badli, Subzi Mandi, Narela, Tughlakabad, Faridabad New Town, Ballabhgarh, Palam, Delhi Safdarjung, Partapur & Sakoti Tanda Railway Station registration fee will be charged @ rate of Rs. 1000 for each spell of thirty days.
- The following are the eligibility criteria for participant viz.
  a) Holder of Artisans/Weaver ID card issued by Development Commissioner Handicraft, Development Commissioner Handloom, or by the requisite state/Central Government Authority.
  b) Individual artisans/weavers/craftsmen enrolled/registered with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED)/National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC)/Khadi/ Village Industries Commission (KVIC)/ associated with Social Organizations, State Govt. bodies and associated with registered micro enterprises on the Udyam Portal of the Ministry of MSME and NGOs etc.
  c) Self Help Groups registered with PMEGP (Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme).
  d) Marginalized or weaker sections of society.
  e) No separate logo shall be allowed.
- The applicant will have to submit an undertaking to the Station Superintendent indicating that no activity would be undertaken to adversely affect the train operations, passenger safety and image of the Railways.
- Applications should be addressed and can be submitted to Station Superintendent at station by the applicant till 15:00 hrs. of 08.06.2026, which will be opened on same day.
- Station Superintendent will make priority roster of all approved participants and priority will be established through a draw of lots conducted at the station in the presence of all approved applicants by the Station Manager/Sectional CMI and nominated Finance representative.
- The One Station One Product scheme shall be governed by Railway Board's Commercial Circular No. 12 of 2022 and 09 of 2023 respectively available at website: **www.indianrailways.gov.in** & URL:
  https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/traffic_comm/Comm_Cir_2022/OSOP%20Policy.pdf &
  https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/traffic_comm/m_Cir_2023/CC%20%2009%20of%202023.pdf
  For any queries applicant may contact Station Superintendent or CMI of the respective stations.

1785/26

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF URBAN MANAGEMENT,
Municipal Administration Department, Govt. of Telangana

Tender Notice

File No. E-902802/NIUM/2026 Date. 25.05.2026

NIUM, Hyd., is inviting tenders for engaging an agency 'Request For Proposal (RfP) For Municipal Assets Management Application DGPS Survey, Digital Mapping, Geo-Tagging, And Lifecycle Management Across 132 Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) In Telangana (Excluding GHMC, CMC & MMC Areas)'. Tenders are being floated on the TG e-procurement site. Tender id- 703957. Tender opens from **25.05.2026** and last date for bid submission is **24.06.2026**.

Further details can be viewed it under www.nium.org.in and https://tender.telangana.gov.in

R.O. No. : 169-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/2026-27 Dt: 26.05.2026 ED,NIUM

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE No. 15/2026-2027 Dated: 25/05/2026

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
01	77269027A-RGC	10MM THICK CGRSP	3401112 NOS	16-06-26
02	08265303	SMPS BASED IPS	42 NOS	19-06-26
03	09265003	CAST STEEL CASNUB 22 HS BOGIE FOR BVCM	332 NOS	22-06-26
04	04260105	API-CI4 PLUS GRADE	78330LTR	22-06-26
05	08265267	SIGNALING CABLE SIZE 19 CORE 1.5 SQMM.	20 KM	23-06-26
06	16260255A	BRAKE CONTROLLER	29 NOS	25-06-26
07	04250059	SHELL GADUS	10098 KGS	29-06-26
08	08260027	SHUNT LED SIGNAL LIGHTING	2285 NOS	29-06-26
09	12260030	EARTHING CABLE COMPLETE FOR WHEEL SET	8541 NOS	29-06-26
10	20263126	REVISED ARR. OF TRANS SCREW COUPLING FOR CENTRE	799 NOS	30-06-26
11	04250058	LUBRICATING GREASE FOR TRACTION MOTOR	22925 KGS	02-07-26
12	04250014	OIL SERVO GEAR	45360 LTR	06-07-26

Note : 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for details. 2. No Manual offer will be entertained. 1788/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MADHYA PRADESH RURAL ROAD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(An Agency of Panchayat & Rural Development Department, Govt. of M.P.)
3rd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, Arera Hills, Bhopal (M.P.)
(GST No. : 23AAATM9054A3ZX)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO. 1269

Reconstruction of Damage Bridge (RBR)

No./5192/22/D-12/MPRRDA/2026 Bhopal, Dated : 26.05.2026

Online Tenders for Construction of Rural Roads /CDs with 5 years maintenance are invited on the E-Procurement System portal **https://www.mptenders.gov.in** as detailed below :-

- **Name of work : RBR Bridge (MP-PWD SSR : 11.04.2025)**

S. No.	Name of District	No. of Packages	Total PAC (In Rs.)
1	Alirajpur	1	45162150.00
2	Dhar	1	65604550.00
3	Khargone	1	34448070.00
4	Ratlam	1	41022356.00

1. Tender document can be purchased only online from the above website from **02.06.2026 from 17:30 hrs.** and last date for online bid submission is **18.06.2026 (17:00 hrs.)**.
2. Other Critical dates and details can be viewed in the detailed N.I.T. and tender document for construction & maintenance of rural roads/Bridges Sept. 2017 on the above-mentioned portal and concerned PIU.

CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (TENDER)
M.P. Madhyam/126026/2026

"मेरी सड़क" ऐप डाउनलोड कर, फीडबैक देकर राष्ट्र के विकास में सहयोग दें।

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, (यांत्रिकी शाखा), भोपाल

क्रमांक 36./याँ.वि./2026 निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना भोपाल, दिनांक 22/05/2026

निम्न कार्य हेतु म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारो से आनलाईन निविदा आंमत्रित की जाती है। विस्तृत विवरण **website https://www.mptenders.gov.in** पर है।

क्र.	निविदा क्र.	कार्य का संक्षिप्त विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (रू. में)	निविदा क्रय करने का अंतिम	
				दिनांक	समय
01	2024 UAD 380170 2	CONSTRUCTION OF CC ROAD AT SHAHPURA A AND C SECTOR BABA NAGAR G-2 GULMOHAR, TRILANGA AND VARIOUS OTHER LOCATIONS IN WARD 51 ZONE 06	1,01,68,617/–	08-JUN-2026	05:30 PM

नोट – संशोधन केवल वेबसाईट पर ही देखे जा सकेंगे, समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित नहीं होंगे।

हस्ता./–कार्यपालन यंत्री (सिविल)
नगर निगम भोपाल

नि0क्र0 226/026/027

Government of Madhya Pradesh
Department of Science & Technology
M.P. COUNCIL OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
S&T NATIONAL & STATE AWARDS – 2024-25
(Ph. : 0755-2671800, 0755-2433168, Fax : 0755-2671600)

The Government of Madhya Pradesh has instituted four National and state Awards. Nominations for awards for the year 2024-25 are invited as given below from Vice Chancellors, Directors of IIT's/IIM's, Heads of Research Organisations/Institutions, Professional bodies, Eminent Scientist/Social Scientist/Technocrats of National repute.

1. **National Award (Rs. 5.00 Lakh each) :**
   - Dr. C.V. Raman Smriti Award - Science
   - Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Smriti Award - Engineering & Technology
   - Nanaji Deshmukh Smriti Award - Social Science
   - Jayant rai Sahastrabuddhe Smriti Award - Science Popularization
2. **State Award (Rs. 2.00 Lakh each) :**
   - Acharya Varah Mihir Smriti Award - Science
   - Dr. M. Visvesvaraya Smriti Award - Engineering & Technology
   - Dr. Hari Singh Gour Smriti Award - Social Science
   - Dr. Vishnu Sridhar Wakankar Smriti Awards - Indigenous Science

The nominations must be supported by candidate's biodata, research contributions, publications, previous awards received etc. Application form along with Rules & Regulations may be obtained from Website : **www.mpcost.gov.in**, The duly fill application along with supported documents may be sent by Speed Post to DIRECTOR GENERAL, M.P. Council of Science & Technology, Vigyan Bhawan, Nehru Nagar, Bhopal-462003. (M.P.), The Soft copy may also be mail to **E-mail : dg@mpcost.nic.in; mpcst2026@gmail.com**. The last date for Submission of Nomination in 45 days from the date of Publication of this advertisement.

M.P. Madhyam/126032/2026

Vedanta's Odisha mine project gets expert panel nod for green clearance

Nikhil Ghanekar
New Delhi, May 26

VEDANTA LIMITED'S bauxite mine project, proposed on a hilltop straddling Kalahandi and Rayagada districts in Odisha, has received environmental clearance recommendation from an expert panel of the Union Environment Ministry. The project, proposed to mine high-grade bauxite reserves of 311 million tonnes, will be spread over 1,549 hectares and requires diversion of 709.72 hectares of forest land.

Vedanta has proposed to mine bauxite from the block for its alumina smelter plant in Lanjigarh, Kalahandi district. The mine is proposed in Thuamul Rampur and Kashipur tehsils, covering 18 villages across both districts.

The ministry's expert appraisal committee (EAC) on non-coal mining recommended the project for grant of environmental clearance at their May 15 meeting, according to minutes of the EAC meeting.

The recommendation of environmental clearance is incumbent on the specific condition that "no mining activities shall be carried out in 709.72 hectares without obtaining stage-II forest clearance".

The panel also laid down a specific condition that the company will have to abide by all orders and judicial pronouncements on two pending project-related cases, one in the Supreme Court and another in National Green Tribunal.

Larsen and Toubro had approached the Orissa High Court seeking directions for grant of the Sijimali bauxite block. The HC had dismissed the petition in 2023 holding that L&T had violated the terms of its prospecting licence and was not entitled to get the mining lease for the block. L&T then moved the SC challenging the HC order, and Vedanta has been made a party in the case. In an unrelated matter, local tribal community members have appealed the in-principle forest clearance granted for an access road affiliated to the project.

The project will displace 129 families from the villages of Tijimali (51 families) and Malipadar (78 families), and as per official documents, land for resettlement colonies has been identified at Kurkuti and Chandgiri in the two districts.

The ministry's forest advisory committee had already granted in-principle or Stage-I forest clearance to the company for diversion of forest land in December 2025.

Sijimali is located in Eastern Ghats. As per information provided to the EAC, 24 Schedule-I species, which are accorded highest protection under the Wildlife Protection Act, are found within a 10-km area from the mine lease. They include elephants, sloth bear, king cobra and pangolin. A site-specific Wildlife Conservation Plan, approved by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife)-cum-Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha, on August 16, 2024, has been prepared with a total outlay of Rs 34.44 crore.

The EAC's recommendation for environmental clearance comes even as the project is mired in protests from local Kandha and Paroja ST communities and forest dwelling SC communities. They have alleged that Gram Sabha resolutions passed in relation to forest rights settlement for the project are fraudulent.

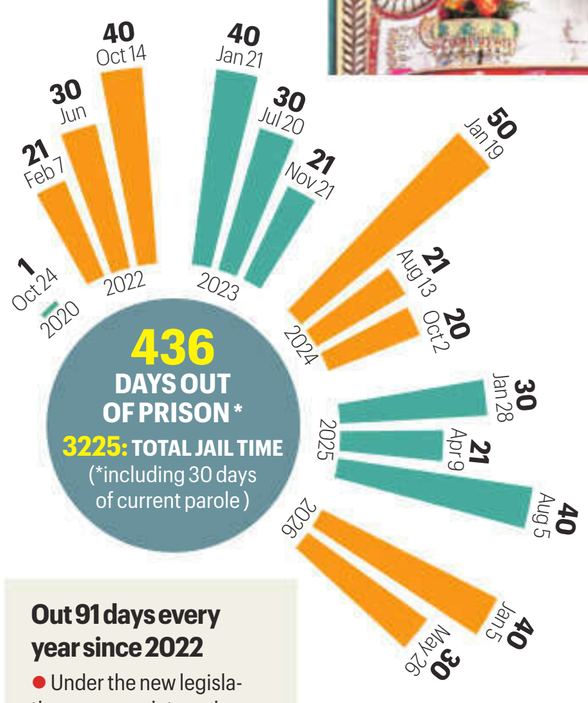
Residents of Kalahandi and Rayagada district had moved the HC last year seeking to quash Gram Sabha resolutions dated December 8, 2023, and subsequent certificates issued by the Collector, alleging that they are fraudulent and against provisions of the Forest Rights Act, 2006. The court had directed authorities to take note of the grievances. Moreover, the tribal communities also opposed the project on grounds of loss of customary rights, forest produce and access to sacred lands atop the hill where the mining lease is situated.

Prafulla Samantara, environmental and rights activist, said the hills in Sijimali are revered by local ST communities and they are dependent on them for livelihoods. Samantara said the hills are a source of water and locals have cultivated over several years to grow millet crops.

• DERA CHIEF OUT ON PAROLE, 16th TIME SINCE CONVICTION

Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh walked out of Sunaria prison on Tuesday on 30-day parole — his 2nd this year and 16th since conviction in Aug 2017

HIS MANY PAROLES AND FURLOUGHS



Out 91 days every year since 2022

- Under the new legislation, any convict serving more than 10 years, and who has completed one year of sentence, is entitled to 70 days parole and 21 days furlough in a calendar year.
- Beginning 2022, the dera chief has been utilising this legal framework to spend 91 days out of jail every year
- With two paroles, including the current one, he has spent 70 days out of jail. He cam still avail 21-day furlough

How he manages to come out so frequently

- The Haryana government, then led by BJP's Manohar Lal Khattar, had in February 2022 replaced the Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 1988 with the Haryana Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act, 2022.
- Under the old law parole to hardcore prisoner was granted only under rare circumstances — critical illness, a death or marriage in the family, or pressing agricultural need.
- Prior to new law being notified, Gurmeet Ram Rahim got out on parole only twice to meet his ailing mother: for a day on October 1, 2020 and for12 hours on May 21, 2021

CONVICTIONS

2002 rape of two woman disciples: Convicted to 20 years (two consecutive 10-year terms) by CBI court; appeal pending in high court

ACQUITTALS

2002 murder of journalist Ram Chander Chhatrapati: Awarded life term by CBI court in January 2019, was acquitted by high court in March 2026

2002 murder of Dera ex-manager Ranjit Singh: Awarded life term by CBI court in 2021, acquitted by the high court in May 2024.

PENDING CASES

Forced castration of 400 disciples: Charges framed in 2018; trial pending; he was granted bail CBI court.

2015 Sacrilege of Guru Granth Sahib: Supreme Court in October 2024 lifts stay ordered by high court; trial pending

WESTERN DEBATES ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING, INDIAN SYSTEM ABOUT CUMULATIVE WISDOM: V-C

At Nalanda, students turn Ramayana, Mahabharata into lessons on diplomacy and global conflict

Santosh Singh
Patna, May 26

HOW WOULD Lord Rama have positioned India in the current world order? What advice would Lord Krishna have given on India's relationships with the USA, China, and Russia? How would ancient Indian knowledge systems have addressed the current energy crisis?

These are among the questions being explored at Nalanda University, which draws students from over 30 countries, through its specialised postgraduate discipline: International Relations and Peace Studies (IRPS). Believed to be the first course of its kind, it devotes research to the epics — the Ramayana and the Mahabharata — and the Indian knowledge system to offer solutions for modern international relations and diplomacy.

According to Nalanda University Vice Chancellor Sachin Chaturvedi, the course aims at revitalising ancient Indic traditions and engaging with the texts on contemporary global concerns "through a meaningful dialogue".

"Of late, the university has initiated multiple intellectual and interdisciplinary academic initiatives aimed at revitalising ancient Indic traditions and engaging with the texts through a meaningful dialogue with contemporary global concerns. A number of recent student dissertations have attempted to examine the themes of Indic knowledge systems in relation to present-day international relations, ethics, governance, and strategic studies. Some discussions have also reflected upon insights from the Arthaśāstra in the context of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) principles and the broader Indic civilizational context," V-C Chaturvedi told *The Indian Express*.

The course — International Relations and Peace Studies — aims at revitalising ancient Indic traditions, the V-C said. NALANDA UNIVERSITY

A look at research papers shows how students are using ancient Indian systems to address current global problems. While one paper attempts to link classical thought with contemporary Indian foreign policy, another uses the Mahabharata to examine the importance of "soft power".

In her paper, *India's Strategic Partnerships Through the Lens of Rāmayana Alliances*, Master's student Surabhi Rani writes that the Kishkindha Kand of the Ramayana offers a durable framework for understanding diplomacy, sovereignty, and ethical intervention.

"The alliance between Rama and Sugrīva is not simply a narrative of friendship; it is a model of asymmetric partnership shaped by Mitra-dharma, Vishwas, Rajdharma, and Dharmic realism... The Rama-Sugriva alliance therefore becomes a powerful example of partnership without domination, influence without annexation, and leadership grounded in responsibility," the paper says.

It adds: "While we carry forward arguments of scholars such as Stephen Walt and Glenn Snyder on alliance formation, we also dwell at length on S. Jaishankar's civilizational vision of India as a Vishwa Bandhu. It also builds on Ravi Dutt Bajpai's reading of the Rāmāyana as a source of strategic insight, and on broader discussions of soft power, diplomatic ethics, and Indic statecraft. These contributions together show that epics can function as analytical resources for modern international relations."

Another IRPS researcher, Preeti Kumari, highlights Lord Krishna's use of soft power in her paper *Mahabharata: Rule-based order*.

"Krishna's philosophy mirrors the modern Just War concept of a 'Supreme Emergency', a term popularized by Michael Walzer to describe an imminent, existential threat to a state's political and moral survival. Just as Krishna denied combatant protections to Karna due to his past violations of fair play (the murder of Abhimanyu and humiliation of Draupadi), modern IR (international relations) grapples with denying protections to terror networks or rogue states that use armed conflict laws as a shield while systematically violating them," it says.

A third paper on using Indian knowledge systems to boost renewable energy has gained relevance amid the current energy crisis triggered by the US/Israel-Iran conflict. SIPS student Himanshi Gupta, in her dissertation Reframing India's energy transition: The lens of governance through community agency, indigenous knowledge systems, and global insights, evaluates Nalanda through the synthesis of ancient ecological wisdom and contemporary sustainable architecture, reflecting applied civilizational sustainability.

The paper says: "The discussions about Ahar-Pyne, community-managed water distribution systems, were pioneering techniques of Bihar...The Himalayan state of Himachal Pradesh occupies a critical position in India's northern frontier system, bordering Tibet. Himalayan region demonstrates an embedded form of decentralised environmental governance, wherein community-led practices in agriculture, forestry, or water management. Himachal's case reinforces the thesis's central argument: community is 'not merely a stakeholder in the energy transition but a condition of its possibility'."

The university is considering integrating initiatives like Shastartha (debate) more systematically into its academic framework next year.

"While Western debates are mostly about winning or losing, the Indian knowledge system has been about cumulative wisdom. Drawing on the Ramayana, Mahabharata and Indian knowledge tradition, we are offering the world a distinctly Indian framework to understand conflict, peace, and global order," Chaturvedi said.

AIR INDIA PLANE CRASH

Gujarat says hostel to come up at site; families seek memorial

Aditi Raja
Vadodara, May 26

IN JUST over two weeks, June 12 will mark one year since the Air India AI171 Ahmedabad crash shattered hundreds of families of the 260 victims – when flames tore through the BJ Medical College hostel complex in Meghaninagar, leaving behind twisted debris, burnt rooms, unfinished conversations and families that say time has not moved forward since.

As the Gujarat government on Tuesday announced preparations to demolish the damaged hostel blocks and build a new Rs 105-crore residential complex at the site, grieving relatives of victims are making an emotional appeal – to not let the site disappear beneath concrete and reconstruction.

For families still carrying the trauma of the crash, the land where the aircraft came down is not merely a redevelopment site, but a place forever tied to grief, memories and loss. In representations sent to authorities on Tuesday, relatives have urged the government to preserve at least a portion of the site as a memorial dedicated to those killed in the crash.

Mukti Vansadiya, a 32-year-old resident of Surat, who lost her parents – Divya and Arjunsinh – in the crash said the request made by the families to construct a memorial was for "respect and dignity" to be accorded to those who died in the tragedy. Vansadiya told *The Indian Express*, "We are already fighting a battle against powerful corporate entities and other vested interests who are not allowing families to access the truth of the crash... All that we want is that our departed loved ones should be given dignity and respect. Handing out Rs 1 crore in compensation does not mean respect... I am willing to return the compensation in exchange for the dignity that my parents' memory deserves."

On Tuesday, Gujarat Health Minister Praful Pansheriya announced that Tata Airlines would pay Rs 53.12 crore to the Health Department towards the damage caused to the 'Atulyam 1 to 4' hostel blocks, canteen and sub-station building at the New Mental Campus near Civil Hospital-Asarwa during the June 12, 2025 crash.

[FROM PAGE 1]

HDFC Bank 'camouflaged' crores as marketing spend

of the Board (ACB), under the chairmanship of M D Ranganath, had ordered a formal "Internal Vigilance Investigation" into payments totalling Rs 45 crore made to the Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation (MSRDC), a state government agency, during FY2024 and FY2025.

This order came after an internal audit of the bank's marketing department, covering the period 2024-25, which had flagged these payments and rated the department's performance as "unsatisfactory."

These payments, *The Indian Express* investigation, based on internal records, has revealed, were meant for MSRDC as "differential interest" i.e., interest over and above the specified rate, on its deposits. But instead of being credited directly to MSRDC's account as interest earned, they were routed through the bank's marketing department, disguised as contributions to a road safety awareness campaign through four local vendors.

Significantly, records reveal that this payout was approved in the presence of HDFC Bank MD & CEO Sashidhar Jagdishan during senior-level discussions where a higher rate for MSRDC was "verbally" agreed upon. Many officials have testified in the internal probe that Jagdishan "participated in the call convened to examine how the bank could compensate MSRDC and was part of the decision to provide the differential interest through the marketing budget as a one-off arrangement."

HDFC Bank Chief Marketing Officer Ravi Santhanam acknowledged in his testimony during the Vigilance probe that the marketing department acted as a "facilitator to camouflage differential interest reimbursement as marketing spend".

Significantly, the Vigilance probe report was sent to two top committees: Audit Committee of the Board (ACB) on April 10, and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee of the board a week later.

The RBI and HDFC Bank did not respond to detailed questionnaires sent by *The Indian Express* at the time of publication. MSRDC stated that its VC&MD was unavailable because of some urgent meetings.

Interviews with bank officials and scrutiny of internal documents reveal that the vigilance inquiry — conducted between March and April this year — concluded that more than 10 top officials bore responsibility. These include: MD & CEO Jagdishan; CFO Srinivasan Vaidyanathan and Chief Marketing Officer Ravi Santhanam.

The Vigilance probe's key revelations

The vigilance report, submitted to the Audit Committee of the Board, it is learnt, lays out the sequence as follows.

In 2021, HDFC Bank approached MSRDC, a Maharashtra government infrastructure agency, seeking its savings deposits. The bank was then offering 3.5% interest on savings accounts. MSRDC, sources say, "verbally" indicated that competing financial institutions were offering 6% or higher, and said it would route deposits from a major land acquisition project — anticipated to be in the range of Rs 25,000 crore — through HDFC Bank, if it received a rate of at least 6.01%.

MSRDC also allegedly sought an upfront fee of Rs 5 crore. The bank declined this demand. But internal email correspondence reviewed by the vigilance team shows the bank instead structured a 6.01% return — folding in additional interest above 6% to effectively account for MSRDC's expectations.

To accommodate this, the bank's Asset Liability Committee approved a special savings bank interest rate of 4.5% — applicable to certain large deposits — in anticipation that MSRDC would bring in over Rs 10,000 crore. When only around Rs 200 crore arrived in the initial months, the 4.5% window was shut after two months, in April 2022.

This created a problem. The bank had committed to 6.01% but could no longer offer even 4.5% through normal channels. The gap between what all regular customers received (3.5%) and what MSRDC had been promised (6.01%) — a differential of 2.51 percentage points — had to be paid out somehow.

The solution allegedly devised by senior management: route the differential through the marketing department, disguised as sponsorship payments for a road safety awareness campaign run by MSRDC.

Letters formalising the arrangement were signed not by senior executives but by a junior staff member, acting on the instruction of a cluster head and — according to the vigilance report — "verbally cleared" by a zonal head. The letters did not specify the tenure of the arrangement or any minimum balance threshold. They were, the report notes, "not vetted by legal or compliance teams" and made no mention of the 6.01% return that had been internally agreed upon. These "incomplete and poorly drafted" letters subsequently became the basis for MSRDC's insistence on receiving differential interest payments.

MSRDC began placing funds with the bank from February 2022. Deposits never reached the anticipated scale — crossing Rs 3,000 crore for only a couple of months in 2023. From 2023 through 2025, however, HDFC Bank made a series of payments to MSRDC, aggregating to approximately Rs 45 crore, in what the vigilance report characterises as disguised interest compensation.

How crores were paid to MSRDC

The internal audit report shows how thin the cover story was.

HDFC Bank's marketing department, the audit found, paid contributions aggregating to Rs 39.7 crore between 2023-24 and 2024-25 toward MSRDC's "Road Safety Awareness Campaign".

Significantly, the payments were not routed through the bank's Corporate Social Responsibility team that usually carries out such awareness programmes. The audit said it "was not able to independently verify the accuracy, basis and rationale of the contribution made towards the campaign as no document was available reflecting the methodology of arriving at the contribution amount."

Vendor invoices submitted as evidence of marketing activity were not properly validated. In one striking detail, a single photograph was attached across three invoices totalling around Rs 9 crore.

Payments were processed without event confirmation certificates, even though the bank's own terms required such certificates before funds were released. There was, the audit noted, no information available to demonstrate the extent of any actual road safety awareness campaign carried out in HDFC Bank's name.

The marketing department's own response to the audit was unusually candid about the arrangement's origins. It said, "This sponsorship was purely based on business consideration and arrangement/ deal was done by the business team (Retail Branch Banking) with MSRDC basis banker customer relationship. Hence, it came to marketing for processing the payment and an additional budget was provided for this purpose by the finance department, over and above the regular marketing budget."

In other words, the bank's marketing team acknowledged it had been handed a pre-arranged deal and told to process it — with extra budget allocated by finance for the purpose.

List of violations

The vigilance report, according to sources, identifies a cluster of serious regulatory and governance breaches.

Most significantly, it flags a violation of the RBI's Master Directions on interest rates on deposits, which explicitly prohibit banks from offering negotiated returns to individual depositors. By routing the differential interest to MSRDC through vendor payments, effectively compensating a customer at a rate unavailable to others, the bank is alleged to have done what the regulation forbids. The report also flags a violation of the bank's own anti-bribery and anti-corruption policy. The policy prohibits payments that could constitute "improper inducement". Routing interest payments through vendors in the form of marketing expenses, the report holds, falls squarely within that prohibition.

A top source familiar with the inquiry said, "Not only is this a violation of the Banking Regulation Act, it also raises questions of ethics. Banks cannot give a negotiated rate to any one customer and cannot incentivise customers for keeping deposits beyond a certain limit."

The source said that because payments were routed through vendors rather than credited directly to MSRDC as interest payment, the vendors would have raised invoices and claimed input tax credit — creating an additional layer of irregularity.

Who bears responsibility?

The vigilance report, sources say, goes beyond structural lapses and obtained and assessed statements from several key officials.

CMO Santhanam acknowledged in his testimony that the "marketing department acted as the facilitator to camouflage differential interest reimbursement as marketing spend."

He further said that "a small portion was spent on actual marketing to support the vendor invoices and to give the payments an appearance of legitimate marketing activity." He described the mechanism as a "one-off case."

On the MD & CEO, Sashidhar Jagdishan, the report's findings are more pointed. Jagdishan, it said, was involved in senior-level discussions where the overall 6.01% return structure for MSRDC was verbally agreed upon — without any written approval or documentation.

The report concludes that while the method effectively reimbursed MSRDC for an interest shortfall on savings deposits, it "fell outside the bank's approved governance, resulting in regulatory breach" — and that this "exposed the bank to regulatory, operational and reputational risks."

CFO Srinivasan Vaidyanathan faces similar findings. Multiple staff members testified he was present at the call where senior management explored how to compensate MSRDC, and that he was specifically tasked with determining how the remaining interest differential could be reimbursed through the marketing route.

The report said the CFO did not ensure the arrangement was formally recorded, reviewed by compliance or audit, or subjected to any internal control — and that "no written process" existed for it.

The conclusion: "It is established that the CFO was present at the inception of the arrangement and approved the reimbursement modality through marketing."

Why this raises questions

promised hefty deposits.

A senior official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that the bank which has total deposits of Rs 31 lakh crore as of March 31, 2026, is certainly better placed to avoid the "lure of a few thousand crores" as deposits rather than "take such questionable steps like routing money through a bunch of vendors as sponsorship payments."

A top source familiar with the internal inquiry said, "Not only is this a violation of the Banking Regulation Act, it also raises questions of ethics. Banks cannot give a negotiated rate to any one customer and cannot incentivise customers for keeping deposits beyond a certain limit."

The source added that because payments were routed through vendors rather than credited directly to MSRDC's account as interest earned, the vendors would have raised invoices and claimed input tax credit — creating an additional layer of irregularity.

As for MSRDC, while it did not reply to a questionnaire from *The Indian Express*, a senior official with the firm said: "MSRDC received the entire interest differential at the promised rate. What the bank has done at their end is their matter."

● **WEB EXCLUSIVE**
'The long night of India's heatwave.'
— By Rajib Dasgupta
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● **WORDLY WISE**
Conspicuous consumption of valuable goods is a means of reputability to the gentleman of leisure.
— Thorstein Veblen

The Indian EXPRESS
~ FOUNDED BY ~
RAMNATH GOENKA
IN 1932
BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

India First can converge with America First

AGAINST THE backdrop of an uneasy phase in India-US relations over the past year or so, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio's visit to India signalled reassurance to New Delhi that Washington remains committed to a long-term strategic partnership. He sought to convey that recent US actions (related to tariffs and visas, for instance) were not aimed at India, but were part of a broader effort to rebalance US trade and modernise the American immigration system. "The relationship continues to be strong... by the end of this administration, it will be stronger than it's ever been," Rubio said. He also attempted to address the Pakistan question, stressing that US engagement with "other countries" at a "tactical" level would not come at the expense of close ties with India. For its part, New Delhi articulated its position clearly, with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar outlining a five-point framework on regional and global issues: Dialogue and diplomacy, safe and unimpeded maritime commerce, adherence to international law, opposition to the weaponisation of market access and resources, and the importance of trusted partnerships and resilient supply chains.

At the heart of Rubio's visit was the Quad foreign ministers' meeting, which unveiled major initiatives in maritime surveillance, port infrastructure, critical minerals and energy security. Yet the larger geopolitical context raises questions about the future trajectory of the grouping. The growing rapprochement between the US and China following President Donald Trump's recent summit with President Xi Jinping in Beijing, coupled with signs that Washington may be recalibrating its military priorities away from the Indo-Pacific to West Asia, calls for a reassessment of an alliance originally conceived to ensure a free and open Indo-Pacific by countering China's expanding influence. The fundamentally competitive nature of India's relationship with a growing China is unlikely to change, and managing the changing realities will test Indian diplomacy.

This, in turn, underlines the limits of diplomacy in the absence of stronger domestic capabilities. Until New Delhi builds greater leverage through sustained economic growth and modernisation, it will remain vulnerable to geopolitical pressures beyond its control. During his joint press conference with Rubio, Jaishankar acknowledged that the Trump administration has been forthright about pursuing an "America First" policy, and said that Delhi, too, is guided by an "India First" approach. Convergence of interests may sustain cooperation, but India's standing in a fractured world order will ultimately rest on the strength it builds at home.

Warmer nights are a public-health challenge

SUMMERS IN most parts of India have usually been harsh. However, sunset would bring some relief. The evening breeze and lower temperatures allowed the human body to recover from daytime stress. But this pattern is changing. Nights have become uncomfortable, especially for those without access to air conditioning. A recent study by Climate Trends, a Delhi-based climate research organisation, in medium- and low-income residential units in Chennai, showed that the peak night temperature was not very different from that experienced by people during the hottest part of the day. Research on the ways this changing weather pattern is affecting people's lives is an emerging field. Heat-related morbidity is also under-reported and not properly documented. But studies have underlined how heat can cause cardiac stress and worsen existing illnesses, including respiratory problems and kidney ailments. The elderly, children and people dependent on outdoor jobs — vendors, construction workers, and those employed in the gig economy — are particularly vulnerable.

Several Indian states, cities and even districts have heat action plans (HAPs). They generally include early-warning systems, public advisories, cooling centres and coordination between local agencies. However, the quality of these plans is uneven. Several lack dedicated funding and enforcement mechanisms. The emphasis is overwhelmingly on emergency response, and inadequate attention is given to long-term adaptation. Most of them fail to identify the most vulnerable sections and do not suggest roadmaps to incorporate heat resilience in urban governance. A White Paper by researchers at Harvard University's Salata Institute, released in April, underlines the scale of the challenge — it pointed out that close to 38 crore workers in India are exposed to heat, but the country's adaptation policies are deeply unequal.

In most of urban India, natural landscapes have been replaced with heat-absorbing concrete, asphalt and glass. The arrangement of housing enclaves has shrunk air corridors. The changing weather pattern, therefore, is also an architectural and urban planning challenge. Building designs need to prioritise ventilation and energy efficiency, while public policy should nudge industry to devise cooling solutions for low-income households. The country cannot postpone meaningful conversations on improving living conditions in the face of climate vagaries.

The art of living, outsourced

REMEMBER THE mid-2000s, when social media was the breakthrough technology, and the conversation around "connecting people" on the World Wide Web was mostly optimism and sunshine? A couple of decades later, the story has changed to screen addictions and digital detox and "guardrails". The Indian start-up ecosystem has its own share of fairy tales running into reality checks. Initially, food delivery, ride-sharing, service and quick commerce apps were seen as delivering convenience without consequences. It's becoming increasingly clear, though, that the abundance of cheap labour is the backbone of these "innovations".

A new entrant, CarryMen, a Delhi-based start-up, offers customers in Lajpat Nagar market a respite from carrying bags, standing in queues and other forms of tedium — all for around Rs 100/per hour. As a part-time job, it may not be too bad. But past experience shows that the fairy tale ends when apps scale. Even if it ends up as a win-win, something could be lost.

The urban Indians of means have outsourced and privatised a lot of their lives. An algorithm all but chooses what you will eat on an app; the frustration of finding an auto or a cab is gone, as is trying to find an electrician or plumber at short notice. And now, you don't need to even carry your own bag while shopping. Life is shorn of its texture, its rough edges. No worries, though. There's probably someone coming up with an app to simulate actually living in the city.

In new world, with US, India has the cards. It must play them confidently

RAJA MANDALA
BY C RAJA MOHAN

LOVE IT or hate it, the media frenzy and political frisson that American leaders generate in Delhi remains unrivalled. Why do visits by the Russian foreign minister or his Chinese counterpart not provoke the same excitement and anxiety as the just-concluded four-day sojourn of US Secretary of State Marco Rubio? To be sure, the US is India's most weighty partner, and the 2025 turbulence in ties explains some of the hype surrounding Rubio's visit.

There is more to it. While Russia may be India's "best friend forever" and China its most consequential neighbour, neither relationship carries the emotional intensity that both binds and strains India's engagement with America. Unlike the US, the Indian elite has little social intimacy or political familiarity with Russia or China. There is only the G-to-G relationship and the coded diplo-speak associated with it. India's communists once engaged with the Soviet and Chinese polities. That bridge has collapsed.

In contrast, America looms large over Indian society. The Indian elite's social links, mobility plans, cultural aspirations, intellectual networks, and technological connections with the US deepened steadily even during the bitterest phases of the Cold War, and have grown by leaps and bounds since. There is a huge business dimension today that did not exist earlier. Even our English has changed: British spellings survive, barely, but "blokes" have become "bros" and "doing fine" has yielded to "all good".

India is not alone in adopting American culture. Even many critics of Washington across the world continue to seek access to the opportunities and prestige that America uniquely offers. American soft power still rules the world. Despite the negative effects of US President Donald Trump, the US will continue to outrank Europe, Russia and China in any index of attractiveness.

Anti-American public posturing has a long provenance in India, on the Left and Right alike. There is a historical parallel: In the late 19th century, American elites sought British approval even as they bristled at every perceived slight from London. Rising powers often oscillate between attraction to and resentment of the hegemon. Delhi reflected some of that ambivalence last week amid the torrent of criticism directed at American policies and the excessive anxiety over the durability of the India-US partnership.

On the surface, not much appears to have changed since the early 1990s, when India and the US began reconstructing ties. Every visit by even relatively junior American officials became headline news, accompanied by fears about US mediation on Kashmir, pressure on India's nuclear programme, and concerns over sovereignty. Agreements with Washington routinely invited accusations of "arm-twisting" and "capitulation".

But the relationship today is very different. The US is now India's largest economic partner across trade, investment, technology and higher education. Washington has steadily de-hyphenated India from Pakistan. Successive administrations came to view India as an important element in balancing China in Asia. The long disputes over nuclear non-proliferation and technology denial regimes have been addressed to a large extent. India's foreign-policy establishment gradually moved beyond its inherited anti-American reflexes in the 21st century. Yet the first year of Trump's second term has revived old anxieties. Tariff threats against Indian exports, pressure over Russian oil imports, and uncertainty about Washington's future approach to China and Pakistan have resurrected familiar fears.

> Unlike the US, the Indian elite has little social intimacy or political familiarity with Russia or China. There is only the G-to-G relationship and the coded diplo-speak associated with it

Rubio's visit was an effort at reassurance; the Indian establishment will wait to see how this plays out in practice. The Quad foreign ministers' meeting also reaffirmed the continuing importance of minilateral cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. Repairing public sentiment, however, will take longer.

Looking beyond Rubio's visit, three considerations stand out.

First, Delhi must honestly assess whether it fully utilised the opportunities opened by America's strategic rethinking of Asia over the past two decades. Political hesitation, ideological confusion, and bureaucratic caution prevented India from fully leveraging the geopolitical openings the US created since the turn of the century. Too much debate and too little action in Delhi contrasts with the boldness with which Deng Xiaoping's China seized the US embrace to lift itself to great-power status. The mistaken sense that America needs India more than Delhi needs Washington has fostered strategic complacency.

Second, we are dealing with a very different US from the one that went out of its way to befriend India 25 years ago. India must come to terms with the structural shifts underway in US foreign policy under Trump, especially regarding the Eurasian balance of power. Traditionally, the US relied on alliances to manage Russia and China. Trump is more sceptical about the value of partnerships, with an apparent belief that Washington can unilaterally manage both. India has felt the effects of this. There is understandable concern in some Indian quarters about a potential American accommodation with China and Pakistan. But objectively speaking, India today is far stronger than during earlier phases of strategic divergence with Washington — when the US was far closer to Beijing and Rawalpindi than it is today.

Third, whatever direction US policy takes, Delhi has no option but to adapt. Its response must be twofold: Continue working with the US, bilaterally and through the Quad, to sustain a favourable balance of power in Asia; and accelerate India's economic transformation and strengthen internal unity. External partnerships can help India shape the balance in Asia, but they cannot substitute for national capability and coherence. India has the cards; the question is whether it can play them with confidence.

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Delhi's dust pollution needs science, not seasonal optics

GUFRAN BEIG

DUST POLLUTION has emerged as a major public-health hazard in Delhi. Before going deeper into the challenge, it must be made clear that in almost all cases of air pollution, the sources are local and, theoretically, controllable. However, the "local" must be defined in terms of the airshed and not city boundaries. Weather or climate change influences the trajectory of pollutants.

In winter, cooler air and slower winds prevent pollutants from dispersing, causing pollution levels to rise sharply. In summer, higher temperatures and stronger winds increase atmospheric mobility, enabling dust to rise and spread rapidly – that's what we are witnessing these days. Ironically, however, discussions around water sprinkling intensify during winter, when natural dust lifting is relatively limited because of calm winds. In reality, water sprinkling becomes far more important during summer.

Dust pollution can be understood through three distinct categories. The first is natural dust, which depends on landscape characteristics, land use and land cover. The second is re-suspended dust -- it's generated from paved and unpaved roads when vehicles move over them. Greater traffic volume, higher vehicle speeds, and poor road conditions significantly increase dust levels, especially during winter. Calm winds reduce the natural dispersion of dust, while continuous vehicular movement keeps dust particles suspended in the air.

The third type of dust generated is when prescribed norms are not followed during construction activities. Though it contributes least to pollution among the three categories, it often receives the closest administrative attention, as reflected in measures such as the GRAP guidelines.

At present, Delhi is struggling primarily with severe natural dust lifting, in addition to the other two dust sources. The critical question is: Why has the summer of 2026 witnessed such extreme severity? The answer lies in large-scale weather patterns, likely amplified by climate change. India appears to be entering a phase of Super El Niño conditions. One of its earliest consequences has been predictions of a weaker monsoon by weather agencies.

As the Pacific Ocean warms, Super El Niño conditions intensify heat across the Indian subcontinent. This year, Indian cities have repeatedly featured among the world's hottest locations. Widespread heating across South Asia has dried surface moisture over a vast region, making soil loose and highly vulnerable to wind-driven dust lifting.

Traditionally, western India experiences severe dust storm activity during summer. This year, however, northern and eastern India have borne the brunt because the vast Indo-Gangetic Plain has experienced intense heating across its entire stretch. Dust has consequently been lifted on a much larger scale, with transport winds carrying it partly from the Indo-Gangetic region and partly from Rajasthan and adjoining desert areas towards Delhi. Delhi has found itself trapped between multiple dust corridors.

Strong summer winds — locally known as loo — have further enabled this dust to spread. Addressing this challenge requires long-term planning and structural interventions rather than temporary quick fixes.

Several solutions therefore become critical. First, policymakers must understand the science behind each pollution source and the mechanisms through which weather and seasonal conditions influence them. Different sources behave differently across seasons, and mitigation strategies must reflect this reality. Second, implementation backed by scientific evidence is essential for meaningful results. Third, alongside expanding the coverage of mechanical road sweeping machines (MRSM), India must develop technologies that combine efficient sweeping with optimised water sprinkling to suppress dust at its source.

Fourth, better traffic management is crucial for reducing road dust. Electric vehicles can reduce fossil-fuel emissions, but they cannot eliminate re-suspended road dust. That challenge requires smoother traffic flow, better road maintenance and sustained transport management strategies.

Fifth, construction norms, including green covering measures, must be enforced, though construction dust should not overshadow larger contributors. Finally, cities need significantly greater green cover and more water bodies to stabilise soil surfaces.

As climate change intensifies, vigilance will become increasingly necessary. The changing geography of dust pollution is a warning: Climate-linked extreme events are becoming more unpredictable, more widespread and more difficult for humans.

> The Indo-Gangetic Plain has seen intense heating. Dust has been lifted on a much larger scale, with winds carrying it from the Indo-Gangetic region, Rajasthan and adjoining desert areas towards Delhi

The writer is chair professor, NIAS, IISc-Campus and founder, SAFAR

When the joke is on the vulnerable, it is not funny

INDU BHUSHAN

A RECENT advertisement by a cement company features actor Ranbir Kapoor locked in a bare room, speaking incoherently and behaving irrationally. It ends with Kapoor, now dressed as a doctor, reassuring the audience that the person inside cannot escape because the room is built with strong cement. The commercial may have been intended as harmless humour. But it reflects a disturbing insensitivity towards mental illness. It turns mental illness into a spectacle for entertainment. Behaviour associated with psychological distress is caricatured and presented as comedy. This reinforces the deeply damaging stereotype that people with mental-health conditions are objects of ridicule rather than individuals deserving empathy, treatment and dignity.

Even more troubling is the underlying message that such individuals should be confined. The imagery is impossible to separate from a darker history of mental-health treatment, when people with psychiatric conditions were deprived of basic human dignity. The emphasis today is on treatment, inclusion, community support, rehabilitation — not segregation.

India's enormous burden of depression, anxiety and suicide is made worse by the social and psychological stresses that have intensified in recent years. Yet, access to mental-health services remains inadequate, with severe shortages of psychiatrists, psychologists and community-support systems. Social stigma remains a big barrier preventing people from seeking help. Families hide mental illness and young people hesitate to speak openly about depression or anxiety. An advertisement that uses mental illness as comic relief, therefore. only deepens prejudice.

Companies today speak frequently about inclusion, diversity, ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) commitments and social responsibility. Many invest in campaigns related to gender equality, disability rights and social inclusion. Mental health deserves the same sensitivity. A corporation cannot claim commitment to social responsibility while its advertisements mock vulnerable individuals. Celebrities, too, cannot escape responsibility. Public figures wield enormous influence, particularly among younger audiences. When they endorse content that demeans mental illness, it normalises prejudice and undermines years of work by professionals and civil-society organisations.

At the same time, it is important to recognise that several public figures have played a constructive role in changing attitudes. Celebrities such as Deepika Padukone have spoken openly about their struggles with depression. Others from cinema, sports and media have encouraged people to seek support without shame or fear. These efforts have contributed significantly to reducing stigma, especially among younger Indians. Precisely because celebrities possess such influence, they must recognise that the messages they endorse carry wider social consequences.

Humour has a place in advertising. But humour that humiliates is neither clever nor harmless. Creative freedom cannot become an excuse for demeaning vulnerable groups. This episode should prompt serious introspection within India's advertising industry about ethical boundaries and social responsibility.

A compassionate society is judged not by how it treats the powerful but by how it treats the vulnerable. Mental illness is a human condition deserving understanding, care and dignity.

> When public figures endorse content that demeans mental illness, it normalises prejudice and undermines years of work by professionals and civil-society organisations

The writer is founding CEO, National Health Authority

40 YEARS AGO
May 27, 1986

SAREES
INDIAN EXPRESS
LUXMI
Barnala rules out Army deployment
Decision on 'kar seva' by May-end
Army alerted in Darjeeling as 5 killed in firing
150 drowned in Bangla boat mishap

Barnala rules out Army role

PUNJAB CHIEF Minister S S Barnala ruled out the deployment of the Army in Punjab's troubled border districts, saying the problem was essentially a policing matter and not one for the armed forces. He made the remarks at a press conference after visiting the Golden Temple complex, where he had completed a "*seva*" ordered by Sikh high priests following the police entry into the complex on April 30.

Decision on Chandigarh soon

PUNJAB HAS agreed, before the Venkataramiah Commission, to offer 15,000 acres of land in the Rajpura tehsil of Patiala district to Haryana in exchange for Chandigarh, matching the area of the UT. The Commission chairman had asked Punjab to present its proposal. Punjab's counsel subsequently submitted a list of equivalent land areas, with a final decision expected on June 1.

Police firing in Darjeeling

THE ARMY was alerted in Kurseong in Darjeeling district after five Gorkha National Liberation Front supporters were killed in police firing, prompting heightened security across the region. Two BSF battalions were deployed, and restrictions were imposed throughout the district.

Bangladesh boat disaster

AT LEAST 150 people were reported dead and several hundred others missing after a motor launch capsized in the Meghna River near Barisal in Bangladesh. The vessel sank in stormy conditions near Maulavirhat, about 227 km from Dhaka. Reports suggested the death toll could be as high as 500, with large-scale rescue and recovery efforts underway amid fears of many more casualties.

● WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

The IDF is, once again, overriding soldier safety to appease the ultra-orthodox — *Haaretz, Israel*

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Liberal-arts education matters more, not less, in the age of AI: Five reasons why

AMITABH MATTOO

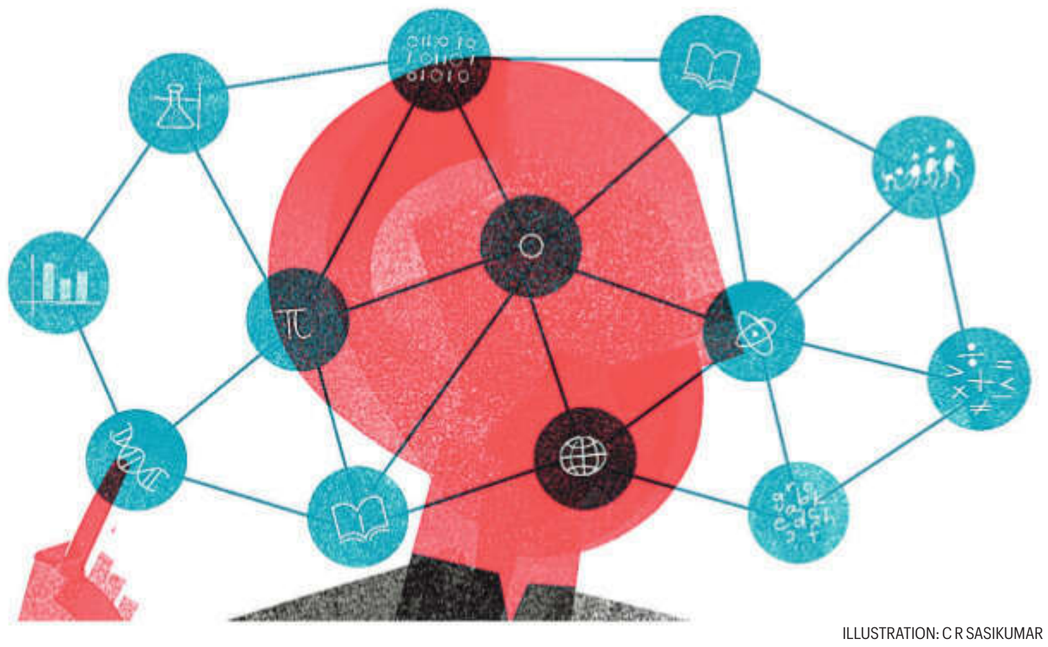

ILLUSTRATION: C R SASIKUMAR

EVEN AS universities across India seek to implement the National Education Policy, they are confronted with a deeper question: What should higher education look like in the age of Artificial Intelligence? Fortunately, the NEP's focus on multidisciplinary learning and intellectual flexibility is remarkably prescient. In a world being shaped by AI, the future will be shaped by societies that can think across disciplines, rather than simply excel within a single specialisation. It also revives the importance of liberal-arts education.

Over 25 years, in academic leadership, I have seen recurring waves of anxiety about the relevance of liberal-arts education. Successive eras of doubt about the importance of the liberal arts have been driven by the growing dominance of STEM subjects. Questions about humanities and social science degrees are often posed in terms of "worth" or return on investment; disciplines that are intellectually interesting but economically dispensable. The age of AI has finally exposed the poverty of that thinking.

Liberal-arts education is now — more than ever — India's key to the future. Here's why. First, while data may be the new marker of literacy, information alone is not enough. Yes, artificial intelligence can process massive amounts of data at speeds no human can match. Yes, AI can write essays, create computer programs, identify trends, and engage in convincing conversation. But at a time when AI is dangerously masquerading as truth, nothing can substitute judgement informed by history, ethics, culture and politics. The more sophisticated machines become, the more precious distinctly human capacities will grow.

The second reason to embrace liberal arts is that future problems will not come neatly labelled as History, Economics or Computer Science. Debates about the liberal arts versus STEM are based on a false binary. The biggest challenge facing India is whether — and how well — it can do both. The best engineers will need the insights of History, Political Science and Ethics to solve the problems of the future. Good technologists will need social science to build humane technology. India needs economists who can speak knowledgeably about climate change and behavioural science. In the age of AI, disciplinary silos will hinder those who work within them. That's why the NEP's stress on multidisciplinary and holistic education is so welcome.

Third, liberal-arts degrees matter for democracy. Democracies need citizens who can think critically, engage in civil disagreement, and have some understanding of the past. When markets determine educational priorities, the social value of learning can easily be reduced to its immediate monetary value. History, Philosophy, Anthropology and Political Theory will always seem less important than degrees with easy job placements. But democracies that stop valuing these subjects will do so at their own peril. Universities are, after all, more than employment facilitation or placement centres.

> India's traditions never viewed knowledge as fragmented into isolated disciplines. Education was seen as a cohesive whole. India's strengths in the modern knowledge economy are tied to a return to this interdisciplinary approach

When JNU was created more than five decades ago, it was imagined almost as an intellectual republic. Students came from every corner of India and were introduced to new ideas that helped them see beyond the limits of their backgrounds and communities. The value of universities like JNU is not simply in what they research or publish; it is in the idea of a public space dedicated to knowledge for its own sake. Just as importantly, universities play an important role in nurturing democratic citizenship and values. To be sure, private universities have expanded access to education and brought change to India's higher education ecosystem. From Shiv Nadar to Ahmedabad University to Ashoka, several private institutions have pioneered serious investments in liberal-arts education and interdisciplinary programmes. With India's vast population, we need both private and public universities. Yet there is also reason for caution. Once you let market forces alone dictate the purpose of a university, certain areas of study will naturally be privileged over others.

The fourth reason to care about liberal-arts education is resilience. Coding languages and technical skills change every few years. What employers look for changes. What will not change — and what humans will always need — is the ability to think critically, communicate effectively, and relate to others. As AI takes over more of the world's blue-collar and white-collar jobs, human skills will need to become more human. Liberal-arts degrees are uniquely positioned to provide that education. At JNU's School of International Studies, we see it play out in real time as the field of International Relations is being reshaped by tech. Climate change, cybersecurity, big data and disinformation aren't just "topics" to be studied — they will define both opportunities and challenges for the next generation of global leaders. Which is why we must train students who are not only tech-savvy, but historically literate, ethically mindful, and globally literate.

The fifth reason is civilisational. India's own intellectual traditions never viewed knowledge as fragmented into isolated disciplines. There was no divide between Philosophy and Politics, Economics and Ethics, or even Literature and public service. Education was seen as a cohesive whole. India's strengths in the modern knowledge economy are tied to a return to this interdisciplinary approach. The NEP, in many ways, mirrors a growing recognition that Indian traditions of knowledge are no longer compartmentalised.

For decades now, I have had the privilege of learning from students across India and the world — whether at public universities in India's conflict areas or leading universities abroad. What I have learned from them is that higher education must do more than create workers. It must help us become better human beings.

India today has a historic opportunity. If implemented with care and seriousness, the NEP has the potential to help India educate a generation that is technologically literate and democratically mindful. That will make India not just a stronger knowledge economy but a stronger democracy, and improve the quality of life of all its inhabitants. For the ultimate challenge posed by AI is not technological, it is human. Machines may increasingly answer questions. Universities must still teach which questions are worth asking.

The writer is dean of the School of International Studies, JNU and professor of IR at the University of Melbourne

Was Nehru right or wrong? Let's not obsess over wrong question

MANOJ KUMAR JHA

FAR FROM receding into the fog of history, Jawaharlal Nehru retains a quick recall factor not many public figures can rival even today. Nehru's ability to animate politics with such intensity more than six decades since his death is an indicator of his central location in the ongoing struggle over the meaning of India itself.

By continuously pushing the notion of his "mistakes", the attempt is to dispute Nehru's position as a historical statesman and turn him into a convenient repository of blame. While many debaters on all sides of the ideological divide engage in polemics around Nehru, the task for those seeking to develop an understanding of history is neither to sanctify him nor to shield him from criticism, but to place him, his ideas, and his actions within the constraints and dilemmas of his time.

Nehru governed a nation newly emerging from the debilitating violence of colonial rule and the immediate trauma of Partition. Not only was the young India economically weak and socially fractured, its administrators and institutions also had no experience as autonomous functionaries.

While many post-colonial states quickly descended into coups and one-party systems, Nehru played a central role in legitimising parliamentary politics through respectful engagement with the Opposition, even when he could have taken authoritarian shortcuts. He was clear-eyed that democracy involved educating the citizenry and a robust culture of institutionalised accountability.

While Nehruvian secularism is often misunderstood in contemporary debate, it is important to point out that it was neither hostile to the institution of religion nor to any particular faith. It was not an attempt to erase faith from public life; rather, he sought to strengthen a framework that could prevent the state from privileging one religious identity over another. The challenge of welding together a country into a functioning republic was unprecedented, and his writings show that as the first PM, he understood the full import of this challenge.

This composite vision of India is also reflected in Nehruvian economic ideals. The conditions in which Nehru decided the direction of India's economic development are not disputed. In the early 1950s, Indian private capital was neither willing nor equipped to build steel plants, heavy machinery or large-scale irrigation. Nehru built a public sector geared for national development in place of an imperial machinery whose objective so far had been to suck India dry. Private enterprises, even today, demand vast freedom and little regulation. At the same time. They expect heavy state investment and support that make such "freedom" possible. The regulations may be criticised as excessive, but they should not eclipse what state-led development achieved when private enterprise was hesitant and foreign capital anathema.

Nehru knew that transforming India's masses into a citizenry of a functional democracy required cultural infrastructure. The Sahitya Akademi, Lalit Kala Akademi, Sangeet Natak Akademi, National School of Drama, Film and Television Institute of India, Films Division, and so on emerged from this conviction. These institutions might appear paternalistic and flawed by today's standards, yet they nurtured generations of writers, artists, filmmakers, and performers.

Even Nehru's foreign policy deserves more nuance than current polemics allow. Non-alignment is often caricatured as naive moralism. But in the rigid bipolarity of the Cold War, it was a pragmatic policy and an assertion of sovereignty, and carved out strategic space between rival blocs not only for India but also for other newly decolonised nations.

How does one evaluate the legacy of a pacifist statesman in times of war and internal strife? Anti-militarist scholars interpret the conflict with China through the ambiguities of colonial border-making and competing regional hegemonic aspirations. They regard the policy before 1962 as naive, some going so far as to say that Nehru's moral internationalism coexisted awkwardly with emerging Indian strategic ambitions. This is true with respect to Kashmir and the wars with Pakistan, too. Nehruvian internationalism could not escape the logic of the military consolidation of the Indian state.

We do not need to waste any more time obsessing over whether Nehru was right about every policy. The Nehru of our inheritance would not require us to unthinkingly repeat his choices but to recover the outlook he embodied. His faith in procedure and institutions, willingness to explain and persuade when he could have easily commanded, made India a durable democracy.

The writer is MP (Rajya Sabha), Rashtriya Janata Dal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Identity crisis

VANDITA MISHRA'S analysis is measured and worth reflecting on ('Dead ends on the road from Bengal, both sides need new directions', *IE*, May 26). What strikes me most is the observation that both sides are now treating political problems as identity problems. That substitution is dangerous. The Opposition cannot build a credible alternative simply by opposing Hindu consolidation — it needs a governance-centred agenda that speaks to ordinary voters regardless of community.

K Sakunthala, Coimbatore

Choking Cuba

THE IMPOSITION of unilateral coercive measures has historically precipitated manufactured humanitarian catastrophes driven by protracted civil conflicts, violations of international law, and mass displacement ('Cuba and the quiet cruelty of US sanctions', *IE*, May 26). It can be seen in the use of sanctions by the US specifically for regime change in several countries, including Cuba, Venezuela and Iran, which has led to mass starvation, weaponised aid, and regional instability, pushing civilians to a breaking point.

Vaibhav Goyal, Chandigarh

Cannes carpet

THE OBSERVATION about Cannes recalibrating toward purpose over glamour is interesting, though one should be cautious about reading too much into a single year's lineup ('At Cannes, a paler red carpet, a sharper frame', *IE*, May 26). European cinema has always carried a stronger auteur tradition, and the Palme d'Or has never reliably tracked commercial appeal. What the low-wattage celebrity presence does usefully signal is that serious cinema no longer needs the scaffolding of franchise stars to command critical attention. For Indian filmmakers, that is actually an encouraging opening.

S M Jeeva, Chennai

Bigger RBI dividend, smaller fiscal comfort zone

APOORVA JAVADEKAR

THE RBI has approved the largest-ever dividend (yet slightly short of expectations) of Rs 2.87 lakh to the government, which will cover roughly 20 per cent of the latter's deficits — a timely transfer given that the government is supporting a larger fuel and fertiliser subsidy bill. One can evaluate the transfer from legal, monetary/fiscal policy, and political economy perspectives.

First, the RBI makes profits from interest income out of its domestic and foreign investments in various bonds, as well as by selling the dollar at a higher rate, mostly because it sells the dollar to defend the rupee when the former appreciates. This means that when the rupee is falling, an activist central bank generates dividends to the government — a unique cushion many emerging-market economies, enjoy. As comforting as this might be, in a political economy as complex as India's, it cannot dictate why the RBI needs to be aggressive in defending the rupee to help the fiscal position.

Second, the RBI pays dividends to the government under the RBI Act, 1934 (Section 47) after setting aside a minimum contingency risk buffer (CBR) in accordance with the Bimal Jalan committee recommendation — in fact, in a more conservative way. The RBI upped the maximum contingency buffer from 6.5 per cent to 7.5 per cent (of its asset position) a year ago, set aside 7.5 per cent CBR last year, and continued doing so this year. The reserve ratio is also on the higher side. Hence, it is not as if the RBI is paying the government by stretching its buffers too thin.

> In economically challenging times, when the central bank is expanding its balance sheet, the government is also likely to run an expansive fiscal programme; a cut to RBI dividends exactly at that time hurts

Then what is the problem? First, reliability and volatility. Unlike taxes, the RBI's profits could be way more volatile than we imagine. In years to come, when the RBI decides to float the rupee more freely, the profits from selling dollars or other foreign exchange interventions will progressively contribute less to its income. The bond yields are volatile and will impart that volatility to the RBI's interest income, too.

An active monetary policy that injects significant liquidity into the market or deploys QE-type strategies by buying government bonds needs to keep aside a larger risk buffer to support the expanded balance sheet, reducing the surplus/dividend that can be transferred to the government. The RBI injected Rs 10 lakh crore worth of liquidity this year, which expanded its balance sheet by 20 per cent, requiring a larger risk buffer. In economically challenging times, when the bank is expanding its balance sheet, the government is also likely to run an expansive fiscal programme; a cut to RBI dividends at that time hurts.

Second is the perception problem. If institutional investors perceive the RBI-government nexus as defined by the dividend mathematics, it risks running with assumptions about the central bank's independence being compromised. The US experience — when Donald Trump attempted to control the Fed — tell us that this can significantly alter the currency's valuation and damage the flow of foreign investment into the country's debt and equity markets. India and other emerging economies have far less room for manoeuvre than a hegemon like the US. In other words, the fiscal nexus between the RBI and the government can create a balance of payments situation for the central bank, making it difficult for it to accumulate foreign exchange reserves in the first place. Lastly, it can lead to a fiscal profligacy problem if governments rely on RBI dividends even during good economic years.

Does India have a fiscal problem? In some respects, yes. At 85 per cent, the combined debt of the Centre and states is higher than that of many Asian peers. The RBI's ownership of government bonds is rising, a growing share of government spending is going to debt interest payments, there is underspending on key schemes like the Jal Jeevan Mission to meet fiscal-deficit targets, and expensive promises are made during state elections. In some ways, India has to balance providing greater-than-expected support, due to the ongoing crisis and expected lower rainfall, with maintaining a sustainable budget. Either way, the RBI dividends will help.

The writer is chief economist, Muthoot FinCorp Ltd

All that glitters is emotion

KRUPA GE

I HAD never been much of a jewellery girl, either while growing up or as an adult, no thanks to those strict school-uniform checks that took away any desire for accessories. While I appreciate the sentiment – the school was trying to minimise feelings of conflict between those whose parents could afford to make them look rich and those whose couldn't — that extreme advocacy for a certain bland look meant I had got so used to that life, even a minor variation from that bareness left me feeling uncomfortable.

But then, I recently turned 40, and all of a sudden found myself looking for ways to accessorise that didn't seem too far from who I was. It might have to do with the fact that I'd been struggling to express my femininity, what with a changing body (I know it sounds like I am talking about adolescence, but look up matrescence) that made it difficult to accept what was in the mirror.

So I did what I do whenever I need life advice. If you thought I was going to do something remotely responsible, you're going to have to live with disappointment. I opened Pinterest and created a secret mood board of the things I'd like to do to feel good. I looked through archives of photos to see what women down the ages, ordinary and royal, were doing much before salons and beauty parlours to express femininity. Of course it turned out to be jewellery.

I already had a nose piercing, so adding another nose ring to that formidable collection would obviously be my first priority, because who cares about logic? Then I remembered with great fondness the only other piece of jewellery I'd never taken off: A tiny emerald set in a ring that my mother gave me as I finished school, to wear on my little finger to help me with my career. I'd like to think it's what set me off on the career path I took. So now my mood board had photos of nose-pins and emerald rings.

> I looked through archives to see what women down the ages were doing before salons and beauty parlours to express femininity. Of course it turned out to be jewellery

Next, I searched for photos of "quiet luxury" earrings, because all the vintage Indian women were wearing not-so-quiet gold-and-precious-stone earrings, and because I was still thinking of becoming "quietly" feminine, I added solitaire earrings to my board. Then I came upon the plan of three more ear piercings. For these, I looked at gold earrings.

Everything was ready. I even mustered the courage to tell my mother I was going to take out every piece of jewellery I owned from the locker, everything she had given me as I was growing up, and start using them. I had never worn many of them but if anyone were to comment on it, she and I would have gone to war: It was not just the fruit of my parents' labour, it also carried immense sentimental value. I was also obviously going to have to buy more gold to follow through with my needs. The first investment I was going to make in my self-image in years.

Who would have thought the Prime Minister of India would play the villain in this hero's journey (and not my mother, who quickly agreed to the plan)? Boo I say, could that dreadful announcement not to buy gold not have waited a month more?

Ge is the author, most recently, of Burns Boy

Classifieds

PERSONAL

It is for general information that I,Siddharth Das,S/o-Jayant Kumar Das,Residing at A-48,3rd.Floor,Ganesh Nagar,Pandav-Nagar,VTC South Ganesh Nagar,Shakarpur,East Delhi-110092,declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Siddharth in My Pan Card-No.AJFPD7040R. The actual name of mine is Siddharth Das, which may be amended accordingly.

0040856733-10

It is for general information that I,Nikhil Mohan Saxena, S/o-Late Manoj Kumar Saxena,R/o-G-163/G1, Dilshad-Colony,Delhi-110095,declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Manoj Saxena in my 10th-class educational documents. The actual name of my father is Manoj Kumar Saxena, which may be amended accordingly.

0040856754-10

It is for general information that I AKIF ZAKI S/O S. M. ZAKI R/O 6-B, Ataur Rehman Lane, Under Hill Road, Civil Lines, North Delhi, Delhi-110054, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as AFIK ZAKI in my minor son namely SAAD AHMED aged 17 years in his 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine is AKIF ZAKI which may be amended accordingly.

0071038029-1

I,YOGESH PALIWAL,R/O-1029,BOHARO WALI,GALI HABAITPURA NAJAFGARH, NEW DELHI-110043,HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER NAME FROM ANIKA TO ANIKA PALIWAL. 0040856733-1

I,Varun Kumar Dahiya,R/o-H.No.-171,Vijay Vihar-Colony,Sector-30,Gurgaon (Haryana),have changed my Minor Daughter name from Anaysha to Anaysha Dahiya for all Purposes. 0040856756-5

I,VENUS MOTHER OF RASHIL CHANDEL,R/O-FLAT.NO.505,RAISON-ARMOR HOMES,AHINSA KHAND 2 INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD UTTAR PRADESH 201014,HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO VENUS CHANDEL PERMANENTLY.

0040856756-6

I,Sudhansh Chourasia,S/o-Sujoy Ramdeo Chourasia, R/o-1702,Tower number-9, Paramount Floraville,Noida sector-137,Noida-201305 have changed my name from Sudhansh Chourasia to Sudhansh Sujoy Chourasia.

0040856756-1

I,Sachin Kumar Goel,S/o-Ram Avtar Goyal,R/o-G-209,Gali N0.8,Near-Durga Mandir, Bhagat Singh-Park,Siraspur, Samai Pur,North West-Delhi, Delhi-110042,have changed my name to Sachin Goyal.

0040856756-7

I,Rajrani W/o Ramesh R/o 16/673 I, Bapa Nagar Padam Singh Road Gali-No.21, Delhi-110005,have changed my name to Rajan. 0040856761-1

I,SHRIDEVI GOUDAR,W/O-HAV Rank-No.15220855A(DMT)Ananda Naikar,R/o-99, Khannur,Navalgund Dharwad,Karnataka-582208,That my name mentioned in my husband Army Service Records as SHRIDEVI GOUDAR instead of SHRIDEVI NAIKAR (correct name). 0040856761-5

I,S V RAJAGOPALAN,S/O-VASUDEVAN R/O-C-15-2102,PRATEEK GRAND CITY SIDDARTH-VIHAR GHAZIABAD UTTAR PRADESH-201009.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO.RAJAGOPALAN VASUDEVAN SRIRANGAM,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSE 0040856754-7

I,Ria Khanna W/O Ravi Khanna Resident 2024,Outram Line G.T.B. Nagar Kingsway Camp,Delhi-110009,have changed my name to Bindu Khanna.

0040856733-8

I,Ramesh S/o Ram Sharan R/o 16/673 I, Bapa-Nagar Padam Singh Road, Gali-No-21, Delhi-110005, have changed my-name to Ramesh Kumar.

0040856761-2

I,Rajesh S/o Ram Murti R/o A-21,Shyam Colony, Budh Vihar,Phase-2,Delhi-110086,have changed my name From Rajesh Dubey to Rajesh for all purposes.

0040856755-1

I,Rajesh Kumar Aggarwal S/o-Pawan Kumar Aggarwal R/o-H.No.A-2/137,3rd Floor Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063,have changed my name to Rajesh Aggarwal, permanently.

0040856733-3

I,PALAK SEHGAL W/O SAGAR KUKREJA R/O SP-17 2ND-FLOOR PITAMPURA DELHI-110034.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PALAK FOR ALL PURPOSES. 0040856756-4

I,NISHA W/o Sanjay Kumar Aggarwal R/o MP-52 Pitampura Delhi-110034 have changed my name to NISHA AGGARWAL

0040856733-4

I, hitherto known as HARSH S/O Sh. Krishan Kumar R/O 54, Sector-28 Dwarka, Bamnoli, PO: Raj Nagar - II, DIST: South West Delhi, Delhi - 110077 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as HARSH KUMAR. 0040856514-4

I,PARMINDER KAUR SHARMA,W/O-NIKHIL SHARMA,R/O-FLAT NO-C-2204,ATS HACEINDAS AHINSA KHAND-1 INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201014.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO.PARMINDER SHARMA,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSE 0040856754-4

I,PANKAJ P NANKANI,S/O-PURSHOTTAM DASS NANKANI,R/O-403 MAHAGUN MENSION,VAIBHAV-KHAND INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD,UTTAR PRADESH-201014. HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PANKAJ NANKANI,FOR ALL,FUTURE PURPOSE 0040856754-5

I,Nazmeen Begam W/o Irshad R/o D-78, Lift-Side, Gali-No.2, New Govindpura, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name to Nazmeen.

0040856761-3

I,Mohmmad Farooq S/o Abdul Hamid, R/O-A-70,Abul Fazal Enclave,Jamia Nagar, okhla, South Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Mohammad Farooq.

0040856733-2

I,Mohd Khalid S/o. Mohd Khalil,R/o.2784, Gali Jhot wali,Pahari Bhojla,Delhi - 110006,have changed my name to MOHD KHALID KHAN, permanently 0040856756-10

I,Mohammad Yaseen S/o. Azeem Baksh, R/o.1786,Bazar Turkman Gate,Delhi-110006, have changed my name to MOHD YASIN permanently

0040856756-11

I,Minakshi Arora W/o Sumit Arora R/o:19 Bank Vihar Saraswati Vihar Pitamapura Delhi-110034,have changed my name to Meenakshi Arora

0040856733-6

I,MUNESH KUMAR,S/O, DALVIR SINGH,R/O-40 CHA,PATHANATOLA-2,PAHASU (DEHAT)BULANDSHAHR ,UTTAR PRADESH-202396 ,have changed my name to MUNESH KUMAR SINGH 0040856756-2

I,HANIF S/O SADEL KHAN R/O VILLAGE-NAGLA KULWANA KAMAN, KAMAN BHARATPUR,RAJASTAN-321022 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO HANIF KHAN 0040856756-8

I,JAGAT LAL MAURYA,S/o-BINDESHARI PRASAD R/o Plot No.311,KH.NO.588,B-311 NO.588 KAR,GROUND-FLOOR KARAN VIHAR,Kirari Suleman-Nagar,Delhi-110086,have changed my name to JAGAT LAL. 0040856733-7

I,Deepti W/o Abhishek Bhardwaj,R/o-H No-X-1836 Street No-12,Rajgarh Colony,Gandhi Nagar,Delhi-110031,have changed my name to Deepti Bhardwaj for all purpose 0040856733-9

I,DENASH KUMAR S/O RAJ KUMAR FLAT.NO.50 EKJOT APARTMENT HARSH VIHAR PITAMPURA DELHI-110034.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO DINESH SHARMA.

0040856756-3

I,DEBARGHO MUKHERJEE,S/O-ARUNKUMAR MUKHERJEE,R/o-C-1/101,10TH-FLOOR, BLOCK-3,ARAVALI HEIGHTS DHARUHERA DWARKADHISH ARAVALI HEIGHTS, SECTOR-24, REWARI HARYANA-123106,HAVE CHANGE MY NAME DEBARGHYA ARUN KUMAR MUKHERJEE

0040856761-4

I,CK AAKASH,S/o-Laddu Prasad Singh,R/o-Flat No-F1,Plot No-41,F/F, Tajpur Road,Molarband Extn. Badarpur Delhi-110044,have changed my name to CHANDAN KUMAR AAKASH.

0040856754-3

I,Brijesh Goswami s/o shri Ram Giri Goswami,R/o Flat No-701,Alaknanda Tower-3,Windlaas River Valley Kuwanwala Harrawala, Dehradun-248001 have changed the name of my minor son from Yatnesh Goswami to Yugansh Goswami for all future purposes. 0040856755-2

I,ARJUN PANKAJ NANKANI,S/O-PANKAJ NANKANI,R/O-403 MAHAGUN MENSION, VAIBHAV-KHAND INDIRAPURAM GHAZIABAD,UTTAR PRADESH-201014.HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO.ARJUN NANKANI,FOR ALL FUTURE,PURPOSE

0040856754-6

I,AQEEL AHMED,Son of,JAMIL AHAMAD,H.NO-D-2/11,GALI NO-2,BRIJPURI, MUSTAFABAD,NORTH EAST,DELHI-110094,have changed my name to AQEEL AHMAD,for all purposes.

0040856756-9

I,AKASH KAPOOR,S/O-GAURI SHANKAR KAPOOR,R/O-L-82A LAJPAT-NAGAR SAHIBABAD,GHAZIABAD U.P.201005, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO AAKASH KAPOOR FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES

0040856754-9

I, MADHUVESH KUMAR GUPTA S/O SH. SHIV BODHAN GUPTA R/O H.NO. D-601/11, GALI NO.7A, ASHOK NAGAR, NAND NAGRI SHAHDARA, DELHI-110093 THAT I HAVE CHANGE MY NAME MADHOW PRASAD TO MADHUVESH KUMAR GUPTA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE.

0040856698-1

I,SHYAM SUNDER LAL DUBEY S/O SHRI GYAN NARAYAN DUBEY SINGH R/O H.NO- U-171, GROUND FLOOR, UPADHAYAY BLOCK, SHAKAR PUR DELHI-110092HAVE CHANGED MY NAME SHYAM SUNDER LAL DUBEY TO SHYAM SUNDER DUBEY

0040856078-4

I,AJAY GUPTA S/o-DHARAM RAJ GUPTA R/o WZ-52E, F/F, Back Side Prem Nagar,Uttam Nagar,Delhi-110059,have changed my name to AJAY KUMAR.

0040856733-5

I, hitherto known as Shubham Yadav S/o Vijay Pal Yadav R/o 145 B C Lines, Sadar Meerut, Uttar Pradesh-250001, have changed my name to Sshubham Yadav.

0071038040-1

I, Virender S/o Anil Kumar, holder of Indian Passport No. N7151215, R/o Vill Dhanupura, P.O. Sili Kalan, Yamunanagar, Pin: 135133, Haryana, India have changed my name Virender and surname Virender. All concerned please note.

0040856692-1

I, Ujjawal Gupta S/o Pawan Gupta R/o H.No.B-197, Near Mother Dairy,Sector-52, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-201301, have changed my name to Ujjwal Gupta for all future Purposes.

0071038090-1

I, Toyba Gillani, daughter of Mushtak Ali and wife of Bholeshwar Pathania, resident of D/O Mushtak Ali, C.N. 300/1, Basant Dada Patil Nagar, Bhalswa Dairy, North West Delhi, Delhi-110042, have changed my name to 'Tabbu'. I wish to be known by this name in future.

0040856352-1

I, T.T. Jayamol W/o-Thomas Abraham D/o-T.J.Thomas R/o-D-535, Tagore Garden, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Jaya Thomas for all purposes.

0040856674-1

I,Farnaz Begum,W/o-Parvez R/o-3140 Gali Sushila Shankar Gali Sita Ram Bazar Delhi,has changed my name to Farnaz, for all purpose

0040856754-1

I, Sonu, S/O MONTU, R/o Maan Mohalla, Near Post Office,Sector 8 Maan Mohalla, Sector 8, Faridabad Sector 7, Faridabad, Haryana - 121006, have Change My Name Sonu to Sonu Kumar

0071038056-1

I, Shreya Jindal W/o Ankit Singhal R/o 4, Opp. CBSE Building, Sukh Vihar, Krishna Nagar,Krishna Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi-110051, have changed my name from Shreya Jindal toShreya Singhal.

0071038069-1

I, RIYAZ MOHD C/o Kaley Khan, C-18, Okhla Vihar, Jamia Nagar, Delhi-25 have changed my name to RIYAZ MOHAMMAD.

0071038094-1

I, Puspendra Sharma S/O Krishna Kumar Sharma residing at Girdharpur Nabada, Gulaothi (Bulandshahr) have changed my name to Pushpendra Sharma vide affidavit dated 06-04-2026 at Bulandshahr.

0050290177-1

I, Neetu Kumari,W/o Sunil Kumar,R/o-Flat No.56,Second-Floor, Pocket-1,Sector-12, Gangotri-Apartment, Dwarka, Delhi-110078, have changed my name Neetu Kumari to Neetu Chamoli,for all purposes.

0040856647-1

I, Nafeesa Begum,W/o Razaq,R/o.N-151A Abul Fazal Enclave Part-1, Jamia Nagar,New Delhi-110025,have changed my name to Nafeesa for all purposes.

0040856754-2

I, NAZISH FARQUI s/o JAMAL FARUQUI r/o 2969, Kucha Neelkanth, DaryaGanj, Delhi-110002 have changed my name as NAZISH FARUQUI permanently.

0040856651-1

I, MOHAMMAD MOTIUR RAHMAN KHAN @ MOHD MOTIUR RAHMAN KHAN R/o-65A, New No-180, 5 Ghaffar Manzil, Jamia Nagar, Delhi-25 have changed my name to MD MOTIUR RAHMAN KHAN.

0071038100-2

I, MOH YUSUF SIDDIQUI C/o Ansari Ahmad Siddiqui, C-63, SF, Thokar No-8, Shaheen Bagh, Jamia Nagar, Delhi-25 have changed my name to MOHAMMAD YUSUF SIDDIQUI.

0071038098-1

I, MAMTA W/o Saurav Soni R/o House No-9A,Vipin Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, Have Changed My Name to MAMTA SONI.

0071038050-1

I, Krishang Gupta S/o Bharat Gupta R/o C - 21 Technical Paradise CGHS, Plot No - GH-61, Sector - 56, Gurgaon, Haryana, - 122011, have changed my name to Krishang Deep Gupta.

0071038068-1

I, Kapil Kumar S/O Om Parkash , R/O 1601 Tower H Microtek Greenburg Sector 86 Gurgaon Haryana 122004 have changed my name to Kapil Kumar Pahuja.

0071038030-1

I, KM NEHA GOYAL , W/O NIRDOSH KUMAR AGARWAL , R/O C 163 MAHARANA PRATAP ENCLAVE PITAMPURA NORTH WEST DELHI 110034 , have changed my name NEHA AGARWAL for all future purposes. 0071038123-1

I, Jyoti Kumari W/o Tarun Bandhu, R/o JD-21B, Hari Enclave, Hari Nagar, Mayapuri, Delhi 110064, have changed my name to Jyoti Bandhu for all future purposes.

0071038062-1

I, Hunny S/o. Rakesh Kumar R/o. H No. 206, T/F, T-EXTN, Gali No.-7, Vishwas Park, Uttam Nagar Delhi have changed my name to Hunny Manocha

0040856669-1

I, JYOTI GUPTA D/o Sohan Lal 202/57-A, Gali No-4, Rameshwar Nagar, Azadpur, Delhi-33 have changed my name to JYOTI.

0071038092-1

I, Devinder Kumar Anand S/o Late Sh. Mela Ram Anand R/o 1/45, Old Rajender Nagar, New Delhi-110060, do hereby declare that in my wife's MCD documents my name is mentioned as 'Devender Kumar'. 'Devinder Kumar Anand' and 'Devender Kumar' both are one and the same person. In future I will be known as Devinder Kumar Anand for all intent purposes.

0040856664-1

I Remyamol M G D/o Gopi and W/o Anoop M R R/o 309/A, Mukan Hostel, 64, Khamba, Mirdard Lane, MAMC Campus, Darya Ganj, Central Delhi-110002, have changed my name to Remya Anoop

0071038063-1

I, ANAND PARKASH MALHOTRA C/o Om Parkash, B-3/410, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-25 have changed my name to ANAND PARKASH.

0071038096-1

I Radhika D/o Bihari Lal R/o Ward No -2, Cherha -Para-Charcha, Shivpur Charcha Colly, Koriya, Chhattisgarh - 497339 , have changed my name to Susmita

0071038064-1

I Meenakshi resident of C-678 sangam vihar New Delhi - 110080 have changed my name to Meenakshi Gupta.i also declare that my correct date of birth is 07/11/1988 instead of 01/05/1988 as recorded vide affidavit dated 29/12/2025 I shall be known as Meenakshi Gupta for all future purposes.

0130065058-1

I Jyotsna Sharma W/o Shailendra Sharma R/o A-385, Sector 47 Noida, U.P. have changed my name to Jyotsna Pandit for all purposes.

0040856658-1

?I,TAMANNA WASAN,D/O-SIRINDER KUMAR DUGGAL,R/o-H.NO-SPE 11,NEAR WAC SPORTS complex Subroto-park Extn,Delhi-110010,have changed my name to TAMANNA Duggal.

0040856754-8

I Muzammil Ahmad Khan S/O, Abdul Malik Khan R/o House No. 439, Chandyana, Po: chandiyana, District-Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh-203403 have changed my name to Muzammil Khan.

0040856649-1

LOST & FOUND

I Ankur Bansal, have lost my original allotment latter of PLOT NO. B-6, SECTOR D-1 (P), TRONICA CITY, GHAZIABAD,UP

0050290188-1

BUSINESS

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0130064816-2

SITUATION VACANT

OTHERS

I, NIRDOSH KUMAR AGRAWAL , S/O RAKESH KUMAR AGARWAL , R/O C 163 GROUND FLOOR MAHARANA PRATAP ENCLAVE PITAMPURA SARASWATI VIHAR NORTH WEST DELHI 110034 , have changed my name NIRDOSH KUMAR AGARWAL for all future purposes.

0071038128-1

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known that my client **Smt. Kamlesh Sharma** W/o Late Sh. Prem Narain Pandey, permanent Add. 422, Sector-37, Faridabad, Haryana, also at Office cum Shop 24/1-A, Govind Puri, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 and **Smt. Kamlesh Pandey** W/o Late Sh. Prem Narain Pandey are One and the same Person and in future general people will known my client as **Smt. Kamlesh Pandey** and **Smt. Kamlesh Sharma.**

Sd/-
MOHIT TIWARI
Advocate
Ch. No. 394-395 Civil Wings, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्वधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरे मुक्किल सुनीता सोनी और संजीव सोनी निवासी H-4/88 बंगाली कालोनी महावीर इन्कलेव पालम गांव दिल्ली अपने पुत्र असमित सोनी और उसकी पत्नी व्योमा टंडन को उनकी गलत व्यवहार के कारण उनको अपनी सभी चल-अचल संपति से बेदखल कर दिया है और उससे अपने सभी सम्बन्ध समाप्त कर लिए है और उनके किसी भी कार्य मे मेरे मुक्किल की कोई जिम्मेदारी नही है।

अभिषेक, अधिवक्ता
नामांकन संख्या: D/9238/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sh. Vinod Garg S/o Sh. Pramod Kumar Garg R/o Plot No.165, Third Floor, NITI Khand-2, Indirapuram, Shipra Sun City, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201014 has been bequeathed Portion of Ground Floor without roof rights of Property No.2592 in Ward No. III, Mg.20.90 Sq.Mtrs., Nai Basti (Near Naya Bazar), Nahar Sahadat Khan, Dr. S.P. Mukharjee Marg, Delhi-110006 through Will dt. 12/03/2020 executed by deceased Smt. Preeti Garg who passed away on 01/09/2020.

If anybody having any objection / interest / claim in title of the above said property is requested to contact the undersigned within 15 days after publication of this notice.

SANJAY AGGARWAL (Advocate)
Ch.No.25, Old Court, Kashmere Gate, Delhi-6

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC AT LARGE IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT MY CLIENTS **SALEEM AHMED** S/O LIYAKAT ALI AND **SHAGUFTA SALEEM** W/O SALEEM AHMED R/O F-191 C, AMAR JEEVAN PUBLIC SCHOOL, MANGAL BAZAR, SHAKAR PUR BARAMAD, SHAKARPUR, DELHI-110092 HAVE SEVERRED ALL THEIR RELATIONS WITH THEIR SON **ANAS AHMED** & HIS WIFE **ALSANA SALMANI** PRESENTLY AT F-191 C, GROUND FLOOR, MANGAL BAZAR, SHAKAR PUR BARAMAD, SHAKARPUR, DELHI-110092 AND HAVE DISOWNED DEBARRED AND DISINHERITED THEM OF ALL THEIR MOVEABLES AND IMMOVEABLES. THEY SHALL NOT BE ENTITLED TO INHERIT ANY OF MY CLIENTS ESTATE.

Sd/-
VIKRANT ARORA
Advocate
Ch. No. 285, Civil Wing, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

Public Notice

General public is hereby informed that my client, Mrs. Manjit Kaur, W/o Late S. Ranjit Singh, resident of 7/36, 1st Floor, South Patel Nagar, New Delhi – 110008, has severed all relations with her son, Mr. Kanwaljeet Singh, due to his hostile and irresponsible behaviour. He is hereby debarred from all movable and immovable properties of my client. My client shall not be responsible for any act, deed, or liability incurred by him in future. Any person dealing with him shall do so at their own risk, cost, and consequences.

Sd/-
Batra & Associates
Utkarsh Batra (D-4324/21)
Advocates, Solicitors And Legal Consultants Delhi High Court
B-349, LGF, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110019
Ph.: 011-49046952, 8979895221
advutkarshhotro@gmail.com

Public Notice

My clients Sh. Anil Khurana S/o Late Sh. Khairati Lal Khurana and Smt. Sangeeta Khurana W/o Sh. Anil Khurana both R/o 35/9, 2nd Floor, East Patel Nagar, Delhi-110008 do hereby inform the general public at large that we are swearing all their relations and also debarring/disowning their son Mr. Siddharth Khurana S/o Sh. Anil Khurana and his wife Smt. Vinky Sapra W/o Sh. Siddharth Khurana both R/o 28/130, 3rd Floor, West Patel Nagar, Delhi from all our moveable and immovable properties and business as they are neither obedient nor respectful towards us and are indulge in immoral and unsocial activities. If anybody makes any deal of whatsoever nature with them, my clients would not be responsible for any of their acts and deeds including any kind of their family matters.

S.C. AGGARWAL
ADVOCATE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my client **Sumana Banerjee** D/o Late Sisir Banerjee R/o WZ-276-A, First Floor, Inderpuri, IARI, Delhi-110012, is the owner of Propert No.WZ-276A, (First Floor, Right Side Flat), Inderpuri, New Delhi-110012. That the Original Sale Deed Regn. No.210, in Addl. Book No.I, Volume No.409, on pages 115-120 dated 22.01.2001 Registered in the office of Sub Registrar, New Delhi, & R.Deed Regn. No.3080, in Addl. Book No.1, Volume No.724, on pages 180-184, Dt. 19.6.2018, Registered in the office of Sub Registrar, Delhi, have been lost and my client has lodged a NCR in respect of the same vide LR No.324772/2026 Dt.25/05/2026. If any person found the same please return the same to my client above mentioned address & contact my client at Mobile no.**9619197525** immediately. **J.C. Trikha** (Advocate) Ch.No.M-4, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Clients **VEDPAL SINGH SON OF SHRI KADAM SINGH, AND AND SHIMLA WIFE OF SHRI VEDPAL SINGH, BOTH R/o 31/357, TRILOK PURI, DELHI-110091**, had debarred their son **ANKUR** and daughter-in-law **MONIKA RANI** from all their moveable and immoveable properties because of their misbehaviour. My clients will not be responsible for any act / transactions done by them.

(Raj Kumar) Advocate
Enrolment No. D-722/2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

Upon instruction from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. information is given to general public at large that Mrs. Etika Kalra who intends to mortgage entire Second Floor & Third Floor with roof rights built on Plot No. 49-50, area measuring 123.66 sq. yrds., situated at New Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi-110060 is the owner through Sale Deed dated 16.10.2007 executed by Mr. Surjit Singh in respect of the 35% undivided share of property, Document No. 6393 along with Mrs. Jyoti Dhawan who is the owner through Sale Deed dated 16.10.2007 executed by Mr. Surjit Singh in respect of 65% share of property, Document No. 6394 which has been further Partitioned amongst them vide Partition Deed dated 30.08.2016 vide Document No. 7933, Volume NO. 16625, Pages No. 1-11, dated 31.08.2016, SRO-III. READ WITH by Partition Deed dated 23.04.2026 reg. as Document No. 2026/24II/4393. That Original Partition Deed dated 30.08.2016 vide Document No. 7933 is missing and no traceable and online F.I.R. has been lodged by Mrs. Etika Kalra on 25.05.2026 vide LR No. 326636/2026, P.S. Central Distt, Crime Branch Delhi.

Any person(s), institution(s) find the same may please send the same in the above mentioned address.

Any person(s), institution(s) having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at our address within 07 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person(s)/institution(s) shall not be binding upon the said property or purchaser.

Mohd K. Hussain (Advocate)
D-21, Basement, Block-D, Janapura Extn, New Delhi-110014, 8810391872

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 11 OF ACT NO. VII OF 1890 OF GUARDIAN & WARDS ACT
IN THE COURT OF MS. ANJU BAJAJ CHANDNA,
PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE (HQ.), DELHI
ROOM NO. 301, 3RD FLOOR, TIS HAZARI COURTS, DELHI-110054
GP-09/2026 (CNR No. DLCT01-009052-2026)

SMT. SUNEETA PANGASA
W/o Sh. Harish Kumar Pangasa
R/o Flat No. 41, Pocket-B-10, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085
Also at: H. No. 1023, Gali No. 18 Naiwalan, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005

.... Petitioner

VERSUS

State of NCT of Delhi

....Respondent

The petitioner above named having applied for her appointment as the plenary guardian/manager and to act as authorised signatory and representative of the MIP namely Sh. Harish Kumar Pangasa S/o Late Sh. Darshana Nand R/o Flat no.41, Pocket B-10, Sector 3, Rohini, Delhi-110085 before all concerned authorities in respect of his 11.57% share/interest in Property bearing no. 1023, Gali no. 18, Naiwalan, Karol Bagh, New Delhi.

The **6th July 2026** has been fixed for hearing of the application and notice is hereby given to general public that if any other relatives/friends, Kinsman or well wisher of the aforesaid or desire be appointed, declare as guardian of the person and property of the said lunatic or desire to oppose the application of the petitioner aforesaid, he/she should enter appearance in persons in this court on the aforesaid date and be prepared to adduce on that day and documentary or oral evidence which he/she may desire to adduce in support of his/her claim to such appointment or declaration of in support his/her opposition to the application of the petitioner aforesaid.

GIVEN under my hand and seal of the Court on this the 23rd day of May 2026.

Seal

Sd/-
PRINCIPAL DISTRICTT & SESSIONS JUDGE (HQ.) DELHI

GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI
DEPARTMENT OF FOREST & WILDLIFE
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
WEST FOREST DIVISION, MANDIR LANE, NEW DELHI-60
E-Mail:- dcfwest.gnctd@gov.in

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

An e-tender has been invited for **"Development of Vaman Van under West Forest Division, Department of Forest and Wildlife, GNCTD, Mandir Lane, New Delhi 110060 (Tender Id 2026_DYCFW_2915452_1)"** In case the tenderer/Bidder has any doubt about the meaning of anything contained in the tender document, he shall seek clarification from the office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests, West Forest Division, Deptt. of Forest & Wildlife, GNCT of Delhi, Mandir Lane, Delhi-110060.

The tentative cost of the tendered work is estimated as be is **Rs. 4,82,59,162/- (Rupees Four Crores Weighty Two Lakhs Fifty-Nine Thousand One Hundred and Sixty-Two Only).** The details of submission of bid are as follows:

Date of release of Tender through e-procurement portal of Delhi Govt	18.05.2026 at 06:30 PM
Start date/ time for downloading of tender	18.05.2026 at 06:30 PM
Date of Pre-bid meeting	25.05.2026 at 01:00 PM
Start date/time for submission/ uploading the tender documents	26.05.2026 at 06:00 PM
Last date/time for submission/uploading the tender documents	08.06.2026 at 10:00 AM
Date and time of opening of Technical Bid	08.06.2026 at 11:00 AM
Date and time of opening of Financial Bid	Will be intimated

The last date of submission of bids is **08.06.2026** up to **10:00 AM**. For any further query, contact the O/o Dy. Conservator of Forests, West Forest Division at Mandir Lane, Delhi-110060.

Website link - **https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in/**

Sd/-
DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
WEST FOREST DIVISION

DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0076/26-27

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS "THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT TENDERS"

Tender Notice No. S/2026/22 **Date : 22.05.2026**

The Principal Chief Material Manager, North Western Railway, headquarter Jaipur, for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-tenders on **www.ireps.gov.in** site as follows.

Sr.	Tender No	Brief Description	Qty.	Unit	Due Date
1	50265041	SMPS based IPS for 4 line	15	Nos	11.06.2026
2	30260094A	Bottom liner of w asher for primary suspension	18697	Nos	12.06.2026
3	40261798	MICROPROCESSOR CONTROLLER, SUITABLE FOR USE IN ROOF-MOUNTED AC PACKAGE UNIT OF LHB TYPE EOG AC COACHES	519	Nos	16.06.2026
4	30265006	OVER HAULING KIT FOR BRAKE CYLINDER	159	Set	16.06.2026
5	40261936	DOUBLE INLET CENTRIFUGAL BLOWER	1193	Nos	17.06.2026
6	40261788	SINGLE CORE THIN WALLED ELECTRON BEAM IRRADIATED COPPER CONDUCTOR CABLE,	24264	MTR	22.06.2026
7	30260097	Upper washer for primary suspension	6534	Nos	23.06.2026
8	30262171A	Secondary vertical damper	1432	Nos	23.06.2026
9	70261665	Vinyl coated upholstery fabric leather	19151	MTR	24.06.2026
10	85261099A	Cylindrical Roller Bearing Rivet less cage NU-328	170	Nos	29.06.2026
11	30260118	Air brake hose pipe coupling for feed pipe BG	12545	Nos	30.06.2026

Note : **(1)** Interested tenderers may visit the website **ireps.gov.in** for Full details/description/Specification/EMD & tender cost etc. All tenderers are requested to obtain digital signatures and get them registered on above site and quote electronically only. **(2)** For viewing and participating in other tenders such as open tender costing below Rs. 50 Lakh, limited tenders, special limited tenders and low value tenders, please visit **www.ireps.gov.in**

769-DE/26

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UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) PROJECT DIVISION-III JAMMU

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. 12 of 2026-2027 Dated 25-05-2026

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are invited on percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State / Central Governments for each of the following works :-

S. No.	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. Lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs)	Earnest Money (in Rs)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance in Residency Road Jammu (Hon'ble Chief Minister's Residence) ending March 2027. **CNO-24 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	4.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
2	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance of Motors in Wazarat Road, Panjtirthi Poonch House, Ahata Amar Singh, Ahata Tawaza, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-25 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	2.50	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
3	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance of Coolers, Ceiling Fans, Exhaust Fans, Wall Fans, in Wazarat Road, Panjtirthi Poonch House, Ahata Amar Singh, Ahata Tawaza, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-26 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	2.50	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
4	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance of Inverters batteries and transformers in Wazarat Road, Panjtirthi Poonch House, Ahata Amar Singh Ahata Tawaza, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-27 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	2.50	1500	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
5	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance of Geysers in Wazarat Road, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-28 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	0.50	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
6	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance in Panjtirthi Poonch House, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-29 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	3.50	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
7	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance in Ahata Amar Singh & Ahata Tawaza, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-30 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	4.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
8	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance in Wazarat Road, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-31 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	4.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06-2026	Electric Card
9	Electric Day to Day repair and maintenance of A.Cs & Stabilizers in Civil Secretariat, Jammu ending March 2027. **CNO-32 NP**	PWD (R&B) Project Div. III, Jammu	5.00	600	2% of Advertised Cost	Upto ending March 2027	(1300 Hrs) on or after 02-06

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

• TECH

Behind Musk's ambitions with SpaceX IPO

SpaceX's Starship rocket lifts off during a test flight from Starbase, Texas, on May 22. AP

Soumyarendra Barik
New Delhi, May 26

THE PROPOSED initial public offering (IPO) of billionaire Elon Musk's rocket and satellite company SpaceX is shaping up to be one of the biggest moments in modern capital markets. If the company — which confidentially filed for an IPO last month — achieves the valuation target of about $1.75 trillion, it would surpass even Saudi Aramco's 2019 debut as the world's largest IPO.

But beyond the headline numbers, the filing reveals a deeper story about artificial intelligence (AI), investor appetite for Musk-led ventures, and the future economics of space.

It's all about AI

SpaceX is repositioning itself as a combined space, connectivity, and AI infrastructure company. The integration of Musk's AI venture xAI into the broader SpaceX structure fundamentally changes the investment thesis.

Until recently, investors largely viewed SpaceX through two businesses: reusable rockets and Starlink satellite internet. The filing now places heavy emphasis on AI compute, orbital data centres and future infrastructure that could support massive AI workloads in space.

The filing also disclosed that AI-related spending has become enormous, which means public investors would be effectively underwriting Musk's broader AI ambitions.

• THE SPACEX STORY

- Founded in 2002, SpaceX has evolved from a rocket launch startup into one of the world's most influential technology firms.
- It operates reusable Falcon rockets, the Starlink satellite network, and the Starship deep-space system, besides providing artificial intelligence and orbital computing infrastructure.

Extraterrestrial energy

SpaceX is positioning itself as an energy infrastructure company. The IPO documents repeatedly emphasise solar-powered orbital infrastructure, including space-based data centres powered by near-continuous sunlight.

This is because AI has become an energy problem as much as a computing problem. Data centres powering large AI models consume enormous electricity.

Orbital data centres

SpaceX argues that the next phase of AI growth will be constrained not by chips, but by electricity, cooling, and land availability on Earth. SpaceX says it plans to eventually deploy data centres in orbit powered by near-continuous solar energy.

The idea is that satellites in orbit can access uninterrupted sunlight for much longer periods than terrestrial solar farms, while the cold vacuum of space could theoretically reduce cooling costs for AI servers.

Starlink keeping the company afloat

The filing shows that Starlink has emerged as the company's most important commercial business. While the launch division remains strategically critical, satellite broadband is currently the only consistently profitable segment.

Starlink generated more than $1 billion in operating profit in the first quarter of 2026, even as the broader company posted losses. Analysts increasingly see Starlink — not rockets — as the core justification for the giant valuation being sought.

Musk will retain control

One of the biggest governance takeaways is that Musk will continue exercising near-total control over the company even after listing. He currently has 85% of voting power through supervoting shares. For traditional governance advocates, this is a red flag. But for many retail investors and Musk loyalists, his dominance could be an attraction.

• CLIMATE

In warming India, local data monitoring is key

A heat strategy that works in one city may not work elsewhere because local climate, population and anthropogenic emissions vary

EXPERT EXPLAINS
Y NITHIYANANDAM
HEAD, GEOSPATIAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME, TAKSHASHILA INSTITUTION, BENGALURU

MANY PARTS of India are in the grip of a scorching heatwave. On heat maps, large sections of the country are seen covered in flaming red and orange colours.

What do heat maps indicate about India's summer?

The deep reds and oranges seen in temperature maps represent regions experiencing elevated land surface or near-surface air temperatures, depending on the dataset used. In climate science and geospatial analysis, such colour gradients are commonly used in satellite observations, weather station data and numerical weather models' outputs to indicate the intensity and spread of heat visually.

The current heat pattern over northwest and central India and parts of Pakistan is partly a regular seasonal phenomenon and partly an intensified heat wave situation. During April and May, these regions naturally experience extreme heating due to high solar radiation, dry continental winds, low soil moisture and the formation of seasonal low-pressure heat zones over Rajasthan and Pakistan.

What is concerning is the intensity, persistence and large spatial extent of the heat. Temperatures are abnormally high over prolonged periods with limited nighttime cooling. Reduced pre-monsoon rainfall, persistent dry air circulation, extensive land surface warming and Urban Heat Island effects (concrete, roads, etc. radiating the heat they absorb) are amplifying the situation.

Climate change is also acting as a background stress multiplier. While heat waves are not new to India, rising baseline temperatures are increasing their frequency, duration and severity.

How are such maps generated?

All maps showing temperature values are not computed using the same method.

First, some are simple interpolations of air temperature data measured by weather stations observed at certain points, scaled to cover the entire area of interest. The finer the observation network, the better the accuracy. These stations come from government agencies, private networks, etc.

Second, remote sensing captures temperature over larger areas through thermal sensors aboard satellites. These measure surface skin temperature, specifically the energy radiated from the ground, which is then translated into surface temperature estimates through physical relationships between emitted radiation and temperature.

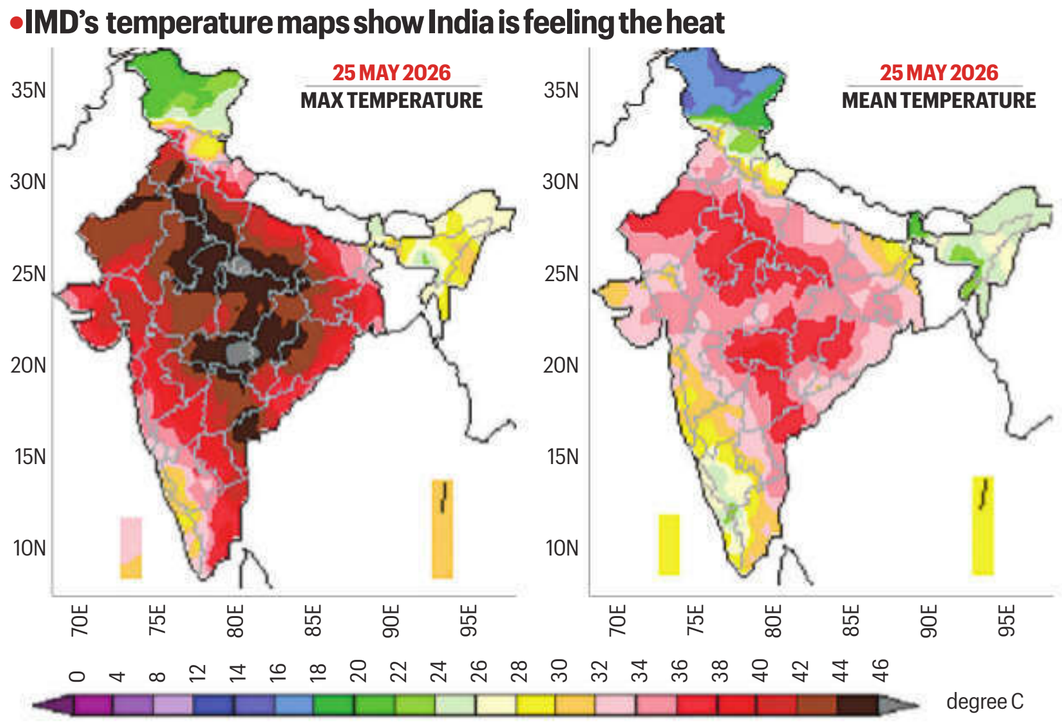
This has become a widely used tool since the early 1980s, with global daily coverage expanding significantly after 2000, thanks to sensors like the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) and Landsat thermal sensors.

Third, air temperature values are calculated using numerical weather model simulations. These ingest data from ground stations, satellite-derived land surface temperatures, humidity, solar radiation, cloud cover, rainfall patterns, soil moisture, land use, and topography.

The key advantage is predictive capability, between four and 15 days, depending on the model. Platforms like Windy.com use the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and the Global Forecast System (GFS), the most popular models.

The ECMWF's Integrated Forecasting System runs deterministic forecasts up to 15 days. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) operates its own Numerical Weather Prediction suite based on an India-adapted GFS and ingests ECMWF data for heat wave guidance and extended-range forecasts.

• IMD's temperature maps show India is feeling the heat



Likely to rise more

While heat waves are not new to India, rising baseline temperatures are increasing their frequency and severity.

•

Heat wave frequency in India has been rising since 1961, with projections indicating a rise of 12 to 18 days under continued warming trajectories.

What is driving India's rising heat?

On the global side, two factors stand out. First, El Niño conditions are developing in the equatorial Pacific. It is a climate phenomenon marked by changes in sea temperatures along the eastern Pacific Ocean, coupled with atmospheric fluctuations.

The IMD has already projected the 2026 southwest monsoon at 92% of the long-period average (below normal), with El Niño as a primary driver.

Second, long-term anthropogenic warming is steadily raising baseline temperatures. Heat wave frequency in India has been on a consistent upward trend since 1961.

Local factors determine how that heat is felt. In urban areas, the Urban Heat Island effect, driven by dense infrastructure, vehicles, air-conditioning, and industries, makes cities measurably hotter. In rural areas, forest fires, biomass burning, and barren exposed landscapes amplify surface heating.

The heat we experience is never due to a single factor, and ground-based observations often remain the most reliable measure of local heat stress.

How is extreme heat affecting people?

The most immediate impact is the decline in productivity. Daily wage workers, construction labourers, street vendors, and gig workers cannot avoid heat exposure because their livelihoods depend on physical presence. Economic compulsions override precautionary advisories, making this a social vulnerability as much as a climatic one.

Heat stress also disproportionately affects those in informal settlements. Heat also aggravates comorbidities like cardiovascular disease, respiratory illness, and diabetes, and in severe cases leads to heat exhaustion, heat stroke and death. Heat-related mortality remains significantly underreported due to the complexity of direct attribution.

Ecologically, rising temperatures dry out vegetation, reduce water availability, and stress wildlife and livestock. Prolonged heat and drought conditions create fire-prone landscapes, making forest fires more frequent and intense, which in turn further amplify local surface temperatures.

How can data improve mitigation?

Data must distinguish between global climatic drivers and local heat sources, to help explain how climate change interacts with urbanisation, land-use changes and local environmental conditions. This can enable targeted interventions.

Heat behaviour is highly location-specific and a strategy that works in one city may not work elsewhere. This is why India requires denser weather station networks and improved thermal-monitoring systems.

There is also an urgent need for dedicated thermal payloads and thermal remote sensing systems to continuously monitor land surface temperatures, identify heat hotspots, study forest fires and understand localised thermal behaviour.

More research and development are required to identify mitigation strategies that work for specific local conditions. Parallel efforts are equally necessary to minimise anthropogenic heat sources through better environmental management, urban planning and energy-use practices.

• POLICY

Delhi Gymkhana Club row: The rules governing land in the capital

Damini Nath
New Delhi, May 26

LAST WEEK, the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs's Land and Development Office (L&DO) wrote to the Delhi Gymkhana Club, asking it to vacate its leased premises on Safdarjung Road by June 5.

The government wanted the 27.3-acre plot back for "strengthening and securing Defence infrastructure", but the decision has kicked off a controversy.

Colonial origins

The club has its origins in 1913, soon after the British Indian government decided to move the capital from Kolkata to Delhi in 1911. The land was leased by the government to the Imperial Delhi Gymkhana Club in 1928, and the buildings were constructed in the 1930s.

According to official documents, the lease was perpetual, meaning that no fixed time frame was attached to it. Initially meant for British officials, the club later became a space for members of the Indian bureaucracy, judiciary and armed forces, among others.

The club's website states that the building was designed by architect Robert T Russell, who also designed Connaught Place and the Commander-in-Chief's residence. The latter became known as Teen Murti — the residence of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Located at 2, Safdarjung Road, the club was renamed the Delhi Gymkhana Club after 1947.

Land administration in Delhi

After 1947, the Union government came to administer the land in Delhi through its L&DO. It allots land for the development of residential colonies, institutions, clubs, political parties, etc., and administers leases. The leases can be for a fixed period, like 99 years, or perpetual in nature.

The lessee pays a fixed ground rent for the land, which can be periodically revised. Over the years, more than half of the residential properties have been granted freehold status by the L&DO, meaning the ownership status changes to grant full rights. In fact, out of around 60,000 properties on L&DO land, around 35,000 had been converted from leasehold to freehold as of 2021, according to the CAG report that year.

Authority at Centre

- After 1947, the Union government came to administer the land in Delhi through its Land and Development Office.
- It allots land for the development of residential colonies, institutions, clubs, political parties, etc., and administers leases.

Current controversy

In its May 22 letter to the club, the L&DO cited clause 4 of the lease that allows the government to "re-enter" the land for a "public purpose".

"It has been determined that the said premises, located in a highly sensitive and strategic area of Delhi, is critically required for the strengthening and securing of Defence infrastructure and other vital public security purposes. The land is essential to fulfil urgent institutional needs, governance infrastructure, and public-interest projects, integrated with the resumption of adjoining government lands," the L&DO said.

The land is located next to the Prime Minister's residence on Lok Kalyan Marg. The slums on Race Course Road, which are the adjoining government lands referred to in the letter, are currently being cleared of encroachments by the L&DO, pointing to a larger plan for the area.

"Under Clause 4... it is expressly provided that: 'If the demised premises or any part thereof are required for a public purpose then and in such case it shall be lawful for the Lessor... to re-enter and thereupon this demise and everything contained therein shall cease and determine...'" the L&DO said.

Since 2022, the club has been run by a government-appointed general committee on the orders of the National Company Law Tribunal. The Corporate Affairs Ministry approached the NCLT seeking regulation of the club, which is a registered company under the Companies Act, 1956, alleging that it was being run in violation of norms and mishandled.

On the latest issue, the club's general committee met on May 23 and decided to write to the L&DO asking it to consider that there should be "no dislocation of the club". The committee said the club's 14,000 members, who have been paying fees regularly, and 500 employees would be impacted by the L&DO's decision. Multiple petitions filed by members and employees of the club were heard in the Delhi High Court.

• SPORT

How Pep Guardiola unmade and remade English football at Manchester City

Sandip G
New Delhi, May 26

BEYOND A doubt or dispute the greatest manager on English shores since Alex Ferguson, Pep Guardiola's influence lives beyond the trophies he hoarded. His ideals and intelligence, vision and wisdom, defined and shaped the English game, and left it a vastly different product to the one he found when he joined Manchester City.

Busting the physicality myth

The robust musculature of the players in the league intrigued than intimidated Guardiola in his first year. In his first year, the midfield trio of Fernandinho, David Silva, and Kevin de Bruyne was judged unimposing, soft, and without the power and personality that manned the heart of the league's fabled teams. "I need to adjust," he said after the first season, watching long balls and set pieces scurry through his defence.

Paradoxically, in the decade that unfolded, English football adopted the virtues of Guardiola than Guardiola adjusted to the rigours of the Premier League. The league loved the free-spirited, risk-prone, solo artiste midfielders. Guardiola emphasised control. All his midfielders fell into the category of "control midfielders".

He stayed firm in his dogma, making the odd alterations. He designed a midfield rulebook that put spatial awareness and manipulation, technique and tact, above muscle and brawn, as the guiding principles.

In the second season, he bought another short midfield virtuoso in Bernardo Silva. The Silva pair formed the heartbeat of City's 100-point season (2017-18). Both the Silvas became the ideological core of Manchester City. By then, Guardiola had long banished tiki taka, but pass remained the fundamental. A well-constructed pass, Guardiola instructed, was more rewarding than a flying tackle. "I don't train tackles," he would famously say.

As he launched the City dynasty, which claimed the treble (2022-23) and lifted four titles in a row (2020-21 to 2023-24), the rest merely stood in awe and aped, stacking midfield with technicians rather than disruptors, condemning physicality to a symbol of its savage past.

Outgoing Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola. AP

Positional play, flexibility

Positional play was everything, yet positions were not everything. He emphasised on what he called juego de posicion, built on the positions and movements of players rather than sterile possession. It's not a definite playing style, but what Guardiola terms as "finding superiorities" by creating a free man, often in advanced positions.

He dismantled the perceived notions of a designated role — rather, the supposed duties of a role. Reinventing the false nine in Barcelona, thus shaping arguably the greatest footballer of this century in Lionel Messi, would be his immortal legacy.

In England, the modifications were subtler, but with arresting influence. Morphing centre-back John Stones into an auxiliary midfielder was the stroke of a tactical wizard. He was the pass-master of City's treble-winning season, "Barnsley Beckenbauer" as he was nicknamed. Stones later said in his tribute to Guardiola: "He made me understand football." Several young and ambitious managers of this era would parrot the same.

Under him, full backs tucked into the midfield to create numerical overloads and through clever positioning, territorial superiority. They overlapped, thrust upfront and play-made. The Portuguese full-back Joao Cancelo was playfully dubbed "false playmaker", for he often progressed far into the opposition box, assumed central channels, scored goals, and assisted the forwards. His goalkeepers were excellent ball distributors, sometimes assist-providers and were solid with the ball. Every move originated from Ederson, the Brazilian powerhouse.

Challenging his own ideas

Perhaps his biggest legacy — to not only the Premier League but also world football — is his openness to revisionism. He made, remade, and unmade his own strategies.

In the first few seasons, he heavily relied on inverted midfielders sliding into midfield, but when it became predictable and others began to copy, he reverted to a flat four at the back. He created the box midfield with two free-roaming No 8s (box-to-box midfielders) and two midfield pivots. Later, he reverted to a mini diamond, with the emergence of Rodri.

In the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons, he played with a false nine. But he ripped the template and then won the league with classical No 9 (centre forward) in Erling Haaland.

The last two years were marked by an ideological rethinking, when he embraced a more direct approach, with pacy wingers and dribblers, an orthodox shot-stopper, and fast breaks. Not all his alterations were for the sake of it, but forced by circumstances, injury or loss of form. But he made those work.

All great managers adapt and change, but few have constantly self-amended and evolved like Guardiola. So much so that the only constant in his ceaseless tactical innovations has been change.

THE ABORTION DEBATE

After 20 weeks

At the heart of a string of recent petitions by women seeking abortions beyond the legal limit of 20 weeks, is a difficult question: whose rights prevail? The woman's reproductive autonomy or the unborn child's right to life? OMKAR GOKHALE & APURVA VISWANATH on what happens when the woman's trauma collides with legal timelines, social stigma, medical risks and ethical and moral dilemmas

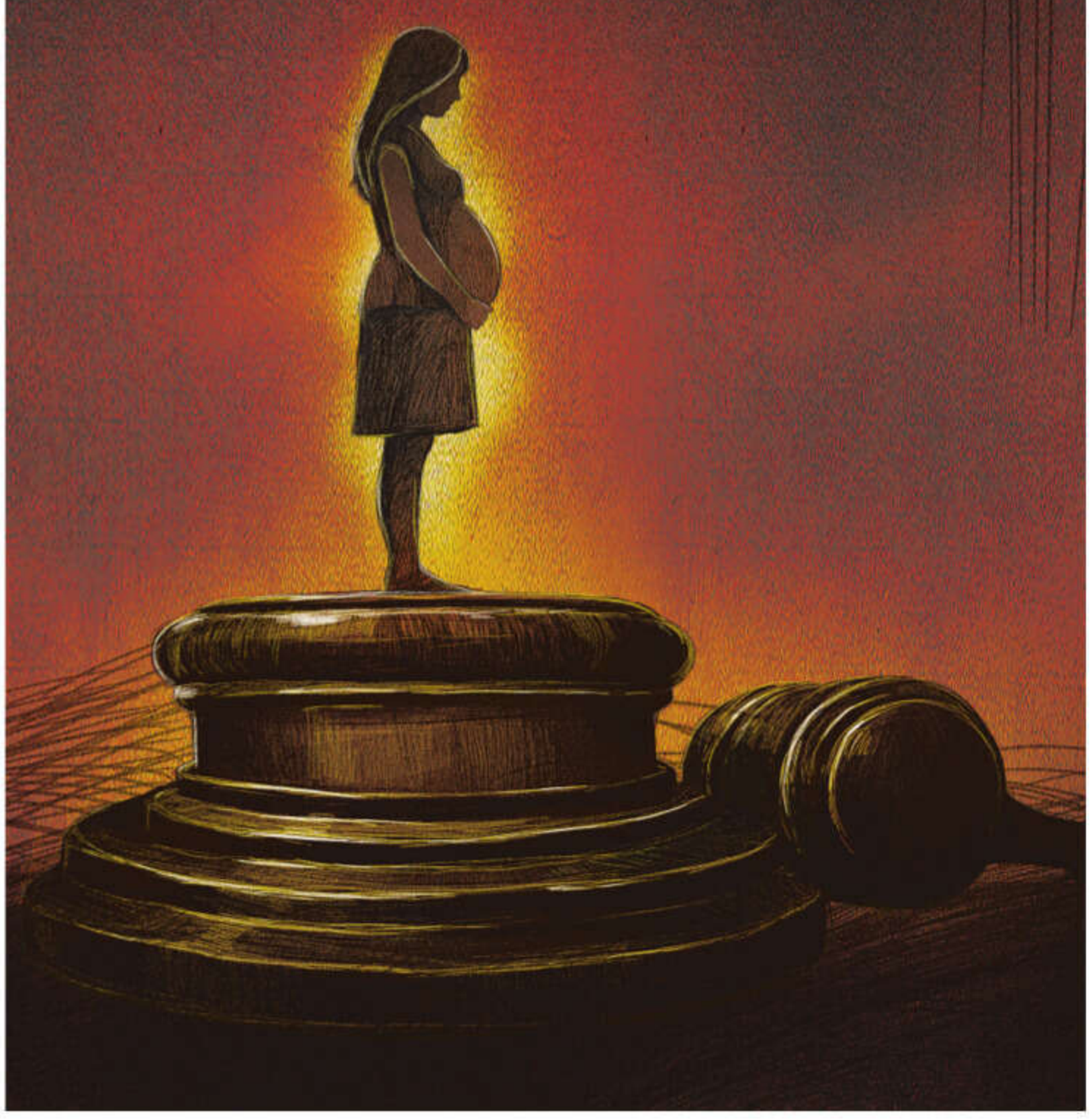


ILLUSTRATION: SUVAJIT DEY

IT WAS on a bumpy bus ride to Mumbai in 2021 that the 13-year-old girl finally broke her silence. Her martial arts teacher, she told her mother, had allegedly assaulted her during a trekking trip, threatening to strip her of her black belt if she spoke.

The revelation had come after weeks of turmoil — the mother discovering her daughter's pregnancy, followed by secretive hospital visits for a discreet abortion. That day, 27 weeks pregnant, the girl and her mother were on their way to Mumbai's state-run JJ Hospital. What followed were a series of delays, shame and court-ordered relief for termination of her pregnancy — and the trauma of delivering a stillborn foetus.

The girl's story, one of the many marked in court petitions and police logs, spotlight the fraught terrain of medical termination of pregnancy (MTP), where a woman's trauma collides with legal timelines, social stigma and medical risks. Over the years, High Courts across the country and the Supreme Court have been witnessing a steady inflow of cases seeking judicial intervention by women for abortions in pregnancies that may have crossed the statutory limit of 24 weeks.

These rulings, often ad hoc and based on the peculiarities of individual cases, have triggered debates on the right to life, often pitting the unborn child against the woman's rights.

At the heart of the latest debate is a Supreme Court ruling in April, which allowed a minor rape survivor to terminate a 30-week pregnancy, prioritising her "reproductive autonomy" over foetal viability.

Many of these women choose to knock on the doors of justice at the highest levels, despite insurmountable odds and knowing that any relief from the court will be a pyrrhic victory

The government and the doctors at India's premier hospital, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), challenged the ruling multiple times, arguing that since there were no anomalies in the foetus and the option of adoption could be exercised, there was no need for an MTP of an advanced pregnancy.

The apex court countered that forcing a girl — especially a minor — to carry an unwanted pregnancy to term inflicts deeper trauma, regardless of consent debates or criminal complaints. "This is a case of child rape. The victim will have a lifelong scar and trauma. It is now a fight between the foetus and the child. The child must survive, and she must have a dignified life...," Chief Justice of India Surya Kant observed on April 30.

Despite the court's firm rejection of the government's plea, doctors at AIIMS and the government eventually counselled the parents to allow the minor to deliver the foetus.

The journey of many of these women tells the tale of why they choose to knock on the doors of justice at the highest levels, despite insurmountable odds and knowing that any relief from the court will be a pyrrhic victory.

This, despite the fact that in India, reproductive autonomy — the right to decide if, when, with whom, and how to have children — is a fundamental right. The Supreme Court has in multiple judgments recognised that the right to life and liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution includes the right to reproductive autonomy — the right to make "reproductive choices ... to procreate as well as to abstain from procreating."

In February 2026, allowing the termination of a 30-week pregnancy of a woman who was a minor when she conceived, Justice B V Nagarathna of the Supreme Court said, "If the interest of the mother is to be taken note of, then her reproductive autonomy must be given sufficient emphasis. The Court cannot compel any woman, much less a minor child, to complete her pregnancy if she is otherwise not intending to do so..."

The law and the redlines

Weeks before the 13-year-old from Konkan and her mother walked into the teeming corridors of JJ Hospital, they had done everything they could to arrange for a discreet abortion for the girl, the family told *The Indian Express*. The minor's mother even planned to take her to Gujarat after learning that an unqualified doctor facilitated such abortions. She spent over a week searching for the quack, but nothing worked and someone suggested Mumbai. The mother was worried about the stigma they would face in a government hospital but by then, they were desperate — the girl was nearly 27 weeks pregnant, three weeks above the limit set by law for minors and victims of rape.

Finally, the mother and daughter made the journey to JJ Hospital.

The law on abortion in India stems from the colonial-era framework for punishing "voluntary miscarriage". The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the penal code that replaced the colonial-era IPC in 2024, also criminalises voluntarily causing miscarriage — even when the miscarriage is with the pregnant woman's consent, except when the miscarriage is caused to save the woman's life.

The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, however, creates broader statutory exceptions, permitting abortion in specified circumstances.

Experts point to the language in which the law is framed to say that it addresses the medical fraternity, not the reproductive autonomy of the woman, when it tells doctors when they can carry out an MTP.

According to the MTP Act,

- a doctor can perform an MTP procedure for pregnancies up to 20 weeks. Yet, women often endure significant social and legal barriers, with medical practitioners routinely requiring spousal or parental consent and extensive paperwork.
- For pregnancies between 20-24 weeks, MTP requires the opinion of two doctors and can only be done in certain cases — for survivors of sexual assault or rape or incest; minors; when there is a change of marital status during the ongoing pregnancy (widowhood and divorce); among others.

But even for women who qualify under this provision, this often means having to endure lengthy medical evaluations, delays in securing doctors' approvals, and, in many cases, the uncertainty and trauma of approaching courts once the pregnancy advances further.

The lawyer of the minor from Konkan told *The Indian Express* that in her case, the appointment of para-legal volunteers to assist the victim with the paperwork and other procedures at the hospital, as is required by law, was not done, leading to unnecessary anxiety and chaos for the victim and her mother, who were already in a "vulnerable and distressed state", and caused delay in the process.

- Beyond 24 weeks, a pregnant woman's only option is to move the courts. High Courts or the Supreme Court usually direct a medical board to be set up by the state government to determine whether the termination of pregnancy is feasible, after assessing any foetal abnormality or whether the pregnancy poses a risk to the woman's life, physical or mental health. Based on the medical assessment, courts make a determination to allow or disallow an MTP.

Back in JJ Hospital, the minor and her mother learned about the procedure to terminate the pregnancy. The family contacted a lawyer, referred by the doctors, who helped them approach the Bombay High Court. The court, after two hearings, ordered an abortion. The MTP was carried out, and the child was stillborn.

However, the family's journey was one of agonising delays that left the minor in physical pain and the weight of whispers and shame. The mother said that after the court intervention, living in the same village was impossible, and they had to move to a chawl in a nearby town.

Walking through lawyer's door

The decision to opt for an MTP is complicated and vexing. A minor girl who did not understand what was happening to her body; an unmarried woman who kept the pregnancy hidden from her family, fearing she would be thrown out of her home; or even a married woman, realising she cannot continue her second pregnancy when she has not fully dealt with postpartum depression from the first childbirth. This pattern repeats in petitions to various courts by women or their family members.

By the time most of these women walk through a lawyer's door, they are in their sixth or seventh month of pregnancy. Every additional week of delay means a harder and riskier procedure (in the event of the court ruling in the woman's favour). In remote or tribal districts, geography and social factors compound the delays.

In Thane district's tribal region, a 15-year-old, the daughter of brick kiln workers, faced another battle. Pregnant for 30 weeks after being sexually assaulted by the owner of the kiln, she was admitted to a hospital in Thane as the family couldn't afford the travel to Mumbai's JJ Hospital, which is usually where the High Court sets up the medical board for MTP cases.

The Investigating Officer (IO) in the case says the family's financial and emotional condition was too precarious for them to seek legal help, and they had to be counselled for the MTP. "The girl was not able to understand the ordeal she was going through. After the complaint was filed, the parents left for work. They were daily wagers and had other children to look after. So we put the child up at the government hostel for three months. In such cases, the court says the IO is the guardian. However, the consent of the parents was required for an MTP. We had to counsel them to explain how MTP was important for her health," the officer said.

The medical board that examined the girl found a strong possibility of a live birth even after the MTP procedure, given the advanced stage of pregnancy. There was also the possibility of long-term neurological complications in the newborn, they said.

The court, therefore, did not find it fit to terminate the victim's pregnancy and ordered that, after full-term delivery, adequate measures can be adopted with the consent of the victim and her parents for taking care of the newborn.

The petitioner then approached the Supreme Court, which did not find any infirmity with the High Court order.

The petitioner's lawyer finally asked the court that they be allowed to move the High Court again to address the issue of safe delivery with the State's aid in a neutral surrounding since the family was facing "an unpleasant social situation in the locality where they reside". After the birth, the child was sent for adoption.

In a number of recent cases, the Centre and AIIMS have advocated for carrying the foetus to full term, followed by an adoption. It's a position that's usually unsympathetic to the petitioner

Advocate Ashley Cusher, who appears frequently in MTP cases, says lawyers typically charge only filing fees, ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 20,000 from victims, yet the stigma of moving court forces many women to get rid of the pregnancy through discreet, and often risky, means. "They approach unqualified persons for abortions, spending Rs 50,000 to Rs 1 lakh. However, they do not realise it can be fatal," he said.

Foeticide vs agency

While in the cases of minors and sexual assault survivors, courts and lawyers cite legal precedent to argue for MTP, the fate of women who have other personal reasons for seeking an abortion can depend on the whim and views of individual judges and benches.

In 2022, for instance, a Delhi High Court bench denied abortion for a 25-year-old woman from Manipur who was 23 weeks pregnant. She was in a consensual relationship, but with her partner refusing to marry her, she wanted to terminate her pregnancy.

Here, the bench took a conservative position, saying, "We will not permit you to kill the child; 23 weeks are over. The child will be in the womb for how many weeks for a normal delivery? Hardly how many weeks are left? Give the child to somebody in adoption. Why are you killing the child?"

The law allows a change in marital status as a ground for abortion for pregnancies between 20-24 weeks, but a live-in relationship short of marriage did not qualify for the exemption.

When women seek late-stage abortions, law officers of the Centre, judges and the medical fraternity have at times suggested an alternative: carrying the foetus to term and placing the infant for adoption.

However, legal experts argue this 'option' misunderstands the emotional weight involved. "The trauma of childbirth and having to live with that knowledge cannot be pitched as an alternative to the anonymity of the abortion process," said senior advocate Colin Gonsalves. The distinction, he says, is that while an abortion allows a woman to move on with her life, giving up a child introduces an entirely different burden: a lasting uncertainty about the child's fate and future, one that does not fade with time.

Yet, in a number of recent instances, the Centre and AIIMS have advocated for carrying the foetus to full term, followed by an adoption. It's a foetus-centric position that's usually unsympathetic to the petitioner.

In July 2025, when the Delhi High Court allowed a 16-year-old minor rape survivor to undergo an MTP, AIIMS moved an appeal arguing that allowing the termination of a pregnancy of a minor rape survivor at over 27 weeks would be "akin to foeticide". After a division bench of the court "suggested" to the victim's mother to consider the Centre's stand, it was agreed that the minor shall carry the pregnancy to full term.

In 2023, when a married woman sought a late-stage abortion on the grounds of her mental health, the Centre advised her to proceed with a preterm delivery and said the state would manage adoption and long-term care. In this case, when the Supreme Court allowed termination despite objections from AIIMS, the doctors came back seeking a "specific direction" to "stop foetal heartbeat".

Although the question by AIIMS was framed as an ethical conundrum, the procedure for stopping foetal heartbeat is the standard method for terminating pregnancies in advanced stages in India. A 2017 set of guidelines by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare recommends "2-3 ml of strong (15%) potassium chloride injection in the foetal heart prior to termination" as the standard operating procedure.

Given the uneven interpretation of the law in many of these rulings, what shapes a woman's agency and reproductive autonomy are often factors far beyond her control — the opinions of doctors, government lawyers, judges, society.

• Abortion laws elsewhere

USA
In June 2022, the US Supreme Court overturned *Roe v Wade*, its 1973 decision that had established a constitutional right to abortion. As a result, individual states now have the authority to permit, restrict, or ban abortions

CANADA
Abortion is permitted at all stages of pregnancy, irrespective of reason, and is treated as "healthcare service". In 1988, Canada's Supreme Court set aside a federal law banning abortions, reasoning that it violated a woman's "right to life, liberty and security..."

GERMANY
Abortion is classified as a criminal offence, but is permitted within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy and the woman must attend mandatory counselling at approved centres

FRANCE
Most European countries permit abortions, within gestational time-limits, on request. In 2024 France passed a bill explicitly guaranteeing women's right to voluntarily terminate pregnancy. Gestational limit for abortion on request in France is 14 weeks of pregnancy

What the law on abortion says

UP TO 20 WEEKS: A registered doctor can terminate pregnancy

20-24 WEEKS: Two doctors must clear the abortion and it can be allowed only for rape/sexual assault/incest survivors, minors, in case of change in marital status during pregnancy, among others

> 24 WEEKS: A medical board reviews case of substantial foetal abnormality or risk to the woman's life/physical/mental health; court decides on the plea after examining board's opinion

BENGALURU NORTH CITY CORPORATION

Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests
Kempanahalli Main Road, Atturu Layout,
Atturu Forest Nursery, Bangalore-560064

No. ACF(BNCC)/KPPP/TEND/14/2026-27 Date: 25.05.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System)

(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Assistant Conservator of Forests, BNCC, Bangalore invites works tenders two cover systems from Contractors registered in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration/CPWD/KPWD/FOREST/Railways / MES/ National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Byatarayanpaura Zone, Byatarayanapura Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. 5000 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.101.33 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.2,00,000.00 Category : Others**
2.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Byatarayanpaura Zone, Sarvagnagara Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. 1500 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.30.39 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.60,800.00 Category : Others**
3.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Byatarayanpaura Zone, Pulakeshinagara Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. 1500 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.30.39 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.60,800.00 Category : Others**
4.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Yelahanka Zone, Yelahanka Assembly Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. 5000 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.101.33 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.2,00,000.00 Category : Others**
5.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Yelahanka Zone, Hebbala Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. 2000 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.40.51 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.1,82,880.00 Category : Others**
6.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Yelahanka Zone RR Nagara Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. Block-1 4000 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.81.02 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.1,62,040.00 Category : Others**
7.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Yelahanka Zone RR Nagara Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. Block-2 4000 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.81.02 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.1,62,040.00 Category : Category-II(A)**
8.	Raising and maintenance of Monsoon plantation in Bengaluru North City Corporation, Yelahanka Zone, Dasarahalli Constituency Limit for the year 2026-27 and its maintenance of 2027-28 & 2028-29. 2000 Plants. **Tender Cost : Rs.40.51 Lakhs. EMD : Rs.1,82,880.00 Category : ST**

Calendar of Events : (1) Date of Commencement of Download of Document from KPPP website : **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in : 26.05.2026 4.00 PM afterwards. (2)** Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in Procurement : **30.05.2026 Up to 4:30 PM (3) Date and Time of Pre-bid Meeting : 30.05.2026 At 4:00 PM** at the following venue: Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests Kempanahalli Main Road Atturu Layout, Atturu Forest Nursery Bangalore-560064 **(4)** Last Date and Time for uploading of Tender sine Procurement portal for **: 08.06.2026 Up to 5.30 PM (5)** Opening of technical document : **On 09.06.2026 at 11.00 AM (6)** Address for Communication : Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forests Kempanahalli Main Road Atturu Layout, Atturu Forest Nursery Bangalore-560064.

Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests, BNCC

SALUTE THE SOLDIER

BORDER SECURITY FORCE

SUB INSPECTOR PURENDER SINGH 51 BN BSF 02.04.1953 – 27.05.2004

HEAD CONSTABLE BUDASANA DAMJI 51 BN BSF 04.06.1965 – 27.05.2004

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Subordinate officer Sub Inspector Purender Singh and Head Constable Budasana Damji on their Balidan Diwas. On this day, they made ultimate sacrifice, while on operational duty in area of BOP Nirmalchar, Murshidabad (West Bengal).

CONSTABLE RAJA SAHA 54 BN BSF 28.08.1980 – 27.05.2004

Director General and all Ranks of Border Security Force remember its gallant Jawan Constable Raja Saha on his Balidan Diwas. On this day, he made ultimate sacrifice, while on operational duty in area of BOP Dawki, Meghalaya.

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking & An ISO 27001-2022 Certified Company)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The APTRANSCO invites bids online for Spec.No.**PMM32-e-40/2026:** Supply of 26 Nos. 220V, 100AH Battery Chargers with separate DCDB and 7 Nos. 220V, 100AH Battery Chargers without DCDB , 16 Nos. 220V, 200AH Battery Chargers with separate DCDB and 2 Nos. 220V, 400AH Battery Chargers. Date & Time of availability of above tender: **30.05.2026 at 6:00 PM**. Website: **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** Contact No. CE/Transmission: **0866- 2429230.** **Sd/-**
R.O.No.GMCC/APTRANSCO/60/26-27 **CHIEF ENGINEER/TRANSMISSION**

TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF ANDHRA PRADESH LIMITED
(A Government of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking & an ISO 27001-2022 Certified Company)

TENDER NOTICE

The APTRANSCO invites on-line bids for **Spec No.PMM23-e-34/2026** "for supply of 48 Nos. 50MVA 132/33kV PTRs in 3 Lots (ie., Lot-1: 16Nos., Lot-2-16Nos. and Lot-3: 16Nos.) for utilization in Augmentation works at various substations of APTRANSCO. Date and time of availability of tender **27.05.2026 by 17:00 Hrs.** Further details can be seen in website(s): **www.apeprocurement.gov.in.** For further details **Contact No: 9491030732**
R.O.No.GMCC/APTRANSCO/55/26-27 **Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER/TRANSMISSION**

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India, Deputy Chief Commercial Manager/ Catering/HQ, Northern Railway invites E-Tender on **www.ireps.gov.in** for the supply of following items to Catering Units of MPs Canteen North Avenue, PMO and VIP Canteen Railway Board, New Delhi.

S. No.	Items	Tender No.	EMD (in Rupees)	Tender Closing date and time
1.	Sweets, Snacks & Bakery items	SweetsSnacks Bakery-2026	2,70,000/-	15.06.2026 up to 15:00 hrs.

Detailed information and Tender form is available on E-TENDER on **www.ireps.gov.in**. Instructions to Tenderers for submitting E-bids is also available on Learning Centre (User Manual) on **www.ireps.gov.in**. 1778/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Central Office: Stores & Purchase Department K.H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560 027

No: BMTC/CO/COSP/TENDER/06/2026-27 Date: 26.05.2026

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

B.M.T.C invites tender for procurement of the following Goods & Services through KPP Portal:

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description	Last Date for Bid Submission in KPPP
		Short-Term Tender	
1	BMTC/2026-27/SE1287	Proposal for Selection of Project Monitoring consultant for the Comprehensive Smart Ticketing Solution Project	08.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
		Regular Tender	
2	BMTC/2026-27/IND0294	Procurement of Clutch and Clutch Parts.	29.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
3	BMTC/2026-27/IND0295	Procurement of Ball and Roller Bearings.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
4	BMTC/2026-27/IND0296	Procurement of Window Flock Nylon EPDM Rubber Channel Suitable for Bus.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
5	BMTC/2026-27/IND0297	Procurement of First Aid medicines and First Aid Box with standard Medicines.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
6	BMTC/2026-27/IND0298	Procurement of Metal Paste & Araldite.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
7	BMTC/2026-27/SE1270	Engaging an Agency for operating the canteen at the training centre BMTC Vaddarahalli.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
8	BMTC/2026-27/IND0299	Procurement of LED Roof Lamp.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
9	BMTC/2026-27/IND0300	Procurement of Furniture.	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.
10	BMTC/2026-27/IND0301	Procurement of Different types of Rear view and side view mirrors	15.06.2026 at 17:00 hrs.

The above mentioned tender details can be obtained from **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Further, any addendum/corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, other tender terms and conditions etc. will be uploaded /published through KPP Portal only.
Note: Interested Bidders need to register in the KPP Portal. For further information visit BMTC Central Office or Log on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES
(Tender Inviting Authority)

उत्तर प्रदेश पुलिस आवास निगम लिमिटेड

(उ0प्र0 सरकार का उपक्रम)
पंजीकृत कार्यालय: विभूतिखण्ड, व्यावसायिक परिसर पार्ट–1, गोमतीनगर लखनऊ–226010
विज्ञापन संख्या– 01/पुआनि/स–35/से0नि0का0अनु0/2025–26
https:/uppoliceawasnigam.com/

विज्ञप्ति

उत्तर प्रदेश पुलिस आवास निगम लि0 में रिक्त सहायक अभियन्ता (सिविल), अवर अभियन्ता (सिविल), अवर अभियन्ता (विद्युत) एवं लेखा संवर्ग के पदों पर अस्थायी रूप से नियत मानदेय पर सीमित अवधि हेतु सेवायें ली जानी है। निर्धारित शर्तें/अर्हता/पदनाम एवं मानदेय निम्नानुसार होगें:–

क्र0सं	पदनाम	जिस पदनाम से सेवायें ली जानी है एवं अधिकतम नियत पारिश्रमिक		रिक्त पद
01	सहायक अभियन्ता (सिविल)	सहायक अभियन्ता (सिविल)/	रू0 86,000/– (प्रतिमाह)	07
02	अवर अभियन्ता (सिविल)	अवर अभियन्ता (सिविल)/	रू0 54,000/– (प्रतिमाह)	05
03	अवर अभियन्ता (विद्युत)	अवर अभियन्ता (विद्युत)/	रू0 54,000/– (प्रतिमाह)	01
04	लेखाधिकारी	लेखाधिकारी/	रू0 86,000/– (प्रतिमाह)	01
05	सहायक लेखाधिकारी	सहायक लेखाधिकारी/	रू0 69,000/– (प्रतिमाह)	01
06	लेखाकार	लेखाकार/	रू0 54,000/– (प्रतिमाह)	02

अनुभव/अर्हता/शर्तें/प्रतिबन्ध:–

1. ऐसे कार्मिक तो विभिन्न सरकारी विभागों/उपक्रमों/निगमों/ निकायों से सेवानिवृत हो, आवेदक की आयु विज्ञापन प्रकाशित होने की तिथि को 64 वर्ष से अधिक न हो। सेवा अवधि प्रथमत: 01 वर्ष के लिए रहेगी जिसे वार्षिक मूल्यांकन के आधार पर अधिकतम 65 वर्ष की आयु तक विस्तारित किया जा सकेगा।
2. आवेदनकर्ताओं के सेवानिवृत्त संस्थान में सेवाकाल के दौरान कार्य व्यवहार अच्छा रहा हो के सम्बन्ध में अनुभव प्रमाण–पत्र।
3. मूल विभाग से सेवा विवरण एवं विगत पाँच वर्षो की संतोषजनक सेवा/अनुशासनिक कार्यवाही एवं गोपनीय प्रविष्टियों का विवरण।
4. आवेदक को इस आशय का नोटराईज्ड शपथ–पत्र भी देना अनिवार्य होगा कि उनके विरुद्ध सेवाकाल में तथा उसके उपरान्त कोई विभागीय/न्यायिक कार्यवाही प्रचलित नहीं थी/है, और न ही दण्डित किया गया हो।
5. समूह 'ख' के पदों हेतु कार्मिकों को रू0 5.00 लाख एवं समूह 'ग' के पदों हेतु रू0 3.00 लाख सिक्योरिटी मनी देना अनिवार्य है।
6. सेवानिवृत्त राज्य कर्मियों को उनके सेवानिवृत्ति उपरान्त आहरित मूल वेतन से प्राप्त पेंशन की धनराशि को घटाते हुए नियत पारिश्रमिक देय होगा। इसके अतिरिक्त आरक्षित वर्ग के आवेदकों को नियमानुसार आरक्षण देय होगा।
7. सेवाकाल सीमित अवधि हेतु होगा जिसे कार्य संतोषजनक सेवा एवं आवश्यकता के आधार पर बढ़ाया जा सकता है एवं कर्मी को बिना कोई कारण बताये संविदा/अनुबन्ध शर्तों के अनुसार समाप्त किया जा सकता है।
8. निगम से सेवानिवृत्त कार्मिक की अस्थायी सेवायें उनके अंकित सेवानिवृत्ति कार्यालय के अलावा प्रदेश में स्थित अन्य किसी भी कार्यालय में आवश्यकता के आधार पर ली जा सकती है।

आवेदन का प्रारूप

1. आवेदित पद का नाम.....
2. आवेदक का नाम
   (अ)– हिन्दी में.....
   (ब)– अंग्रेजी में.....
3. पिता का नाम.....
4. सेवानिवृत्ति के समय धारित पद (पी0पी0ओ0/ई0पी0एफ0 की स्व प्रमाणित प्रति)
5. अनुभव (जिस संस्थान से सेवानिवृत्ति हुआ हो)
6. जन्मतिथि (हाईस्कूल प्रमाणपत्र के अनुसार).....तिथि.....माह.....वर्ष
7. जाति प्रमाण–पत्र (स्व0 प्रमाणित पति)
8. स्थायी पता.....
9. पत्राचार का पता.....
10. आधार कार्ड नं0 (स्व0 प्रमाणित प्रति).....मोबाइल नं0.....

पासपोर्ट साइज का स्वप्रमाणित फोटो चिपकायें

घोषणा पत्र

आवेदन प्रारूप पर दी गयी सूचना/तथ्य/आख्या असत्य पाये जाने पर मेरी नियुक्त निरस्त कर दी जाये जो मुझे मान्य होगी।

आवेदक के हस्ताक्षर

इच्छुक सेवानिवृत्त कार्मिक दिनांक 25.06.2026 तक अपना सेवा विवरण एवं क्रमांक–4 से 10 तक सम्बन्धित अभिलेखों की स्वप्रमाणित छायाप्रतियाँ संलग्न कर महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना प्रबन्ध), उ0प्र0 पुलिस आवास निगम लिमिटेड, विभूतिखण्ड, व्यावसायिक परिसर पार्ट–1, गोमती नगर, लखनऊ–226010 को रजिस्टर्ड पत्र/स्पीड पोस्ट के माध्यम से उपलब्ध कराने का कष्ट करें। उपरोक्त विज्ञप्ति को निरस्त करने आवेदन स्वीकार अथवा अस्वीकार करने का पूर्ण अधिकार निगम के महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना प्रबन्ध) को होगा। सेवा संबंधी अन्य शर्ते पृथक से निर्धारित की जायेगी।

महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना प्रबन्ध)
उ0प्र0 पुलिस आवास निगम लि0

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

DRM(S&T) NWR, Ajmer on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tender for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **Tender No. :** DRM-S&T-17-2026-27 **Name of Work :** Ajmer Division:- Shifting of S & T cables and utilities in c/w Extension of DFC Side pedestrian subway at Falna, Rani, Somesar railway station of Ajmer division NWR. **Approximate cost of work :** Rs. 6197223.26 **Bid security :** Rs. 123900.00 **Date & Time of opening E-Tender - 16.06.2026** at 15.30 Hrs. The details of above E-Tender are available on website **www.ireps.gov.in** **765-DE/26**

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E- TENDER NOTICE,
Dated 26.05.2026

E-tender is invited from reputed and experienced contractor by the undersigned for and on behalf of the president of India, for the following:- **Tender No.:** ELECT-GEN-BPL-T - 14-2026, **Name of work:** Guna Upgradation of existing Carriage Watering system as per CAMTECH Design on PFs 1, 2 & 3 (Electrical work), **Completion Period:** 04 Months, **Estimated cost in Rs.:** 8087695.98, **in Rs. Earnest money:** 161800.00, **Date and Time for closing of tender:** 15/06/2026, 11:00 Hrs, The details of complete tender documents and its related information may be seen at **https://www.ireps.gov.in** and notice board of this office. Manual offer, for above said tender is not acceptable and if any manual offer submitted, will not be considered. Corrigendum /Updating, if required, will be uploaded on website, it may be seen at above said URL and notice board of this office, till the date of closing of tender. The Contractor must read the all tender documents as uploaded on IREPS along with all conditions carefully to know the eligibility for participation in tender and documents etc. to be submitted along with offer. Only documents uploaded on IREPS along with offer by the contractor will be considered for finalization of tender. **Sd/-**

For Sr. Divisional Elect. Eng. (General)
West Central Railway, BHOPAL

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान
एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

(SEE SECTION 82(2) (ii) Cr.PC/84 BNSS)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Tarun S/o Ram Kishan R/o 529, Hasi Road, Karnal, Haryana** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 362/2018, 363/2018, 364/2018, 365/2018, 366/2018, 367/2018, 368/2018, U/s 420/406/120B IPC, PS Nabi Karim, Delhi** and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Tarun** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Tarun** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Tarun** of case **FIR No. 362/2018, 363/2018, 364/2018, 365/2018, 366/2018, 367/2018, 368/2018, U/s 420/406/120B IPC, PS Nabi Karim, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated **07.07.2026**.

By Order
Dr. Raj Kumar Singh
Ld. Justice Magistrate First Class
NI-05, Room No. 241
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/6742/CD/2026
(Court Matter)

OFFICE OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GWALIOR WORKSHOP DEPARTMENT

File No. 01/26x4/19/WS/2025-26 **DATE : 22/05/2026**
जनसम्पर्क RO क्रमांक 348 **DETAILED NOTICE INVITING TENDER** दिनांक 25-05-2026

Online tenders are invited on behalf of Gwalior Municipal Corporation.

Sr. no.	Name of Work	Probable Amount of Contract	Tender ID no.	Date of release of Tender	Last date for purchase online tender dated
1	Supply of 04 Nos. Hopper Tipper Dumper as per attached Specifications and Tender Conditions to workshop Department GMC.	1,26,84,000 (with GST)	2026_UAD_498830_2	22-05-2026	08-06-2026
2	Supply of 05 Nos. 3DX (6 in 1) Excavator Cum Bockhoe Loader Vehicle as per attached Specifications and Tender Conditions to workshop Department GMC.	2,07,50,000 (with GST)	2026_UAD_498854_2	22-05-2026	08-06-2026

Further details can be seen at **http://mptenders.gov.in**

Nodal Officer, Workshop, Nagar Nigam Gwalior

UJVN LIMITED

H.O.: "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax: 0135-2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvnl.com

Letter No: 443 **Tender Notice** Date: 26/05/2026

Office of the Executive Engineer (Generation), Khodri Power Station, Dakpathar (Dehradun), invites sealed tenders from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below:

Tender No: 02/EE(Gen)/Khodri/2026-27: Up-gradation of Mobile Signals by Supply, Installation, Commissioning & Testing of Mobile Signal Booster at Khodri Power Station.

Tender No: 03/EE(Gen)/Khodri/2026-27: Overhauling, Testing & Oil Leakage arresting of 100 MVA Transformer at Khodri Power Station.

Estimated cost: Rs. 13,96,985/-GST extra & Rs. 24,90,000/- GST extra
Date of availability of bid document on website: 27.05.2026, 10:00 hrs.
Last date for submission of tender: 17.06.2026 up to 16:00 hrs.
For fuller & further details, kindly visit our website. The tender documents can be downloaded from the Nigam'website **"www.ujvnl.com"**

Executive Engineer (Generation)

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of Regional Railway Manager, Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, Karwar, Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer invites Open tender is invited through Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) for following works.

Sr. No. 1, Name of work: Open tender is invited through Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) for "Provision of Automatic Fire Detection and Alarm System (AFDAS) at Verna, Mirjan, Kundapura & Udupi (Central, North & South Cabins). And Provision of Aspiration Type Air Sampling Detectors (ASD) at Thokur and two cabins at Majorda including integration/interfacing with the existing system in Karwar Region of Konkan Railway, as per RDSO Specification No. RDSO/SPN/217/2025 Ver. 3.1 or latest.". **Tender Notice No. KR-KAWR-SG-ET-2026-07 dated 27.05.2026, Cost of work:** ₹ 38,88,212/- (Including GST)

Sr. No. 2, Name of work: Open tender is invited through Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) for "Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Biometric Fingerprint Access Control System for SM's Operating Panel and Relay Room Doors at various stations in the Karwar Region of Konkan Railway." **Tender Notice No. KR-KAWR-SG-ET-2026-08 dated 27.05.2026, Cost of work:** ₹ 10,29,290/- (Including GST)

Sr. No. 3, Name of work: Open tender is invited through Indian Railway E-Procurement System (IREPS) for "Provision of MSDAC in parallel with DC Track Circuit at existing 2-road EI stations – 02 Stations (Sape Wamne at Ratnagiri Region & Mirjan at Karwar region) in Konkan Railway Route". **Tender Notice No. KR-KAWR-SG-ET-2026-09 dated 27.05.2026, Cost of work:** ₹ 2,94,36,797/- (Including GST)

Last date & time for submission of bids: 18/06/2026 up to 15:30 Hrs.
For further details please visit website: www.ireps.gov.in,

Place: Office of Sr Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Shirwad, Karwar-581306 (Karnataka State).

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Dhanbad, dt. 21.05.2026

E-Tenders are invited for execution of the following works by Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), E.C. Railway, Dhanbad:-

Sl. No. 1, E-Tender No.: 77-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Rebuilding of 21 Minor Bridges & 1 Major bridges in GC Section in the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/2/DHN. 12 (Twelve) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 9,76,80,396.90

Sl. No. 2, E-Tender No.: 78-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Koderma-Upgradation / Renovation of KQR running room & crew lobby in the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN-2. 06 (Six) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 1,71,67,282.79

Sl. No. 3, E-Tender No.: 79-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Construction of new staff quarter at PNME (Type-IV 4 Unit & Type-III-4 Unit) & CCK (Type-III-2 unit) under ADEN/IGMO, 12 (Twelve) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 2,44,46,482.43

Sl. No. 4, E-Tender No.: 80-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Improvement of LC approach roads, Painting, e/washing, road side boards etc at LC No-32/B/T, 31/C/E, 30/C/E, 23/C/E, 37/C/T, 39/C/T & 40/B/T in the Jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/2/DHN, 12 (Twelve) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 2,34,64,715.58

Sl. No. 5, E-Tender No.: 81-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: GMO- Povision of deep tube well at south side colony for quarter at GMO, 06(Six) Month, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 9,82,262.51

Sl. No. 6, E-Tender No.: 82-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: GMO; Extension of building for 20 bed in RPF barack at GMO including improvenment of kitchen, dining hall, toilet & bathroom under ADEN/1/GMO, 12(Twelve) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 1,45,21,896.75

Sl. No. 7, E-Tender No.: 83-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Repair and maintenance of staff quarters at Tetultalla Colony, DS Colony, Institute colony, New Station colony, RK colony in the jurisdiction of SSE(W)/2/DHN under ADEN/1/DHN. 06(Six) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 64,95,012.10

Sl. No. 8, E-Tender No.: 84-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: DHN:- Repairs Renovation of filter house at KTH & KDS and other related works for water supply system under SSE/W/KTH under ADEN/2/DHN, 09(Nine) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 53,99,956.30

Sl. No. 9, E-Tender No.: 85-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Upgradation/ Development of Washing Pit No.03 & 04 and Track Linking of Wheel Lathe Line in Coaching Depot DHN under ADEN (2)/DHN, 12(Twelve) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 2,05,89,570.20

Sl. No. 10, E-Tender No.: 86-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Securing work of open space area of C&W offices of DHN depot under Sr. DEN (HQ)/DHN, 04 (Four) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 6,95,296.75

Sl. No. 11, E-Tender No.: 87-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Regirdering of Br. No. 27 (3x16.47mtr) in DHN-JNN and Br. No. 11(8x18.3+2x12.2m) in DHN-CRP section of DHN division under Dy. CE/BRL, 18 (Eighteen) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 3,80,42,246.63

Sl. No. 12, E-Tender No.: 88-DHN-2026-27, Name of the work with its location & completion period: Provision of Bearing inspection platform of 61 bridges of Br. NO. 93dn, 94B, 107A, 107B, 107C, 160UP/DN, 167UP/DN,187UP/DN, 202UP/DN, 234A, 236A, 345UP/DN, 416UP/DN in PKA-MPO section, bridge no.- 10UP/DN, 96N/S, 117, 174 & 238 in GMO-BRKA section, bridge no,- 20A, 27 and 11 in DHN-CRP section, bridge no.- 7 in PKA-PEH SIDING, bridge no.3A, 18A in DUGDA SIDING, bridge no.- 8N/S IN CRP-BKSC section and bridge no.- 1 in JAN SIDING and Br. No.- 9, 12, I6, 22, 29, 48, 54, 58, 67, 75, 77, 83, 106, 109, 110, 115, 129, 131, 156(RUB), 183,200 (RROB), 201,207,209(ROB) &217 in KQR MMD section and Br. no 79 in KQR- TIA Section, top chord inspection pathway of br.no 95(ROR) in KQR-TIA section under SSE/BR/DHN in Dhanbad Division. 15(Fifteen) Months, **Approx. Cost of work (In Rs.):** 7,34,26,866.73

All Tender No. Earnest Money (In Rs.): Earnest Money is applicable as shown in **http://www.ireps.gov.in.portal**

All Tender No. Date & Time for closing and opening of e-tender: Date of closing of e-tender at 12-00 hours on 15.06.2026, Date of opening of e-tender from 12:30 hrs. on 15.06.2026, **Website particulars:** http://www.ireps.gov.in, No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering)
East Central Railway/Dhanbad

PR/0281/DHN/ENGG/T/26-27/136

कार्यालय अधिशाषी अभियन्ता सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग खण्ड आमेट

क्रमांक :– 477 दिनांक: 20.05.2026

संशोधित निविदा सूचना संख्या 03 / 2026–27

NIB code - PWD2627A0433

इस कार्यालय द्वारा जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 03/2026–27 दिनांक 11.05.2026 की दिनांक में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र.सं.	पूर्व में जारी दिनांक			संशोधित दिनांक
1	ऑनलाइन निविदा आवेदन/डाउन लोड करने की दिनांक।	:	दिनांक 12.05.2026 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 21.05.2026 को सायं 06.00 बजे तक	दिनाक 12.05.2026 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 04.06.2026 को सायं 06.00 बजे तक
2	ऑनलाइन निविदा जमा कराने की दिनांक	:	दिनांक 12.05 2026 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 21.05.2028 को सायं 06.00 बजे तक	दिनांक 12.05.2026 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से दिनांक 04.06.2026 को सायं 06.00 बजे तक
3	ऑनलाइन निविदा खोलने की दिनांक	:	दिनांक 22.05.2026 प्रातः 11.00	दिनांक 05.06.2026 प्रातः 11.00
			UBN No.	
1. PWD2627WSRC02003			2. 2 PWD2627WSRC12006	

Old RO No-8360
निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेंगी।

हस्ता./–
अधिशाषी अभियन्ता
सा.नि.वि. खण्ड आमेट

DIPR/C/9212/2026

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs
Near Nehru Market, Ware House, Jammu-180001 (J&K)

Email: dirfcsca-jmu@jk.gov.in, **Tel:** 0191-2458456

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of all migrant beneficiaries (registered under Relief category) whose data has been successfully uploaded/punched on the SMART-PDS Portal, but whose e-Ration Tickets have not been generated due to pending/ in process e-KYC formalities, that ration distribution shall be made to such migrant beneficiaries, as per the following directions, during the transition period:

1. Such beneficiaries may collect their entitled ration for two months i.e., April, 2026 & May, 2026 (11 Kgs of Rice per member and 1 Kg of Sugar per family) exclusively through the allotted Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers in whose FPS ID, the Card has been punched during 8.00 AM to 11.00 AM and 5.00 PM to 8.00 PM;
2. Beneficiaries whose e-ration cards stand generated may lift their entitled ration via biometric authentication on e-POS machines from any designated Migrant Ration depot.
3. All such cases whose e-KYC formalities are pending in process are advised to immediately complete e-KYC formalities, during the transition period, so as to avoid disruption of entitled ration beyond 30th, June 2026, as no beneficiary will be able to avail ration without biometric authentication on e-PoS machine after 30th June 2026.
4. Beneficiaries who failed to lift their full entitled ration quantity in previous cycles due to any technical glitches or transaction failures may collect their left-over/ full backlog balance from the concerned FPS dealer.
5. All beneficiaries shall produce their original Aadhaar Card at the time of ration collection to verify identity and also append their dated signature as a token of receipt of ration.

No: DFCS&CAJ/449-F/2026-27/289-90
Dated: 25.05.2026
DIP NO.: DIP/J-2757/26 DATE: 26.05.2026

Sd/-
Deputy Director (F&R)
FCS&CA, Department
Jammu

Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board

Office of the Chief Engineer, Dharwad
Sir M. Vishveshvarayya Road, Dharwad-580 001.
Ph No. : 0836-2447090, E-mail : kwbcen@gmail.com

SHORT TERM- NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through KPP Portal only)

Short Term Tenders for the following works are invited (two tender document system) through KPP portal (https:// kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agencies/contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria as detailed below (For details please refer KPP portal).

This office Tender Notification No:194 Dated : 26-05-2026. 1) Improvements of Naganur Lake including allied works to Provide Drinking Water Supply to Shiggaon town through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) mode (Lump sum Tender - No Variation). INDENT No.KUWSDB/2026-27/ WS/WORK_INDENT511.

This office Tender Notification No:195 Dated : 26-05-2026. 2) Improvements of Motitalab Lake including allied works to Provide Drinking Water Supply to Savanur town through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) mode (Lump sum Tender - No Variation). INDENT No.KUWSDB/2026-27/ WS/WORK_INDENT512.

This office Tender Notification No:196 Dated : 26-05-2026. 3) Improvements of Tavermellihalli Lake including allied works to Provide Drinking Water Supply to Bankapur town through Design, Build, Operation and Transfer (DBOT) mode (Lump sum Tender - No Variation). INDENT No.KUWSDB/2026-27/WS/ WORK_INDENT513. For further information visit KPP portal or Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may be contacted.

Sd/- Chief Engineer,
KUWS & D Board, Dharwad.

DIPR/DWD/KSMCA/230/2026-27

ADITYA BIRLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office- Indian Rayon Compound, Veraval, Gujarat – 362266 Branch Office- Unit No. 710 A | 7Th Floor | Corporate Park | B-109 | Sanjay Place | Agra -282002.

APPENDIX IV
[See Rule 8 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002]
Possession Notice (for Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 had issued a **Demand notice dated 13/03/2026 calling upon the borrowers BANTI SINGH & SNEHLATA mentioned in the notice being of Rs. 16,04,135.59/- (Rupees Sixteen Lakh Four Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Five and Fifty-Nine Paise)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and to the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of

TATA SONS BOARD MEET: AI, TATA DIGITAL UNDER SCANNER

Loss-making Tata ventures reviewed

George Mathew
Mumbai, May 26

There was no discussion on the listing of Tata Sons or on the extension of Chairman N Chandrasekaran's tenure. REUTERS

THE BOARD of Tata Sons on Tuesday reviewed turnaround strategies and business transformation plans for several of the $180 billion group's loss-making ventures as the conglomerate seeks to strengthen growth while containing mounting losses across key businesses, with reviews indicating that Air India and Tata Digital are expected to continue reporting losses for the next three years.

According to sources familiar with the discussions, chief executives of major unlisted companies under the Tata Group umbrella, including Air India, Tata Digital and Tata Electronics, made detailed presentations before the board.

The presentations, attended by Noel Tata and other Directors, focused on long-term business strategies, operational restructuring, revenue expansion and capital requirements for the coming years.

Sources indicated that the meeting primarily centred on the financial performance and future roadmaps of these companies, many of which are in investment-heavy phases. However, there was no discussion on the listing of Tata Sons or on any extension of the tenure of Chairman N Chandrasekaran, whose current term has often been the subject of market speculation.

The Tata Sons board is expected to convene again on June 12 for further deliberations on the group's strategic priorities and funding plans.

Among the companies reviewed, Air India and Tata Digital are expected to remain under financial pressure over the next three years. Air India, which is undergoing an extensive transformation programme, continues to incur significant costs related to fleet modernisation, integration, operational restructuring and service upgrades. Tata Digital, which has been investing heavily in building digital commerce and consumer platforms, is also projected to post losses as it expands its ecosystem and scales operations.

Losses of unlisted units are expected to touch Rs 29,000 crore for the financial year 2026 (FY26). Air services disruption and rise in fuel costs in the wake of the West Asia conflict have impacted airlines in India, including Air India.

In contrast, Tata Electronics emerged as a bright spot among the group's unlisted entities. The company is rapidly expanding its manufacturing and semiconductor-related operations and is expected to cross revenues of more than Rs 1 trillion in FY26.

The company is also likely to turn profitable, aided by strong demand, capacity expansion and strategic investments in India's electronics manufacturing sector, said a source.

Despite these positives, concerns remain over the financial burden posed by Air India and Tata Digital.

"Both companies will continue to weigh on Tata Sons financially for the foreseeable future," a source said, adding that it's unclear how the group plans to fund the sustained capital requirements of these businesses in the years ahead.

The board meeting on June 12 is likely to take up the extension of tenure of Chandrasekaran. On February 24, the outcome of the Tata Sons board meeting took an unexpected turn when Noel Tata surprised fellow directors by questioning the losses incurred by several unlisted companies within the conglomerate. Although the Tata Trusts trustees had already agreed to extend Chairman Chandrasekaran's tenure for a third five-year term, Noel Tata emerged as a demanding voice during the meeting, raising multiple concerns and setting several conditions before backing the extension.

While four Tata Sons directors supported the renewal and were prepared to put the matter to a vote, Chandrasekaran proposed deferring the decision. He apparently supported the view that key decisions at Tata Sons should continue to be based on consensus, a tradition closely associated with the late Ratan Tata. In effect, Noel Tata's endorsement is crucial before moving ahead with the extension.

Ahead of the Tata Sons board meet, the board of Tata Trusts — excluding the Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) — is expected to meet on June 8 to deliberate on a broad set of governance and strategic issues.

Among the key matters expected to come up for discussion is the future of Venu Srinivasan's role as a nominee director on the board of Tata Sons. The review assumes significance because Srinivasan had reportedly diverged from the stance adopted by the Tata Trusts by supporting the view that Tata Sons should become a listed entity.

FULL REPORT ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Will critical minerals treaty with US bring investments?

Pratyush Deep & Ravi Dutta Mishra
New Delhi, May 26

MONTHS AFTER the US announced India's inclusion into Pax Silica, a Washington-led initiative to counter China's dominance in new age sectors such as artificial intelligence (AI), India and the US on Tuesday signed a bilateral India-US Critical Minerals Framework.

It focusses on securing the supply, mining, and processing of critical minerals and rare earth elements.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, after the Quad foreign ministers' meeting, said that the new framework aims to deepen cooperation between the two countries across the entire critical minerals and rare-earth supply chain, including mining, processing, recycling, and related investment.

While details on the framework are awaited, this signalling of future cooperation comes after the Indian industry began facing shortages of rare earth magnets late last year, when China launched a licensing regime, effectively choking exports of rare earth elements during its trade war with the US.

As India has little processing capacity and is 100% import-dependent for some key critical minerals such as cobalt, lithium, nickel, rare earth elements (REEs) and silicon, it has been aggressively expanding collaborative efforts.

China so far controls almost 90% of global critical mineral processing, which gives it an edge in the sector.

Regulatory push to attract investments

As part of efforts to attract investment in strategic sectors like critical minerals, the government, in March this year, announced calibrated changes in the foreign direct investment (FDI) policy for investments from Land Bordering Countries (LBCs), or those that share a land border with India.

The changes were finally made after six years when the government made its prior approval mandatory for Indian entities receiving investments from LBCs in April 2020. The changes, introduced through a document known as Press Note 3 or PN3, were to curb potential takeovers of local companies during the slump in equity valuations around Covid-19.

To fast-track decisions on investment proposals from LBCs, the government announced that applications from "specified sectors", such as capital goods, electronic capital goods, electronic components, polysilicon, ingot-wafer and rare earth magnets, shall be processed and decided within 60 days.

However, such cooperation aimed at attracting investments to particularly address strategic vulnerabilities has not yet benefited India. It saw gross FDI inflows rise to a new record high of $94.53 billion in 2025-26, up 17% from the previous year, although the net figure was a mere $7.65 billion, data released last week by RBI showed. Notably, Inflows had risen sharply in February on the back of global investor sentiment reversing in the wake of the signing of an interim trade deal between India and the US early that month, which eliminated the penal 25% tariff and reduced the reciprocal tariff to 18% from 25%. FPIs had also net bought Indian financial assets in February to the tune of $4.17 billion. However, once the West Asia war began at the end of February, foreign capital has exited Indian shores in droves: $13.6 billion in March, $7.56 billion in April, and $2.62 billion so far in May.

India-US bilateral efforts on critical minerals

Cooperation on critical minerals also figured prominently during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's official visit to the United States in February 2025. Under the India-US TRUST ("Transforming the Relationship Utilising Strategic Technology") initiative, both countries agreed to strengthen trusted and resilient supply chains in sectors such as semiconductors, critical minerals, advanced materials, and pharmaceuticals. "Recognising the strategic importance of critical minerals for emerging technologies and advanced manufacturing, India and the United States will accelerate collaboration in research and development and promote investment across the entire critical mineral value chain, as well as through the Mineral Security Partnership, of which both the United States and India are members," the India-US joint leaders' statement read.

FULL REPORT ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

First LNG tanker via Strait of Hormuz reaches Indian coast

The cargo is about a day's worth of India's LNG imports. REUTERS
REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

Sukalp Sharma
New Delhi, May 26

A LIQUEFIED natural gas (LNG) tanker that crossed the Strait of Hormuz over the weekend arrived at Gujarat's Dahej on Tuesday, marking the first LNG cargo to reach India from the Persian Gulf in over two-and-a-half months of the strait's effective closure due to the West Asia war, ship tracking data shows.

The Liberia-flagged tanker Al Hamra, carrying about 62,000 tonnes of LNG from Abu Dhabi National Oil Company's (ADNOC) Das Island export facility in the Persian Gulf will be discharging its cargo at Petronet LNG's Dahej terminal, the largest LNG import terminal in India.

As of 2PM Tuesday, the tanker was stationed at one of the LNG discharge jetties of the Dahej terminal, according to data and visuals from ship tracking and maritime intelligence firm MarineTraffic.

As per trade sources, the cargo belongs to government-owned gas major GAIL. While the cargo is equivalent to about a day's worth of India's LNG imports, Al Hamra's arrival has built hopes of more LNG supplies coming to India from the Persian Gulf, which lies to the west of the strait.

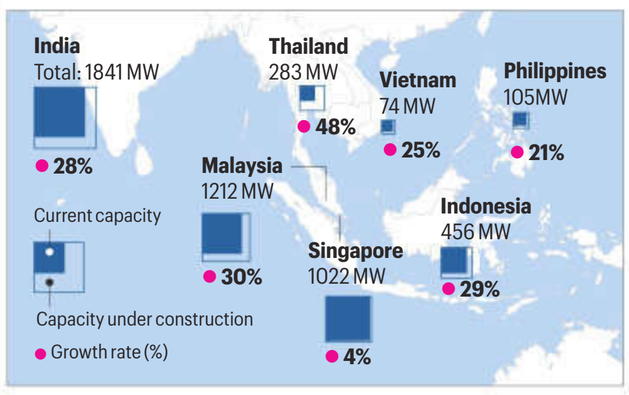
According to commodity market analytics firm Kpler, Al Hamra is one of three LNG tankers that crossed the critical maritime chokepoint over the weekend despite elevated geopolitical risk.

The other two tankers—Fuwairit and Al Rayyan—carried QatarEnergy cargoes bound for Pakistan and China, respectively. In the nearly three months of the West Asia conflict, only seven vessels laden with LNG are estimated to have transited the strait. While about one-and-half dozen liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and oil tankers have made their way to India from the Persian Gulf since early March, Al Hamra is the first LNG tanker to have arrived from there.

FULL REPORT ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

• INDIA'S DATA CENTRE BOOM

- India and Singapore are the largest data centre markets in South and Southeast Asia, a region which accounts for over 3.5 GW of data centre operational capacity.
- Moody's Ratings expects the region's capacity to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 24% over the next four to five years, subject to power and permitting constraints.
- Growth is shifting to India and Indonesia to serve rapidly expanding domestic demand, and to Malaysia, which also benefits from spillover demand from Singapore.



(1) 'Total' represents current and under-construction capacity. (2) Growth rate reflects CAGR for 2025-30. Sources: Cushman and Wakefield, Moody's Ratings estimate

Adani inaugurates world's largest battery storage outside China

George Mathew
Mumbai, May 26

ADANI GREEN Energy Ltd (AGEL), India's largest renewable energy company, has commissioned a cumulative 3.37 Gigawatt-hour (GWh) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), the world's largest single-location battery storage deployment outside China.

The deployment includes the 1.37 GWh capacity commissioned in March 2026, taking AGEL's total operational BESS capacity at Khavda, Gujarat to 3.37 GWh.

The commissioning is a big milestone in strengthening grid reliability, peak-hour supply and enabling renewable energy to deliver dependable, round-the-clock power at scale, it said in a statement. AGEL plans to add over 10 GWh of battery storage capacity in FY27 and scale this to 50 GWh over the next five years.

"AGEL's 3.37 GWh BESS can store enough clean energy to power nearly one million homes for an entire day, supporting peak electricity demand of cities like Indore, Chandigarh or the entire state of Goa," it said. FULL REPORT ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

AAIB prepares interim report as Air India crash anniversary nears

Reuters
New Delhi/Montreal, *May 26*

INDIAN OFFICIALS investigating last year's deadly Air India crash are preparing an interim report rather than a final one ahead of the anniversary of the Boeing 787 accident that killed 260 people, said a person with direct knowledge of the matter.

The interim report from India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) will be "more comprehensive" than the preliminary report put out last July and will examine possible primary causes and other contributing factors, the person said. The 15-page preliminary report into the aviation industry's deadliest disaster in a decade showed the Dreamliner's engine fuel switches flipped almost simultaneously and starved the engines of fuel shortly after the flight from Ahmedabad to London took off on June 12, 2025.

A cockpit recording of dialogue between the two pilots supported the view that the captain cut the flow of fuel to the plane's engines, according to US officials' early assessment reported by *Reuters* last year.

The AAIB said at the time it was "too early to reach any definite conclusions".

By releasing an interim report, Indian authorities will not be required to share the findings ahead of time with the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), which is participating in the investigation because the aircraft was designed and manufactured in the United States.

The NTSB would be allowed to comment on a final report, which could also provide more closure for the crash victims' family members.

A second source with knowledge of the matter also said investigators were still working on the probe and needed more time. Both sources spoke on condition of anonymity as the internal workings of the investigation are private.

Under international rules, a final report is due within a year of an accident.

Mulling changes to deepen debt markets: SEBI chief

Mumbai: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is currently exploring a host of measures to deepen the debt markets and improve the market architecture to make it more accessible for the retail audience, Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said on Tuesday.

"India's financing model for businesses is still predominantly bank-led. A growing economy needs patient debt capital. It needs price discovery across tenures and credit profiles. That is why the corporate debt market is central to India's journey of sustained economic growth," said Pandey.

He was speaking at CareEdge Ratings' Debt Summit in Mumbai. ENS

FULL REPORT ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

• BRIEFLY

Govt to sell up to 2% in Coal India; OFS opens on Wednesday

New Delhi: The Centre will sell up to 2 % stake in Coal India through an offer for sale at a floor price of Rs 412 apiece beginning Wednesday. The sale of up to 2% stake or about 12.32 crore shares at Rs 412 apiece would fetch about Rs 5,000 crore to the exchequer. The OFS (offer for sale) will open for non-retail investors on May 27, and for retail investors on May 29. Shares of Coal India closed at Rs 458.25 on the BSE on Tuesday, up 0.25% from the previous close. The floor price of Rs 412/share is at a 10% discount over the current market price. PTI

Sri Lanka stuns with 100-bps rate hike

Colombo: Sri Lanka's central bank stunned markets by raising its policy rate by an outsized 100 basis points on Tuesday. It is the biggest hike in four years, as policymakers scrambled to stem inflation and support a currency buckling under soaring energy prices. Economic growth, only just recovering from the 2022 financial crisis that left businesses and households deeply scarred, is expected to take a hit from the West Asia war. The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) raised the overnight policy rate to 8.75% from 7.75%. REUTERS

• MARKETS

Sensex	NIFTY	Gold ▼	US Dollar ▲
76,009.70	23,913.70	₹1,57,611	₹95.69
-479.26	-118.00		
-0.63%	-0.49%		
Silver ▼	**Oil ■**		
₹2,66,213	$102.26		

NOTE: GOLD, SILVER RATES AS PER INDIAN BULLION AND JEWELLERS ASSOCIATION DATA GOLD PER 10G, SILVER PER 1 KG; CRUDE OIL (INDIAN BASKET) AS OF MAY 22, 2026

• WARNS THAT AI-DRIVEN AUTOMATION COULD LEAD TO WIDESPREAD UNEMPLOYMENT, INEQUALITY & SOCIAL INSTABILITY IF GOVERNMENTS FAIL TO INTERVENE

Pope Leo speaks against unchecked AI growth: 5 key warnings issued by him

Soumyarendra Barik
New Delhi, May 26

POPE LEO XIV has issued one of the strongest warnings yet on artificial intelligence (AI). In Magnifica Humanitas ('Magnificent Humanity'), a 42,300-word document released by the Vatican on Monday, the Pope has called for the "disarming of artificial intelligence"

Here are the five key takeaways from the document:

1. AI should assist humans, not replace them

Pope Leo warned against viewing AI as a replacement for human judgment, relationships and creativity.

"Humanity, created by God in all its grandeur, is today facing a pivotal choice: either to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together," the pope wrote in the opening section of the document.

The "Tower of Babel" reference comes from the Bible, specifically the Book of Genesis. In the story, humanity tries to build a massive tower that reaches the heavens, symbolising human ambition, pride and the desire to become god-like. In effect, the reference signifies a warning against unchecked human ambition and overconfidence in technology.

The encyclical stressed that technology itself is not evil. But it also warned that technology inevitably reflects the values and intentions of those who design and deploy it. The Vatican argued that AI systems can never fully replicate qualities such as conscience, compassion, morality or spirituality. Pope Leo framed this as a civilisational question: whether societies will continue valuing human dignity in an age increasingly driven by automation and machine-generated decision-making.

In another striking line, Pope Leo said that humanity has never before possessed "such power over itself". REUTERS

2. The pope directly targets Big Tech's growing power

The pope warned that private firms increasingly possess influence that rivals — and sometimes exceeds — governments. "Today...the main drivers of development are private, often transnational, parties that are endowed with resources and the capacity to intervene that surpass those of many governments," the encyclical said.

It added that unchecked technological power risks distorting democracy, public discourse and the "collective imagination". In another striking line, Pope Leo said that humanity has never before possessed "such power over itself".

This critique aligns closely with growing concerns in Europe and elsewhere over the dominance of a few American AI firms controlling the infrastructure, data and computing power needed to build frontier AI systems.

3. Mass automation could become a social crisis

Labour rights are central to the encyclical, echoing his namesake Pope Leo XIII's landmark 1891 encyclical Rerum Novarum, which addressed worker exploitation during industrialisation.

In the latest document, Pope Leo XIV warns that AI-driven automation could lead to widespread unemployment, inequality and social instability if governments fail to intervene.

Work, he wrote, is more than a way of earning income, but "a requirement of the human condition, a normal path toward maturity, development and personal fulfillment."

The pope cautioned against economic systems that treat workers as disposable. He also warned about new forms of "dependencies and societal control", especially through algorithmic surveillance and digital management systems.

For countries like India, where IT services, outsourcing and back-office work employ millions, the Vatican's warning carries particular significance. The encyclical suggests governments should prioritise retraining, worker protections and policies that ensure AI productivity gains are shared more broadly across society.

4. The Vatican wants strict controls on AI warfare

Another major theme is the militarisation of AI.

Pope Leo warned that autonomous weapons and AI-assisted warfare risk making violence easier, and less accountable. The pope has called for governments to "slow down" AI development and impose stronger safeguards around military applications.

5. AI governance cannot be left to engineers alone

Perhaps the document's broadest message is that AI development is not merely a technical issue, but a moral and societal one. Pope Leo called for a "shared discernment process" involving governments, educators, ethicists, civil society and religious institutions.

"Where are we going? Toward what goal do we wish to orient ourselves?" the encyclical asks. The pope also warned against allowing technological change to be dictated solely by market incentives or emergency-driven policymaking. Among the prominent attendees at the encyclical's presentation was Christopher Olah of Anthropic, who echoed several of the pope's concerns.

FULL REPORT ON
WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM

Government College Sidhrawali, Dist- Gurugram (Haryana)
To Lease Agriculture Land

The general public is informed that the Government College Sidhrawali (Gurugram), in its possession, wants to lease 82 Kanal 04 Marla agriculture land (arable land) for one year (Jun 2026 to May 2027). The process for leasing of agriculture land will be held in the college campus on Monday June 08, 2026 at 10:00 am. Interested parties can obtain terms and conditions from the office of Government College Sidhrawali on any working day for leasing agriculture land.

No. 45599/HR Principal

PUBLIC NOTICE
BPS GMC FOR WOMEN, KHANPUR KALAN, SONIPAT

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता हैं कि भगत फूल सिंह महिला मैडिकल कॉलेज खानपुर कलाँ सोनीपत में Boutique-cum-Tailoring shop की दुकान को किराये पर देने के लिये खुली नीलामी दिनांक 03.06.2026 को 11.00 AM बजे की जाएगी। नियम व शर्तें महाविद्यालय की वेबसाईड www.bpsgmckhanpur.ac.in पर देखी जा सकती है। Mob. 9416803361

Sd/-
Incharge Purchase
BPS GMC for Women,
Khanpur Kalan, Sonepat.

No. 45609/HRY

कार्यालय मेदिनीनगर नगर निगम

ज्ञापांक 1614 दिनांक 26.05.2026
PR 379591

आम – सूचना

कार्यालय ज्ञापांक 1386 दिनांक 12.05.2026 से ई0–निविदा संख्या UDHD/MMC/05/2026-27 की निविदा आमंत्रित की गयी थी, उक्त निविदा को अपरिहार्य कारणों से रद्द की जाती है।

ह0/–
सहायक नगर आयुक्त
मेदिनीनगर नगर निगम

PR 380852 District(26-27).D

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person **Dheeraj** S/o Mahavir R/o D-2/146, Nand Nagri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence case FIR No. 222/2017 u/s 379/411/34 IPC at P.S. Gokal Puri, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said **Dheeraj** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Dheeraj** has absconded (or is concealing hisself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proceeding u/s 82 Cr. P.C. has been initiated in the case. Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Dheeraj** accused of FIR No. 222/2017 u/s 379/411/34 IPC at P.S. Gokal Puri, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on **01.07.2026.**

By Order: Ms. Shruti Saraswat,
Judicial Magistrate First Class-03, (North-East)
Room No. 22,1st Floor,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

DP/6892/NE/2026

Bihar State Power Transmission Compnay Ltd.
बिहार स्टेट पावर ट्रांसमिशन कम्पनी लिमिटेड

Govt. of Bihar

Registered Office, Vidyut Bhawan, Bailey Road, Patna-800021
निबंधित कार्यालय, विद्युत भवन, बेली रोड, पटना–800021
A Govt. of Bihar Undertaking

Notice Inviting Short Tender (NIT) For Appointment of Merchant Banker / Book Running Lead Manager for Proposed Initial Public Offering (IPO) of BSPTCL

(Through e-procurement mode only – www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Short Tender Notice No. 26/PR/BSPTCL/2026

Bihar State Power Transmission Company Limited (BSPTCL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Limited and a Government of Bihar undertaking, invites sealed bids under Two-Bid System (Technical Bid and Financial Bid) from SEBI-registered Category-I Merchant Bankers for appointment as Merchant Banker / Book Running Lead Manager for managing the proposed Initial Public Offering (IPO) of BSPTCL.

The IPO aims to list BSPTCL shares on stock exchanges through a combination of fresh issue and/or offer for sale, with potential reservations for employees and other categories as per SEBI guidelines.

Bid Submission Start Date	02nd June 2026
Pre-Bid Meeting	Not Required
Last date for submission of Bid	17th June 2026 @ 15.00 Hrs
Date of Technical Bid Opening	19th June 2026 @ 16.00 Hrs
Date of Opening of Price Bid	Shall be intimated later to **Technically Qualified Bidders**.

The tender document can be downloaded from the BSPTCL website http://www.bsptcl.in. or website https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in/ Downloaded tender documents must be accompanied with e - payment amounting to Rs. 11,800/- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only) towards cost of tender. Copy of e-receipt shall be submitted to Senior Manager, F&A, BSPTCL, Patna before the date and time specified in the tender document.

The bid shall be submitted/ uploaded through e-procurement website https:**eproc2.bihar.gov.in**.

- "BSEDC Charges" is mandatory to be paid through online mode i.e. internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card), Net Banking, NEFT/RTGS.

The department doesn't take responsibility for the delay/Non submission of tender/Non reconciliation of online payment caused due to Non-availability of Internet Connection, Network Traffic/Holidays or any other reason thereof.

PR- 004352 (B & C) 2026-27 **General Manager (F&A)**

For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

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

Govt. of Bihar

BMSICL Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited
2nd & 3rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Bihar, Patna- 800014
Phone/Fax: +919006405255, +91 9471009193

TENDER NOTICE

Tender for rate contract and supply of Drugs for different healthcare facilities of state of Bihar
Notice Inviting Tender Ref No.: -BMSIC/DRUGS/26-04
(Only through E- Tender on website: - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)

Bihar Medical Services and Infrastructure Corporation Limited (BMSICL) invites E-Bids from the interested parties for "Tender for rate contract and supply of Drugs for different healthcare facilities of state of Bihar", vide Notice Inviting Tender No.- BMSIC/DRUGS/26-04. Detailed tender document containing eligibility criteria, selection mechanism, other terms and conditions are available on the website www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in.

Tender Schedule

Tender Reference No.	BMSIC/DRUGS/26-04
Date of Pre-Bid meeting	03rd June 2026 at 02:30 P.M. at BMSICL Conference Hall, 3rd Floor, Swasthya Bhawan, Behind IGIMS, Sheikhpura, Adjacent to State Health Society, Bihar, Patna - 800014
Last date and time of submission of online bids	23rd June 2026 by 05:00 P.M.
Last date and time for submission of EMD and Tender Fees	25th June 2026 till 02:00 P.M.
Date, Time and Place of opening of Technical Bid	25th June 2026 (at 03:00 P.M.) on the website of www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in in the office of BMSICL
Date and time of opening of Financial Bids	To be announced later on www.bmsicl.gov.in and www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in
Validity of Tender	180 Days
Cost of the tender document	Rs. 11,800/- (Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred only) Non-refundable.

GM (Procurement)
BMSICL

For further details please visit : **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar**

PR. No. 004275 (B&C) 2026-27

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

CORRIGENDUM NO. 01 AGAINST TENDER NOTICE NO.: CON/2026/MAY/04; DATED: 20-05-2026

Corrigendum-01 for **Tender No. CE-CON-FT-PMS-2026-03RT1** has been published. For details please visit www.ireps.gov.in.

Chief Engineer/Con/ Lumding Project, Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
(Construction Organisation)
"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

ENGINEERING WORKS UNDER KATIHAR DIVISION

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. KIR/Engg./19 of 2026; dated: 21-05-2026. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Tender No.1. Brief Description of Work:** AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME: Provision of New Station Building along with Drainage system in Circulating area at Harishchandrapur Railway Station. Tender Value: ₹2,19,95,662.80; Bid Security: ₹4,39,900.00. E-tenders will be **closed** at 15:00 hrs. on 19-06-2026 and **Opened at** 15:30 hrs. on 19-06-2026. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. on 19-06-2026 in website http://www.ireps.gov.in.

DRM (Works), Katihar
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers with a smile"

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Divisional Engineer/Mechanical Workshop for Chief Workshop Manager, N.E. Railway, Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur for and on behalf of President of India invites tenders through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:- **S.No. 1. E-Tender Notice No. & Name of the work: Tender No.: DEN-MWS-2026-03;** GKPS-Construction of **(i)** Storage Bins for Chips of Turning & Boring **(ii)** LHB Brake disc cleaning shed in Wheel Shop of Mechanical Workshop, Gorakhpur.; **Estimated Cost (in ₹):** ₹71,83,423.50; **Earnest Money (in ₹):** ₹1,43,700/-; **Tender Submission Last date & Time:** 27.06.2026 at 11:00 Hrs. The details of above tender is available on Indian Railways website **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Chief Workshop Manager,
Gorakhpur

CPRO/Mech-27

DO NOT SMOKE BIDI/CIGARETTE IN TRAINS

"IMPORTANT"

Whilst care is taken prior to acceptance of advertising copy, it is not possible to verify its contents. The Indian Express (P) Limited cannot be held responsible for such contents, nor for any loss or damage incurred as a result of transactions with companies, associations or individuals advertising in its newspapers or Publications. We therefore recommend that readers make necessary inquiries before sending any monies or entering into any agreements with advertisers or otherwise acting on an advertisement in any manner whatsoever.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82(2) (ii) Cr. P.C./84 Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused persons namely **Amarchand @ Pappu S/o** Ved Ram **R/o** H.No. 213, Gali No.1, Tomar Market, Bhagga Wali Gali, Vill-Khera Garh, PS: Khera Garh, Agra, UP, have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 304/13, U/s 454/380/411/34 IPC.**, has been registered at **PS: K.N.K. Marg, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Amarchand @ Pappu** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Amarchand @ Pappu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused, **Amarchand @ Pappu** of **FIR No. 304/13, U/s 454/380/411/34 IPC.**, registered at **PS: K.N.K. Marg, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **30.06.2026.**

By Order
Sh. Aakash Sharma
Ld. JMFC-03 (North), Room No. 213
Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/6870/RD/2026
(Court Notice)

DISTRICT HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY, FARIDABAD

SHORT TERM NOTICE
Requirement of Specialist Doctors for Specialist Services in Urban Areas

Applications are invited for empanelment of Specialists in the following disciplines: Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Pediatrics, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Psychiatry for providing specialist services in urban areas at the following polyclinics/health facilities at UPHC Bharat Colony, UPHC Subhash Colony, UPHC Ismailpur, UPHC Dabua Colony & UPHC Saran under XV FC on alternate days at each facility for at least 6 hours per/day. The specialist doctors will be paid Rs. 4000/- per visit. Empanelment shall remain valid up to 31.03.2027, which may be extended with the permission of MD, NHM Panchkula.

The last date for submission of application in the office of Civil Surgeon, Faridabad is 31.05.2026.

Sd/-
Civil Surgeon, Faridabad
Member Secretary Governing Body DH&FWS
Faridabad

No. 45605/HRY

कार्यालय कलेक्टर (जनजातीय कार्य विभाग) जिला बड़वानी (म.प्र.)

क्रमांक 5599 /जनजातीय/निर्माण/2026–27 बड़वानी, दिनांक 21/05/2026

// द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना क्रमांक–02/2026–27 //

मध्यप्रदेश के राज्यपाल की ओर से बड़वानी जिलें में जनजातीय कार्य विभाग अंतर्गत संचालित छात्रावास/आश्रम शालाओं में बाउण्ड्रीवाल निर्माण कार्यों हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदाएँ लोक निर्माण विभाग की केन्द्रीयकृत प्रणाली मे समतुल्य/सक्षम श्रेणी में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से कार्यों हेतु प्रमुख अभियंता, लोक निर्माण विभाग भोपाल द्वारा भवन निर्माण कार्य एवं विद्युत कार्य हेतु जारी एस.ओ.आर. दिनांक 01.01.2024 अनुसूची (निविदा सूचना जारी होने तक किये गये संशोधनों सहित) के आधार पर सहायक आयुक्त, जनजातीय कार्य विभाग जिला– बड़वानी के कार्यालय में निर्धारित निविदा समय सारणी (**Key Dates**) अनुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र.	टेण्डर नम्बर	विकास खण्ड का नाम	कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)	प्रतिभूति की राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	ठेकेदार की श्रेणी	कार्य पूर्ण किये जाने की समयावधि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	2026 TAD_ 502712	बड़वानी	शा. जनजातीय कन्या आश्रम सुस्तीखेड़ा 800 मीटर बाउण्ड्रीवाल में निर्माण	77.97	77970/–	5000/–	उपर्युक्त	08 माह वषार्काल सहित
2	2026 TAD_ 502713	पाटी	शा. जनजातीय बालक आश्रम पिपरकुण्ड में 500 मीटर बाउण्ड्रीवाल निर्माण	48.79	48790/–	2000/–	उपर्युक्त	08 माह वषार्काल सहित
3	2026 TAD_ 502714	पाटी	शा. जनजातीय बालक आश्रम अंग्रेजी माध्यम पाटी में 400 मीटर, शा. जनजातीय सीनियर बालक छात्रावास बोकराटा में 65 मीटर, शा. जनजातीय सीनियर बालक उत्कृष्ट छात्रावास पाटी में 70 मीटर एवं शा. जनजातीय कन्या आश्रम पिपकुण्ड में 100 मीटर बाउण्ड्रीवाल निर्माण	62.10	62100/–	5000/–	उपर्युक्त	08 माह वषार्काल सहित

ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र क्रय करने की अंतिम तिथि 12/06/2026 को सायः 5.00 बजे नियत की गई है।

हस्ता./– सहायक आयुक्त
जनजातीय कार्य विभाग बड़वानी

RO G-13470-26

OFFICE OF THE SUPRINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, CIRCLE-MORADABAD

Address:- TA-1, ashiyana Phase-1, MDA Colony, Moradabad.

E-Procurement Notice

Letter No: 196/RED/Tender/File No-9/ Bond Clerk/2026-27 **Dated: 19-05-2026**

THE SUPRITENDING ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, MORADABAD CIRCLE MORADABAD on behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh invites percentage rate bids through e-tendirng system from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with UP RED, in appropriate class A & B as the case may be, The Rates floated in Bill of Quantity enclosed with bid document are inclusive of all taxes except GST which will be paid extra to the contractor as per latest Government orders. The Bidder may submit bids for any of all the works.

1. Name of work as per table.

S. No	Name of District	Name of work	Total Estimated Cost (Inc GST) (in Lakh)	Bid security (EMD) in Lakh	Cost of Bid document/ Tender Fee including GST (if any) (in Rupees)	Period completion including rainy season
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Rampur	Maintenance works at Government Hamid Inter College, Rampur, under the Project Alankar Scheme.	132.82	2.66	2354.00	12 Months
2	Rampur	Maintenance works at Government Raza Inter College, Rampur, under the Project Alankar Scheme	130.31	2.61	2354.00	12 Months

2. Date of release of availavility for Bids on on-line: 28-05-2026 at 10.00 AM
3. Start date and time of down loading of Bid Documents 28-05-2026 from 10.00 AM
4. Date and Time of Pre-Bid Meeting: 30-05-2026 at 11.00 AM.
5. Start date and time of submission of bid on tender website: 28-05-2026 from 10.00 AM.
6. Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and should be submitted online in https://etender.up.nic.in
7. Last Date/Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 27-06-2026 up to 12.00 Noon
8. Date of opening of bids through e-procurement: 27-06-2026 at 12.30 pm
9. Any affidavit issued before start of tender process will not be accepted.
10. The Employer has right to issue addendum/corrigendum as per ITB clause-10 on-line which will not be published in any newspaper. All prospective bidders are advised to keep regular watch and visit e-tender portal regularly.
11. The work will be done up to the Utility level with in the available funds.

For further details please log on to https://etender.up.nic.in and download the bid document

All prospective bidders are requested to read the bid document thoroughly before submission of bid

(Vinay Kumar)
SUPRINTENDING ENGINEER
RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
MORADABAD CIRCLE MORADABAD
For and behalf of Governor of UP

UPID-251729 Dt. 25/05/2026
www.upidadv.gov.in

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

(CIN: U40108JH2013SGC001702)
Regd. Office:- Engineering Building, HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi–834004.
E-mail:cesd.jseb@gmail..com

Tender Cancellation Notice

Following e-tenders for "repairing power transformer (PTRs) of various capacity (e.g. 5 MVA, 10MVA etc.) on rate contract under JBVNL for two years under O&M head"

Sl. No.	E-Tender Notice No.	Under JBVNL
1	206/PR/JBVNL/2025-26	

is hereby cancelled due to unavoidable circumstances

स्वहित एवं राष्ट्र हित में ऊर्जा बचावें।
कृपया अपनी शिकयतों को टॉल फ्री नं० 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज करायें।

PR No. 363501

Sd/-
General Manager (DN)

PR 380807 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(26-27)D

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP/ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORP/ AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HSAMB, ROHTAK	PDG FIRE FIGHTING AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEM IN NEW SCHOOL BUILDING GMSSS AT MANDI DABWALI DISTRICT SIRSA (CM ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO. 26674) (DEPOSIT WORK)	23.05.2026 02.06.2026	EMD Rs. 65,700/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9812100311 [illegible]

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in No- 45612/HRY

बिहार सरकार
समाहरणालय, गोपालगंज

(बिहार मद्यनिषेध और उत्पाद अधिनियम, 2016 के तहत अधिहरित वाहन की सार्वजनिक नीलामी)
–:वाहन नीलामी की अतिअल्पकालीन सूचना:–

एतद् द्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि बिहार राज्य में पूर्ण शराबबंदी के उपरांत बिहार मद्यनिषेध एवं उत्पाद अधिनियम, 2016 (यथासंशोधित 2018) के अधीन दर्ज उत्पाद वादों में जप्त वाहनों का उक्त अधिनियम की धारा – 58(5) के अधीन अधिहरण के पश्चात् अधिहरित वाहनों को सार्वजनिक हित में सार्वजनिक नीलामी द्वारा बिक्री करने के आदेश हेतु समाहर्ता को प्रदत्त शक्ति के आलोक में इस हेतु निर्मित गठित समिति द्वारा विभागीय पत्रांक–13/विनष्टीकरण/अधिहरण/नीलामी–SOP/12–02/2025–809, दिनांक–03.02.2026 में दिये गये अधिहरण एवं नीलामी से संबंधित मानक संचालन प्रक्रिया (SOP) का पालन करते हुए दिनांक 07.04.2026 (प्रथम), 17.04.2026 (द्वितीय), 29.04.2026 (तृतीय) एवं 05.05.2026 (प्रथम), 13.05.2026 (द्वितीय), 20.05.2026 (तृतीय) को सार्वजनिक नीलामी किया गया। जिसमें से शेष बचे वाहनों की सार्वजनिक नीलामी उपरोक्त विभागीय पत्रांक–13/विनष्टीकरण/अधिहरण/नीलामी– SOP/12–02/2025–809, दिनांक–03.02.2026 कंडिका–13 में दिए गए "तीन बार नीलामी के उपरान्त भी यदि किसी वाहन की बिक्री नहीं हो पाती है तो उस वाहन की नीलामी ***"As Is Where is Basis"*** पर की जाए। ***"As Is Where is Basis"*** पर प्रत्येक नीलामी में वाहनों के मूल्य को 10% कम करते हुए तब तक नीलामी की जाए" के आधार पर **'जो है, जहाँ है, जैसा है उसी स्वरूप में'** दिनांक 17.06.2026 को 11:00 बजे पूर्वाहन से **जिला पंचायत संसाधन केन्द्र, गोपालगंज** में निम्न प्रकार से की जायेगी।

वाहन की सार्वजनिक नीलामी की तिथि		आवेदन प्राप्त करने की अंतिम तिथि	आवेदन प्राप्त करने का स्थान
सार्वजनिक नीलामी की **चतुर्थ तिथि**	**17.06.2026** किसी कारणवश नीलामी नही होने की स्थिति में पुनः नीलामी दिनांक 18.06.2026 को किया जायेगा	13.06.2026	**अधीक्षक मद्यनिषेध, कार्यालय गोपालगंज** नव निर्माणाधीन न्यू पुलिस लाईन के समीप फतहा रोड), बसडीला, गोपालगंज

नीलामी हेतु वाहन का विवरण:–

क्र०	अधिग्रहण उत्पाद वाद संख्या	थाना का नाम	काण्ड संख्या	वाहन का स्थान (जहाँ पर वाहन रखा गया है।)	वाहन का प्रकार	वाहन का निबंधन संख्या	वाहन का चेसिस संख्या	वाहन का इंजन संख्या	वाहन स्वामी का नाम व पता	निबंधन वर्ष	वाहन का न्यूनतम मूल्य	अग्रधन की राशि
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	674/24	जादोपुर	65/24	जादोपुर थाना	मोटर साईकिल	DL03SCL-7014	MBLHA10AMD9K04062	HA10EJD9K0804	मीना गौड़ पिता–प्रदीप गौड़, सा0–46, रिंग रोड, लाजपत नगर, नई दिल्ली	2013	9000	1800
2.	649/24	उत्पाद	430/24	बंजारी मालखाना	मोटर साईकिल	DL5SAD6298	MBLHA10EWBGD35171	HA10EDBGD35905	मिरा पिता–जयराम सा0–जे0जे0 कॉलोनी, दिल्ली।	2011	8100	1620
3.	154/25 134/25	उत्पाद	845/24	बंजारी मालखाना	स्कॉर्पियों	DL4CNB3461	MA1TB2HAN82E78409	HA84E16386	शिवम रैजादा पिता–सुधीर रैजादा, सा0–गौतम नगर दिल्ली	2008	90000	18000

जिला पदाधिकारी
गोपालगंज

विस्तृत जानकारी **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

PR. No.004236 (Excise) 2026-27

नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।

संचालनालय

किसान कल्याण तथा कृषि विकास
द्वितीय तल, विन्ध्याचल भवन, मध्यप्रदेश, भोपाल
☎:(0755) 2551279, E-mail: dagit@mp.gov.in

क्र./आई.टी./Geo Tagged Mobile/10/2026-27/549 भोपाल, दिनांक 22/05/2026

Tender Notice

Procurement of 4G Mobile SIM Cards for Deployment in Mobile Devices of Agriculture officers in Madhya Pradesh

The Department of Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh invites online bid from the Telecom service providers empanelled with TRAI for providing 4G SIM Cards and telecommunication services.

The mode of submission of bid is only online through e-procurement portal (**https://mptenders.gov.in**) No physical submission of the bids shall be entertained.

All Telecom Service Providers are mandated to get enrolled on **https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

The department will follow the following schedule in respect of the Bid Process.

S. No.	Events	Date & timings
1.	Issuance of Terms of Reference (TOR) document	26/05/2026, 4.30 pm
2.	Start Date & Time for dowmloading of Tender Document	26/05/2026, 4.30 pm onwards
3.	Pro-Bid Meeting:	03/06/2026 at 3.30 pm
4.	Issue of Clarification & Start Date & time for submission of bid	10/06/2026 at 10.00 am onwards
5.	Last date and time for submission	24/06/2026 till 3.00 pm
6.	Opening of Technical Bid	24/06/2026 at 3.30 pm
7.	Opening of Financial Bid	Will be informed to the successful Bidders after technical evaluation

For any clarification, kindly contact
Email: dagit@mp.gov.in
Phone: 0755-2551336

Sd/
Director
Farmer Welfare and Agriculture Development
M.P., Bhopal

G-13485/26

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, अंतरिक्ष विभाग / DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
विक्रम साराभाई अंतरिक्ष केंद्र / VIKRAM SARABHAI SPACE CENTRE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण ग्रुप / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
तिरुवनंतपुरम / THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – 22 / (फोन नं. / Ph. No. 0471 – 2564568 / 5669 / 4537 / 4545)

इसरो isro

दिनांक/Dated : 26-05-2026

ई-निविदा की अवधि बढ़ाना / EXTENSION OF E-TENDER

1. टर्ल्स, वीएसएससी, तुंबा में एनजीएलवी एविऑनिकी एवं समाकलन सुविधा के लिए भवन का निर्माण (सिविल, यांत्रिक तथा विद्युत कार्य) / Construction of building for NGLV Avionics and Integration Facility at TERLS, VSSC, Thumba (Civil, Mechanical & Electrical works) **NIT No. VSSC/CMG/C01/03/2026-27 Dt. 22.04.2026 (पी.ए.सी./P.A.C: ₹ 909.89 लाख/Lakhs)**

डाउनलोड करने की अवधि/Period for downloading: दिनांक 04.06.2026 को 23.00 बजे तक बढ़ाए गए /Extended upto 23:00 hrs. on 04.06.2026

इच्छुक निविदाकार ब्यौरों के लिए www.tenderwizard.in/isro या www.isro.gov.in देखें। Interested tenderers may visit www.tenderwizard.in/isro or www.isro.gov.in for details.

Sd/- प्रधान, सीएमजी, वीएसएससी
Head, CMG, VSSC

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
NATIONAL HIGHWAYS DIVISION, HAZARIBAGH

Request for Proposal for Performance based Maintenance Contracts.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
Tender Refence No. - NH/HAZARIBAGH/2026-27/01 Dated: 26.05.2026

Application in the prescribed format form eligible contractors for Request for Proposal Performance based Maintenance Contracts (PBMC) mode are invited for following project in two bid systems. (Technical &Financial)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Length	Estimated Cost including LC and excluding GST (in Rs.)	Cost of RFP document (in Rs)	Bid Security (in Rs.)	Contract Duration (Month)
1	PBMC work of NH-522 from Km 48.00 to 62.650 in the State of Jharkhand under National Highway Division, Hazaribagh for the year 2026-27	14.650 km	13,25,75,295/-	10,000/- (RFP) & 1,800/- (GST)	13,26,000/-	60

Note – GST amount will be paid as per Government Norms applicable from time to time.

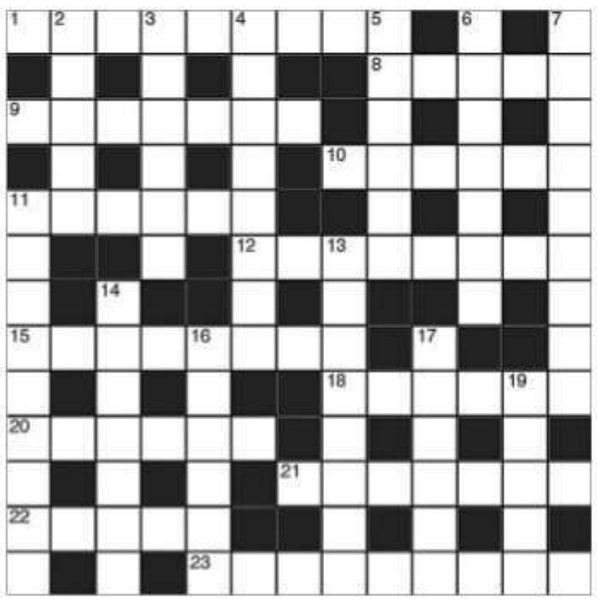
Important Dates

1.	Date of Issue of Notice Inviting RFP	**26.05.2026**
2.	Last Date For Receiving Queries	21.06.2026 at 17:00 Hrs
3.	Pre-BID Meeting at Venue (as mentioned in RFP)	22.06.2026 at 12:30 Hrs
4.	Authority Response to Queries Latest by	29.06.2026
5.	Period of Sale of Bid Document	From 29.05.2026 17:00 Hrs to 13.07.2026 upto17:00 Hrs through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
6	BID Due Date	Date 13.07.2026 upto 17:00 Hrs through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
7.	Last date of physical submission of bid security, POA and other documents in original	14.07.2026, up to 12.30 Hrs
8.	Time and Date of Opening Technical Bid (RFP)	Date 14.07.2026 17:00 Hrs through official portal of: [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
9.	Time and Date Opening Financial Bid	To be notify. Through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
10.	Place of Opening of Bids	Office of the Chief Engineer, NH Wing, Jharkhand, Ranchi Through official portal of: [https:// eprocure.gov.in/]
11.	Bid Validity	120 Days from the Bid Due Date.
12.	Officer Inviting Bids	Executive Engineer NH Division, Hazaribagh

Executive Engineer
NH Division, Hazaribagh

PR 380812 Road (26-27)_D

• CROSSWORD 5999



ACROSS
1 Thought broadcast item dated (9)
8 Could be there even if one's unconscious of it (5)
9 Traitor returned twice to the East. What a sauce! (7)
10 Provided one's name is indicated (6)
11 Made mock and was jailed (4,2)
12 Any sails may be subject to breakdown (8)
15 Treading slippery slope (8)
18 Level with the Spanish team (6)
20 Pot red by mistake — it's too much! (2,4)
21 Making mock of the outdoor life? (7)
22 Showing love for a musical drama (5)
23 Articles I ordered to be true to life (9)

DOWN
2 Stimulate with elevating tale; an eye-opener (5)
3 It's completely in Latin (2,4)
4 It's under a country's jurisdiction though over it (8)
5 Daniel is upset by a contradiction (6)
6 Oriental church in newly developed see (7)
7 He's set up shop as cook and master (9)
11 A good place to see the stars come out (5,4)
13 Nevertheless last (5,3)
14 Had tree replaced safe from lightning (7)
16 It connects similar pressure points (6)
17 Politician in lost test case appeals (6)
19 It shows no interest is offered (5)

SOLUTIONS CROSSWORD 5998 **ACROSS:** 1 Drawing, 4 Drops, 7 Item, 8 Keeps mum, 10 Graduation, 12 Relate, 13 Pagoda, 15 Herbalists, 18 Ancestor, 19 Bill, 20 Knead, 21 Battery **DOWN:** 1 Doing, 2 Amenable, 3 Greets, 4 Deplorable, 5 Ohms, 6 Samaria, 9 Buttressed, 11 Solstice, 12 Ransack, 14 Absorb, 16 Sally, 17 Acne

JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective circles below. Select the letters in the shaded circles and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.

Whatever I will become will be what _ _ _ _ _ for me. - Elvis Presley (3,3,6)

BDAEO
JOUCDN
FSLSO
OTUGHH

SOLUTIONS: Adobe/Abode, Floss, Jocund, Though
ANSWER: Whatever I will become will be what **God has chosen** for me.
- Elvis Presley

• OVER THE HEDGE

BY MICHAEL FRY & T LEWIS

• CALVIN & HOBBES

BY BILL WATTERSON

• MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG

SUDOKU 6331

DIFFICULTY LEVEL 2s
INSTRUCTIONS
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy;
3s = Medium; 4s = Hard;
5s = Very Hard;
6s = Genius

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

SOLUTION SUDOKU 6330

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

• ROYAL STARS

BY GEORGIA NICOLS

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 20): Today you have to go more than halfway when dealing with others. There's a Moon alert in effect all day, which clouds issues with everything. Restrict spending to food and gas. Avoid important decisions. Tonight: Intense discussions.

TAURUS (APR 21 - MAY 21): Be careful, because fiery Mars in your sign will boost your energy. This is good for other days, but not today, because today is a Moon alert. Guard your impulses. Restrict spending and avoid big decisions. Tonight: Listen and cooperate.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21): Today is a Moon Alert, which is a poor time to make decisions or shop; however, it's a good time for creativity. These are all things you will like to do. Enjoy making art. Tonight: Work and get organised.

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23): This is a relatively easy-going day. Focus on home and family. Be aware that today's Moon Alert restricts spending to food and gas. It's a poor time for family decisions. Take it easy. Tonight: Socialise.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUG 23): You'll enjoy socialising with others today, especially younger people. Be careful, because today is a Moon alert. So postpone important decisions. Restrict your spending. Have fun. Tonight: Relax.

VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEP 23): Be careful, as there is a Moon alert all day. Resist temptations to spend money (except for food and gas). However, this is a great day to enjoy the company of others and express your creativity. Tonight: Intense discussions.

LIBRA (SEP 24 - OCT 23): For most of this day, there is a Moon alert. You might feel indecisive and at loose ends. You also might be tempted to make decisions you will later regret. Relax and socialise. Tonight: Check your money.

SCORPIO (OCT 24 - NOV 23): Enjoy time alone today if you can swing this. Be aware that most of this day is a Moon alert, which means it's a poor time to shop (except for food and gas). It's also a poor time to make important decisions. You will likely have to change them later. Tonight: You win.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 24 - DEC 22): This is a lovely day to chat with friends and talk to groups. However, do not volunteer for anything. Avoid important decisions. Restrict your spending to food and gas, because most of this day is a Moon alert. Forewarned is forearmed. Tonight: Solitude.

CAPRICORN (DEC 23 - JAN 20): This is a tricky day because you're high-viz! People notice you more than usual. This means they'll notice if you make a mistake or a poor decision. (Not good!) Most of this day is a Moon alert, so avoid important decisions. Restrict spending to food and gas. Be aware! Tonight: Be friendly.

AQUARIUS (JAN 21 - FEB 19): You enjoy time spent with friends and today is an ideal day for this. You'll be attracted to people from other cultures and different backgrounds. It's a Moon alert all day, don't make travel reservations. Restrict spending to food and gas. Tonight: You're noticed.

PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 20): This is a poor day to make decisions about wills, inheritances or shared property. You can do your homework, but don't agree to anything important, because today is a Moon alert. Instead, enjoy socialising with everyone. Tonight: Explore.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C & 84 BNSS

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Anwar @ Bauwa, S/o:** Mohd. Aslam, **R/o:** H.No. 289 Gali No.7 D-Block Mangal Bazar Road Bhalswa Dairy, **Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 592/2021, U/s: 25/54/59 Arms Act, PS: Jahangir Puri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Anwar @ Bauwa,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Anwar @ Bauwa,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Anwar @ Bauwa,** of **FIR No. 592/2021, U/s: 25/54/59 Arms Act, PS: Jahangir Puri, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **10.07.2026**.

By Order
Jyoti Nain
Judicial Magistrate First Class-07/
North District
Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/6702/NW/2026
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Jitender @ Jeetu S/o:** Amar Singh, **R/o:** C-625, Inder Enclave Suleman Nagar Sultanpuri, **Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 68/19, U/s: 380/381/420/468/34 IPC, PS: Kirti Nagar Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Jitender @ Jeetu,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Jitender @ Jeetu,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Jitender @ Jeetu,** of **FIR No. 68/19, U/s: 380/381/420/468/34 IPC, PS: Kirti Nagar Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **31.07.2026**.

By Order
Vasundhara Azad
Chief Judicial Magistrate West Distt.
Room No. 146, 1st Floor
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/6390/WD/2026
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Saif Ali@Chia, S/o: Fulhasan, R/o: Jhuggi No. 872, Rakhi Market, Zakhira, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 26/2026, Date: 20.01.2026, U/s: 74/76/115(2)/351(2)/351(3)/331(4)/3(5) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Police Station Moti Nagar, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Saif Ali@Chia** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Saif Ali@Chia** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Saif Ali@Chia** of **Police Station Moti Nagar, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **29.06.2026.**

By Order
Sh. Anshul Singhal
JMFC-04, West, Room No. 268,
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/6763/WD/2026

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

SEE SECTION 84 BHARTIYA NAGARIK SURKSHA SANHITA

Whereas a complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Arif S/o** Samsuddin **R/o** Rahish Kabadi Ka Makaan, Bhus ki Tall Wali Gali, Khassi Colony, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, UP, have committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence under **FIR No. 440/23 U/s 279/337 IPC**., has been registered at **P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said, **Arif** namely cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said, **Arif** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).
Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused, **Arif** of under **FIR No. 440/23 U/s 279/337 IPC**., Registred at: **P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **14.07.2026**.

By Order
Ms. Deepakshi Rana
Ld. MM-03, Room No.19
Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/6886/NE/2026
(Court Notice)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 84 BNSS

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Person(s) **Sudhanshu Sharma S/o:** Sh. Ram Kishor Sharma, **R/o:** Village Nikhob, Teh. Siyana, Bulandshahr, **UP** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 376/24, Dt. 23.08.2024, U/s: 318/61(2)/3(5) Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023, & 66C/66D IT Act, PS: Special Cell, New Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Sudhanshu Sharma,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Sudhanshu Sharma,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Sudhanshu Sharma,** of **FIR No. 376/24, Dt. 23.08.2024, U/s: 318/61(2)/3(5) Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023, & 66C/66D IT Act, PS: Special Cell, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **13.07.2026**.

By Order
Mridul Gupta
Chif Judicial Magistrate
26, Ground Floor, Annexe Building
Patiala House Court, Delhi

DP/6782/Spl. Cell/2026
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Faizi @ Kala, S/o: Abdul Wahid, R/o:** H.No. B-307, Janta Majdoor Colony, Welcome, **Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 542/2024, U/S: 109(1)/3(5) Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023, PS: Welcome, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Faizi @ Kala,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Faizi @ Kala,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Faizi @ Kala, FIR No. 542/2024, U/S: 109(1)/3(5) Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023, PS: Welcome, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **29.06.2026**.

By Order
Deepakshi Rana
Judicial Magistrate First Class-03
Room No.19, 1st Floor Shahdara Distt.,
Karkardooma Court, Delhi

DP/5944/NE/2026
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 84 BNSS

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person, namely, **Dinesh S/o** Dumbar Singh **R/o** C-9, Rajni Vihar, Begumpur Delhi, (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No.: 1470/2015, U/s: 279, 337, 482 IPC & 185/3, 181, 146, 196, 192, 192A, 207 MVA,** registered at **P.S.: Shahbad Dairy, New Delhi,** and the warrant has been returned writing upon that the said accused person, **Dinesh,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person, **Dinesh,** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said, accused person, **Dinesh, FIR No.: 1470/2015, U/s: 279, 337, 482 IPC & 185/3, 181, 146, 196, 192, 192A, 207 MVA,** registered at **P.S.: Shahbad Dairy, New Delhi,** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **06.07.26**

By Order
Ms. Bharti Beniwal
Judicial Magistrate First Class
Room No.114, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/6842/ON/2026
(Court Matter)

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr. P.C

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Geeta D/o:** Ram Chander, **R/o:** Jhuggi No. 76/47 Dhobi Ghat, New Om Nagar Sangam Park Road Partap Bagh Modal Town, **Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **FIR No. 477/20, U/s: 380/411 IPC, PS: Karol Bagh, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Geeta,** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Geeta,** has absconded (or is concealing herselves to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Geeta,** of **FIR No. 477/20, U/s: 380/411 IPC, PS: Karol Bagh, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **01.07.2026**.

By Order
Nishant Bangarh
Judicial Magistrate First Class-01 (Cetral)
Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

DP/6766/CD/2026
(Court Matter)

लोकप्रिय गोपीनाथ बरदलै क्षेत्रीय मानसिक स्वास्थ्य संस्थान तेजपुरः असमः पिनः 784001

LGB REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH
(An Autonomous body under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
Website: www.lgbrimh.gov.in, **e Mail:** mail@lgbrimh.gov.in
Post Box No. 15: **FAX No.** (03712) 233623
TEZPUR: 784001 : ASSAM

No. LGB/NAZ/4012/19/P-III/3241 **Dated:- 21st May 2026**

E-TENDER NOTICE

Online e-tenders in two bid systems (Technical and Financial) are invited through the e-procurement portal http://eprocure.gov.in/cppp by the Director, LGBRIMH, Tezpur from eligible Manufacturers/Firms/ Companies / Authorized Agents / Distributors/Dealers for Rate Contract for Supply of Laboratory Reagents (Kits) & Chemicals for Automated ESR analyzer and Urine analyzer. The last date of bid submission is 11.06.2026. For more details log on to http://eprocure.gov.in/cppp or www.lgbrimh.gov.in.

Sd/-
Director
LGBRIMH

CBC 17179/11/0002/2627

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Beena Devi, W/o**: Bhagwan, **R/o:** H. No. N-737, Mangolpuri, Delhi has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR No. 515/2024, P.S.: Mangolpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused **Beena Devi** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Beena Devi** has absconded (or is concealing herself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Beena Devi** accused of offence in case **FIR No. 515/2024, P.S.: Mangolpuri, Delhi** and is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **01.07.2026**.

By Order
Sh. Prashant Kumar
Additional Sessions Judge (Electricity)
North-West, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/6735/OD/2026
(Court Matter)

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

Divl. Rly. Manager, N.W.Rly. Bikaner for and on behalf of President of India invites open E-Tender for the following works **up to 15.00 hours on 12.06.2026** as below:- **Tender No.** : 27 **Name of work with its Location** : Provision of 04 no. rooms alongwith lat bath in existing running room, Bikaner under ADEN/HQ/ Bikaner **Approx. cost of work** : Rs.13551688.97 **Earnest money** : Rs. 271000.00 **Tender No.** : 28 **Name of work with its Location** : Miscellaneous repair & maintenance of track works under ADEN/BNW. (For 2 years) **Approx. cost of work** : Rs. 50772426.12 **Earnest money** : Rs. 1015500.00 **Tender No.** : 29 **Name of work with its Location** : Provision of covering shed of various RUBs in the jurisdiction of ADEN/Bhiwani. **Approx. cost of work** : Rs. 232506480.47 **Earnest money** : Rs. 4650100.00 **Tender No.** : 30 **Name of work with its Location** : Raising of retaining wall, repair to road surface and water seepage treatment etc. of various RUBs in the jurisdiction of ADEN/Bhiwani. **Approx. cost of work** : Rs. 162024156.17 **Earnest money** : Rs. 3240500.00 **Tender No.** : 31 **Name of work with its Location** : Construction of 06 Nos. Type-V Quarters at Bikaner under ADEN/HQ/Bikaner **Approx. cost of work** : Rs. 50414743.16 **Earnest money** : Rs. 1008300.00 **Tender No.** : 32 **Name of work with its Location** : Major renovation work in DRM office complex building and conference room building at Bikaner under ADEN/HQ/ Bikaner **Approx. cost of work** : Rs. 13484860.37 **Earnest money** : Rs. 269700.00 **Tender No.** : 33 **Name of work with its Location** : Flash butt welding in connection with Through Rail Renewal (Primary) with 60 kg rail on passenger running loop line of 15.964 kms in Ratangarh- Sadulpur Section under ADEN/Ratangarh. **Approx. cost of work** : Rs. 27445438.05 **Earnest money** : Rs. 548900.00 **Note**-Other term & condition will be shown on N.W.Rly. website www.ireps.gov.in.

767-DE/26

Please join us on /NWRailways NWRailways_

IDENTIFICATION FOR SUSPECT

An unidentified person namely Unknown, **S/o**: Unknown, **R/o**: Unknown was found involved in **Case FIR No. 207/2026 U/s 281/125(a), Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Dt. 08.05.2026** registered in P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi. The description of the unidentified person is:- **Sex**: Male, **Age**: About 18-20 year, **Height**: 5', **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Oval, **Built:** Thin, **Hair:** Curly, **Wearing**: Black colour Shirt.
His identification could not be established till now. Any information/clue may please be conveyed to the undersigned immediately regarding above, descripted person.

SHO
P.S.: Mahendra Park, Delhi
Ph.: 9582239475

DP/6833/NW/2026

Bowling lineups have work cut out: SRH coach

Travis Head has scored 393 runs in this season of the Indian Premier League. CREIMAS/BCCI

Nitin Sharma
Mullanpur, May 26

WITH SUNRISERS Hyderabad facing Rajasthan Royals in the Eliminator at Mullanpur on Wednesday, the focus will be on the opening pairs of the two sides. With the losing team exiting the playoff after the Eliminator, Sunrisers' assistant coach James Franklin was asked about the destructive opening pairs and the former New Zealand pacer shared how the bowling units of both teams will have their work cut out against them.

Destructive openers

"Absolutely, I mean, both pairs of openers for both teams are exciting cricketers. They are destructive in their own ways and means. We have obviously seen for a few years now, the dynamic partnership that we have with Travis (Head) and Abhishek (Sharma) and then obviously the emergence from the fag end of last year's IPL and this IPL, Vaibhav (Sooryavanshi)and (Yashasvi) Jaiswal as an opening partnership has been very destructive.

"So I would say both the teams' bowling line-ups have got their work cut out for them," Franklin said in the press conference ahead of the Eliminator.

When asked about Head having a poor season this IPL, Franklin shared how the team has belief in the Australian opener and how the coaching group looks at the opening partnership instead of individual scores.

"From his individual form or scores, whatever you want to put it, we look at the partnership. We look at the way that Head (Travis) and Abhishek (Sharma) put pressure back on opposition bowling groups. I think he has around 400 runs, which is a pretty good IPL. Obviously the other three out of top four batters for us have had a prolific season. There's no doubt about Travis's ability or destructing in terms of being able to play a match winning role for us. So we've got no doubt about that as a group," said Franklin.

INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Challengers play like champions... again

Led by their skipper's fine knock, holders thrash Titans to get within one win of a successful IPL title defence

SYNOPSIS: RCB get within one game of defending title as skipper Patidar's unbeaten 93 blows GT away

Venkata Krishna B
Chennai, May 26

IN VIRAT Kohli's career, 18.4 triggers memories of one shot – that off Pakistan's Haris Rauf in Melbourne during the 2022 T20 World Cup. At Dharamshala, there was one shot that made Kohli jump off his chair in the dugout, with his jaws on the floor as he covered his mouth in disbelief at what he had witnessed.

Kagiso Rabada, among the bowlers of the tournament, had already endured a costly first spell (39 runs conceded in three overs) when he returned for his last in the 17th over.

A back-of-length delivery, that has troubled most batsmen, should have bothered Rajat Patidar too. But the RCB skipper picked the length early, stood on his toes and the bat swing did the rest – sending the ball over covers for a six. 16.4 will be Patidar's 'Hang in the Louvre'.

It was the highlight of an incredible T20 innings that took Patidar to an unbeaten 93 off 33 balls and the team to a score of 254/5, as RCB steamrolled Gujarat Titans by 92 runs to return to the IPL final, laying down a marker for the other three sides in contention.

Titans to their knees

Prior to Tuesday's knock, Patidar had already hit 14 sixes in this campaign. In the middle overs, no other batsman has dictated the game more, and made an impact as much as Patidar has. Spin or pace, it has hardly mattered to him.

When he arrived in the middle, RCB had wobbled a bit off track. The two-paced pitch didn't allow him to start fluently as he was 22 off 14. But off the next 19 balls, he hit 71, with 64 coming in fours (4) and sixes (8).

Dropped twice in the 14th over bowled by Prasidh Krishna, Patidar was simply unstoppable from there. Anything short landed either over the mid-wicket fence or the cover boundary. If the bowlers tried to cramp him for room, he would just flick it behind square.

For the next India T20 squad selection, Patidar's name should be on the team sheet regardless of who else makes it.

Right through this IPL season, when the game is in the balance, RCB have invariably found a moment where they have wrestled control by raising their ceiling

Losing the plot

Up until the 14th over of the first innings, GT were in the game. RCB had aced the Powerplay. Against the team with the best Powerplay bowling record this season, RCB had managed their joint-highest returns of the summer – 76/1.

Before Patidar arrived, Kohli had looked good to make this night his own with a 25-ball 43. The innings had five boundaries, including a disdainful pull that scorched the turf off Rabada. But thanks to Jason Holder and Rashid Khan, Gujarat made a comeback when the second over of Kulwant Khejroliya, who was playing for the first time this season, signalled the tide change.

Right through this season, when the game is in the balance, RCB have invariably found a moment when they wrestle control, raising their ceiling. It happened against Chennai Super Kings early in the season, and against GT on Tuesday.

Here that moment arrived between overs 14-16, when RCB racked up 61 runs. In the space of 18 deliveries, Patidar and Krunal Pandya hit a stunning six boundaries and four sixes.

That sort of impetus arriving just before the death overs started knocked the stuffing out of the opposition. In the next four overs, 65 runs came effortlessly, as at a venue where 200-plus totals were often not enough to defend, RCB piled on 254/5 – the highest ever total amassed in an IPL playoff game.

Over in Powerplay

They may have posted 200-plus totals and have chased targets above the mark, But GT are a batting outfit with limitations. A target of 255 seemed beyond their reach.

Along with the scoreboard pressure, RCB knew that if they dismissed the top three, their ticket to a second successive final would be confirmed in no time. And by the end of the Powerplay, they had both their feet in Sunday's title clash.

B Sai Sudharsan started on a resounding note, but after playing a cut shot off Jacob Duffy, he lost grip on the bat, which fell and bounced back onto the stumps for a weird hit wicket dismissal.

Three deliveries later, skipper Shubman Gill went for a flick off Bhuvneshwar Kumar, but ended up missing it altogether to hear the stumps rattle.

It was now left to Jos Buttler, who counter-attacked briefly before Josh Hazlewood's cutter ended his stay. The Powerplay still had seven deliveries left but the chase was effectively over.

Rasikh Salam's twin strikes in the sixth over, including an exceptional caught-and-bowled effort, meant GT had lost half its side inside the first six overs. They now head to Chandigarh for Qualifier II.

BRIEF SCORES: Royal Challengers Bengaluru 254 for 5 in 20 overs (Rajat Patidar 93 no, Virat Kohli 43; Jason Holder 2/39) defeated Gujarat Titans 162 for 19.3 overs (Rahul Tewatia 68; Jacob Duffy 3/39, Bhuvneshwar Kumar 2/28) by 92 runs.

RCB are now in their second successive Indian Premier League final after walloping Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 1 on Tuesday. CREIMAS/BCCI

With match-defining knock, Patidar Bengaluru's man for the big occasion

Shankar Narayan
Mumbai, May 26

WHEN ROYAL Challengers Bengaluru walked into Qualifier 1 against Gujarat Titans, most of the attention was on the bigger stars. But by the end of the night in Dharamsala, it was Rajat Patidar who had taken control of IPL playoff week, proving that he indeed was a man for the big occasion, when the stakes are high. This after leading the franchise to its first title in 18 seasons.

The RCB skipper smashed an unbeaten 93 off just 33 balls at a strike rate of over 280, turning what looked like a strong total into a massive one. At one stage, RCB were moving well without breaking the game open. Then Patidar arrived and changed the pace of the match almost single-handedly.

The numbers themselves were staggering — five fours, nine sixes and a fifty that came in only 21 balls. But what stood out even more was how naturally the innings unfolded. There was no desperation in his batting, no wild swinging. He just kept reading lengths quicker than everyone else.

RCB collected 86 runs in the last five overs, and Patidar was at the centre of the carnage. The likes of Kulwant Khejroliya and Prasidh Krishna bore the full brunt as did the likes of Kagiso Rabada and Rashid Khan as the right-hander smashed sixes to all parts of the ground.

Rajat Patidar's 93 off just 33 balls led RCB to a mammoth total of 254 at Dharamsala. CREIMAS/BCCI

Calmness is what makes Patidar such a dangerous playoff batter. Some players look weighed down by knockout cricket. Others try too hard to dominate the occasion and lose control of their game. Patidar somehow avoids both extremes. He rarely looks rushed. Even when he is tearing attacks apart, his batting still appears balanced and measured.

And Tuesday's whirlwind knock was no longer a first demonstration of his incredible hitting ability.

The first example came in IPL 2022 during the Eliminator against Lucknow Super Giants. Coming in after an early wicket, Patidar produced one of the finest playoff innings the tournament has seen - an unbeaten 112 off 54 balls. RCB were under pressure early, but he completely flipped the match with fearless hitting against both pace and spin.

Image altered

That innings changed how people viewed him. Until then, Patidar was seen as a talented middle-order batter. After that night, he began to be considered as someone built specifically for high-pressure cricket.

Two days later, in Qualifier 2 against Rajasthan Royals, he again top-scored for RCB with 58. This was a much tougher surface on which batting never felt comfortable and wickets kept falling around him. Yet, Patidar still managed to hold the innings together long enough to give RCB something to defend.

RCB lost that match, but Patidar walked away from the playoffs with his reputation enhanced. What stood out was not just the runs, but the ease with which he handled the pressure of the situation.

There is something very uncomplicated about his batting method that suits knockout cricket. He does not depend heavily on innovation or outrageous angles. His base stays solid, he picks length early and trusts clean cricket shots. Against spin especially, he has an ability to attack without looking reckless, which is invaluable in playoff matches.

That composure shapes his captaincy as well. This season, Patidar has led RCB in much the same way he bats — quietly, without unnecessary drama, but with a very clear understanding of the situation. He does not seem interested in creating an image for himself as captain. Instead, he appears focused on getting the job done. Qualifier 1 against GT captured that perfectly. He kept RCB calm through the big moments and then produced the innings that took the team to a huge total.

Patidar has quietly built one of the strongest playoff records in the league. Some players dominate the league stages. Others seem to grow sharper when the pressure rises and the margins become smaller.

{ IPL ELIMINATOR }

Sakib, Hinge and Malinga: How MRF camp shaped SRH's pace battery

Venkata Krishna B
Chennai, May 26

A COUPLE of days before Sunrisers Hyderabad's game against Chennai Super Kings that sealed their spot in the playoffs, their pacers Eshan Malinga and Praful Patel had checked-in unannounced at the MRF Pace Foundation guest house in Chennai where young fast bowlers from across the country are lodged for the off-season camp. It was a throwback of sorts for the two pacers who have hogged the limelight in IPL 2026, where they sat across the table and shared breakfast and lunch. Three years ago, they were in the Foundation house, taking early steps into their cricketing career. It is where they got a window to what it takes to be fast bowlers at the elite level – eating right food, having a diet plan and training methods.

The notable miss on that day was Sakib Hussain, the 21-year-old tear away pacer from Bihar, who now has 15 wickets this IPL at an average of 23. Three years back, a scout had taken notice of him in Gopalganj and had sent him to MRF Pace Foundation for selection trials. "He had raw pace, which was enough to catch the eye," the academy's chief coach M Senthilnathan tells *The Indian Express*. "He was impressive. And probably a little bit injury prone as well, because of the action he had. He was falling too much at the crease and his head will collapse. Because of that there was lateral reflection, which could lead to back injuries," Senthilnathan adds.

Sakib Hussain has 15 wickets this IPL at an average of 23. CREIMAS/BCCI

In the months that followed, they ensured his action was smooth and stabilised without compromising the most important aspects of his bowling – the arm speed and body. And once that began falling in place, he was sent as a net bowler to CSK, where a brief stint ended with a back stiffness. In 2024, he was be part of Kolkata Knight Riders title winning squad, but all the while brick by brick he was building miles behind his legs. This season, with Varun Aaron taking over as SRH bowling coach, that the former India pacer turned towards Sakib wasn't surprising. For during his long stint at the academy, Aaron himself has seen the devolvement of the pacer.

Quick arm

"His arm-speed is really quick. He may not look quick, but when you face him because of the arm-speed, he has always had the tendency to hurry the batsmen. And he also has a very good yorker. Now, he has developed the slower one, which is again very hard to pick up with his action. He is only going to grow from here," Senthilnathan says.

Alongside Sakib, Hinge also became talk of the town on his IPL debut, where he picked up three wickets in his first over. Within 12 hours, his Instagram followers rose from 4000 to 4 lakh.

Spotted during the age-group trials, the Vidarbha pacer has come through the ranks in the academy, where he overcame a back injury early on. Last Ranji season, as Senthilnathan watched on as Tamil Nadu coach, Hinge ran through the team in Coimbatore before embracing his coach with a warm hug at the end of the day.

"When he arrived, we had to tweak his action a bit. We knew his capability, but he was just coming through a four-month rehab process. So it was one step at a time for him. We gradually built his load, thrusting him in the Under-23 before putting him in Ranji. Like Sakib, he was young then. Pacers body develop only when they reach 23. Between 18-22 we made him physically strong," Senthilnathan says.

Parag faces his moment of reckoning

Shankar Narayan
Mumbai, May 26

REPLACING A player who had become the face of the franchise was never going to be easy. As Parag himself admitted before IPL 2026 began, Samson was "irreplaceable", comparing his stature in RR to Virat Kohli's in Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Rohit Sharma's in Mumbai Indians.

On Wednesday, Parag walks into the biggest night of his young captaincy as RR gear up for the Sunrisers Hyderabad challenge in the Eliminator at New Chandigarh.

This IPL has been a strange mix of growth and chaos for the 24-year-old. He has shown flashes of his batting quality and leadership nous. There were also off-field distractions, including the controversy around him vaping in the dressing room during a match.

But RR are still alive.

After the 30-run win over MI, which sealed their Playoff spot, Parag said he pulled through the game despite not being fit for it only because of his mental strength.

Riyan Parag has captained on instinct more than caution. CREIMAS/BCCI

"I'm definitely not fit. All of this was mental toughness. I was not supposed to play today. I was not supposed to play another game," he said.

Stats don't stand out

But sitting out was never realistically an option. That has been the nature of his season. Every tactical call, every batting failure and every public moment has invoked strong reactions. Parag is praised when RR win. When they lose, criticism arrives just as quickly.

His IPL 2026 stats don't stand out: 272 runs in 12 matches at a 152.81 strike rate. But like RR's season — up and down, sometimes chaotic — he's had his moments, including back-to-back fifties against Delhi Capitals.

That late surge matters because the team's batting, for the large part, has often depended on someone producing something extraordinary.

More often than not, that responsibility has fallen on Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. The teenager has carried the batting across large parts of the campaign, with 583 runs in 14 matches, and a fearlessness that has changed games. While senior players have had form fluctuations, Sooryavanshi has consistently given RR momentum at the top.

Instinctive captain

The left-hander's exuberance has taken a lot of the pressure off Parag's shoulders, but as one saw against MI on Sunday, there are ways to contain him if teams execute their plans properly, which could expose RR's middle order much earlier than they would like.

Parag, meanwhile, has captained on instinct more than caution.

Sometimes, it has worked brilliantly. Against MI on Sunday, he bowled Jofra Archer for three overs in the Powerplay, and he responded by removing Rohit Sharma and Naman Dhir to set the tone in RR's defence of 205.

Having Yash Raj Punja in place of Ravi Bishnoi has also worked in the last two matches, as the leg-spinner picked up important middle-overs wickets.

But if RR crash out on Wednesday, the scrutiny around Parag will only intensify. The Eliminator now becomes the clearest test yet of where he stands.

HOME BOY

Kouame becomes youngest male Slam match-winner in 17 years

17-year-old stuns former US Open champion Marin Cilic in straight sets on French Open main draw debut

Reuters
Paris, May 26

FRENCH TEENAGER Moise Kouame announced himself on the Grand Slam stage in emphatic fashion on Tuesday, beating former US Open champion Marin Cilic 7-6(4), 6-2, 6-1 at the French Open to become the youngest man to win a major main-draw match in 17 years. Handed a wildcard by organisers, the 17-year-old Frenchman looked entirely unfazed on Court Simonne Mathieu in the first-round match as he made his Grand Slam debut against a player 20 years his senior and a former world number three.

Cilic, the 2014 US Open champion and a Roland Garros semi-finalist in 2022, arrived in Paris ranked 46th in the world but was outplayed by the fearless teenager, whose speed in defence and deft drop shots repeatedly drew applause from the crowd.

Ranked 318th, Kouame edged a tense opening set in a tiebreak after saving two set points before taking control of the match.

"It wasn't easy. I always try to stay in the present moment and not think too much about the score. Today I managed to do that really well," Kouame said on court.

Kouame did not concede a break of serve throughout the contest as he sealed victory in straight sets.

At 17 years and two months old, Kouame became the youngest player to win a Grand Slam match since Australia's Bernard Tomic reached the 2009 Australian Open second round at the age of 16. He is also the youngest player to advance past the first round at Roland Garros since Romania's Dinu Pescariu achieved the feat in 1991 at 17 years and one month old.

"It's a lot of emotion, it's exceptional," Kouame said. "Coming into this tournament, I didn't really know what to expect. The team and I worked hard to be as ready as possible."

The teenager, coached by former French player Richard Gasquet, claimed only the second main-tour win of his career after earning his first at the Miami Masters in March.

He will next face Paraguay's Adolfo Daniel Vallejo who advanced after 20th seed Cameron Norrie retired injured. Kouame's breakthrough run caps a rapid rise this season.

The Frenchman has won three ITF titles — the third tier of professional tennis — and received several wildcards on the main circuit, including at the Miami and Monte Carlo Masters. "All the experience I gained in Miami and Monte Carlo probably helped me a little," Kouame told reporters. "Technically, I felt pretty calm. I knew I was ready and I felt good mentally and physically."

France's Moise Kouame in action during his first round match against Croatia's Marin Cilic . REUTERS

At 17 years and two months old, Kouame became the youngest player to win a Grand Slam match since Australia's Bernard Tomic reached the 2009 Australian Open 2nd round at 16.

Medvedev knocked out

Daniil Medvedev could not avoid the French Open first-round trapdoor as he fell 6-2 1-6 6-1 1-6 6-4 to Australian wildcard Adam Walton on Tuesday in a match marked by sharp swings in momentum on the Parisian clay.

Gauff wins

Reigning French Open champion Coco Gauff recovered from a slow start to power past fellow American Taylor Townsend 6-4 6-0 as her title defence began in style on Tuesday. On a baking Court Philippe-Chatrier, Gauff struggled to find her range early on and was a point away from slipping two breaks of serve behind against her compatriot.

But the fourth seed quickly recovered her poise to take control and move safely through to the second round. Gauff double-faulted on set point at 5-3 in the opener but broke the Townsend serve in the next game to move ahead.

After that it was one-way traffic as she raced to victory.

Sindhu sees off World No.6 Wardini with gritty net play

Shivani Naik
Mumbai, May 26

Sindhu avenged her loss to Indonesian Putri Kusuma Wardini from last year's World Championship. BADMINTON PHOTO

NOT MAKING World No.1 never interfered with Sindhu's claims to greatness. So, nine years after the 30-year-old reached the pinnacle of her ranking at World No.2, in April of 2017, a clamber back into the Top 10s, can be viewed from two different lenses. The flattering way to see it, is her longevity and drive to stay in the mix, even as a generational transition is stuttering towards permanence in women's singles.

Avenging her loss to Indonesian Putri Kusuma Wardini from last year's World Championship, Sindhu defeated the 23-year-old 21-17, 21-18 quite comfortably at the Super 750 Singapore Open. It gives her a second chance to cement her place in Top 10 this year after briefly reaching No 11 in March. Besides seedings leading up to World Championships at home, there's no material edge a Top 10 spot offers. But at this stage of her career, a good seeding at the home event could be make-or-break for Sindhu to avoid top 3 early.

These things didn't seem to matter to the tall shuttler earlier in her pomp — she could land up at a tournament at any stage and fancy her chances of beating anyone once, when she was at the top herself.

But Top 10 scalps matter mightily now. Settling scores, like from the World's last year, where her end-game faltered against Wardani, now assume importance of the sharpening of a knife on the whetstone.

On Tuesday, Sindhu was determined to get her first win over Wardini since 2023. She has twice lost to the upcoming player, now a World No.6. Wardini posed a specific needle to Sindhu, given how the losses were more a reflection of Sindhu struggling, than the Indonesian playing extraordinarily. At the Singapore Indoor Stadium, Sindhu set that bit right.

The importance of winning this was evident, given that coach Irwansyah needed to stay put till the very end to ensure Sindhu got this done. Ayush Shetty was playing a drift-dictated match against Victor Lai on the adjoining court, and eventually lost a topsy-turvy match 11-21, 21-14, 21-12 where ridiculous starts of 11-2, 11-3, and 11-5 decided the result, based on how the wind swept the shuttle. On Sindhu's court though, she dictated the tempo and the rallies with precise strategy fed to her.

Sindhu's had a reasonably decent net game all her life — you don't win Olympic medals without the net game. But Irwansyah has brought belligerence to her net attack now.

She clearly could hit through Wardani, and pushed the accelerator at perfectly timed break-aways. The 5-1 early lead in Set 1 was doused down by the Indonesian who has won her 3 matches against Sindhu, by being unafraid of the Indian's attack. Where Sindhu scored with forcing Wardani to play from the back court by storming the net was from 8-13 down to 15-all. Sindhu won 6 of the next 8 points.

It needed gritting out, picking the Indonesian's drops that fall quite accurately at the net. So the lunges were summoned continually. Sindhu stayed strong on the defense, and at the first opportunity intercepted the shuttle and switched to attack which rattled Wardani.

Things got tricky at 13-10 and 18-16 in the second set. But Sindhu was far too driven and alert to avoid errors, to allow any dramatics from so close to closing it out. Wardani was forced to send smashes to the lines, as Sindhu's defense didn't falter, and the fifth seed ended up sending shuttles wide to lose in straight sets.

The Oslo chess pub where Carlsen wins trivia games

Amit Kamath
Oslo, May 26

Kristoffer Gressli, one of the co-owners of The Good Knight, sits at the bar counter of the chess-themed pub in Oslo. AMIT KAMATH

OCCASIONALLY ON a Thursday, when he feels up for it, Magnus Carlsen waltzes into The Good Knight pub in Oslo for their fortnightly contests. He walks past the bar at the entrance, where a beer tap shaped like a knight and another one shaped like a rook welcome visitors. He walks past the stacks of chess books lined up on corners of the pub, and past the many black and white portraits of chess players deep in thought mounted on the walls. He takes his place on any of the 37 tables, each of which has a chessboard inscribed on it.

Those Thursday evenings usually end with the world no 1 player winning the fortnightly competitions. Ordinarily, the world's greatest chess player of the current era winning a game night at his local chess pub would not be news. But Carlsen's Thursday jaunts are not to play chess. It's the weekly trivia nights he's made a habit of winning.

"Magnus is a pretty clever guy, not just in chess. There are in fact no chess questions on those trivia nights," says Kristoffer Gressli, one of the co-owners of The Good Knight, the world's first chess-themed pub. "He just knows a lot of things, you know? Maps, flags and capital cities. He's generally very updated. But when he doesn't win, everyone who's here loves it because they can say they beat Magnus Carlsen once at a chess pub."

Frequent visitor

Carlsen has been a frequent visitor at the pub since 2018, first dropping by when it opened its doors even though it was just two days before he was scheduled to begin his world championship title defence against Fabiano Caruana.

The strain of preparing for a World Championship battle was at its peak. But Carlsen could not resist the lure of going to a chess-themed pub in his backyard.

"He's such a chess nerd. Even though he was about to play the most important games of a two-year cycle, he wanted to check our pub out. It's great to have an ambassador like that for chess in Norway," says Gressli, who used to work for the Norwegian Chess Federation, but says that he's just a 'scrub' when it comes to playing chess.

These days the pub is playing host to the Norway Chess Open tournament. But the pub, which is also co-owned by Torbjørn Ringdal Hansen, who was the first coach of Carlsen, sells chess books and streams chess tournaments like any sports bar would. The pub's owners were tempted to stream Norway football team's matches at the FIFA World Cup next month. But they resisted, wanting to have chess as the pub's centrepiece.

The pub had streamed all world championship games since 2018, including the world rapid and blitz championships on the TVs. Games of that world championship saw the pub being packed to full capacity, just over 200 people watching a game of chess. The pub is divided into multiple rooms so some rooms have commentary on, while others have music playing with the games being shown on mute.

The fact that Carlsen doesn't play in the classical world championship doesn't daunt Gressli. He points out that streaming a classical tournament at the pub is like streaming a "talk show". But the faster and wilder rapid and blitz chess are perfect products to be beamed at a chess pub.

Oslo has a culture of pubs catering to niche sports activities. There are pinball bars, mini golf pubs and even bars that allow people to race mini cars while enjoying a beer.

"Norwegians are quite introverted. It's great for us to go to such pubs so that they can fill those awkward silences with some activity while drinking," he says.

Gressli says that the pub is one of the rare places where Carlsen can be himself too. "He's one of the biggest celebrities in Norway. When people come here, they expect to see him here. So he's usually left alone when he's with friends. No one clumps around him. Or asks for autographs," says Gressli. "He can just be himself."

Unless he wins a fortnightly trivia night. Then Carlsen is the star of the show again.

THE WRITER IS IN OSLO AT THE INVITATION OF

Shahidi to lead Afghanistan in Test, ODI series

Press Trust of India
New Delhi, May 26

Left-handed batter Hashmatullah Shahidi was on Tuesday named captain of the Afghanistan squad which will play a one-off Test and three ODIs against India from June 6 to June 20.

While the ODI squad features top players including Rashid Khan, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, and Ibrahim Zadran, the Test team comprises a blend of experienced campaigners and emerging talent, with Rahmat Shah, Rahmanullah Gurbaz and Azmatullah Omarzai forming the core of the batting group. Wicketkeepers Afsar Zazai and Ikram Alikhil have also been included, while the spin department will rely on Sharafudin Ashraf and Qais Ahmad. Bilal Sami, Zia Sharifi and Saleem Safi will spearhead the pace department. The first ODI will be held on June 14 at Dharamsala

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